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CMF

Christian Medical Fellowship



May 2016

CMF Spring Appeal - 2020 Active £70,000 needed

It's been a great start to 2016. We hosted the biggest ever attendances at our National and Student conferences in our 67 year history – 450 and 470 attendees respectively. We shared in fellowship, worshipped, explored urgent issues and listened to timely expositions of God's word. There was a tangible sense of the importance of Christian healthcare professionals in the church, in our national life and globally.



In February, Tim Chester, speaking from Revelation, challenged our student members to stay alert and live in the light of Christ's return. He warned of the different ways evil can manifest itself in godless states – either oppression and control as in Orwell's *1984*, or hypnotic seduction as in Huxley's *Brave New World*. We need to recognise and resist both, by exercising courage and discernment. Don Carson, at our National Conference in April, called on the fellowship to focus on 'matters of first importance'

(1 Corinthians 15:3) and not to be distracted into things which, though worthy, are not God's best.

At the very heart of our faith is the fact that 'Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures... was buried... raised and will return'. We live in that time between his first and second comings, knowing that he is building his kingdom and that the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

We are called to be faithful to God's great commission (Matthew 28:19-20) and great commandment (John 13:34-35) against a background of three huge ongoing challenges:

1. Geopolitical and economic crisis and with an impact on families and the health service
2. Growing hostility to Christian faith and values, both from Islam and the new atheism
3. Escalating healthcare needs and diminishing resources, both here and abroad



In the next five years we can expect to face increasing challenges. Financial pressures on the NHS will grow, hostility to Christian faith and values will intensify and medical needs both here and abroad will increase.



But there will also be new opportunities: opportunities to touch a broken society with the message of the gospel and love of Jesus Christ; opportunities as Christian churches, communities, charities and corporate ventures grow up to fill the gaps in care. It's crucially important that Christian health professionals are at the centre of these new developments.



That is why we have chosen '**Connect and Grow, Speak and Serve**' as our theme for 2016-2020. It features on our new website, launched just last month.

CMF exists to help Christian doctors and nurses **connect** with each other for encouragement and support; **grow** in Christian maturity; **speak** for Jesus Christ and his kingdom; and **serve** God by serving one another and those in need.

To grow to full maturity in Christ we need each other – in order to be both encouraged (Hebrews 10:24-25) and equipped (Ephesians 4:11-13).

We remain firmly committed to CMF's core ministries – conferences, publications, local groups – these will all continue. But we want to do more. Over the next five years, our **2020 ACTIVE vision** is focusing on six strategic priorities.

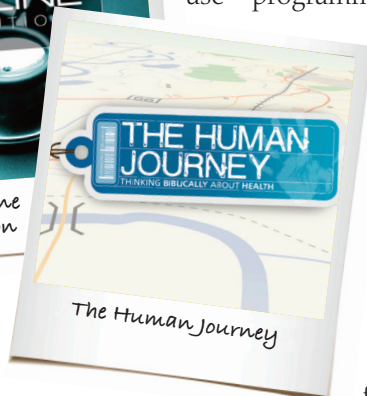
1. **Advocacy** – being a voice for the voiceless
2. **Communications** – digital and print for the next decade
3. **Training** – courses and resources to build and equip
4. **International Partnerships** – strengthening our international partners
5. **Volunteering** – opportunities for members to serve in new ways
6. **Evangelism** – sharing and defending Christ's life-giving gospel



These six priorities all work together and feed off each other. The International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) which brings together 80 national Christian medical movements worldwide, has asked us to make our resources available on a digital platform to Christian health professionals all over the world.



We have started refreshing our already tried and tested training resources for wider use – programmes like 'Confident Christianity', 'Saline Solution', 'Answering other faiths' and 'Who is my neighbour?' With these will be short videos which can be streamed directly from the website, study guides and other resources. This will follow on the trail of the **Human Journey** project which is already beginning to take off all over the UK and beyond in medical schools, hospitals and churches.



We have just finished filming Professor John Wyatt for a series of twelve minute videos based on his important book *Matters of Life and Death*. Editing work is underway and we are lining up more series featuring other skilled trainers on a key range of topics at the interface of Christianity and medicine.

Through our **international partnerships** we can offer **training globally**, using digital and print **communications**, delivered by skilled **volunteers**, to help Christian health professionals all over the world be more effective in **advocacy** and **evangelism** – we are being **'2020 ACTIVE'**.

Will you help us make these dreams a reality by contributing the financial resources to make it all possible? Your gift will make a real difference in 2016.

- £10 pays for a free copy of *Foundations* for a FY1 graduate
- £50 pays for 50 copies of the *Physicians Story* (Luke/Acts) to give non-Christian colleagues
- £100 will pay for 100 study guides to accompany online modules
- £250 covers the cost of producing one twelve minute teaching video
- £500 sponsors an international student leader or junior for one week of training
- £1,000 covers the cost of an evangelism day conference for 40 students
- £2,000 will cover translation of one of our books into Chinese

Support our Spring Appeal

Only 40% of CMF's annual income comes from members' subscriptions. We deliberately try to keep subscriptions for students and F1 doctors low at £6 and £45 respectively.

We therefore continue to rely heavily on our 4,500 qualified members who are able to make **gifts over and above subscription** to advance our ministry.

Some of you have indicated that you prefer the flexibility of giving in response to specific appeals. Accordingly we planned at the beginning of this year to raise £70,000 (5.4% of our £1.3 million budget) through this Spring appeal. Your gift will make a real difference in 2016. **Your prompt and generous response will help us plan responsibly and wisely.** Would you be able to help us by making a special gift to the ministry of CMF today?

If you would like to give regularly by direct debit this allows us to plan our ministries even more effectively. Of course, if your gift is eligible for Gift Aid then we can claim your tax back as well, at no extra cost to you. You can also give online – go to www.cmf.org.uk/appeal

Thank you for prayerfully considering this request.

Yours sincerely



Peter Saunders
Chief Executive



Ken Toop
Chairman

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Spring Appeal 2016 Response Form

Please indicate how you would like to give:

I would like to make a one-off gift of

£5 £10 £25 £50 £100 £250 £ other

I enclose my cheque/charity voucher made payable to **Christian Medical Fellowship**

Or if you would like to make a donation by debit or credit card please visit
www.cmf.org.uk/appeal to give online or call the CMF Office on 020 7234 9660

I am a UK taxpayer. If CMF does not already hold a Gift Aid declaration, please send me one.

Please return your completed form, with your gift, in the Freepost envelope provided, or to:

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