



ICMDA
*Prayer
Diary*

*Starting & strengthening
national Christian medical
& dental movements*

DECEMBER 2020
- JANUARY 2021



ICMDA

The International Christian Medical & Dental Association

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing, "glory to the newborn King!"

These words are often sung at this time of year, but perhaps they've become too familiar? Take time to stop and focus on the words. Jesus is the Prince of Peace. In a world that never seems to stop warring, we long for peace - in our hearts, in relationships, in government, on the ward round - we crave an end to all bitterness, jealousy, revenge & hatred. In Christ, a newborn King is revealed - a king who will establish lasting peace, who will rule with justice and mercy, gentleness and grace. We long for a man like that to reign on the earth. This man is the Son of Righteousness. He is human through and through: learning, growing, feeling - a son like every other son that ever lived - and yet like no son that ever was. Righteousness, perfection, honesty, wisdom. This is the heart of Christmas. The majestic one, laying all his glory aside, to become a mild, misunderstood, breakable, sin-sponge. After absorbing the brokenness of our hearts, he rises from the grave, with healing in his wings - healing for the whole person - mind, body & soul. The angels are singing this message - not just at Christmas time - but all of the time. Hark! Listen! Hear!

Thank you for praying for the work of ICMDA, through our 14 regions, for our fieldworkers and staff, and for the tens of thousands of doctors and dentists represented across all our national members. May you know the joy of the Lord this Christmas time and into the New Year.

Peter & Josh
ICMDA

1-4 December Central America

Tuesday 01

Today is **World Aids Day**. Pray that this campaign would be successful in promoting access to stigma-free health & social services and ensuring that services reach the most vulnerable and marginalised. A record 38 million people are living with HIV, and resources for the response to the epidemic declined by \$1 billion last year.

Wednesday 02

Last month two severe hurricanes, Eta & Iota, caused much damage in **Honduras, Panama, Guatemala and Cuba**. Pray for the fellowships of Christian doctors and dentists here, that they might share God's love with those who are hurting and support efforts to rebuild and restore communities.

Thursday 03

Today is the **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**, the theme is *Not all Disabilities are Visible*. 15% of the world's



population, or more than one billion people, are living with disability. Pray for good access to affordable healthcare, that individuals would be empowered and for the church to show compassion and love to those in need.

Friday 04

Pray for plans to hold a virtual regional conference in the **Lesser Antilles** tomorrow, coordinated by our fieldworker **Khara**. The theme is 'Embracing the new normal'. Pray too for the **Kenyan CMF** National Conference taking place this weekend.

5-9 December Francophone Africa



Saturday 05

Pray for the CMF of **Togo** which intends to open a new missionary hospital today. They plan to begin as a health centre but aim to grow to reach the standard of a hospital in time. Pray for all those involved in this initiative and for the fellowship's general assembly that takes place this month.

Sunday 06

Remember the AMDC of **Burkina Faso** whose activities have been paralysed by COVID. They began medical outreach last month and seek to spur one another on in mutual encouragement to be bold & faithful Christians who desire to accomplish God's will.

Monday 07

Praise God for a new CMF which has just been born in **Guinea Conakry**. Remember **Abel** who is working to register the fellowship officially at the national level, and pray that God would raise up young leaders among this nation of 13m people.

Tuesday 08

Pray for the final preparations for the **regional conference** taking place on 17-20 December and for new fieldworkers in the region. Regional Reps: **Luc & John** (pictured). Area Reps: **Rebecca, David, Simplicie & Osée**. May they each know the Lord's grace and strength as they serve him in Africa.

Wednesday 09

Today is **International Anti-Corruption Day**. Pray for countries that have held elections recently, including Burkina Faso, Ghana, USA, Guyana, Belarus & Kuwait, and for elections in Niger and CAR later this month. May voting take place peacefully and the response to results be reasonable and God-honouring.



10-14 December Oceania



Thursday 10

Today is **Human Rights Day**. Every human being is of equal worth and dignity because we are each made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). This foundation has shaped the human rights movement so cherished today. Pray for a renewed appreciation of these values that have shaped societies all over the world.

Friday 11

Today and next Tuesday, **CMF NZ** are holding blessing services for medical students graduating from Auckland and Dunedin Universities. Pray for each medic going into the world of work that they might continue to honour the Lord in their attitudes, priorities and service for him.

Saturday 12

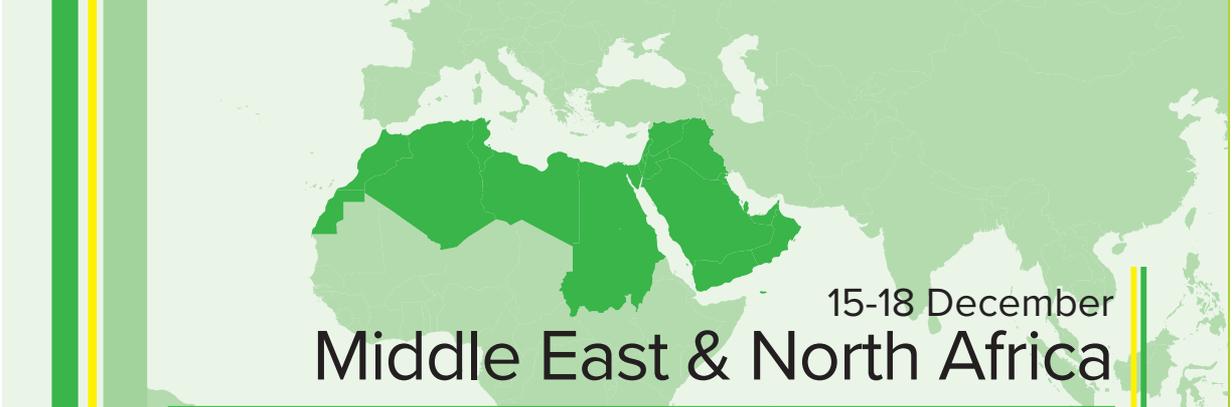
Today is **International Universal Health Coverage Day**. Pray for political efforts to ensure everyone, everywhere has access to quality and affordable healthcare. Thank God for the many mission hospitals that are already serving communities around the world, particularly in the remote islands of the Pacific.

Sunday 13

Thank the Lord for **Callum** (pictured) who has just joined the ICMDA fieldworker team as Regional Representative for Oceania. He is a recent graduate and enthusiastic about serving the gospel through medicine.

Monday 14

Pray for increased fellowship on the **Solomon Islands** and for our Regional Secretary **Michael** as he connects with health professionals such as **Dawson** on this archipelago of less than 700,000 people. Pray that a CMF may form here in time that would be a strong Christian witness to all those that call these islands home.



15-18 December
Middle East & North Africa



Tuesday 15

Remember those families who have lost loved ones due to COVID, especially healthcare workers who have succumbed to the virus. As **vaccines** begin to be rolled out across the world, may there be a fair and equitable distribution for all.

Wednesday 16

There are many countries across the region that have not known stability or peace for some time. Pray for places such as **Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Libya and Lebanon**, and for those working for peace, particularly healthcare workers, to know the Lord's help.

Thursday 17

A **Saline Process** course has been running the past six weeks within **Israel** and concludes tomorrow. Pray that all those who have taken part would be inspired to speak passionately and sensitively about their faith with patients and the certainty they have in knowing Jesus.

Friday 18

Today is **Arabic Language Day**. Arabic is the dominant language across this region. Thank God for the many Christians who can speak this ancient language. May they use it to share the good news of Jesus with their neighbours.

(Pictured above is the name Jesus in Arabic.)

19-22 December

Eurasia

Saturday 19

The last few months have seen much tension between **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** over the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Pray for peace and stability in these lands, for the restraint of evil, and for Christian healthcare workers to be salt and light in their communities.

Sunday 20

The fellowship in **Kyrgyzstan** last met together in March this year before the response to COVID restricted people's ability to gather. Pray for our fieldworker **Nurbek** as he tries to motivate Christian medical students and doctors to meet again and resume activities.

Monday 21

The **MCA of Russia** ask for our prayers: for wisdom to minister to patients and colleagues; for the building of new medical Christian groups in different cities; for those groups that stopped meeting during the



pandemic to restore fellowship; for effective team work during MCAR events; and that doctors and students would grow in their personal relationship with God during these times.

Tuesday 22

Thank the Lord for the vibrant group of medics and students in the **Belarus CMF**. Pray for their plans formally to become an ICMDA member and for key people like **Irina** who help keep their members informed about the global work of ICMDA and the rich fellowship we enjoy throughout the world.

23-27 December South Asia



Wednesday 23

Thank God for **Samundra's** tireless work in discipling Christian students and junior doctors in **Nepal**. Evidence of the enthusiastic teamwork was seen in last month's virtual regional conference (pictured) which saw hundreds attend from many parts of the world for mutual blessing and teaching.

Thursday 24

Training is a key priority for ICMDA, particularly with the challenges COVID has brought to our regular activities. Pray for the current **training tracks** such as Confident Christianity, Sydenham, Bioethics and Saline. Pray too for **Bhaskar**, as he administers the work.

Friday 25

The wonder of the **virgin birth of Christ** reminds us of the beauty and fragility of new life and the lengths that the Almighty God went to in order to bring hope and eternal life to his people throughout the world. Worship him today as we remember the Word become flesh.

Saturday 26

Pray for **EMFI** in **India**, and for **Sam** as he leads this group. May he know the Lord's strength and grace more and more each day. **Varghese** is the EMFI chair and is currently connecting with leaders in Timor Leste. Pray that his visit will stimulate the forming of a national movement of medical ministry in the country.

Sunday 27

There are many **Saline** trainings taking place across the region with ICMDA trainers and partner organisations such as NCFI and HCFI. Pray that Christian healthcare workers would increase in cultivating, sowing and harvesting.



28-31 December North America

Monday 28

Pray for the final preparations of Remedy, the **CMDA US** medical missions conference taking place on 9-10 January. Christian healthcare students and residents will be discussing how they can bring the hope and healing of Jesus to our world in crisis.

Tuesday 29

The **CMDAs of Canada and USA** are both established and well-resourced fellowships. Pray for a continued partnership in gospel unity, for an outward-looking ethos, and for an **ICMDA** regional secretary who may expand the work for even greater things.

Wednesday 30

Earlier this year the **Geneva Consensus Declaration** on Promoting Women's Health and Strengthening the Family was signed by the United States and 33 other countries. Christian health professionals of the



CMDA lauded the declaration. Pray that it might increase and strengthen the pro-life influence within international agencies.

Thursday 31

Our friends at the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (**IFES**) have a new General Secretary who starts tomorrow. Pray for **Tim** (pictured) as he leads this great movement among students and pray for increased collaboration between **ICMDA** and **IFES** student groups.



EUROPE (24 members)

Regional Secretary: Peter Saunders (acting) AEO: Nurgul Mamyrova
Regional Representatives: Esther Frei (Western Europe), Alexander Kreschenko (Central Europe), Geir-Anders Kaldal (Nordic & Baltics), Paul Năndrean (Balkans)
Area Representatives: Jovita Anikinaite (Baltics), Marina Rastovic (Balkans), Alla Shelestovska (Central Europe)

NORTH AMERICA (2 members)

Regional Secretary: Vacancy

MENA (2 members)

Regional Secretary: Ehab Ayoub
Israel Coordinator: Philippe Seguin

CENTRAL AMERICA (7 members)

Regional Secretary: Mario Ruiz
Regional Representatives: Khara Collymore, Mario Euceda & Jairo Rojas

FRANCOPHONE AFRICA (8 members)

Regional Secretary: Jean Paul Dansou
AEO: Augustin Lutakwa
Regional Reps: Luc Mahougbe, John Musubao
Area Reps: Rebecca Biaye, Osée Nkengurutse, H. David Sawadogo & Simplicie Tchoba

SOUTH AMERICA (7 members)

Regional Secretary: Jorge Patpatian
Regional Representative: Haniel Eller
Area Representatives: Lais Tamara Dias, Bruna Proença, Talitha Formagio Telles

WEST AFRICA (3 members)

Regional Secretary: Anthony Enimil
AEO: Augustin Lutakwa
Regional Representative: Jacqueline Asibey
Area Representative: Alex Etubi

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ICMDA's 14 Regions and Fieldworkers





1-4 January
Europe



Friday 01

There is an increasing partnership between national groups across Europe, such as between **Sweden** and **Ukraine** and between the **UK** and **Germany** on public policy issues. Thank God for such collaboration and may mutual trust and unity only increase.

Saturday 02

With a new year just beginning, pray for a revitalising of some of the CMDA groups across Europe - a number exist in name only. Pray for **PMF Belgium**, **UEMP France** and for **Czechia SKZCR & Italy AMICO** who hope formally to affiliate with ICMDA soon.

Sunday 03

Late last year the **SKLS** of **Finland** held an event on palliative care and euthanasia. Pray for their members as they consider these issues and a Christian response to them. Pray also for **KHLS** which seeks to revitalise and deepen the spiritual lives of dentists and dental students in Finland.

Monday 04

Pray for the **UK CMF** led by **Mark** and the **CDF** led by **Prince** and particularly for their regional groups which provide mutual support and Christian fellowship. Uphold the pastoral care and well-being team as they provide support to pressured healthcare workers.

5-8 January West Africa

Tuesday 05

São Tomé & Príncipe are two islands to the west of Gabon with a population of 220k people. We have some contacts here but no national fellowship has formed yet. Pray for Christian students studying medicine via the American University in Central Africa to be salt and light on their campuses.

Wednesday 06

The **Nigerian CMDA** are running helpful webinars and online sessions on health-related topics. Pray that these would reach a wide audience. Pray too for those who attended their national student conference in November as they considered what it means to live as sheep among wolves.

Thursday 07

Pray for the continued growth and strengthening of **CMF Gambia** and for **Isaac** as he helps lead this group. They are passionate about being salt and



light in Africa but recognise the many challenges that face them. Pray for a depth of fellowship, spiritual zeal and perseverance for every member.

Friday 08

Guinea-Bissau is a Portuguese speaking country of just under 2m people and one of the poorest places in the world. Pray for the national group **APROVI-GB** led by **Mario**, that they would be filled with the joy of the Lord to serve him well.



9-13 January South East Asia



Saturday 09

This month the region is collaborating with AIDSLink International to run an online workshop called **Channels of Hope**. Pray for the facilitators' preparation and for participants to be well equipped to share the love of Jesus to those with HIV/AIDS.

Sunday 10

Plans continue within **CMF Thailand** to establish a clear vision and mission for their fellowship. Pray for the core leaders to know the Lord's will and heart for this movement and that there would a real sense of unity and enthusiasm in the group.

Monday 11

Each month many across South East Asia gather specifically to discuss **medical missions**. Pray for this initiative - for students exploring opportunities and for graduates to build effective networks for mission across the region.

Tuesday 12

Praise God for calling **Claudia**, a new ICMDA Area Representative to serve the eastern maritime region of **Indonesia, Philippines** and **Timor Leste**. Pray that she might serve with integrity and passion and with her eyes fixed on the Lord Jesus in all she does.

Wednesday 13

Pray for the **CMF of Cambodia** as they have recently been able to meet again and churches have reopened for fellowship and worship. Pray for CMF cell groups to be richly blessed and for each student and graduate to deepen in their love and knowledge of the Lord.

14-17 January

South America

Thursday 14

The **Brazilian CMF** recently had elections for new board members who begin their two-year appointments in March. Pray that God would raise up godly people to help in his mission, and for the transition period - may God guide and give strength for his will to be done.

Friday 15

Pray for the growth and development of AMC groups in **Chile** and **Ecuador**. They are countries with populations of 18m & 15m respectively and evangelicals make up a significant proportion of society, such that they can impact culture for good - pray for Christian healthcare workers to do just that.

Saturday 16

Thank God for many across the continent who are supporting Christian healthcare workers in **Venezuela** that are facing an



economic crisis. May the Lord continue to meet every need and provide peace and hope to those who are struggling with disillusionment and financial hardship.

Sunday 17

Pray for **Paraguay** and **Colombia** - there is not yet a Christian medical association in these countries. Ask the Lord to lead our fieldworkers to make good connections with Christian medical and dental students and with graduates looking for fellowship.

18-22 January East Africa



Monday 18

Pray for Regional Secretary **Alex** as he serves the Lord through ICMDA. He has faced much hardship in 2020. May he know the Lord's strength and blessing in 2021. He is leading the committee organising the Pan-African Congress and the ICMDA World Congress due to take place in Tanzania in 2022.

Tuesday 19

Pray for the **CMDA of South Sudan** and for healthcare workers as they have seen a spike in polio cases in the country recently. Pray for healing, wisdom and good education in communities and among professionals as they try to improve sanitation and

strengthen health institutions.

Wednesday 20

Remember **CMDA Tanzania** and uphold **Johnstone**, its leader, who is using the skills learnt at the COVID preparedness course offered through our partnership with CMC Vellore to equip others in the best practice of COVID treatment.

Thursday 21

Pray for the **Uganda CMF** and their desire to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ among the population of 45m people. Praise God that 37% of the country claims to be evangelical - may there continue to be spiritual renewal and revival in every part of society.

Friday 22

The cancelled residential **Sydenham Leadership** course was to finish today in London, UK. 100s of students from all over the world have benefitted from this training. They would have joined with medical students of the UK this weekend for their national conference.

23-26 January East Asia

Saturday 23

There are six countries in the East Asia region, with North Korea being the only place where we do not have a good contact. Christians are considered enemies of the state in **North Korea** and must keep their faith secret. Pray for the Lord's protection over his people working in healthcare and that his Kingdom would continue to grow despite persecution.

Sunday 24

Pray for the **Taiwan Christian Medical Association** and for the spread of the gospel in this country of 24m people. The CMA seeks to promote the spirit of Christian love and to serve society. The doors are open here for greater missions work - may the Lord send workers into the harvest field.

Monday 25

Thank the Lord for the long-established witness of **CMA**



Japan and **CMA & CMF** in **South Korea**. May they be shining examples of unity and service to the rest of the region and may there be an increase in collaboration in Christian service.

Tuesday 26

The **CMDF** of **Hong Kong** meet each month for fellowship, prayer and worship. Pray that they would walk in a united heart towards the will of our Heavenly Father and that he would bless the CMDF so that they may be a blessing to others.



27-31 January
Southern Africa



Wednesday 27

A new ICMDA bioethics training course has just begun for Africans taking place every Wednesday. Pray that all those taking part would be equipped with a good biblical foundation for considering **medical ethics** and may apply their learning to clinical practice.

Thursday 28

Our webinars continue each week with today's session considering how to deploy COVID **vaccines** equitably. Pray for **Dr Annelies** as she speaks and answers attendee's concerns, and pray that the issue would not remain theoretical but that we would see a fair distribution of the

vaccine globally.

Friday 29

Pray that the Lord would raise up a suitable candidate to take on the role of **Area Representative (AR)** for Southern Africa. ARs promote the mission of ICMDA among students and junior graduates and assist in the training of new leaders in national movements.

Saturday 30

Pray for **Drs de Vos & de Vaal** who are being investigated by authorities because they have been outspoken on the ethics of abortion and sexual and LGBT issues. May they be filled with the Holy Spirit to speak the word of God boldly.

Sunday 31

As a whole year has now passed since the beginning of the **COVID** pandemic pray that the Lord's will in these events would be made clear. May the church respond with greater boldness and grace and may corruption in healthcare and the lure of mammon be removed.



We are praying that the Lord would lead the work and ministry of ICMDA for the rest of the year and into 2021.

We rely on subscriptions from our 84 member organisations to pay for our central office, but we depend on additional donations to cover our field and development work.

Your donation would be an investment in seeing more Christian medical and dental movements being started and strengthened around the world.

Please consider supporting the work of ICMDA.

For ways you can give to ICMDA visit: icmda.net/give

*A Christian witness
through doctors and
dentists in every
community in
every nation*

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office@icmda.net



Suite 8 Censeo House
6 St Peters Street
St Albans, AL1 3LF
United Kingdom



www.icmda.net



(+44) 1727 227514