Mark Your Calendar
Preventing Healthcare Associated Infections  
Dr. Daniel Diekema, University of Iowa  
Tuesday, Dec. 1 - Noon - 1 p.m.  
CRMF Building  
RSVP to Cherie Weber  
(319) 297-2306 or cweber@crmf.org  

UnityPoint Clinic Multi-Specialty Open House  
Wednesday, Dec. 2 - 4 - 6 p.m.  
855 A Ave. NE, Suite 400  
Cedar Rapids  
Providers now see patients in their new location as of Monday, Nov. 23.

UnityPoint Clinic Pediatrics Open House  
Sun., Dec. 6 - 1 - 4 p.m.  
St. Luke’s Nassif Heart Center Classrooms  
3rd floor, Cedar Rapids  
Dr. Kenneth Anderson and Mary Ann Gureno, ARNP, will retire in December.  
Come wish them a fond farewell, meet the three new providers welcoming new patients and enjoy refreshments.

Happy Holidays!

I’d like to end this year on a note of great thanks to each of you. St. Luke’s is a nationally recognized institution with world class medical providers. Each year we at St. Luke’s set goals we would like to achieve just as I’m sure each of you do for yourselves. Many times it takes a great deal of determination, hard work, compromise and teamwork to achieve the intended result whether it’s a new clinic opening, a new procedure performed, training new staff, or whatever we strive to achieve. We, and you, don’t succumb to the negative influence of “can’t”. We overcome the limitations and achieve success making each of us the people we are and this organization what it is.

During 2015, St. Luke’s once again celebrated a number of awards and accomplishments. We opened the Albert G. and Helen Nassif Radiation Center, created a Ronald McDonald Family Room at St. Luke’s for use by families with critically ill children, added a new robotic-assisted partial knee replacement surgery, created a new Heart and Vascular Institute, developed a Parkinson’s Disease program, implemented video monitoring, transitioned to ICD-10, and added a new PET/CT unit. Many of our UnityPoint Clinic locations were recognized as patient-centered medical homes, we began offering virtual care to patients, and implemented ambulatory Epic in all of our UnityPoint clinics which was a feat in itself. As a hospital we received NICHE designation for care we provide to older adults, named to America’s 100 Best Hospitals list and received many other top hospital awards, and were recognized by AHA with the Quality Achievement Award for quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who suffer heart attacks.

The final achievement was our Joint Commission survey. We are not perfect and the surveyors did find work for us to do, but overall an excellent, excellent result. All along the way the surveyors kept remarking on the positive culture here, and the helpful attitudes of everyone they encountered. So not only can we take great pride in the quality of our care and our work, but we can take great pride in the quality of our culture and our character. This is truly a wonderful place to give and receive care and it remains my honor to work here beside you.

This brings me back to ending the year on a note of thanks to you. You have helped us achieve our goals through your hard work and dedication to your profession which helps those around you realize they can achieve their goals. For that, I thank you.

Enjoy your holidays and the glowing words of outsiders who came to feel and see the mission we live every day. On behalf of the Board of Directors and St. Luke’s, I wish you a wonderful holiday season.

St. Luke’s Named One of the Nation’s 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals for the sixth time

St. Luke’s Hospital has been named one of the nation’s 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals by Truven Health Analytics. 13 This is the sixth time St. Luke’s has received this honor and is the only Iowa hospital to receive this recognition.

The study, now in its 17th year, singled out 50 hospitals that achieved superior clinical outcomes in this critical area of hospital care. As is the case with the Truven Health 100 Top Hospitals study, the rigorous processes used to calculate and measure hospital service lines leverage industry-leading, risk-adjusted methodologies developed and maintained by Truven Health scientists over many years. The Truven Health 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals study measures performance in key performance areas: risk-adjusted mortality, risk-adjusted complications, core measures (a group of measures that assess process of care), percentage of coronary bypass patients with internal mammary artery use, 30-day mortality rates, 30-day readmission rates, severity-adjusted average length of stay, and wage- and severity-adjusted average cost.

“Given the objectivity of this award – it is truly a prestigious national honor for excellence in heart care,” said Ted Townsend, St. Luke’s President & CEO. “Hospitals do not pay for this award. It is earned based on rigorous analysis by Truven.”

For more information on this study and other 100 Top Hospitals research is available at: 100tophospitals.com.
Inpatient Diabetes Management Update

As of Nov. 9, Katie Maybanks, ARNP and Erin Brown, ARNP are managing diabetes in the intern while the Hospitalist program begins recruitment for a third ARNP to replace Melissa Collier. The ARNP covering diabetes for medical management can be reached at the current pager number in place today, 3570. The intent of hiring a 3rd ARNP goes further than only replacing Melissa’s role.

The ARNP’s, both current and the new hire, will eventually transition to a rotational model where all 3 ARNPs are covering the diabetes service and providing administrative support. While the diabetes ARNP is covering the service for the week, the remaining two will see hospitalist patients.

St. Luke’s will also hire a new RN to support the diabetes program from an educational and administrative end. Until this RN is hired, the floor RNs will provide diabetes education. As is the case today, the 3570 pager will continue to roll to the hospitalist on evening and overnight hours.

In addition, the Hospitalist program is discussing the desire to eventually round on diabetic patients 7 days per week and specifically how the ARNPs might fit into the model to provide support on weekends. The strategy as stated will also further integrate the hospitalist program and diabetes program from where it stands today.

Contact Dr. Amanda O’Connor or Mark Willis with the Hospitalist program at (319) 369-5970 with questions.

Pediatric cardiology announcement

We wanted to make you aware that Dr. Mark Zittergruen has resigned from UnityPoint Clinic – Pediatric Cardiology effective December 31, 2015. It is our current understanding Dr. Zittergruen will maintain his privileges at UnityPoint Health – St. Luke’s Hospital and continue to serve the needs of inpatients following his departure.

Should patients wish to continue to see Dr. Zittergruen, they may contact Mercy Medical Center at (319) 398-6650. Other questions or concerns may be addressed to the UnityPoint Clinic – Pediatric Cardiology office at (319) 368-5757.

Should your current or future patients wish to elect another pediatric cardiologist for insurance or other reasons, options currently include:

- University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – Iowa City Pediatric Specialty Clinic (319) 356-1616
- University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics – at Genesis in Bettendorf (855) 543-2884
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Changes in Med Staff Office

Susan Weber has transitioned to the position of Credentialing Quality Manager for UnityPoint Health – Managed Care. She will be working with all the UnityPoint facilities to pursue integration and standardization of the core processes that are necessary to effectively manage credentialing of providers within UnityPoint Health.

Becky Wood has been promoted within the St. Luke’s Medical Staff Office to the Credentialing Manager position.

Becky has been a Credentialing Specialist with St. Luke’s for the past four years. Congratulations to both Becky and Susan for their continued success in providing quality care to our patients.

Diabetes Devices & Technology Class

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UnityPoint Clinic Diabetes & Kidney Center, 1002 4th Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids

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Plan year beginning Jan. 1, 2017, with the potential for additional products.

The goal of the joint venture is to offer greater consumer choice beginning with competitive Medicare Advantage plan options we can bring the insurer and health care provider together, the greater opportunity we have to coordinate care more efficiently.”

This is a very exciting time for not only our organizations, but the people of Iowa and Illinois,” said Troy Caraway, UnityPoint Health senior vice president. “We want to provide a new option that provides more value to individuals and employers. The closer

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Locally Published Book Honors Contributions of Dr. Percy Harris & Family

UnityPoint Health Cedar Rapids and community partners embarked on a journey to preserve and pay tribute to Dr. Percy and Lileah Harris and acknowledge all they have accomplished in a written format. This book, A Healing Presence in Our Community, outlines the history of their lives and their amazing contributions to Cedar Rapids and serves to honor their contributions and legacy.

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Carleen Grandon recently made a Guardian Angel donation to recognize and thank the 29 caregivers who provided exceptional care for her. Carleen stated, “Heavenly angels are fine, but your Guardian Angels are the personification of those above.”

Dr. Shannon Throndson, UnityPoint Clinic Family Medicine Northridge

The St. Luke’s Foundation received an anonymous donation to the Guardian Angel Program. The donor wanted to do something special to recognize and thank a special caregiver who provides exceptional care every day, so a generous Guardian Angel donation was made. The donor wrote, “A wise physician said, "The best medicine for humans is love." Someone asked, "What if it doesn’t work?" He smiled and answered, “increase the dose.” Thank you, Dr. Throndson, for your outstanding care, kindness and the love you show every human each day. You have true dedication and passion for others and its felt by many. They know you’re there every step of their journey. You are truly a good person with a kind soul that many are blessed to know. Much time and energy is put into those you care for and this does not go unrecognized. Thank you for being so compassionate and sharing your smile with others.

Guardian Angel Awards From Grateful Patients

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