



Greetings again from the Psychiatry Section of CMDA!

We appreciate your partnering with us as we attempt to integrate faith and practice and, as Paul exhorts us in Ephesians 4, “Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:1-3, NASB). Thank you for your witness and your constant desire to provide your patients the best medical care possible as you touch the mental, physical and spiritual aspects of their illnesses.

Even though APA 2017 is just around the corner, we wanted to send this newsletter out now in order to bring you up to speed on what has been happening since our last newsletter in February.

May God bless your every endeavor,
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Board Members for 2015 – 2016

Dr. Brian Briscoe, Chair

Dr. Sam Thielman, Outgoing Chair

Dr. Barney Davis, Vice Chair

Dr. Dawit (Dave) Amare, Secretary

Treasurer

Dr. Esther Currie, Resident Liaison

Dr. Jo Marturano in Haiti

Pray without ceasing for Dr. Jo Marturano who travelled to Haiti on May 6 and travelled in country to Les Cayes. In her initial missions notes, she described the Sunday service she attended. The sermon was particularly relevant as most of the message which was about Luke 7. Dr. Marturano wrote, "Jesus' feet are washed with tears and dried with the hair of a woman who had been forgiven much. She put expensive perfume on Jesus' feet, and Jesus used her example to teach the Pharisees that she loved much BECAUSE she was forgiven much. They were unaware of their deep pride and sinfulness, believing they had kept every tiny law. May the Lord continue to impress on me this week, that I am serving only because He has forgiven me much, and not that I have something to give Jesus or the local people. They usually teach me much about servanthood, humility and joy in the presence of suffering. I also would like prayer Monday-Friday while I work (diagnosing and giving out psychiatric meds) that I will be present and prayerful with each person, and not get distracted thinking how overwhelmed I am and how many more people I need to see that day." Take a moment daily to pray for Dr. Marturano and for the Haitians she will encounter and minister to. The physical and spiritual needs are great.

Dr. Barney Davis in Indonesia

Dr. Barney Davis is currently serving as a member of a ministry that provides on-field consultation and member care (www.godspeedresources.org). The organization seeks to support global workers as they encounter overwhelming stresses and needs in their day-to-day work. The organization currently focuses on global worker care in Kenya and Indonesia. Barney just returned May 5 from a three-week trip to Indonesia where he met with more than 20 missionaries serving in multiple regions of that country. He saw workers dealing with situational stress issues, relationship problems (marriage, family, team) and medical-type issues ranging from medication access to postpartum depression. He will follow up with several of the workers via video conference in the near term while he is back in the U.S. He states, "In my 40+ years of psychiatric experience, this is the most rewarding practice I have ever had." Barney leaves soon after APA for a similar trip

to Kenya. The needs are great throughout the mission world. If anyone has an interest in knowing more, please contact [Barney](#).

Dr. Irv Weisner – Interview Discussing the Personal Value of CMDA

Irv Weisner, MD, discusses the support and encouragement he has received over the years from the Psychiatry Section of CMDA, along with the many ways in which he has found to live out his faith in his professional life throughout his career. Visit the [Psychiatry Section Blog](#) our website to hear this interview conducted by Brian Briscoe, MD, current chair of the Psychiatry Section.

Psychiatry Section – Your Historical Perspectives

The Psychiatry Section serves a unique group within CMDA. We would like to tailor our support and efforts to support you, engage you appropriately and facilitate your integration of faith and practice. Please drop us a line with your thoughts on the following questions. Regardless of the length of time you have been partnering with us, please provide your thoughts and ideas. Thank you for helping us improve and adjust to the changing needs and desires of our members.

1. At what points in time historically would you say that the Psychiatry Section was at its peak in terms of activity and involvement of members (both in terms of numbers of members involved and in level of involvement)?
2. During those years, did most of the activity occur at the time of the annual conference? Did it occur throughout the year? If the latter, what kinds of activities kept members engaged and active during other parts of the year?
3. Where do you feel the Psychiatry Section should focus our efforts regarding member involvement?
4. How do you want the Psychiatry Section to support you? What resources should we provide? What services should we focus on?
5. Are there things we do which you do not appreciate?
6. General thoughts and perceptions regarding the section and its value and future.

Global Missions Health Conference 2017 West Coast and East Cost

CMDA and the Psychiatry Section sponsored a booth at the Global Missions Health Conference (GMHC) West Coast Conference on February 24-25, 2017 at California Baptist College in Riverside, California. This is a sister (and smaller) venue to the GMHC which is held every fall in Louisville, Kentucky. This national event was started by CMDA many years ago and is still a major forum for medically focused global health workers. Both gatherings are dedicated to exploring a life engaged in healthcare missions, and sponsoring organizations seek to help attendees explore a lifelong calling of healthcare missions—domestic or international, short-term or long-term. Whatever that calling may look like, the purpose is to help attendees build a plan for submitting their lives to an amazing

journey of healthcare missions.

This year, CMDA headquarters and the Psychiatry Section (Barney Davis) co-sponsored a booth and met attendees as they wandered through the exhibits. More than 150 folks attended and the majority were undergraduate students mixed with a small number of medical students. While no residents came to the booth, about 25 licensed healthcare professionals in various specialties did stop by. It was a bit disappointing that few actually had interest in mental health, but it was a great opportunity to plant seeds for others to sow. Several have contacted Barney for additional information.

The Psychiatry Section will be hosting a booth with the full spectrum of the CMDA specialties and headquarters staff at GMHC 2017 on November 9-11 in Louisville, Kentucky). It is always a tremendous opportunity to meet aspiring global health workers and encourage them. We can be certain to meet and encourage several folks who are involved in psychiatry and/or mental health conditions facing global workers or those being served.

If you are interested in participating with us at the conference, let us know.

Passing of Lawrence Pfahler, MD (1955-2016)

Regrettably, we pass on the following information regarding Larry Pfahler, MD. We learned of his passing months after it occurred. Letters to his family (5508 Mountain Springs Court, Columbus, OH 43230) would still be appreciated. Here is his obituary:

Dr. Larry L. Pfahler, 73, of Gahanna, OH, peacefully entered the presence of his Savior Jesus Christ, surrounded by loved ones on December 19, 2016, after a brief battle with cancer. Larry was born in Bucyrus, OH, on January 27, 1943, to Lewis and Gladys (Auck) Pfahler. He grew up on his family's farm, excelling in everything he did. Larry loved sports and was the president of the first graduating class of Buckeye Central HS in 1961. The first member in his family to attend college, Larry graduated from Malone College and continued to medical school at The Ohio State University, paving the way for many family members to enter the medical profession. Following a decade on the mission field, Larry felt directed to integrate biblical truths into the field of psychiatry and completed his psychiatric residency at Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Service in Grand Rapids, MI. Larry lovingly served as a Christian Psychiatrist for 32 years in Worthington, OH. Prior to this he devoted 11 years serving as a medical missionary in the Central African Republic. He was an avid sports fan and enjoyed playing softball, reading, and spending quality time with family. Larry devoted much time to Christian outreach with Grace Polaris Church and Vineyard Columbus, as well as with Lower Lights Christian Health Center and the Christian Medical and Dental Association. Larry loved Jesus and dedicated his life to being used by Him to impact those he counselled, supervised, and mentored. He grew to treasure the grace and presence of God, particularly in his later years. His life's purposes were to be viewed as a man of

truth and integrity and to see his children and grandchildren come to love Jesus as he did. Larry is survived by his wife, Deborah; his three daughters, whom he shared with former spouse, Linda Durst: Heidi (Tracy) Stringer, Stephanie (Rand) Hudson, and Stacey (Beau) Stanley; seven grandchildren, Ethan, Gabriella, Sophia, Connor, Colton, Isaiah and Simon; sister, LaVon Luidhardt; and brother, Ray (Wanda) Pfahler. Larry is preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law David Luidhardt. The funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 27, at 10:30 a.m., at Grace Polaris Church, 8225 Worthington Galena Rd., Westerville. In lieu of flowers, the family asked that memorial donations be sent to Wycliffe Bible Translators (P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862), a work near and dear to Larry's heart.

New Members / Residents

We are extremely excited to have welcomed the following new members and residents to our section. Please welcome these doctors and encourage them in their practice and participation with us in the CMDA Psychiatry Section.

Dr. Leah Snodgrass, Harrogate, Tennessee, leah.snodgrass@lmunet.edu
Drs. Alphonso Nicholson, Louisville, KY, alphonsonicholmd@gmail.com

Member Networking Opportunities

This is a section in the newsletter for members to share networking opportunities and information that may be of interest to the rest of the section. Neither the board nor CMDA endorses any of the information here. Members wishing to post information and receive further details on an item in this section should contact us at psychsectioncmda@gmail.com. We will contact you regarding your request.

- Opportunity in San Antonio, Texas. Established practice is looking for a psychiatrist to join in 2018 and potentially become a partner. The practice is expanding significantly to include psychotherapists in a team approach, an DBT IOP program, nutrition and exercise. The vision is to have a clinic that has Christian providers and takes insurance to provide San Antonio with high quality, affordable mental healthcare that is delivered in a coordinated fashion. The individual sought should be a mature believer who shares the vision for the clinic and is willing to help with the expansion. A long range possibility for the clinic is to include other specialties such as primary care, pain medicine, sleep medicine and possibly others. If you are interested, please let Marshall know at Psychsectioncmda@gmail.com and he will pass your name along.
- Opportunity in Greenville, Florida. A unique Christian residential treatment facility in Greenville, Florida (30-minutes east of Tallahassee) is looking for a Christian psychiatrist. The facility hosts three programs – (1) Leader Refresh - for pastors, pastors wives, ministry leaders and professionals who struggle with burnout, stress or moral struggle and need professional restoration process; (2) Addiction treatment - detox to IOP level of care; (3)

Mood and Anxiety Treatment Program - not inpatient hospital, sleep over partial level of care. Care involves intensive treatment consisting of six to seven hours per day. The staff is Christian. Therapists are master's level with some licensed and one PhD. Patients receive three individual sessions per week with therapist. The typical length of stay is 30 to 60 days. This facility provides a great opportunity to thoroughly integrate Christian theology and principles into behavioral health treatment. Interested psychiatrists must be licensed, have good psychopharmacology experience, psychotherapy skills and experience are a great help, and inpatient and EMR experience would be beneficial and minimize transition into the workflow. The facility website is <https://honeylake.clinic/>. Interested persons call Dr. Karl Benzio at [215-630-8846](tel:215-630-8846) for more details.

- Position with Samaritan's Purse in Iraq. Samaritan's Purse is seeking a Christian mental health clinician who is interested in serving victims of war at a clinic in Northern Iraq. The best fit would be a psychiatrist who has a passion for this particular area, but a willingness to consider the opportunity is a great place to start. At this point, Samaritan's Purse is trying to develop some contacts for this very unique position. For more information, go to <http://careers.samaritanspurse.org/mental-health-clinician/job/6680027>.
- Human Trafficking Commission – CMDA Board Position. CMDA has a need for a doctor who is interested in serving on the Human Trafficking Commission as a psychiatric contributor and consultant. The meetings occur twice per year and one is virtual, while the other occurs at the CMDA National Convention. The term is for two years. Please contact Marshall at psychsectioncmda@gmail.com for more information.

**Kay Warren and the APA 2017 CMDA Banquet,
Tuesday May 23, 6:30 p.m., Embassy Suites
by Dr. Tom Okamoto**

We are privileged to have Kay Warren, co-founder along with her husband Rick of Saddleback Church of Orange County, as this year's CMDA Psychiatry Section Tuesday evening dinner speaker.

The Warrens have been the major Christian figures leading the collaboration between secular mental healthcare, organized psychiatry and the Christian church. They have produced recent high-profile conferences that included the participation of the American Psychiatric Association, SAMHSA, NIH, NIMH, NAMI, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange County and other spiritual, clinical, academic, governmental and nongovernmental agencies. The Warrens have promoted relationship building between these national entities to help, heal, humanize and destigmatize those suffering from mental illnesses.

I have been fortunate to hear Kay speak a number of times in the Southern California area to mental health and church audiences as well as the audience of

the 2014 Yearly Psychopharmacology Update held at UCLA. This group was comprised of hundreds of scientific and academic psychopharmacologists and therapists, at best strongly skeptical of any Christian message. They were touched and moved, many to tears, as Kay's riveting and powerful talk was emotionally vulnerable and honest, connecting beyond spiritual battle lines. She inspired even the most demanding non-Christian, humanistic audience, while promoting the message of Christ's love and healing.

I am sure Kay will bring a message on Tuesday evening that will touch and inspire us professionally as psychiatrists as well as personally as believers. We will be blessed and challenged as we hear her story of personal tragedy, emotional truth and hope through the message of Jesus Christ.

Please join us if you can, as this event may likely be the most moving event of your conference week.

**APA 2017 - Caucus on Religion, Spirituality and Psychiatry
Tuesday, May 23, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.**

Dr. John Peteet and others within our section and APA are heavily involved in a section of the APA called the Caucus on Religion, Spirituality and Psychiatry. This caucus seeks to foster communication and collaboration among members interested in the interface between religion/spirituality and psychiatry. The caucus will meet this year at APA on Tuesday, May 23 from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Del Mar Room (Level 3) or the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina.

The agenda this year follows:

- Introductions and approval of the minutes
- Discussion and approval of the updated Draft Bylaws
- Election of officers
- Oskar Pfister Award
- Wordpress website
- Mental Health and Faith Community Partnership update
- OUP ethics book project update
- Presentations accepted at the 2017 APA Annual Meeting and proposed for the 2017 World Congress of Psychiatry, and 2018 APA IPS and Annual Meeting
- New business

Please consider joining Dr. Peteet and others during the caucus.

APA Challenge

Register and Encourage Colleagues to Join the Psychiatry Section of CMDA

These are definitely exciting times for the Psychiatry Section! The following is an example of just some of the services which our section is actively providing:

- Equipping young Christian psychiatrists to integrate their faith into practice

- and providing an active and thriving mentorship program
- Educating pastors and the Christian community about mental health on local and national levels
- Providing safe venues for practicing psychiatrists to discuss integration and share Christian fellowship
- Fostering relationships and opportunities for our members to share resources for scholarship, practice and/or missional work
- Connecting patients with Christian psychiatrists in their local community (a referral network for members who express interest)
- Connecting and equipping missions organizations with psychiatric resources
- Engaging with our secular colleagues regarding important cultural issues

Our Psychiatry Section provides a unique and valuable service that no other organization in the world provides for psychiatrists who share Christian beliefs. We currently have a lot of positive energy in our group. But we need YOUR help to keep the momentum and help our group continue to have a positive impact in our field and the world around us.

Hence, our leadership team has issued the following challenge to all Psychiatry Section members:

1. Register for our annual conference during the APA and BRING TWO COLLEAGUES* with you who have never attended our conference before. (*Colleagues may include practicing psychiatrists or residents in training.) Go to our website at [CMDA at APA 2017](#) to learn more and register.
2. Make it a personal goal to enroll THREE colleagues into our Psychiatry Section membership by May 24, 2017 (the last day of our annual meeting). This may include former members who have allowed their membership to lapse. Visit [About Us](#) for application information and assistance.



APA Annual Conference Information:

San Diego Convention Center, CA

CMDA Psychiatry Meetings / Activities:

Hotel Rooms: Embassy Suites San Diego Bay Downtown

Morning Meetings (NO BREAKFAST): Grand Hyatt Hotel Bay Front, San Diego

Evening Banquet and Social: Embassy Suites San Diego Bay Downtown

- May 20, Saturday, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM: Educational Seminar, **Building Bridges – Psychiatry and the Church**, Saddleback Church, Newport Mesa California Campus
- May 21, Sunday, **Morning Worship Service**, Meet in Embassy Suites Lobby / Travel as Group (Time and Details TBD)
- May 21, Sunday, 5:00 – 7:00 PM: **Evening Social & Dinner**, 5:00 Meet in Embassy Suites Lobby (Event to be in Lobby or walk to Nearby Restaurant within Walking Distance, Details TBD).
- May 22, Monday, 7:30 – 8:30 AM (Grand Hyatt Hotel): Dr. Tom Okamoto, Fellowship and Seminar, **Conference Welcome and Introduction to the theme of the conference; Spiritual Calling in Psychiatry.**
- May 23, Tuesday, 7:30 – 8:30 AM (Grand Hyatt Hotel): Fellowship and Seminar, **Spiritual Calling in Psychiatry (Cont.) Discussion Group: Christian professionals in a variety of work settings.**
- May 23, Tuesday, 6:30 – 9:00 PM (Embassy Suites Hotel): Dinner Banquet, Ms. Kay Warren, **Mental Illness and Psychiatry and the Church. What is Really Needed?**
- May 24, Wednesday, 7:30 – 10:30 AM (Grand Hyatt Hotel): Dr. Brian Briscoe, **Spiritual Calling in Psychiatry (Cont.) Discussion Group: An opportunity for members to discuss cases involving integration of faith and practice.**

CMDA Psychiatry Exhibit – Booth # 1814

Opens Sunday, May 21st at 10:00 AM and Closes Tuesday, May 23rd at 4:00 PM

To register for the Meetings, Email the website Registration Form at our web site (cmda.org/psychiatry/Meetings-and-Conferences) to Marshall at psychsectioncmda@gmail.com

CMDA Website

The Psychiatry Section website has information on our section, our APA activities,

articles and books we recommend and many other items we hope you will find helpful in your practice. Doctors desiring a mentor and doctors desiring to be a mentor can sign up on the website. We also have a blog where we hope to generate discussion on topics of interest to the broad community. Let us know what you think and ways we can make it better.

Check it out, give us your feedback, contact the blog authors, etc. Send us your thoughts, and we will review and be in touch.

Dues and Donations and Directory Update

By now our members should have received a letter in the mail thanking you for your partnering with the Psychiatry Section, inviting you to APA, requesting you validate your information in our files so we can better serve you and requesting your continued financial support of the section. As always, your dues and donations help defray the costs of our activities at APA 2017 and the Global Missions Health Conference. These funds are only used to sponsor our annual meetings at the annual APA Conference, help residents and students attend our meetings at a reduced cost, cover the costs of printing materials, mail newsletters and secure a booth space for our CMDA Psychiatry Section display in the APA and GMHC exhibitions. If we undertake projects, special requests for funding will be initiated.

Please review the directory information and return the form with corrections. ALSO, there is an additional opportunity for you to list any special areas of interest or expertise so we can better utilize you with requests from CMDA and other doctors from around the country who are seeking advice from believing psychiatrists.

To electronically pay your dues, please visit the [CMDA Psychiatry Section website](#).

If you would prefer to send a check, please print the 2017 Dues Notice below and mail it to the Bristol, Tennessee address. Make your check out to CMDA Psychiatry Section. Let Marshall know, and he can track your payment. [Email Marshall](#) for assistance and answers to your questions.

2017 Dues Notice

Psychiatry Section – CMDA, P.O. Box 7500, Bristol, TN 37621

Name with degree: _____

Current position/title: _____

Street address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Email address: _____

Phone: _____

Select Dues Category \$ _____

- Member in practice/academia \$100.00
- Retired member \$50.00
- Resident - Waived (expected date of completion) _____
- Missionary-Waived

Additional Donation (for section activities) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Our email address is:

Psychsectioncmda@gmail.com

Our Website is:

cmda.org/psychiatry