300 attend NCFI World Congress

It is a truly awesome experience to enjoy Christian fellowship with nurses and nursing students from around the globe. At the NCFI World Congress 2016 delegates from 35 nations learned together, prayed together and inspired each other to realize their potential as Christians in nursing. As one delegate expressed it, “Opportunities like this keep us updated about the global nursing, and expose us to faithful Christian nurses, to be inspired and brought back to focus.”

Congress provides a unique opportunity for NCFI to help nurses to connect with each other across cultures, and to discover the strong bonds we have in serving Christ in nursing. Our experience of the Philippines and the wonderful hospitality of our hosts will long be remembered.

From the colourful Opening Ceremony with its Parade of Nations and traditional flag ceremony; through stimulating plenary presentations and a great variety of concurrent sessions on the theme Healthy Lives in a Broken World; to the celebration and sharing of Communion at the closing meeting, this Congress was an amazing experience.

Delegates said....

Afua Adobea Agyei from Ghana.

Through the Saline Process, personal interactions and other activities at the congress, I realised so many people had less opportunities in their various countries and workplaces to share their faith and they were sabotaged in every way possible. I had so many opportunities to share my faith and yet used so little of them by building a mountain of excuses.

At the congress, this challenged me and I decided that from then onward, I was going to make the most of every opportunity, by making Christ and His Love available anywhere I find myself: workplace or otherwise. This is because, “I HAVE A MANDATE TO LOVE”!

Thank you NCFI. God bless you.

More from delegates on next page

BOOK RELEASE! CARES Reflections for Nurses

Nursing speaks a great deal about caring, but too often we only think about caring in terms of giving care, not in being cared for. Nurses work hard to care for patients, supervise staff, and educate students. It has long been recognised by NCF worldwide that nurses need sources of continuing strength and refreshment and of spiritual health and growth in order to function fully as effective nurses.

In response to this need, Carrie Dameron felt the call to create and distribute regular devotionals to care and encourage NCFI nurses across all regions. These were so well received that nurses asked if we could create a NCFI Cares devotional book. This request has been met, and the book was released at the Congress in the Philippines. It will soon be available to download from the NCFI website.

Visit the NCFI and International Institute of Christian Nursing website: www.ncfi.org
Delegates said….

Evaluations revealed the aspects of congress most valued by individual delegates.

Connecting with God & others
Rated highly by most delegates was the opportunity for making friends and building networks with nurses from other countries.

“connecting with Christian nurses of all ages from around the world”

“The friendships I’ve found and the stronger bond with God I developed”

“the love and acceptance amongst the delegates.”

“The great spirit of open minds and hearts to each other in spite of so many different perspectives, cultures and languages.”

New insights & encouragement

“I valued most the perspective that was instilled into me. I now realize that the perspective of a Christian nurse could greatly affect people’s lives.”

“great insights from the Bible expositions and concurrent sessions.”

“learning how to live healthy lives and minister to others in a broken world.”

Jeepney Journeys

For the Congress Excursion delegates were given a choice between two specially designed Jeepney Tours. Participants of both tours experienced the wonderful Philippine hospitality. One set of tours gave insight into the Philippine Health Care Delivery System with a selected number of community health centers used for these visits.

A primary care hospital run by the city government and a private medical center was also included in the sites visited. The other choice was to visit beautiful spots and popular attractions in the Tagaytay area. Attractions visited included the Museo Orlina showcasing glass sculptures of the internationally acclaimed Ramon Orlina, pioneer and foremost practitioner of glass sculpture in the country, Puzzle Mansion showcasing thousands of completed puzzles, and the People’s Park which offered a breathtaking view of the Taal Volcano and surrounding vista.

Both of these tours culminated in lunch at Taal Vista Hotel with its grand view of the Taal Lake and Volcano, and surrounding areas. A wonderful dance troupe performed for us during the lunchtime.

Fabulous Filipino Evening!

This memorable evening included Philippines cuisine and some world class entertainment by traditional drummers, two dancing troupes and the Filipino version of The Four Tenors. In a relaxed and festive atmosphere we dined, talked to the accompaniment of drum beats and cool music. The colourful displays of dancing included the Tinkling Dance where dancers nimbly step it out between poles clapped together at rhythmic intervals. Some delegates were persuaded to give it a try as did others at the Taal Vista display. A demonstration of this dance can be seen at: https://vimeo.com/172362807. Don’t forget to turn on the sound! This wonderful evening was sponsored by NCF Philippines supporter Rolly Malincon.

Visit NCFI Facebook and the website for more photos and videos from the Congress. Speaker presentations and Power Points can be found at http://ncfi.org/conference/congress-2016.

SHARE NEWS FROM YOUR NCFI REGION

Send us news of the outreach and other work being done by your regional committee, and within your member countries. Contributions should be 500 words or less. Send to: information@ncfi.org

NCFI Email Newsletter July 2016