Nurses Christian Fellowship of Canada

NCF DUNSE The Hope of Eternal Life. Titus 3:7

CHRISTMAS 2010 VOL 10.1

From the National Chair

Greetings in the name of Jesus!



It's almost the end of another successful year for NCF. We praise and thank God for all His blessings and guidance thus far.

Over the past year, NCF successfully established a partnership with Trinity Western University (BC) and presented the purpose of our ministry to their Masters in Nursing students at a symposium in Ottawa. Retreats and seminars were held in Regina (SK), Saint John (Atlantic region) and Montréal (QC). These were great opportunities for nurses to come together and create networks. They were such a blessing to many people. The London NCF group in Ontario had an extremely positive turnout with approximately 100 in attendance.

The future of NCF is in the Lord's hands and as we continue to work towards becoming a non-profit, incorporated ministry, we urge you to continue to pray for us, work with us and/or support us financially. Your contributions thus far have been a great blessing in helping us move forward. As we continue the good work of our Father, to support nurses in Canada and internationally, we pray that God's wisdom and knowledge will operate successfully within the ministry.

During this Christmas season, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to all NCF donors, provincial chairs and committee members, small group leaders, and volunteers who have dedicated their time and lives to serve the Lord in their own communities. May the true light of this world, Jesus Christ, shine in every province and territory across Canada through NCF.

Thank you and may God bless you always.

Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Yours in His service, Judith Fanaken



Haiti Mission Trip

by Sharon Tracy

rom March 1 – 11, 2011 I will be leading a Saskatchewan NCF team to Grand Goave, Haiti to hold a medical clinic. I recently returned from a medical mission with Hungry for Life International at Haiti Arise (you can read our trip blog at **www.hungryforlife.org**). The experience was such a blessing and while it stretched me out of my comfort zone, I am thrilled at the opportunity to go back.

A medical clinic is being built with the anticipation that medical teams will continue to come and carry out short-term missions. I have received so many positive responses and interest to participate that your turn may well come! The need is so great and the people



One of my patients was this little 5 year- old girl with VSD who will need heart surgery.

are so appreciative – you can't help but fall in love with the Haitians. They each have an earthquake story and so much to teach us about life.

We lived through the recent tropical storm which dumped lots of rain on our compound, but otherwise went around us. Although cholera was not in our area,

there is a fear among the people because of it. Their main forms of communication are computers and radio, so the the massive media coverage they receive is not nearly as large as that here in Canada. Yet in the midst of it Transformation of Nurses into Fully Committed Followers of JESUS Through Witnessing Communities

all, the Haitians are such a joyful people and the Christians sing and worship with heart we often lack. They have learned that real peace and contentment comes from their relationship with God and not from material things.

During our time there, we didn't treat much trauma or earthquake aftermath. Most of our patients had chronic skin, eye or stomach problems, malaria, or hypertension. They also came in for prenatal visits and children's ailments. We supplied all the drugs and gave out ½ bars of Dial soap, reading glasses, sunglasses and baby clothes. Indispensable was the time our team's psychologist spent with individuals who needed more time to talk about the stresses in their life than we in the clinic could provide.

We trust this update from Saskatchewan NCF will encourage you and inspire you to think outside your comfort zone. Nurses with faith have so much to offer and the world is waiting to receive the love of God which is often delivered to them by the hands of a nurse!!

We are looking to raise approximately \$10,000 to cover medical equipment for our trip as well as other items, such as soap, drug supplies and pay for our interpreters. All donations are tax receiptable and can be made out to the following address with a note that funds are for our Team supplies:



What's your story? Hear stories told by other NCF Members at: www.ncfcanada.ca



Nursing Mentors by Hildy Dyck

N^{CF} meant everything to me during my three years of nursing training and year of sponsoring student nurses.

I had been in nursing school for about one week when a graduate nurse met me, took me "under her wing" and supported me all the way until my graduation. She gave me a hunger for God's word and Jesus; taught me to study His teachings and pray. I saw in her such a genuine love for Jesus and I hungered for that same joy and peace.

My faith grew and found a resting place! Little did I know that my daughter would enter into nurses training and also room with another student nurse. And would you believe it? Her roommate was the daughter of the nurse who had mentored me!

Our friendship has remained. Now after 50 years we look forward to receiving each other's annual letter. All because of Nurses Christian Fellowship!

Hildy's testimony reflects the importance of mentorship in nursing. Would you care to mentor new nurses in your healthcare setting? May we be God's channel of blessings in the nursing profession, as He commanded, "you are the salt and light of the earth".

God has His Plan for YOU

by Judith Fanaken

We sing "Have thine own way, Lord", yet we often hold on to our lives and make our own plans for the future. That's exactly what I did in January 2009.

Have You Joined Monday Night Prayer Yet?

by Celia Fung-Wong

My son Gregory's favourite computer game is called "Age of Empires"; it is also my husband's favorite game. On some weekends they play against each other on the computer to their hearts' content. The objective of this game is to build and expand your empire. In doing so you need to subdue, minimize and eliminate your opponent's territory by acquiring natural resources and food, building an army and navy, erecting a city and town hall,establishing trades....and so on and so forth. Believe me, it is a very competitive game!

This game bears great resemblance to our real life situations. We often recite the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be hy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven...". His kingdom will come when His followers claim it for Him. His will might be done on earth when there are subjects to carry it out.

If we sincerely pray the Lord's Prayer, then we must also be willing to take up the responsibility to claim the kingdom for our Lord. How do we do that? As nurses, our territories are our nursing units, our hospitals, our clinics, our nursing schools, and our communities. We claim these territories by using the appropriate weapons.

Beth Moore in her book *Praying God's Word* says, "I am utterly convinced that the two major weapons with divine power in our warfare are the Word of God and Spiritempowered prayer." We win over territories

by praying for our workplaces, our colleagues, our patients, clients and their family members, management, physicians, and the government who regulates the healthcare system. We pray that the light of truth will shine before them so they may know Christ, and that they may somehow make decisions that are in line with the truth and benefit people.

We pray for them in their life struggles, for their well-being, for them to have an open mind and heart to perceive Jesus' loving presence. We especially need to pray for younger nurses who need to be mentored to become mature and godly nurses. Whether these younger nurses are Christians or not, they need good role models to learn from. Therefore, we need to pray for ourselves that we may act and speak according to His truth.

It is my earnest hope that we will seriously take up this role to proclaim Christ in our workplace and to claim His kingdom. I sincerely invite all of you to bring the concerns of your workplace and your colleagues to the Monday night prayer network, so that as NCF steps into new stage of being an independent ministry group, we will all unite together in proclaiming Christ in nursing by

praying together.

E-mail your prayer requests, praises, stories, testimonies and feedback to Celia:cfungwong@ gmail.com.



Life was going well for me and I had my activities planned out for the year 2009, but everything changed when I broke my arm on January 18, 2009. Although I was thankful that it was only a broken arm, I was sad that my entire life had to be put on hold. One of my plans was to visit my parents and family in India in April that year. I was not able to go because of the surgery and recovery. To add to my disappointment of unexpected physical pain and suffering, my maternal grandmother, who was sick, passed away on the 1st of February. I was guite close to her and it just broke my heart that I could not see her once more. Time went by and I went back to work, but did not get to go home in April as planned. I rescheduled my vacation for the middle of October. On the 30th of September, I received

a call from home informing me that my dad was sick and nearly unconscious. I immediately left to be with my family in India. My dad lived for 13 years after having a stroke and now at 73 years of age, I knew it would be hard for him to recover. After 13 miserable days, on the 13th of October he went to be with the Lord. It was a great loss to my family even though we know that his long days of suffering have ended and now he is at peace with Jesus. With prayers and support from family and friends, we coped well.

I returned to India in October 2010 to commemorate my dad's passing. Four days into my trip, my aunt, who lived with my family for many years, unexpectedly had a heart attack and passed away on the 14th of

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October, exactly one year after my dad died. She had been like a mother to my family and many others.

My family and I have spent the last two years losing close family members and trying to cope with the losses. Praise God, we are all doing well. I'm sure we could not have gone through this terrible time without prayers and support. As a nurse, you might have experienced the same pressure when families of those you take care of look to you for support. But who is there to support you when you are busy supporting others? My friends and fellow nurses from NCF were there with me, praying for me, e-mailing me and feeding me words of comfort from the scriptures. I know that they understood what I was feeling and trust they know how much their friendship and fellowship means to me.



Canadian, U.S. and

Carribean Connections by Anne Workman Hawes

For over a year, I have had the joy and privilege of serving on a committee for the CANA (Caribbean/North American) Region of Nurses Christian Fellowship International (NCFI). Since we are so geographically spread out, we meet monthly via conference calls. Active Canadian members serving with me include Fronica Yiu (ON) and Hope Graham (NS). Our focus is to identify Christian nurses in the Caribbean countries and encourage links with NCFI.

After trying rather unsuccessfully to find nurse contacts in Jamaica, Bermuda, Belize, the Dominican Republic, etc., God led us to Haiti. Leslie VanDover, one of our committee members from Azusa Pacific University in California, was involved in a project to take nursing students to Haiti this past summer. Hope, coming from St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, NS, was able to join that group. We learned that NCFI was willing to accept proposals requesting seed money to help with leadership development, outreach or emergency aid. We now had a Caribbean connection!

Our proposal relates to providing a oneweek course in Parish Nursing to Haitian nurses. Using the resources of Azusa Pacific University, North Haiti Christian University and connections with local Haitian churches, we would offer this programme for a minimal fee. With the many hardships that Haitians have been facing, the need for nurses working together with the churches seems a timely strategy.

The draft budget of approximately \$10,000 includes everything from the translation of APU materials into French to food and accommodation for the participants. We are praying that NCFI will provide us with some seed money, but more needs to be raised!

If your NCF group or you as an individual nurse would like to help support this project, please contact Fronica Yiu at fronica-yiu@rogers. com. You can also support us by passing along the names and addresses of any contacts

Season of Prayer

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your father who is in heaven. (NASB) Matt 5:16

Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way. (The Message) Col 3:15-17

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased. *(NASB) Luke 2:14*



you may have with Christian nurses in any of the Caribbean countries. Finally, and most importantly, please join us in praying for nurses in Haiti and throughout the Caribbean – that God will give them encouragement, strength and His peace.

Anne Workman Hawes — Former NCF Canada National Director (1992 – March, 2006)

Gift Ideas (www.ncf-jcn.org/publications/main.php)

Are you looking for a great gift for a special nurse or new graduate?

The Nurse with an Alabaster Jar - by *Mary Elizabeth O'Brien* is a book that helps nurses pour out spiritual care like precious oil for people who face uncertainty and suffering.

The Nurses Bible is a compact Bible that includes 60 pages of additional articles and nursing tools for giving spiritual care.

Caring Across Culture - by Grace Tazelaar is a resourceful guide for those preparing for effective missionary nursing.

Give yourself a gift this Christmas with a subscription to the **Journal of Christian Nursing! The January - March 2011** issue is coming soon and it's full of articles and features written for Christians in the nursing practice. Subscribe to **JCN** today! Canadian nurses can visit **www.ncfcanada.ca** for a discount to receive a **JCN** subscription. Fronica Yiu 38 Clydesdale Rd. Markham ON L3R 3S9

Stamp

Nurses Christian Fellowship prays that the NCF Pulse helps to better connect you with other Christian nurses in Canada. We are constantly updating our mailing list and would appreciate it if you could return the following information by mail to: Fronica Yiu

38 Clydesdale Rd. Markham ON L3R 3S9

or by e-mail to: fronica-yiu@rogers.com

Name		
Address		
Phone		E-mail
		I appreciate reading the NCF Pulse and wish to contribute to this ministry. (please make your cheque payable to the National NCF Committee)
		I appreciate the NCF Pulse but would prefer to receive it via e-mail.
		I no longer wish to receive the NCF Pulse.

Thanks for taking the time to respond. God Bless You.