

RConnections March 2017



Yes, the RC is Still in Ministry

Some of you continue to check in on our website and are aware of our activities and planning over the last few months. There is a STATS link the Word Press provides with their free webpages that show us how many log on each week and how many pages they view. It does not provide names, just the number of hits. Minutes of the RC Board of Directors are posted and can be accessed and read for several weeks after each meeting.

Current Ministries Include:

- **A grant of \$150 a month for 12-months (\$1800.00) to the Uduk Hope Education Incentive Lunch Program at the Doro Refugee Camp in South Sudan.** This new program seeks to provide meals in each of the seven schools located on the Camp. By doing so they address the current food crisis and encourage children to attend school. The Uduk Hope team we assisted last spring/summer conducted two test sites of the ministry while at the camp. Attendance rose when the churches announced the meal plan. Uduk Hope was able to provide a meal for some 800 children at a cost of \$150 on two occasions. Thus each \$150 will provide a meal for 700-800 students for one day. An Uduk Hope team, selected by church leaders, at the camp administers this program in cooperation with Save the Children NGO. This grant is a small start to help Uduk Hope promote their current fund raising efforts.

The current Education fund will be used to start this grant and Team One Hundred₂ will be used to raise additional funding.

- **A Rochester Connection College Scholarship Fund** is being set up to award \$1000 annual scholarships for qualifying students from the churches in Rochester. Scholarships would be available to individuals accepted to any accredited 2- or 4-year degree programs or technical training schools. Scholarship monies would be sent directly to the school and credited to the student's account.

The number of scholarships each year would be based on Team One Hundred₂ fund raising success.

- **Funding two \$500 scholarships for the Uduk Hope College Scholarship Fund**, for students in the refugee camps in Ethiopia and South Sudan, be set aside pending arrangement being in place with the colleges involved. The scholarships would be awarded to students meeting the matriculation requirements of the approved college with funds sent directly to the college.
- **Sports and Mentoring Ministry.** We continue to support the efforts of Mike Faro and Liasor Dima in working with city young people getting involved in the City soccer leagues and honing their soccer skills. The Athletic Field renovation project at Heart and Soul is part of this ministry.

The Rochester Connection (RC) is a 501(c) 3 Christian non-profit organization serving the Church in the City of Rochester, NY since 2008. All Rochester Connection Funds are banked with the Genesis Conference Treasurer, FMC, USA. No one on the RC Board nor its Executive Director receives compensation for services.

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- **Help fund a Heart and Soul parking lot paving and expansion and the completion of the Athletic Field renovation project** were approved at the March Board meetings. This is a major project that the congregation has delayed for several years. The current lot needs repairs and repaving. The driveway (exit) on the north side needs grading and paving and additional parking spaces will be added to the rear of the building now that the trees have been removed or trimmed. Part of the paving in the rear of the building will also be used for providing sports ministries during the week and parking on Sundays. Final cost estimates are being solicited but we know this will run \$30,000-\$40,000. **Team One Hundred₂ will be used to seek to raise funding.**
- **Faith and Finances 12-Week Workshop.** We are currently facilitating our fourth Workshop with ten individuals participating at the Open Door Mission in Rochester every Thursday.

Please Support Team One Hundred₂

We have funds on hand for the initial support of the Education initiatives noted above thanks to funding provided by a local Rochester congregation over the past two years. We will need much more to continue these as well as to fund the Parking Lot project later this year.

In the next few weeks and months, we are seeking help in signing up individuals and congregations in the new Team One Hundred₂ program. One hundred individuals or families giving \$10/ month (\$120/year) would raise \$12,000. Double that number or monthly pledge and we have \$24,000.

Please pass the word if these are City and Refugee ministries that touch your heart. [Download the Team One Hundread2 form](#) to view other options for supporting these RC ministries.

We currently do not support using online giving for cost saving reasons. As you know, sites that offer that charge a fee for each gift given. Check the website in case we find a means of providing this service. In the meantime cash and checks are welcome. Thank you

The RC Webpage

- The **Recent Posts and Link Update** page provides a quick view of what is new. Check the "Page Updated" date for when the last changes were made. [CLICK HERE](#)

RC Board of Directors

- Check out the 2017 Board of Directors. [CLICK HERE](#)

RConnections is published periodically by: Rev. Dr. Brian D. Babcock, Executive Director
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Go To <https://rochesterconnection.wordpress.com> for current updates.

* Header picture from Doro Refugee Camp in South Sudan

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