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## Lifeline - City of Faith Newsletter (April, 1985)

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# Lifeline



CITY OF FAITH  
Medical and Research Center

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## Pharmacists Pray and Believe

Prayer and medicine...the pharmacy at the City of Faith puts them together.

Even in the midst of rush-hour commotion, City of Faith pharmacists offer prayer with each prescription filled. To the patient who has just come from a dreary diagnosis, or is exhausted from examinations and testing, the prayer offers hope and strength—light in the midst of clouded circumstances.

"We have two goals," said Director of Pharmacy Joel Oliver. "One is to be the best pharmacists we can be, the second is to minister spiritual help to those who come our way."

Sensitive to each person's need, the pharmacists focus on accomplishing three things during their short contact with the patient:

*To Combat Fear*—by instructing the patient about the medication many of the fears of side affects and addiction can be waylaid.

*To Negate Guilt*—some Christians tend to feel that they are failing in faith when they turn to medication for a cure, said Oliver. He said the pharmacists point people to the Bible and remind them that, just as Jesus applied mud to the blind man's eyes, so medicine is an extension of God's healing.

*To Encourage Faith in God*—by praying over the medication and asking God to

bless it, the pharmacists direct the patient's faith toward God, the true healer.

Since coming to the City of Faith in 1981, Dr. Oliver says he has built the Department of Pharmacy on one precept: "What would Jesus do? Determine what it is He would do and then do it." The result has been success.

Pharmacist Jerry Sawyer keeps a log of patients who have returned to the pharmacy to report how prayer offered over medication has helped relieve symptoms.

According to Sawyer, some receive immediate relief and others come back later and say, "My medication and your prayer really worked together and my symptoms cleared up."

City of Faith pharmacists are careful to tell those who have received healing to continue their medication until their physician tells them to discontinue it.

Regardless whether healing is instant or gradual, there is one thing the pharmacy staff is sure of—prayer can change someone's life.

"We are the last stop for most patients before they leave the hospital," said Oliver, "and we feel that responsibility. We may not have a lot of time with each person but we always have enough time to bless them and help them keep their focus on God as their source for healing." —Linda Grounds



FAMILIAR SIGHT—Christian Ophus of the Pharmacy asks God to bless medication for Clifford Shed, a graduate Student in Dentistry at ORU.

## Speech Pathology Services Making Strides

The Speech Pathology Services Department at the City of Faith is revolutionary—the department is making great strides toward better speech rehabilitation behind Coordinator Connie Teter.

"When an impossibility walks in the door I am supported by the reality that there is a miracle hidden in every situation I encounter," states Teter.

She almost laughs out loud as she tells about a ten-year-old patient named Chris who couldn't pronounce the letter R. Since Chris' hero is none other than Richard Roberts, Teter set up an appointment for them to meet providing the fact that Chris was able to pronounce the R's. Chris

accomplished the feat in three weeks, not the three months it usually takes.

"That was a reward way beyond the stickers I sometimes give as a prize," Teter quipped. She is always looking to reward her patients and make the visit and rehabilitation time easier.

An innovation unique to the City of Faith is to make the primary examination easier on the patient. Instead of having the patient sit in the middle of a room while doctors gather around to discuss and examine him, now the doctors come to the patient for a one on one patient to doctor meeting.

"In rehabilitation your glory may be reduced to the ground and your self esteem with it. God has to restore the man and the

emotions. We are whole person oriented. We want to heal the self esteem and the self image along with the speech disorder."

Teter accomplishes this by having her patients read scripture verses instead of the standard speech rehabilitation books. According to Teter, "They speak life to themselves through the positive affirmation in the word of God."

With her rapidly gaining insight into the methodology and management techniques of each of the major areas of communication problems, along with the daily miracles shown in her patients and the personal care each receive, the City of Faith Speech Pathology Department is a miracle in itself. —Linda Grounds

Holy Spirit Research Center





## AROUND THE COMPLEX

### Apartment Community Carnival

The annual ORU Apartment Community carnival is slated for April 20, beginning at noon behind the West Community Center.

The carnival, open to the public, includes activities such as a bean bag throw, a tug-o-war, gunny sack races and many other favorites.

In order to make the carnival a success additional volunteers are needed to help run the booths and set up equipment. If you would like to help with the carnival or have any questions, please call 495-6689.

### March of Dimes WalkAmerica

Over 60 City of Faith employees and their families are scheduled to participate in the annual March of Dimes WalkAmerica. This is a unique opportunity to show Tulsa that the City of Faith is interested in the welfare of our local community.

The event, scheduled for Saturday, April 27, will take place at LaFortune Park and consists of a route a little over three miles in length. Last year over \$50,000 was raised for March of Dimes programs through walker sponsorships.

For those of you unable to physically help with this endeavor, we thank you for your financial support of the walkers. If you are still interested in participating, call Public Relations at ext. 8102.

## Moving Up

Congratulations to **Bob Bullock** who has recently been named Assistant Hospital Administrator of Productivity and Product Development. Bullock is responsible for Radiology, the Laboratory, as well as Management Engineering.

**Charles Shaw** has been named the Acting Director of Materials Management for the Ministry. **Hamish Reed** has been promoted to the position of Director of Purchasing at the City of Faith and UVI.

**Margaret Kennedy's** new title is Director of Special Care Nursing as she supervises 4th floor, 7th floor, 28th floor and 29th floor. **Denise Geuder** is now Coordinator of Nursing Support Operations and is responsible for staff development, overseeing scheduling and staffing, inreach nurses and working with outside nursing agencies as well as working with budgeting and cost effectiveness.

**Patsy Damron** is the new Director of the Medical Records Department. Damron has worked for COF since 1981 in the DRG and Quality Assurance Departments.

### Children's Festival for Health!

"Fitness and the Happy Heart" is the theme for the City of Faith's exhibition tent at this year's Children's Festival for Health on Saturday May 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the west lawn of Children's Medical Center.

Over 10,000 children are expected to visit the festival which will provide a non-threatening environment where barriers can be dropped and children can interact freely with health professionals and volunteers.

The COF tent will feature hands-on testing to measure the children's overall fitness. Electronic pulse-readers will measure the active and recovery heart rates to determine cardio-pulmonary fitness. Blood pressure, vital lung capacity and other displays will also be manned by COF health professionals and volunteers.

The festival is free. If you would like to participate as a volunteer or if you have and questions call Public Relations ext. 8102.

### ORU Summer Camps

Registration is now open for the ORU Summer Camps which are designed to meet the needs and interests of young people ages four to 12 with the whole-person approach.

Staffed with ORU personnel, the camps will focus on spiritual enrichment, physical development and academic growth. Each camper will choose a major area he or she would like to develop as a skill.

If you are interested in registering, pick up a form from Public Relations on the 56th floor. For more information call 495-7053.

### Aerobic Cards

Attention Doctors! Personnel at the Aerobic Center request that you hold your aerobic cards until further notice as they have depleted their supply of cards for the students and are not tabulating points.

### Address Changes

REMINDER—Any employee who changes address, please fill out a Personal Information Change form so that our records will be correct.

### From the Chief Executive Officer

*Our principal reason for being at City of Faith is to merge prayer and medicine. No one ever thought it would be easy. God has called each of us to our part of merging prayer and medicine. Good health care requires us to expend much energy in helping our patients regain their health. To diagnose and treat requires a great deal of effort if they are done correctly. Praying effective prayers consumes much energy. We have to literally give of ourselves—time, energy and love in order to help people get well. How willing we are to give ourselves up will determine how well City of Faith really lives up to its (our) reason for being.*

*How will we be sustained, refueled, replenished, so we don't burn out? Only by feeding on the word of God, by knowing Jesus gave himself up for us and by recharging ourselves on the endless supply of energy in his Holy Spirit. We will not burn out by hard work but we can burn out if we don't attach ourselves to God's perfect power supply from which we receive the energy to bring healing to our patients.*

*Thank you for pouring yourselves out as our patient load has doubled. God has seen your effort. Receive each day His Blessing of spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical energy that is more than sufficient for your task.*

James E. Winslow, Jr., M.D.

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LINDA GROUNDS, Editor

KELLY R. COTTER  
Public Relations Intern

THE CITY OF FAITH  
MEDICAL AND RESEARCH CENTER

JAMES E. WINSLOW, JR., M.D.  
Chief Executive Officer

RICHARD L. BONWELL  
Executive Director  
The HMO of Oklahoma

JERRY BROWN  
Administrator for  
Management Services

LARRY D. EDWARDS, M.D.  
Medical Director

B. JOE GUNN  
Hospital Administrator