Megan Schippers recognized with DAISY Award

Megan Schippers, R.N., is MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center’s newest DAISY Award recipient. She was honored with the award at a ceremony Jan. 15 on 8 North, with her family, colleagues and nursing leadership in attendance. Megan was nominated by the daughter of a former patient to recognize the compassionate and remarkable care she recently provided the patient. The nominator and the patient’s sister were also able to attend the ceremony to celebrate with Megan.

Following is an excerpt from the nomination form: “Megan was my father’s nurse multiple times during his two-plus week stay. My father previously had a massive stroke, resulting in aphasia and extreme spasticity in his right side. Megan always saw him as a whole person, not ‘damaged goods.’ She was nurturing, loving and took her time to make sure HIS needs were met. In fact, the day he found out he had cancer and was ultimately dying, she took time to calm him. When talking to him – squatting down at eye level – was not enough, she offered to take him on a walk. She stayed with him until he felt at ease. Even at shift changes, she talked to him and didn’t share unreleased test results. Eighth floor has a lot of great nurses and techs, but Megan is going beyond. We are forever thankful for her.”

World Day of the Sick observance is Feb. 11

On Monday, Feb. 11, the MercyOne and world Catholic community will remember and rededicate the sacred work we do daily in caring for the sick among us. This is the 27th World Day of the Sick, a day created by Saint Pope John Paul II, to remind all of us of the need to care and serve those suffering with illness, or without access or resources to receive medical care. The remembrance is observed yearly on the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes. At Lourdes the Blessed Virgin Mary is credited with instances of healing of those who prayed for her help in relieving their illness and suffering.

At MercyOne Central Iowa, the World Day of the Sick will be part of the morning and evening prayers heard overhead. Special intentions will also be part of Masses which will be held on the central and West Des Moines campuses at 11:30 a.m. in Our Lady of Mercy Chapel. All are invited to attend. The central campus Mass will also be available on channel 4.
CHI aligns with Dignity Health to become CommonSpirit Health

While we have been transitioning to MercyOne, our sponsor company, Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI), has been finalizing its alignment with Dignity Health. Effective Feb. 1, the two organizations officially aligned under the name CommonSpirit Health. Operating 142 hospitals and more than 700 care sites in 21 states, CommonSpirit Health is the largest nonprofit health system in the nation, providing health care access to one in four U.S. residents.

CHI and Dignity Health facilities and services will retain their current names and visual identities. At MercyOne Central Iowa, colleagues should see minimal or no changes due to this alignment. MercyOne will retain its name and visual identity in accordance with our new, unified statewide branding, and our organization will continue to embrace our MercyOne mission, vision, core values, cultural beliefs and key results. Benefits and compensation will remain unchanged for 2019. Additional information is available at Inside CHI.

$75 Calcium Scoring Heart Scan

Knowing your risk for heart disease is the first step in prevention. February is American Heart Month, making it the perfect time to focus on and evaluate heart health. MercyOne Iowa Heart Center is offering its calcium scoring heart scan screening for $75. This screening consists of a quick, painless CT scan of the coronary arteries and, if requested, an in-depth risk assessment with a nurse practitioner specializing in cardiology (recent lipid panel must be available).

Calcium scoring is for men and women 75 and younger and is not for people with known heart disease or prior positive score. Participants must have two or more risk factors for heart disease to qualify for the scan.

The score, along with other risk factors, provides a picture of future risk for heart disease while there’s still time to do something about it. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 515-633-3700 or visit iowaheart.com.

Colleagues donate casseroles to feed hundreds

MercyOne colleagues once again stepped up to help those in need during this year’s MLK casserole drive. More than three vans full of casseroles and several bins of food items were collected on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Items were then donated to the Salvation Army’s Feeding the Hungry program.

MercyNet is a great resource for helpful information and documents related to the MercyOne brand transition. You’ll find the Brand Resource Center, with a list of new facility and department names, frequently asked questions and an activation timeline, as well as communication templates for email signatures, PowerPoint slides, memos, fliers, newsletters and more. You will need to be logged in to MercyNet to access these sections.