Patient Tower Designed for Life

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and Advocate Lutheran General Children’s Hospital recently dedicated a 192 private-room patient tower, an eight-floor facility providing innovative safety and comfort features, a focus on family-centered care, technological advancements and an environmentally conscious design.

Art figures prominently in creating the tower’s healing environment. Works of art hang in the elevator lobbies of each floor. Colors shining through the stone wall by the staircase to the children’s hospital will change with the wave of a hand. Overhead 150 blue doves hang in flight to evoke the wonder of nature and the beauty of progress.

“The builder of all things is God,” David Stark, hospital president, told the sea of guests gathered under a huge tent near the East Pavilion for the July 12 community dedication. The state-of-the-art patient tower, he said, will allow Lutheran General to continue its healing ministry for years to come.

“Our focus on human ecology inspires this place and the healing mission of our founding churches grounds our work,” said the Rev. Kathie Bender Schwich, vice president of mission and spiritual care, in introducing a litany of dedication. “But it is the faithful commitment of our associates, volunteers and physicians that brings this structure to life. It is a space served by people who speak different languages, come from many cultures and are rooted in many faith traditions.”

Words of the litany rang out in Hebrew, Arabic, Pali, Kiswahili, English, Polish, Spanish, Malayalam and Hindi spoken by representatives from local faith communities invited to participate. Staff chaplains holding aloft colored streamers then escorted guest clergy to sections of the tower where they offered blessings on each space.

Visual artist Corinne Peterson of Chicago attended the blessing of the meditation garden in the courtyard nestled between the patient tower and the main hospital. Peterson sculpted the seven stoneware pillars posted in the garden, which includes a walking path, birch trees, earth mounds, plants and benches and chairs. The pillars were inspired, Peterson said, by ancient stone markers placed on roadways in England and France.

“I think of them as marking intersections and important parts of life,” Peterson said. “I meant for them to carry some mystery, (for onlookers) to meditate on the intersections they’re facing in their life.”
Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

It has been anything but a quiet summer here at Lutheran General. Last month, we inaugurated our new patient tower with a series of open houses during the weekend of July 12, when we dedicated the building. The big day came the following Saturday as a cadre of associates, physicians and volunteers assisted in moving and admitting patients to the new clinical floors. We are excited about the many ways in which this new space will assist us in meeting the needs of our patients and families, as well as being a welcoming place to all who visit here.

On August 14, we will bid farewell to President David Stark, who has resigned for family reasons and will be moving back to Iowa. I am grateful to David for the ways in which he has supported a renewed focus on human ecology and spiritual care during his short tenure here. On August 17, we will welcome our interim chief executive officer, William Santulli, who serves as executive vice president and chief operating officer for Advocate Health Care. Bill comes to this interim role with a commitment to Lutheran General and its mission. He will help the executive team keep projects and initiatives moving forward while the search for a new chief executive continues.

I look forward to Bill’s partnership in carrying out our commitment to being in closer communication and partnership with you, the leaders of our neighboring congregations and faith communities. It is a goal of our mission and spiritual care department to make available continuing education seminars and workshops that will assist you in your daily ministry. We’ve scheduled the first one for Oct. 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to explore pastoral care for persons experiencing depression. You’ll receive more information soon. I hope you’ll join us.

If you have suggestions for particular topics that you would like us to address, please send them to me at LGH-Mission-SpiritualCare@advocatehealth.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

With thanks to God for all you do,

Rev. Kathie Bender Schwich
Vice President
Mission and Spiritual Care

Our Ministry of Education:

CPE residents extend reach of Mission & Spiritual Care department
By Susan Gullickson, D.Min., Chaplain/CPE Supervisor

Six Clinical Pastoral Education CPE residents will complete their year-long program on Aug. 28. A highlight of their curriculum is the series of integrative projects they designed and brought to fruition this year.

The Rev. Marilyn Barnes, an African Methodist Episcopal minister, conceived of promoting an ICE (In Case of Emergency) initiative in the local high schools and churches. Her promotion of this important contact information being entered into cell phones came as a result of the number of emergency room patients with whom the Rev. Barnes worked, who had no personal contact information with them.

Joel Borreo, his position a partnership between Advocate Lutheran General and Rainbow Hospice, took an interest in spiritual care of persons with dementia. In a project which spanned the entire year, Joel, an Episcopalian, combined his experience visiting clients with dementia with his extensive reading in the current literature to develop recommendations for spiritual care of these individuals.

The Rev. Christine Hoffmeyer, a United Methodist with 27 years in parish ministry, focused on spiritual needs of people who have had a stroke. Along with her review of the literature, Pastor Hoffmeyer interviewed speech therapists, chaplains, neuro-psychologists and occupational therapists to discover whether particular faith-based approaches might contribute to rehabilitation. She explored the use of physical movements, repetitive chanting, or “whole language” using signing, as spiritual disciplines to aid in one’s recovery.

In her position created through a partnership with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and St. Matthew Center for Health, Heather Simpson, a seminary trained member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, focused on leading lectionary-based Bible studies with the elderly. With a teacher’s eye to differentiated learning, she experimented with formats that would work best in a long-term care setting. Her large-print handout, questions with printed multiple-choice answers and easy-turn pages, provide a format that maximizes the engagement of the 15 “regulars.”

The Rev. Colin Eversman, a Presbyterian Church (USA) minister, built on years of group experience with youth and young adults with his year-long project focusing on small group dynamics. He has compiled a handbook of approaches to working with printed multiple-choice answers and easy-turn pages, provide a format that maximizes the engagement of the 15 “regulars.”

The Rev. Claire Marich, an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church, took a particular interest in learning more about the identification and treatment of addictions, spending a week-long “internship” at the Advocate Addiction Treatment Center, 701 Lee Street, Des Plaines, treatment program. Inspired by what she learned, she brought two of their speakers to provide a continuing education inservice for the chaplains, ethicists and music therapists in our mission and spiritual care department.

New CPE residents will join our team beginning Sept. 1. If you are interested in collaborating with one of them on a practical research project, or would like contact information to follow-up on one of the current residents’ projects, please contact Joseph Tamborini Czolgosz, manager of CPE, at 847-723-6395, or joseph.czolgosz@advocatehealth.com.
Advocate Involved in the Community…

Another exciting part of the summer is Advocate Health Care’s annual announcement of its community benefit contribution. We are proud to share with you that Advocate provided more than $373 million in charitable care and services during 2008 to the many communities it serves throughout Chicagoland. This total represents a $29.5 million increase from its 2007 contribution.

Advocate’s community benefits investment allows it to meet the health and wellness needs of its communities and expands access to care. The 8.6 percent increase from 2007’s total underscores the dedication of Advocate physicians, nurses and associates to provide for underserved and vulnerable. In addition to free and subsidized health care, Advocate also offers programs and services that respond to communities’ unique needs. These include health and wellness screenings, behavioral health services, and school-based health care. Also provided are language-assistance services, such as interpreters and non-English patient education materials.

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital’s contribution to these benefits include Level I trauma services, the area’s first school-based health clinic, and one of the nation’s first and largest Adult Down Syndrome Centers.

Lutheran General also provides health screenings and community outreach programs; education to train physicians, nurses and many other highly skilled health care professionals; services through its associates and medical staff members who volunteer in their communities and local residents who volunteer at Lutheran General; language-assistance, such as interpreters and non-English patient education materials; and donations of meeting and clinic space, as well as other assistance to community groups.

Lutheran General gives students a jump start

Often, when people hear “teaching hospital,” the first thought is the hospital has a resident training program. And that is true at Lutheran General Hospital. But the hospital also teaches high school and college students. For the first time this summer, about 20 students aged 16 to 22 are working at the hospital to learn necessary skills for future employment opportunities. Funded by the Federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA), signed by President Obama in February, the Maine Township “JumpStart” program is designed to create jobs and promote the nation’s economic recovery by providing as many youth as possible with summer employment opportunities and work experience.

“It’s a win-win,” said James Ng, human resources manager at Lutheran General. “The students receive on-the-job orientation and training, the hospital is provided some extra summer help and we all support the economy by putting some spending money in the hands of those most likely to spend it.”

Advocate launches new site

White the address may be the same at www.advocatehealth.com, the look and feel is new and exciting.

Bright colors give the website a fresh and upbeat look, while added functionality makes it easier for patients and consumers to “Find-a-Doctor,” search by symptom and get health information via a robust library of articles. Functionality will continue to be added and updated through subsequent redesign phases.

To visit Advocate Lutheran General Hospital’s website, go to: www.advocatehealth.com/luth.
Questions and Answers:

Q: Is there a place for me to park when making a very brief pastoral care visit to a patient? Some of these visits are of an urgent nature (getting to someone before surgery, meeting with a family when a person is very near death, etc.). I find I’m spending very precious time when I could be with a patient or their family hunting for a parking place.

A: You will be happy to know that we have heard and responded to your concern. There are now three “Reserved for Clergy” parking spaces behind the emergency room entrance that can be used for this very purpose. We ask, out of consideration for your colleagues, that you please use these spaces only in situations of an urgent or critical nature. When you have more time to spend in visiting a patient or patients, please use the parking garages. We will continue to provide parking passes for garage parking. Mon – Fri, you are asked to use the West garage next to the Center for Advanced Care, Saturday and Sunday, you may use the main garage in front of the hospital.

Our public safety staff asks that when you use the “Reserved for Clergy” spaces, you place one of your business cards on the dashboard of your car so that it is visible to them. This will assist all of us in helping to meet your needs as you provide pastoral care to patients and families here. If you have further questions, please direct them to mission and spiritual care at 847-723-6395.

Do you have questions for us?
Please submit them: LGH-Mission-SpiritualCare@advocatehealth.com

In Memoriam...

Rev. Francis C. Jenks

The Rev. Francis C. Jenks, a resident priest at Mary, Seat of Wisdom parish in Park Ridge, died from heart failure on July 16 at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. He was 64.

Born of Irish and Lithuanian descent in Visitation parish on the South Side of Chicago, Jenks was no stranger to Lutheran General. He was among the cadre of Roman Catholic priests from eight nearby parishes who come on a moment’s notice in response to a family’s request for “last rites” for a loved one when the hospital’s staff priests are not available.

Jenks was ordained by then Archbishop John Cardinal Cody in 1970 and served as assistant pastor of Our Lady of the Wayside in Arlington Heights, Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Glenview and St Mary of Vernon in Vernon Hills. For 14 years beginning in 1988, he was pastor of Ascension parish in Oak Park. In 2002, he became pastor of St. Alphonsus in Lemont, where he remained until 2008.

Jenks was remembered as a sensitive homilist who loved liturgical music, was committed to youth and young adult ministry and encouraged lay involvement in parish governance. He was greatly involved for many years with Theology-on-Tap, the speaker and conversation series for persons in their 20s and 30s, sponsored by the Young Adult Ministry Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago. He also enjoyed golf and travel. May God bless his memory among us.

To send comments or ideas or to be added to our electronic distribution list, please e-mail LGH-Mission-SpiritualCare@advocatehealth.com
The Service League of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital presents

THE ART OF HEALTH

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
10 AM TO 4 PM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
NOON TO 4 PM

This free fair is a ‘thank you’ to the community for supporting the hospital for the past 50 years.

- **Juried art show** – high-quality art and master crafts including paintings, sculpture, drawings, printmaking, fiber, metal, glass, ceramics and jewelry

- **Health screenings** – blood pressure, body mass index (BMI), posture screenings, breast cancer risk assessment and memory screenings

- **Exhibits of Lutheran General’s community outreach services** – Lutheran General Children’s Health Resource Center, Lutheran General Women’s Health Resource Center, Older Adult Services, Fitness Center, and much more

- **Food • Raffle • Family Fun**

- **Location** - North parking lot across from hospital

For more information, call 1-800-3-ADVOCATE (1-800-323-8622)
Part of the proceeds from raffles and community sponsorship of this event will benefit the hospitals and their programs.

Advocate
Lutheran General Hospital
Lutheran General Children’s Hospital
1775 Dempster | Park Ridge, IL 60068
Save-the-Date!

Saturday, September 26
Gala 2009

Once upon a time...

Four Seasons Hotel Chicago • 120 East Delaware Place

Benefiting the Midwest Children’s Brain Tumor Center and the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program at Lutheran General Children’s Hospital

For more information, please contact Christy Santos, director of development, at (847) 723-8682 or christy.santos@advocatehealth.com.

Midwest Children’s Brain Tumor Center
Damage from brain tumors and the side effects of treatment impact the entire family. Gala 2009 will help support both the technical and emotional impact of such a diagnosis. Without philanthropy, patients cared for at the Midwest Children’s Brain Tumor Center would not have access like they currently do to a full range of comprehensive neurological services, clinical expertise, educational/support service, leading-edge technology like the intra-operative MRI and the availability of new innovative medical procedures such as the first ever pediatric tumor dye study in the United States. This dye glows almost like charcoal to help doctors define the borders where tumor and healthy brain tissue meet.

Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program
This program provides a wide spectrum of services for children and their families affected by cancer and blood diseases. Of the few options of treatment, chemotherapy seems to be the most effective. However, treatment costs have increased significantly in the last few years, resulting in a change of process. Children must be admitted to the hospital for each treatment. In the clinic, children are able to watch videos, surf the web, play games or interact with our child life specialists. All of these activities provide a distraction and decrease the fear. We need your support to help these children continue to remain in the clinic setting when receiving chemotherapy. Many of these children spend more time than they want in the hospital, and our goal is to reduce this so the kids can enjoy being kids.