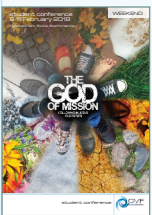


Mission: 'infiltrating every dimension of life'

Themes from the 2018 national student conference

When we find faith, it involves following the call of the God of mission and becoming participants in it', Dr Paul Bendor-Samuel, the medically-qualified Executive

Director of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies told the



CMF Students' Conference in February.

Some 350 students attended the conference at Yarnfield Park,

Staffs. Dr Bendor-Samuel who engaged in mission work in Tunisia for twelve years, observed that most commercial enterprises have a mission statement, spelling out their purpose. McDonalds says it wants to be 'our customer's favoured place they eat and drink.' Ephesians 1:10 offers a classic statement of God's eternal plan: 'to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.' 'We pray for the fulfilment of God's mission plan every time we pray 'Your kingdom come'.

'Mission' derives from the Latin *missio*, meaning 'sending'. In the New Testament *missio* is used only to speak of God sending the Son. But sending is just *part* of what the mission of God is all about. 'God's mission is 360 degree mission, bigger and fuller than our usual images of mission.' God's mission is bringing humanity and the entire world-system back into wholeness in Christ, 're-integrating, making all things new.'

The imperative in the 'Great Commission' (Matthew 28:19) is not 'go' but 'make disciples'. Participation in the mission of God



infiltrates every dimension of life: government, public service, the search for social justice and protection of our planet. Christian disciples are called to be a 'kingdom of priests', where the dual task is representing people before God and representing God to people.

Mission involves crossing barriers. Here in Britain we can often feel discouraged. Adherents to secularism are 'a bit like concrete, all mixed up and firmly set in their ways'. But there are many heart-warming evidences of the advance of the kingdom. A century of missions in Iran saw little fruit but with the scattering of Iranians after the revolution (1978-1979) there are now more than a million Christians. Countries which a couple of decades ago had but a handful of Christians now have thousands: Algeria,

Mongolia, Nepal. Over 1,000 Muslim refugees to Germany have been baptised recently.

Jesus is our model for mission. This is why every Christian needs to 'soak themselves' in studying the life and work of Jesus. Today we are called to be carriers of the kingdom. The missiologist Bishop Lesslie Newbigin once commented that in Christ the mission of God 'has a human face.'

Syd conference

The annual Sydenham conference for emerging student leaders from across the world is becoming an important fixture in the life of CMF. This February, 18 student leaders attended from 15 different countries.

Delegates visited the Houses of Parliament and Cambridge to learn more about how Christian medics engage in public witness in the UK. There were sessions on apologetics, leadership, and ethics.

Bruna from Brazil said: 'The things we've experienced, heard, learned and seen during this time in UK will remain in my heart as encouragement and fuel for the rest of my life!'



Finance

The most recent set of accounts available are for September 2017 – we are working on December 2017 but have not produced accounts for October or November in order to speed up our work.

At the end of September, we were broadly in line with budget. Income was £28k below budget with the biggest shortfall being in subscriptions and general donations.

Expenditure was £59k below budget but £35k of this relates to conference centres charging fees later than anticipated.

So overall we were in line with budget.

Once again thank you to members for their continued support for the ministry of CMF.

Graham Sopp, CMF Head of Central Services

Invitation

from Graduate Ministries

Felicia Wong, who succeeded Pablo Fernandez as CMF Head of Graduate Ministries last autumn, is keen to hear ideas from



Felicia Wong

members on how we can better support each other. Felicia, who is combining her role at CMF with a day a week as a London GP, says, 'I sense, having met lots of CMF members over the last few months, that many are weary with the daily storms of life they face in a highly pressurised NHS. It is so important to find ways to draw strength from one another, remembering who we are in Christ. So please get in touch and share your feedback and ideas.'

Bible 365



We are delighted to announce that we have reprinted CMF's Bible reading programme. Originally

known as Bible Thoroughfare it's been renamed Bible365, with an attractive bookmark-size design. In a year you will read the NT (except Revelation) twice and the OT once. It involves setting aside 15-20 minutes daily.

Practical Saline: What's in a name?

At surgery recently, I saw a Moroccan boy with a long name I had never come across before. I asked about the meaning. His mother said, 'It is after Mohammed, our last and most important prophet.' It turned out it was the French version. Every time I see a child called Isa (Jesus) I will say to them 'That's a beautiful name; do you know what it means? My grandson is called Jedidiah – what an opportunity for his parents whenever anyone asks to tell that it means 'Loved by the Lord'. I wonder if we are too shy to say sometimes; this mother so wanted me to know about the prophet – as if I didn't already!

Stephanie Moss is Associate Staffworker for Workplace Evangelism

Welcome Josh Mills

John Martin meets the new Executive Assistant to CMF CEO Peter Saunders

Like many young New Zealanders Josh Mills came to Britain with a plan to enjoy a 'gap year' and see something of the world. Fifteen years on he's a permanent



Josh Mills

UK resident, and father of four having met and married Priscilla.

Quietly-spoken, Josh hails from Hamilton, New Zealand's fourth most populous city (165,000 people). Dairy farming is a major industry there. It's also the home of The Chiefs rugby team and Josh remains a fervent supporter. He grew up one of four boys on a small chestnut orchard on the edge of the city. His grandfather founded a Christian school which Josh attended. An aunt was on the teaching staff. After school, he did a variety of jobs and worked in a call centre to save money in order to travel.

'All my family were believers. I grew up in a strong Christian culture. The Bible was absolutely central, leading us to Jesus, showing us who he is and how to have a relationship with him.' On arrival in the UK, Josh became a volunteer with Oak Hall Expeditions, and was quickly drawn into the life of Oak Hall Church. Along the way, he met Priscilla, who was training to be a paediatric nurse. He was engaged at 21 and married at 22. Priscilla now works as a school nurse, a job that meshes well with being Mum to Coral, Oakley, Savannah and Asher (aged 2-8).

With the prospect of marriage and needing paid work, Josh found work as a council-funded care worker. Clients were adults with serious learning difficulties. Some suffered from mental health issues. The work presented both challenges and opportunities. 'Spiritual issues often came up in conversation. I found it a challenge to explain things of faith to people with limited understanding.'

Josh was a care worker for a decade, but gradually the balance of his working life changed. Throughout this time, he stayed connected to youth work at Oak Hall. An initial two days a week as a paid youth pastor became a full-time job, speaking about the church Josh said: 'We are an independent evangelical church, and the birthplace of Oak Hall Expeditions. We hope to move into a larger building this autumn after outgrowing our present facilities'.

'With the new building comes lots of new opportunities. I'm stepping aside from leading youth work there to enable someone fresh to come in and shape the next chapter of our church life and outreach with the new

opportunities the new building will present.'

Looking back over his dual careers, Josh sees important common themes. 'These days mental health is a big issue among young people – you come across a lot of depression and eating disorders.' A background in care meant having well-honed empathy for young sufferers.

The need to move on from youth work gradually dawned. 'Leadership wasn't necessarily my strength. I preferred a supportive role. I began to look for support roles in the voluntary sector. The more I looked into the role at CMF and its work it appealed to me more and more.'

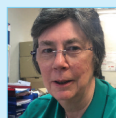
'I'm particularly excited to be part of the team. I'm particularly impressed by the advocacy work. CMF is an incredibly busy office. What it produces is remarkable given it's such a small staff. I look forward to being part of an organisation upholding Christian values and helping those on the medical frontline maintain their Christian witness.'

Hellos



Oluwatosin Oyeniyi

Oluwatosin Oyeniyi has joined the Communications team as an Editorial Assistant. She has an MA in Digital Journalism, lives in east London, and attends All Souls Church in London W1.



Dianne Jarrett

Dianne Jarrett joined the staff as Resources Coordinator in January. She comes to CMF having previously worked with a Christmas card charity, covering

Kent, East Sussex and Essex. She lives in Hildenborough, Kent and is a member of the local Salvation Army Corps where she is Corps Secretary with responsibilities for buildings and finance.

Farewells



Julian Churcher

Julian Churcher, Associate Head of Graduate Ministries is moving on (31 May) to develop his counselling practice. Julian has been instrumental in developing local and regional groups.



John Martin

John Martin, Head of Communications, who worked with Andrew Fergusson on the launch of the *Triple Helix* magazine, retires on 31 May.

Developing leaders in CMF

John Greenall talks about the CMF vision to develop leaders

At CMF we want to develop leaders who are passionate about disciple-making, helping medics and nurses to live and speak for Jesus Christ not only on Sundays but in the nitty-gritty of daily life.



John Greenall

The history of our professions is a 'life-on-life' apprentice model, where we learn 'on the job'. It is in these places where we spend most of our time and we are formed and influenced. CMF therefore has a place, alongside and with the church, to develop disciples and leaders in medicine and nursing. We want to develop those who desire to develop and use their God-given passions and gifts to be a blessing to others.

We have several pathways designed to help you progress in the above areas, comprising various programmes. These include the Deep:ER Fellowship Programme, Associate Staffworker scheme, Biblical Leadership for Nurses course and a Writers', Speakers', Evangelism and Global Track.

Our new regional teams project is all about developing incredible teams, with discipleship and developing leaders at the core.

Why don't you get in touch to find out how you can benefit, or to see how you

We focus on growing:

- **Thought leaders** who provide intellectual and theological leadership as we navigate the contemporary secular world
- **Cross-cultural leaders** with a passion to reach those in 'gospel-poor' settings
- **Medico-political leaders** who can be an influence for Christ in a secular context
- **Movement leaders** who provide strategic vision and oversight of medical and nursing work
- **Specialty leaders** who can provide leadership, mentoring and expertise
- **Social justice leaders** who can work with vulnerable patient groups in our changing healthcare landscape.
- **Writers** who can communicate issues at the forefront of medicine and faith
- **Apologists and Evangelists** who can clearly present and defend the gospel

might benefit others in being part of delivering these initiatives? These are exciting times at CMF as we seek to develop leaders to be disciples and to disciple others even to the end of the wards.

John Greenall is CMF National Field Director

Nurses work expands

Thank you for your ongoing prayers for the growth of the CMF nursing work. New milestones continue to be reached, including the appointment of our first part time nurse Associate Staff Worker, Esther Chevassut. We also held our first writers' course for nurses last month. Led by Andrew Fergusson, it was really helpful, leading to more contributors to our magazine, *Spotlight*.

We are currently producing a special edition of *Spotlight*, which is being marketed to churches through CPO next month. It's theme is 'compassion' and is aimed at all pastoral caregivers, with a view to both resourcing caregivers and also highlighting CMF's work and that we now welcome nurses. Please continue to spread the word!

We are about to launch our 17th student nurse group, with a further two temporarily paused as we search for new student leaders. We have a record number of these group leaders attending student leader training later this month at the National Conference.

Peppa Peppiatt, CMF Head of Nursing

Surgeons gather for specialty conference

Saturday 27 January 2018, saw surgeons gather together for a specialty conference at CMF



Johnson House, London SE1. The Surgeons' Day conference was organised by Laura Clifton with talks from Acts and challenged attendees to live out their faith.

Here are some comments from the day. 'Living for Christ in surgery is possible'. 'Even as a medical student, I found it so useful and engaging... So practical - both in the context of living as a Christian and a surgeon.' 'Packed with real life application but each bit fuelled by Scripture.'

Keep in touch

We appreciate information about Members returning and moving or notices about those who are 'promoted to higher service'. Please contact John Martin at: john.martin@cmf.org.uk

Exercises

in persuasion

We live in an age of scepticism. Many strong voices are calling Christian and biblical views outdated, oppressive and irrelevant for the culture of the 21st century. Now more than ever, we need to be able to engage with sceptic audiences in the area of evangelical apologetics. Enter Christian Persuaders, a series of small residential conferences hosted by UCCF Director Richard Cunningham, aimed at training Christians to address critics in the public forum.



James Howitt

In March, I attended as part of a small group of CMF doctors and medical students. Spread over two days, the majority of the conference focuses on delivering, critiquing and responding to 15-minute apologetic 'lunch bar' style talks, delivered by each delegate. From 'Has science buried God?' to 'Won't Christianity take away my freedom?', the broad range of topics are then evaluated by the other delegates and experienced speakers present.

We worked on crafting engaging talks that identify with the audience's idols and doubts about the Christian faith. We tried to persuade those listening that those idols are deficient and that Christ is the true attraction and fulfilment of their desires. We then answered the 'what if' and invited the audience to take the next step in their journey. Experienced critique was particularly valuable, and I realised how quickly I fell back onto Christian jargon when making my arguments.

As the voices against us grow ever louder, it is vital we continue to equip ourselves, through Persuaders and events like it, to present Jesus as truth and light into the world.

James Howitt is an Associate Staffworker

Translations

There is always a steady demand from CMF's sister organisations for permission to translate our literature. Recently we have worked with Danish and Italian organisations who have translated CMF Files.

DHC back in 2018

Fi McLachlan talks about Global's flagship

**Developing Health Course
8-20 July 2018, Northwood, Middlesex**

Many of our members will be aware of this health course—originally aimed as a refresher for serving missionaries, but gradually welcoming more people who are preparing to go to work in resource poor settings. But as with all things, there is the need for reviewing who we are serving and how to best meet their needs.



A small team have been reviewing this course during the last year, all agree that the aims remain to:

1. Inspire and equip healthcare workers in serving in a global context.
2. Inspire and equip healthcare workers in developing holistic quality global healthcare with limited resources.

We are seeking to provide holistic care in a cross-cultural context, to model and train other healthcare workers, enhance clinical skills, offer caring for carers, grow understanding and adaptability in a cross-cultural setting and strengthen healthcare systems. This needs to be in a spirit of humility demonstrating servant leadership.

The course provides high quality teaching for members from the UK and also provides bursaries for some people from other CMF movements who otherwise would not be able to access such teaching and encouragement.

How might this aspect of our CMF ministry impact you?

First, please be praying for those participating this year.

Do consider whether coming along yourself for one of the specialist days – or the whole course – might enable you to learn and reflect on how you might be able to use your skills to strengthen global healthcare – either for the short or long term. Or do be pointing others to this course who you know are actively involved or considering such work.

And last, but by no means least, consider whether you can make a financial gift marked 'Bursary DHC' which might enable others who cannot afford to benefit – and hence partner in God's great work of missional healthcare across the globe.

Going

Jamie Perry, Honduras
Caroline Bell, Uganda

Returning

Michael Hughes from Uganda (March 2018)

Obituaries

Peter Armon

A former CMF International Secretary went to be with the Lord on 17 December 2017. He grew up in a working class family in London's East End and always wanted to be a doctor. He studied at Charing Cross London and qualified in 1965. He and his wife Carol engaged in missionary service first in Malawi and later in Tanzania. Peter and Carol later would work in Spain and Gibraltar. He was instrumental in bringing about the merger of CMF and the Medical Missionary Association (MMA) while on the CMF staff. His autobiography 'An Eastender's Tale' was published in 2017 by FeedARead Publishing. The Armons had three sons, Matthew, David, and Jeremy.

Prof Sam Berry

We are sad to report the death of Sam (RJ) Berry on 29 March 2018. Sam was Emeritus Professor of Genetics at University College, London. With his wife Caroline he was a great friend of CMF and involved in many strategic enterprises including the Arocha Christian ecology project and the Faraday Institute. He was a former President of the Linnean Society, the British Ecological Society, the European Ecological Federation, the Mammal Society, and Christians in Science and was also a member of the Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority (1990-1996). He was a member of the General Synod of the Church of England (1970-1990) and a founding member of the International Society for Science and Religion. He received the UK Templeton Award in 1996 for 'Long and distinguished advocacy of the Christian faith among scientists.'

Janet Willis (q 1974, Sheffield)

Michael Flowers (q 1958, Leeds)

Raymond Brotherwood (q 1952, Guy's, King's & St Thomas')

Philippa Mourant (q 1958, Birmingham)

Geoffrey Norris (q 1959, Cambridge)

Peter Armon (q 1965, University of London, Charing Cross)

Rachel Tait (q 1960, Glasgow)

John Robertson (q 1959, Aberdeen)

June Morgan (q 1949, Bristol)

Matthew Peacock (q 1956, Glasgow)

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Dates for your diary

JUNE

27 CMF BMA Breakfast, Brighton

JULY

8-20 Developing Health Course
London School of Theology,
Northwood

SEPTEMBER

29 Who is my Neighbour? - London
Johnson House London SE1 1HL

OCTOBER

- 3 Refugee & Asylum Seeker Health course - Cardiff
Ararat Baptist Church, Plas Treoda, Cardiff CF14 1PT
- 6 Saline Solution, Glasgow

November

10 Who Is My Neighbour? - Leeds
City Evangelical Church, Cemetery Road, Leeds, LS11 8SX

For more details see www.cmf.org.uk

CMF News

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