

2019 Graduation Celebration

by Chris Sullivan, MA, CMDA Campus Minister

As the Israelites are about to end of their journey in the wilderness and are preparing to enter into the Promised Land, Moses encourages them to “remember how the Lord your God led you” (Deut. 8:2). While med school is not entirely equivalent to Israel’s 40 years of wandering in the wilderness (again, not entirely), “remembering” was the theme of this year’s annual CMDA celebration for med school graduates. There were two things that struck me as students remembered their wilderness moments and how God provided the manna they needed. First, I was amazed at the deep and profound love that each student had for God. Story after story led us into deeper adoration to God. It was awe-inspiring just to be in this sacred space of student stories. Second, I was struck by how evident it was that these men and women are, and will continue to become, faithful leaders. The stories they shared not only told of how God provided for them in their wilderness moments, but their stories also cast a vision for following Jesus as whole life, whole world disciples. Even in looking back, these graduates were looking forward and were calling one another to continue seeking first the kingdom of God wherever it is absent. I am looking forward to seeing how the rest of their stories unfold and how God will use them to advance his kingdom. The evening concluded with the commissioning of the students as they recited and signed the Christian Physicians Oath. To end on this note seemed only fitting as was Moses’ final exhortation to Israel before they journeyed into the Promised Land.

“I command you today
to love the Lord your God,
to walk in obedience to him, and
to keep his commands, decrees and laws;
then you will live and increase,
and the Lord your God will bless you
in the land you are entering to possess.”

–Deuteronomy 30:16

