Get Going with Google initiative underway

Beginning Feb. 22, 2021, MercyOne Central Iowa colleagues will transition from Microsoft Office and Outlook to the new platform, Google Workspace, as part of the CommonSpirit Health ministry-wide initiative, “Get going with Google.” Email, calendars, contacts, word processing, spreadsheets, presentations and more will be created in Google Workspace applications.

To start, colleagues will have access to Google Workspace and existing Microsoft Office applications (Outlook will become send-only), with everything transitioning to solely Google Workspace applications over time.

Google Workspace will offer similar applications as our current Microsoft platform, but it is built in the cloud with collaboration and innovation at the forefront. Goals of the transition include:

- Simplified communication across the organization
- Flexibility to work anytime, anywhere on multiple devices
- Improved collaboration and file and knowledge sharing

As part of the “Get Going with Google” initiative, a dedicated project team is busy planning the deployment of Google Workspace and focused on making this as smooth of a transition as possible. This work includes supporting the migration and conversion of current files, including non-archived historical emails (within the defined retention period), calendar events, contacts and files into your Google Workspace account. MercyOne Central Iowa colleagues will be supported throughout this transition, with varying levels of training, communication peer super users, or “Google Guides.”

Benefits of Google Workspace

Google Workspace is all about collaboration, ease of use and working together seamlessly and efficiently. This change will help overcome many of the issues experienced today, such as “email jail,” files stored in too many places, unclear overlap between business tools, version control issues and more.

- Gmail, Calendar, Contacts and Chat provide simplified communication
- Easily create, share and edit documents in Drive, with best-in-class security
- Find emails and documents fast with Google’s increased storage capacity and powerful search functionality
- Improved and real-time collaboration with your colleagues across the organization in Docs, Sheets and Slides

Get started now – Check out the various application pages on the dedicated, “Get Going with Google” website, where you will find important information, learning resources, videos and more.

Additional details will be shared in upcoming issues of “The Bulletin,” in “News Briefs” and via email. Links to these resources are also available to access anytime on the MercyOne Central Iowa intranet.
Celebrating 50 years of healing hearts

The close of 2020 marked the 50th anniversary of the start of Iowa Heart Center. Dr. David Gordon founded Iowa Heart Center as a single-physician practice in 1970. As central Iowa’s first board-certified cardiologist, Dr. Gordon’s modest vision was to grow Iowa Heart Center – then named Cardiology Associates – into a cardiology practice of three providers.

As technology expanded and more options for treating heart disease became available, Dr. Gordon realized Iowa Heart Center could make an even larger impact on the lives of Iowans. Within 10 years, three other cardiologists joined him – Drs. Liberato Iannone, Thomas Brown and William Wickemeyer, and the rest is history!

Today, MercyOne Iowa Heart Center has grown to more than 100 providers, serving 10 office locations, more than 30 outreach clinics, and a support staff of more than 500 colleagues.

Congratulations, and happy 50th anniversary to MercyOne Iowa Heart Center. Here’s to many more years of providing expert cardiovascular care to our patients and in our community!

Lights of hope honor colleagues, providers

To celebrate hope and bring much-needed light into the New Year, MercyOne shared “beacons of gratitude and hope,” Jan. 1-7, 2021. A dramatic spotlight shined into the night sky at 16 MercyOne locations in regions across MercyOne – including MercyOne Des Moines, West Des Moines, Newton and Centerville Medical Centers.

MercyOne welcomes New Year’s babies

While MercyOne cannot claim the first baby born in central Iowa (that title went to Iowa Methodist Medical Center), it was close!

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Consumer Experience

Reminder: COVID-19 testing options

As a member of the MercyOne circle of care, friends, neighbors and family may ask you about options for COVID-19 testing. Information about all testing sites, including for adult and pediatric patients, travelers and more, is available at MercyOne.org.