

SPECIAL INSERT:

A TRIBUTE TO THE REV. DR. DON BENTON:
A LIFE OF FAITHFULNESS, COMPASSION, AND
DEDICATION TO ALL

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Staying focused in the midst of uncertainty



ithout a doubt, this spring continues to be a trying one. With the outbreak of COVID-19 dominating the news and causing quarantines and confusion, the healthcare team at Methodist Health System have been focused on caring for the sick and preventing further infection. The safety of our patients, our employees, and the communities we serve is paramount in this fight, and it is the top priority in all of our minds at Methodist Health

System. Thank you for all of the calls, emails, and messages wanting to help. The expense combating this virus is tremendous, so your contributions to our **COVID-19 Extraordinary Support Fund** are much appreciated and going directly to the front lines for months to come. We will continue updating you on the need and how you can help.

In other Methodist Health System Foundation news, we have remained busy — completing the capital campaign for the Dr. Stephen and Marilyn Mansfield Oncology Unit at Methodist Charlton Medical Center, launching the capital campaign to build a new transplant floor at Methodist Dallas Medical Center, and opening the new Center for Simulation and Wellness Lab, also at Methodist Dallas.

We lost a giant in the Methodist Health System and faith communities with the passing of the Rev. Don R. Benton, DMin, last October. Dr. Benton served as a board member and loyal supporter for decades, and it's the reason our new corporate boardroom bears his name. Not only was he a sounding board of wisdom and compassion, but he aslo left a mark on our buildings — designing the cross that sits atop Methodist Dallas to serve as a beacon of health and hope.

Methodist Health System is blessed to have loyal volunteer groups like the Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Guild and Auxiliaries at each campus. For decades, they have donated time, talents, and resources to various programs and services, so it's an honor to highlight them and their great work in this issue.

We've also launched the next generation of Methodist Health System Foundation leaders with the creation of the Selecman Leadership Council. These young men and women were chosen for their connections to Methodist Health System, civic and philanthropic activity, and willingness to serve our mission to improve and save lives through compassionate, quality healthcare.

While we don't know what the next few months will bring, we can assure you that the Foundation team will work safely, diligently, and thoughtfully to continue providing high-quality programs and services to the greater community.

We are grateful for your trust and faith in us,

Jas M. Johnston

James M. Johnston

President, Methodist Health System Foundation





Foundation Focus is a publication of Methodist Health System Foundation, located at 1441 N. Beckley Ave., Dallas, TX 75203.

For more information, call 214-947-4555 or visit *MethodistHealthSystem.org/Foundation*.

Texas law prohibits hospitals from practicing medicine. The physicians on the Methodist Health System medical staff are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Methodist Health System or any of its affiliated hospitals.

A HISTORY SHAPED BY GIVING

How the support of long-standing volunteer organizations helped write the Methodist story

On a mission to support the hospitals

iving comes in many forms — funds, time, talent — all of which are generously given by the Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Guild and the Auxiliaries of Methodist Health System hospitals. This giving aligns with Methodist's mission to improve and save lives through compassionate, quality healthcare.

Some might say the Guild and the Auxiliaries go beyond a supportive role: they provide a vitally important bridge between the needs of our hospitals and the people living in our communities wanting to help.

Let's take a look back at the history of these organizations and how each has weaved its way into the communities their hospitals serve.



The 2019-20 Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Guild Board of Directors

Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Guild

Founded in 1932, the Guild was started as a non-religious women's service organization for those who wanted to volunteer in their community, specifically for Methodist Dallas Medical Center. To date, they have raised more than \$1.3 million to support the services, equipment, and projects of the hospital.

"The Guild raises funds through an annual spring style show and luncheon; bingo; poinsettia sales; and jewelry, book, and electronic fairs held at the hospitals," says Penny Dickerman, president of the Guild. "Our biggest commitments are to the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program, annual college scholarships for junior volunteers, and the dedicated oncology floor at Methodist Charlton Medical Center."



The 2019-20 Methodist Dallas Medical Center Auxiliary Board of Directors

Methodist Dallas Medical Center Auxiliary

The Auxiliary began before the hospital opened its doors on Christmas Eve in 1927. Members of United Methodist Women, a women's missionary organization, and community leaders believed Oak Cliff needed a hospital and formed the Auxiliary as one way to begin raising money.

"Our mission is to build interest among Christians and to serve, specifically the needs of the hospital," says Marjorie Weber, co-president of the Methodist Dallas Auxiliary. "We believe Methodist Dallas plays an essential role in the well-being of the community, and we want to support the doctors and nurses in as many ways as we can. In fact, I joined the Auxiliary after I saw how the Methodist Dallas Golden Cross Academic Clinic helped my two adult sons in their times of need."

To do this, the Auxiliary raises funds to assist departments that have expressed a need, such as a special piece of equipment; the establishment and support of a volunteer program — think of those smiling, helpful greeters in the lobby; and an education scholarship program for hospital employees.

The gift shop they established in the hospital lobby is the Auxiliary's single-biggest fundraiser, and it allows them to support programs like the hospital's Clinical Pastoral Education training program, the SANE program, and the growth of the Golden Cross Academic Clinic, which is personally supported by their members at monthly meetings when a "blessing basket" is passed around, explains Phyllis Cummins, co-president of the Methodist Dallas Auxiliary.

CONT. ON PAGE 4



The Methodist Mansfield Medical Center's Auxiliary raising funds through their Holly Days event

Methodist Mansfield Medical Center Auxiliary

As Methodist Mansfield was nearing completion in 2006, this Auxiliary was born. In just the last five years, this organization has given back \$162,840 and donated over 80,000 hours of volunteer time to the hospital.

"We are so proud to support such meaningful work like The Breast Center at Methodist Mansfield, which was spearheaded by Methodist Foundation," says Cindy Mirren, president of the Methodist Mansfield Auxiliary. "We provided new, custom scrubs for the entire staff."

This year they will donate the medical supplies needed for a mission trip that one of Methodist Mansfield's physicians makes every year, and the Women's Center will be getting some new equipment through Auxiliary funds. Like other Auxiliaries, they will also gift scholarship funds to hospital employees.



The 2019-20 Methodist Charlton Medical Center Auxiliary Board of Directors

Methodist Charlton Medical Center Auxiliary

As the youngest Auxiliary, one might expect that they haven't yet been able to contribute as much. Not true! In the 10 years since the Methodist Charlton Auxiliary formed, they have raised over \$120,000 for the hospital.

"We like to think of ourselves as the PTA of the hospital," says Linda Harris, president of the Methodist Charlton Auxiliary. "Last year we contributed to the new Dr. Stephen and Marilyn Mansfield Oncology Unit, the neonatal intensive care unit, and women's imaging services at Methodist Charlton, and we provided flags for The Last Salute, a ceremony that honors veterans who pass away at the hospital."

Newly created **Selecman Leadership Council** forges the way for the next generation of leaders

ith a focus on young professionals and community philanthropists in Dallas-Fort Worth, the Selecman Leadership Council is dedicated to creating greater awareness and understanding of Methodist Health System Foundation and Methodist Health System as a trusted provider of health and wellness with an unwavering commitment to serve the underserved. Created in 2019, it is named for Bishop Charles Selecman, one of the founders of Methodist Health System and former president of Southern Methodist University.

Council members are nominated by Methodist



Health System senior leaders and Methodist
Health System Foundation Board of Trustees
members based on their connections to Methodist
Health System, civic and philanthropic activity,
and willingness to serve a belief in Methodist
Health System's mission to improve and save lives
through compassionate, quality healthcare.

The Council meets three times a year and hears from Methodist Health System CEO Jim Scoggin Jr. about key leadership characteristics that are applicable to these members' work and lives, as well as from Methodist Health System physicians and other leaders.

The Foundation would like to welcome our inaugural Selecman Leadership Council members:

Travis Allison
Gloria Araiza
Nick Babikian
Kyle Bebee
Katy Blakey
Darwin Bruce
Rick Chesney
Susannah Hambright, MD
Joel Harding

Sachin Kukreja, MD Hunter Folsom Lacey Kris Lowe Mark Mutschink Lauren Perella Elizabeth Saab Drew Wellsfry Roddrick West Carrie Beth Young

A tribute to The **Rev. Dr. Don Benton:**

A life of faithfulness, compassion, and dedication to all

n every generation, there are a select few who can leave a lasting impression and even fewer who can speak the word while illuminating a room with the presence of grace. One such person was The Rev. Dr. Don Benton.

Dr. Benton was married to his beloved Rose Marie for 65 years, and together they had five children. During this time, "Dr. Don" served at Highland Park United Methodist Church (UMC), Spring Valley UMC, and Lovers Lane United UMC and retired in 1994. Though he "retired," his ministry continued through countless organizations. Over the course of his life, he traveled to all 50 states and 52 countries. inspiring God's love in true Wesleyan style.

Since the mid 1980s, Dr. Benton served Methodist Health System in myriad ways, including on the Methodist Board of Directors, Methodist Health System Foundation Board of Trustees, and the Methodist Foundation Golden Cross Division Board of Trustees. Dr. Benton was also responsible for the glowing blue cross that sits atop Schenkel Tower at our Methodist Dallas Medical Center campus. During the planning meetings with the architects. Dr. Benton referred to himself as a "crossologist." sending a wave of chuckles to those in attendance. Today, crosses adorn the tops of all our hospitals, serving as continuous beacons of health and hope for the communities we serve.

66 His sermons reflected this magisterial voice, which truly provided food for your soul. He had a faithfulness to all people which is hard to replicate. It's seen throughout his life, and was particularly meaningful to my parents. He was a very dear friend and spiritual advisor to not only both my mother and father throughout their lives, but to our entire family. 77

> R. Stephen Folsom, Chair, Methodist Health System Foundation Board of Trustees



The Rev. Dr. Don and Rose Marie Benton

66 This is the premier boardroom for Methodist Health System, where all substantive decisions are made. It seems fitting that our hospital leadership, with the weight of these decisions on their shoulders, be inspired by Dr. Benton's faith, compassion, and dedication to helping those in need. 99

> Nancy Ann Hunt, Methodist Health System Foundation **Board of Trustees**



(top, from left) Stephen L. Mansfield, PhD, FACHE; Rev. Stan Copeland, DMin; Rev. J. Clayton Oliphint; R. Stephen Folsom; Jim Johnston; Rose Marie Benton; Rev. Don Benton, DMin; Nancy Ann and Ray Hunt are photographed together at the grand opening ceremony of The Rev. Dr. Don Benton Boardroom.

In appreciation for his service, Methodist Health System named its new corporate boardroom in Dr. Benton's honor:



Preparing Health Teams for Success Building the Methodist Dallas C-SAW

efore flying a plane, pilots complete hours of flight simulation training. This technology has drastically improved flight safety — and now, it's transforming medical training.

The new Center for Simulation and Wellness (C-SAW) at Methodist Dallas Medical Center, which is being built with support from Methodist Health System Foundation, will help healthcare teams practice procedures in a controlled Practicing in the C-SAW will help teams be better prepared when patients walk through the doors.

"Football teams don't wait until Friday night to get ready for the big game. They practice all week," says Dr. Cullison. "The purpose of the C-SAW is to duplicate football practice. We want to give practitioners confidence and develop team collaboration while improving patient safety. Because practice does make perfect."



environment, developing skills while improving patient safety. The center is projected to open this summer.

"At Methodist, we're always trying to do things better and more safely," says Sam Cullison, MD, CPE, vice president Graduate Medical Education, Methodist Health System. "We saw a need to move beyond our previous simulation space, increase our capacity for teaching and training, and ensure we are operating as safely as possible."

The Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Guild, Methodist Dallas Auxiliaries, Hoblitzelle Foundation, Sammons Enterprises, Mr. William M. Sams, Communities Foundation of Texas, and proceeds from the 2016 Robert S. Folsom Award dinner honoring R. Gerald Turner, PhD, provided funds for the center.

Elliott Silverman, PA-C, MSHS, HWC, director of the C-SAW, has also built simulation centers at Houston Methodist, Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

"I've built several centers, but this one is unique," Silverman said. "It's designed for all medical professionals, including residents, faculty physicians, nurses, and staff. We don't practice medicine in a silo, and we're going to train how we play by working together."

Healthcare teams will train together for medical procedures, surgeries, and patient communication scenarios.

