



physician

flash

June 1, 2010

SAINT JOSEPH
Regional Medical Center
125 Years of Faith Based Healthcare in Michiana

TRINITY HEALTH
10th
ANNIVERSARY

2010 Marks 10th Anniversary for Catholic Health Ministries & Trinity Health

With the year 2010, Catholic Health Ministries and Trinity Health reaches a significant milestone – the 10th anniversary of its founding as a “new voice in Catholic health care.”

Formed on May 1, 2000, Trinity Health brought together two highly successful health systems – Mercy Health Services and Holy Cross Health System. On that spring day, the signing of the official documents took place at the historic Church of Loretto located on the campus of the Sisters of the Holy Cross in Notre Dame, Ind. Simultaneous launch ceremonies at the corporate offices in Farmington Hills and South Bend on May 2-3 helped celebrate the birth of this new organization that would carry on the legacies of the Sisters’ ministries.

Q & A with President & CEO Joseph Swedish

Q: Looking over the past decade how would you rate Trinity Health’s progress toward fulfilling its Mission?

Joe: The organization has made tremendous strides from a very modest beginning of two organizations coming together and that in their own right were very successful, but never worked in a collaborative manner. It’s really a remarkable story of success, perseverance and hard work by so many people working closely together in a collaborative way that truly has made a difference, not only for the communities that we serve but for the many individuals whose lives we touch every day.

Q: How important is our Mission and spirituality to the overall success of Trinity Health as a health care service organization?

Joe: Mission and spirituality really are the foundation upon which we have built this organization. It’s the guidance that takes us to the future in a very clear manner. Each and every decision we make not only is guided by these paths to success, but also gives us the inspiration to want to best serve without any hesitancy or a lack of clarity about who we are and how we get where we want to go.

Q: In 10 short years Trinity Health has made amazing strides in clinical quality, patient safety, health IT and community benefit. Looking back, what are some of the top achievements today? What has really distinguished us as an organization?

Joe: Our IT infrastructure is second to none with respect to how we administer the business, how we administer the clinical decision support we give caregivers and how we support the delivery of care to our patients.

But the real hallmark of the Unified Enterprise Ministry® has a lot to do with our culture, our people, and how we try to remain true to our Founding Principles that were given to us by the two sponsoring congregations. That really has strengthened our culture to a level that allows us to be very tightly connected to people within our organization who serve our communities.

Q: On March 21, Congress passed the historic health care reform bill. How has Trinity Health prepared for this moment in time?

Joe: The preparation began at the founding of Trinity Health 10 years ago. I believe we’re now perfectly positioned for the new era created by this health care reform package. It requires building networks, advancing the use of information, giving clinicians the tools they need to provide the absolute best care possible, building financial stability that allows us to excel in many initiatives that we want to create in our organization to do better in every facet of our work. I believe we have arrived at a moment in time, with the enactment of the health care reform package, which truly sets Trinity Health apart from every other organization as one that is ready for change.

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Do I Need a Trust?

By Jason R. Hessler J.D., CFP®

Asking an attorney, “Do I need a trust?” is akin to asking your doctor, “Do I need surgery?” The first thing an attorney or doctor might do is smile and then ask questions about issues you are having and what you are trying to accomplish. During the initial conversation, the term “trust” and “surgery” would be interchangeable in the attorney/doctor lexicon.

Trusts can be used for many different purposes. Some common reasons to use a trust in your estate plan might be to avoid costs and time associated with the court system called probate. Other reasons for trusts include providing assets to charities, protecting a family member with special needs or passing assets in the most tax efficient manner. Other trusts may take advantage of state laws with respect to inheritance taxes and real estate. Some trusts are designed to protect the assets for children of a previous marriage. There are just too many reasons to list all the specifics of why someone would need a trust.

Unlike a will, trusts are private documents. Wills are open to the public through the court system. Trusts, however, are private meaning only those who have an interest in the document (i.e. they receive a benefit from the trust) are allowed to view its contents. This privacy allows an individual to keep his wishes known only to those he or she chooses.

Trusts can also be abused by some attorneys and financial professionals. Trust factories, as they are sometimes called, tend to prey on the

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Q: As we move forward in this new era, what are the major challenges facing our Unified Enterprise Ministry?

Joe: The challenges are going to come from a variety of directions, some predictable and quite a few unpredictable. The predictable challenges relate to finances and the tremendous expectation for improving care delivery that creates great outcome. It has a lot to do with transparency so that people can truly measure outcomes so they can understand that they receive value. Some of the unpredictable challenges relate to the unknowns of public policy continuing to change in ways that demand more of us and ask us to step up to expectations of performance.

Q: How is Trinity Health positioned for future success relative to this unstable and changing economy?

Joe: Responding to an environment of uncertainty requires expert leadership, and associates who are totally aligned with the ministry and the Mission that presents tremendous clarity. We have an amazing organization when you think about the geographic dispersion of our ministries. There's tremendous strength in our ability to work together across regional and state boundaries. Somehow, out of all of the uncertainty, we can come together and create tremendous change for the better. It is a great testimonial to what we've created over the last 10 years and also a reflection of what's possible going forward.

Q: How do you describe Trinity Health to people who aren't familiar with it? What excites you when you describe it?

Joe: When I have an opportunity to share Trinity Health's story with people that have never heard of us and really don't understand health care, I talk about our faith-based culture. I talk about a 10-year journey. I talk about the over 100-year heritage that shaped us, and the responsibilities we have looking to the future related to health care reform. And, literally people are amazed about not only the story, but about our outcomes as a people-centered culture because what rings true to them is our faith-based heritage.

That has been a remarkable insight that affirms the quality of this organization and the people who serve within it, the value of our heritage as a faith based community, and how we are all working together in the spirit of the Gospel as directed by our Mission.



Community Helps Bendix Family Physicians Celebrate One-Year Anniversary

South Bend's West Side community helped Bendix Family Physicians celebrate its one-year anniversary with an open house, free food and beverages, and games for kids.

Dr. Linus Ngante of Bendix Family Physicians celebrated the one-year anniversary with a little help from his six-month-old daughter.



Inpatient Satisfaction Committee Meets

The newly formed inpatient satisfaction committee at the Mishawaka Campus recently met for the first time.

The group, comprised of nursing and ancillary staff, with Dr. Dobson and Dr. Paul Miller serving as physician champions, is charged with improving the patient care experience.

Back row, from left, James Powell, Robyn White, Carlos Guerrero, Lora Burns, Carla Hinton, Theresa Barger and Jenny Lemanski. Front row, from left, Patti Hart, Mary Jo Campbell, Rodney Brugh, Makisha Johnson and Dr. Moncrief Dobson.



Physicians: Schedule Your Portrait Session

Due to the positive response from our physicians regarding the new printed and online Saint Joseph Medical Staff directory, we are adding dates and times for you to schedule your portrait session.

If you have not already, please contact RCL Portrait Design to schedule your appointment. There is no cost for you to participate.

The following dates and times have been added:

Mishawaka Campus

July 26, 27, 28 & 29 • 7 am – 2 pm
Main Hospital
Critical Care Progressive Center
Conf. Room #3 – 331
(Osteopathic Conf. Room)

Plymouth Campus

July 30 • 7 am – 2 pm
(subject to change, call for details)
Medical Office Building 4
2nd Floor, Conf. Room #1

You will be able to view your proofs immediately and choose your picture for the directory. Additional portraits will also be made available to those who wish to purchase them, however there is no obligation.

For professional quality and best presentation, appropriate dress is suggested. We recommend the following:

Ladies: Suit jacket or long-sleeved blouse
Gentlemen: Dark jacket & tie

We ask that you appreciate the importance of this project and assist RCL Portrait Design in making a successful directory.

To schedule an appointment, you or your office staff can call **RCL Portrait Design at 800-951-8712.**



Kudos to...



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DESERVES A "KUDOS"? HAS YOUR DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A THANK YOU LETTER? SHARE YOUR STORIES WITH MARKETING! CONTACT LINDAHL WIEGAND, EXT. 6903 or wiegandl@sjrmc.com

Michiana Physician Elected to Board of Directors for World's Largest Oncology Membership Organization

Congratulations to Robin Zon, MD, FACP of Michiana Hematology Oncology, who has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the world's leading professional organization representing physicians who care for people battling cancer.

Effective June 2010, Dr. Zon will serve a three-year term as Community Representative for the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), an international membership organization that includes more than 27,000 oncology professionals. Dr. Zon was elected by the ASCO membership after serving on the ASCO Clinical Practice Committee, Cancer Research Committee and serving as Chair of the Exemplary Attributes Committee and the CTPA Award Committee as well as the Chair-elect of the Cancer Prevention Committee.

As Community Representative for the ASCO, Dr. Zon will act as the voice of community oncologists and patients by identifying concerns, issues and solutions relevant to the delivery of patient care. She will join two other Community Representatives in bringing these issues, which include healthcare reimbursement concerns and lack of funding for research, to the ASCO membership and board of directors to be addressed on an international level.

"In the goal to advance the fight against cancer, the ASCO's mission begins with a collaborative effort to find solutions to real problems, including at the patient and provider level," said Dr. Zon. "Patients fighting cancer in Michiana can rest assured that the most powerful organization for cancer care and prevention is working to make sure that their voice is heard and that their concerns are taken seriously."

In addition to her involvement with the ASCO, Dr. Zon is a practicing medical oncologist at Michiana Hematology Oncology, and serves as Principal Investigator for the Northern Indiana Cancer Research Consortium, Vice Chair of the Hoosier Oncology Group and community co-chair of several co-operative group research trials.

"Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center is extremely proud of Dr. Zon for this well-deserved accomplishment," said Chris Karam, VP of Clinical Services at SJRMC. "She will be representing our cancer patients at a national level, and there is no doubt that our entire medical community will benefit from her expertise and commitment."

For more information, visit www.asco.org

Meredith Wierman, DO

I would like to commend Dr. Meredith Wierman in her help with a patient. I was seeing a patient at the Rehab hospital. This patient has been admitted from a Hospital in Indianapolis. He had had some changes in mental status that weren't completely explained. We ended up doing further workup while at the rehabilitation facility and found out that he had cryptococcal meningitis. I paged Dr. Wierman on a Saturday morning, even though she was not on call. Not only did she call back within a minute, after discussing the case with her she was willing to come out of the rehabilitation facility and see the patient herself. It is my understanding that the vast majority of specialists will not come out to the rehab hospital, let alone on the weekend when they are not on call. Dr. Wierman ended up deciding this patient should be sent to Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center and admitted to the ICU. I think she went above and beyond, and I noted that the rest of the physicians at the rehabilitation hospital were very impressed by her.

– Aaron M. Young, MD

Max E. Helman, DO

Max E. Helman, DO, is pleased to be able to assist the Residency Program at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in his new leadership position as the Director of Medical Education for the Osteopathic Residency. As an Osteopathic family physician for 45 years in Mishawaka, IN, Dr. Helman currently enjoys practicing medicine with his daughter, Laura Helman, DO. He has had many experiences in Osteopathic education, having trained several students over the years. He is past president of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFPP). He is past president of the Indiana ACOFP and of the local District 4. He continues to be active on the State Osteopathic Board and also the ACOFP of Indiana as well as being active in the government of National ACOFP Committees. Dr. Helman has been honored to have received a multitude of the highest awards while in practice and has achieved status as a Distinguished Fellow in ACOFP, which is the highest degree in his profession. He is married and resides in Granger, Indiana, having four children and one stepchild and said he greatly enjoys the company of his five grandchildren. He continues to be active in the family practice of medicine.

Upcoming Medical Staff & Hospital Committee Meetings

Mishawaka Campus

For more information call 574.335.1052

Hospital Committee Meetings

Cardiovascular Physician Peer

Cath Lab/IR Conf. Room
June 17, 7 am

Ethics Advisory Committee

CCU Conference Room #3331
June 10, 7:30 am

Institutional Review Board Committee

Pharmacy Conf. Room
June 10, 7 am

Oncology Committee

Education Center A
June 15, 7 am

Pediatric Task Force

Administration Board Room
June 10, 7 am

Radiation Safety Committee

Administration Board Room
June 29, Noon

Medical Staff Meetings

Credentials Committee

Administration Board Room
June 4, 6:30 am

Medical Executive Committee

Administration Board Room
June 7, 6 pm

Emergency Department

Emergency Conference Room
June 15, 7:30 am

Otolaryngology Subsection

CEO Board Room
June 3, 7 am

Pathology Department

Administration Board Room
June 24, 8 am

Plymouth Campus

For more information call 574.935.2260

Surgery Committee

Boardroom
July 16, 8:15 am

Medical Staff

Education Center
June 18, Noon

Medical Executive Committee & Medical Credentials Committee

Board Room
July 23, Noon

Physician Administrator Luncheon

Education Center, Noon
June 25, Noon

Medical Executive Committee & Medical Credentials Committee

Boardroom
June 21, Noon

Tumor Board

Education Center
June 10, 12:15 – 1:15 pm

Mishawaka Campus 2010 Medical Staff Officers


President F. Moncrief Dobson, MD
Vice-President William Stonehill, MD
Secretary/Treasurer Mark Lewis, DO

Plymouth Campus 2010 Medical Executive Committee

President Elizabeth Rutherford, MD
Vice President Josephine Randazzo, DO
At-Large Julie Marie Gerick, MD
At-Large Rod Kubley, MD
At-Large Joel Schumacher, MD

Mission Statement

We serve together in Trinity Health, in the spirit of the Gospel, to heal body, mind and spirit, to improve the health of our communities, and to steward the resources entrusted to us.



Physician Flash is a monthly newsletter published for SJRMC Physicians.


Thomas A. Reitingger
Interim President and CEO, SJRMC

Andrew J. Snyder
Vice President, Marketing

Lindahl Wiegand
Editorial Specialist

Christine Weist
Graphic Design Specialist

Mike Stack
Public Relations Coordinator



Physician Flash is designed to keep you informed about the latest happenings in the Saint Joseph health system. This publication features new technology, services and programs important to you, your office staff and your patients.

To submit information or story ideas for future issues of Physician Flash, or to receive Physician Flash via e-mail, please send an e-mail to the Marketing Department care of Lindahl Wiegand, at wiegandl@sjrmc.com.

SAINT JOSEPH
Regional Medical Center

125 Years of Faith Based Healthcare in Michiana

5215 Holy Cross Parkway
Mishawaka, IN 46545

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elderly. Espousing the virtues of trusts, they can charge thousands of dollars to unsuspecting individuals who don't understand exactly what they are getting except that, "the lawyer said so." Not everyone needs a trust; sometimes a well drafted will can accomplish your wishes. Much like a second opinion when contemplating surgery, the same considerations should apply when deciding whether a trust makes sense for your estate plan.

Essentially, trusts are the vehicle to hold property for the benefit of another. Whether during your life or when you die, trusts can

provide significant tax benefits as well as direct your assets exactly when, where and to whom you want them to go. Consult with your financial professional or attorney (the person may be both) when thinking about your estate plan.

If you wish to learn more please contact 1st Source Bank's **Personal Asset Management Group** at (574) 235-2790 or visit www.1stsource.com.



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