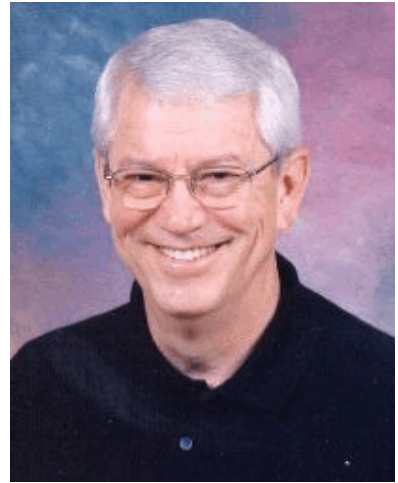


Grace Covenant Church Community Forum with Dr. Richard Dew

Grace Covenant Church's third Community Forum was held on Sunday afternoon, April 27, 2008, with Dr. Richard Dew addressing the topic **The Practice of Medicine: Where Is It Going?** A former prominent physician in Oak Ridge, Dr. Dew spoke to two primary concerns: the gradual replacement of the personal touch in medicine by more "efficient" models that substitute technology for personal involvement and the situation of the uninsured.



Currently serving as the volunteer medical director at Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic in Sevierville, which serves the uninsured, Dr. Dew observed, "In my experience, over 90% of the uninsured patients I see are employed, many working as many as three jobs, and barely able to provide the basics for their families. Contrary to what talk show hosts would have you believe, they have not merely chosen to forego health insurance. They would love any type of insurance, but for them, it is impossible."

Dr. Dew is a native of Memphis, Tennessee, and a graduate of Rhodes College and the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. Following a tour of duty as a medical officer in Vietnam, he served on the staff of the Family Clinic of Oak Ridge, 1970 - 2002. Currently living in Gatlinburg, he serves as the volunteer medical director at Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Clinic in Sevierville (<http://www.mountainhope.org/index.html>), a clinic providing primary health care, emergency dental treatment and counseling to the uninsured of Sevier County.

Since 1992, Dr. Dew has worked with The Compassionate Friends, a support group for families who have lost children. He has served on The Compassionate Friends' national board of directors and given numerous lectures, workshops and seminars on grief resolution to church, lay and professional groups. He has authored two books, *Rachel's Cry* and a novel *Tunnel of Light* dealing with the death of a child.

Richard and Jean Dew reared their sons, Gregory and Bradley, in Oak Ridge and have many friends here. A reception honoring them followed the forum.