

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

Thank you for allowing me to work out-of-bounds with CMDA (Christian Medical & Dental Associations). It's been a little over a year since I began working with the ministry.

Although there is some significant difference between pastoring a church and ministering to students, there are important similarities, too. It's a joy to see them weekly and talk about life and the Good News in their lives. I've been able to meet many students this year, get together with them around lots of food, have them over to our home, and give counsel for some difficult situations. I'm also able to meet with several of the young men on a regular basis, building deeper relationships with them and walking with them through Scripture.

There were about 300 new students (medical, nursing, OT, PT, etc.) who came through CMDA this year – both our Large Group and Small Group ministries. Several local doctors (medical and dental), professors/administrators, and local ministers spoke to our students at our Tuesday lunches – teaching from Scripture, passing along wisdom and encouragement, and pointing them to Christ. I've also enjoyed getting to know several local physicians and dentists, as well as other medical professionals.

CMDA also has an intern – Franky Garcia. He's now a second year student at RTS and has been with us the whole school year. Franky served as an RUF intern for two years at UCF (Univ. of Central Florida). He's been a great addition to CMDA, having worked hard for the good of the students and the glory of the Lord.

The new Fall semester begins August 15. If you're free for lunch on a Tuesday during the Fall or Spring, please join us in the Nelson Student Union on the UMMC campus.

By grace,

Rick

(P.S. My wife and I are new home owners (first time). We found a home in the Heatherwood neighborhood which puts us 15+ minutes closer to the campus (we'd been renting in Clinton). This will, hopefully, make it easier for more students to visit with us. Our children love the new house; and they love when students come by.)

Prayer Needs:

Growth in Christ – Franky and me, students

Outreach (evangelism) – to both students and faculty.

Planning – finding speakers, organizing small groups, missions trip(s)

Support – financial and prayer