

The Grapevine

Spring 2004



The Latest News from His Branches

Dr. Fountain Workshop at Elim Bible Institute



This April 14-16, as part of Elim Bible Institute's **Missions and International Community Health** program, Dr. Daniel Fountain, MD, MPH, will be presenting a three-day workshop on "Caring for the Whole Person." Health professionals in the community are welcome to attend. **Dr. Fountain** is director of the Global Health Care masters degree program at King College and the author of numerous books in English and French on community health, primary health care, and care for the whole person. For further information, please review and send in the course **Registration Form** or contact Rebecca Dieterle in the Academic Department at EBI, (585) 582-1230, ext. 225.

Dr. Stevens to Speak at Christian MD Breakfast



Every school year His Branches co-hosts with the **Medical Center Christian Fellowship** a series of three breakfasts for Christian physicians in the area to meet students and fellowship with one another. Our **third breakfast** will be held on Saturday, May 1st, from 9 to 11 am at the Meliora (Faculty Club) beside the library on the University of Rochester River Campus. **Dr. David Stevens**, Executive Director of the Christian Medical & Dental Associations (CMDA), will be speaking on the topic of "The Marks of a Christian Physician." Afterward, Dr. Stevens will attend a luncheon hosted by His Branches for physicians who are interested in inner-city medical missions. For further information, **contact us**.

Grace Family Medicine Associates News

Under the guidance of our new Executive Director, Scott Sittig, we are actively exploring the possibility of establishing the services offered by the physicians at **Grace Family Medicine Associates** as a Diagnostic and Treatment Facility under Article 28 of New York's Public Health Law, a designation that will help us to expand the scope of the clinical care we offer to better serve the needs of the community. Please pray that we will have God's wisdom and favor as we investigate this option.

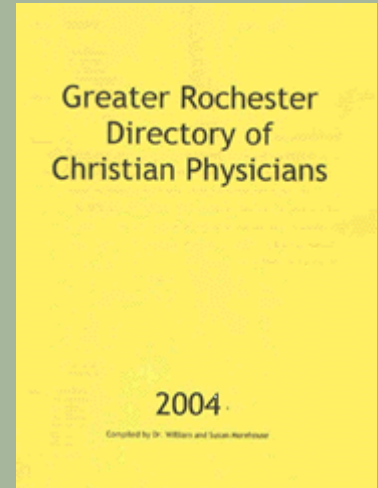
In March, Mr. Sittig and Dr. Morehouse attended a three-day strategic planning workshop in Chicago, conducted by the Christian Community Health Fellowship (**CCHF**), to learn more about the strategic planning aspects of becoming a recognized and licensed Community Health Center. They were very encouraged by what they learned and have come back more energized than ever to proceed.

Generous Grant Received!

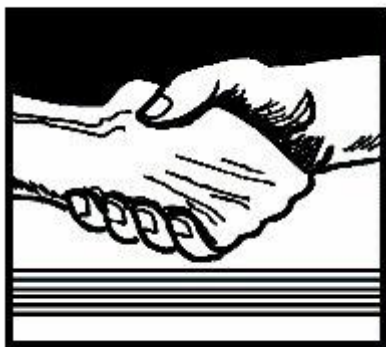
We have just been notified that His Branches is the recipient of a generous federal Compassion Capital Grant administered by CCHF to assist us in expanding the scope of our faith-based services to better meet the needs of our community.

Christian Physicians Directory Available

Our new 2004 Greater Rochester Directory of Christian Physicians is available for distribution. If you are in the health professions and would be interested in attending one of our breakfast meetings or in having your name listed in our Directory, please **contact us**.



Conference on the Uninsured



The Buffalo chapter of the Christian Medical & Dental Associations, [CMDA of Western NY](#), will be hosting a day-long conference on Saturday, May 8th, on the topic of [Health Care for the Uninsured](#). Although the conference will be of special interest to health professionals, all are welcome!

Institute Leadership Recognized By Mayor

On February 20th, David Dey (Board Member), the Executive Director of the [Institute for Social Entrepreneurship](#) (a collaborative ministry of His Branches), along with Mayor Johnson, Interfaith Action, and many other community and civic leaders gathered in the sanctuary of the St. Augustine's Church to launch the beginning of the redevelopment of the commercial district of Chili Avenue from West Main Street to the Canal (see [press release](#)). From the podium, Mayor Johnson singled out the work of David Dey and the Institute for his forward thinking and commitment to making the Chili Avenue corridor a business model of success for our community.

GVSCDA Receives Good News

Dr. James Bowman (Board member), Coordinator of the [Genesee Valley Sickle Cell Disease Association](#) (a collaborative ministry of His Branches), received some good news in March. Part of their collaborative outreach effort through Strong Memorial Hospital received word that they were awarded a 5 year grant to help fund the community program coordinator through Strong. Efforts are now being made to solidify the work and funding of the outreach office located at His Branches. More news coming soon . . .

Counseling Center

His Branches is actively seeking input from a number of committed individuals at [Roberts Wesleyan College](#), The Family Restoration Project at [New Life Fellowship](#), the [Center for Christian Social Ministries](#), the [Institute for Social Entrepreneurship](#), the Wellness Center at [SWAN](#), and others in the community as we pursue our plans to develop an onsite assessment, counseling, and referral center. Much interest has been shown, and steady progress is being made as we seek specifics about the plan that the Lord has in mind.

New parking, green space, and a mural!

The development of our parking space in the lots adjacent to our property has hit a snag. We await finalized approval from the Department of Parks and Recreation on the site plan. Please pray with us that this approval comes soon so that we can break ground before the spring passes us by.

As part of our plan to develop the vacant lots adjacent to our building, a mural concept has been proposed for our west wall with a target date of early this fall. Between now and then we will be pursuing assistance from the Council on the Arts as well as seeking a lot of community input and participation.



One idea for our proposed mural

Intercessory Prayer Meetings

Monthly intercessory prayer meetings of the Tree of Life Community will be held on the third Wednesday morning of each month from 8:00 to 9:00 am in our main conference room at 275 Warwick Avenue. Please come and invite prayer partners who have a burden for city ministry.

We are beginning to work toward a vision in which we see the Greater Rochester area fulfilling its destiny in our day by becoming a community redeemed by the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe that a refined prayer strategy is being called for along with a host of committed intercessors. If you are interested in committing to this endeavor, please **let us know**.



Donations Being Received!

Over the years we have relied on the generous gifts of many of you in support of the work we do among those who are less privileged than we are. This year as we embark on a time of unprecedented growth under the leadership of our new Executive Director, Scott Sittig, we have set a goal of raising \$50,000 from people like you to help us meet the pressing needs of our community in the Name of Jesus. We are happy to report that we have already received nearly \$15,000 towards our goal! God is faithful!

If you haven't already, would you consider making a significant donation to His Branches Inc. this year? Any contribution you can offer would be gratefully received, and all donations are fully tax-deductible. Please [contact us](#) with any questions you might have about our ministry or policies. God bless you!