



GORDON COUNTY'S LEADERS gathered on Friday, October 7 for Gordon Hospital's annual Booster Breakfast. Hospital and physician leaders led the presentation to discuss the 150-year anniversary of Adventist healthcare and how significant milestones and changes have impacted the delivery of healthcare in Gordon County and nationwide.

#### Honoring Our Past

Director of Marketing and Foundation Garrett Nudd explained the 150-year history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's role in establishing an innovative healthcare program, beginning in Battle Creek, Michigan. During a time when many medical treatments were as harmful as the diseases they were intended to cure, the revolutionary Battle Creek Sanitarium not only treated diseases, but also taught people how to prevent them through good nutrition, exercise, and hygiene. It was a place where each person was valued as a creation of God, and where caregivers created a healing environment focused on providing extraordinary whole-person care. Their commitment and philosophy continue today in hundreds of hospitals, nursing homes, and clinics around the world.

Part of this worldwide network, Adventist Health System was founded in 1973 to support and strengthen the Seventh-day Adventist healthcare organizations in the Southern and Southwestern regions of the United States. In the late 1930s

in Calhoun, Georgia, Johnston Hall served the healthcare needs of the community. Approximately 15 years later, in the early 1950s, the hospital moved to a new location on Pine Street. In 1979, community leaders answered the needs of the community once again by constructing a new hospital at the current location on Red Bud Road. Two years later, Gordon County Hospital became a part of Adventist Health System.

For more than a decade, Adventist Health System managed the hospital, and in 1994, AHS purchased the hospital. Today Adventist Health System is a national leader in quality, safety, and patient satisfaction, comprised of 46 hospital campuses and more than 77,000 employees. Although separated by geography, each AHS facility is united by the mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ.

Today, Gordon Hospital, Murray Medical Center, and AHS, continue the tradition of whole-person care by practicing and sharing CREATION Health, a blueprint for living a healthy, happy life based on the principles given in the Bible's creation story.

#### Celebrating the Present

Gordon Hospital Chief Operating Officer Brandon Nudd explained how Gordon Hospital continues to be a healthcare leader with its 100 employed providers, primary

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healthcare leader with its 100 employed providers, primary care providers in 9 locations, multi-specialty providers in 8 locations, 5 rehabilitation locations, an infusion center, radiation oncology center, home health, and ambulance services.

Gordon Hospital also continues to be a nationally-recognized hospital, claiming accolades from *Becker's Hospital Review*, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and The Leapfrog Group.

Urologic Oncologist and Director of Robotics Hak J. Lee, MD, described how he and his team were utilizing the *da Vinci* robot to bring expert skills and technology to Gordon County. Medical oncologist J. Eric Turner, MD, described the growth of Gordon Hospital's cancer program, including the comprehensive services of Gordon Hospital Cancer Care.

**Embracing Our Future**

Finally, Gordon Hospital President and CEO Pete Weber concluded the presentation by describing Gordon Hospital's role in the future of healthcare. Today's healthcare environment is ever-changing and ever-challenging. But while the greater Gordon County community continues to grow and expand, Gordon Hospital and Adventist Health System are committed to reshaping healthcare in Northwest Georgia.

By providing a continuum of care that includes primary care clinics; pediatric and family medicine providers; specialists from urology to OB/GYN, orthopedics to cancer; home care services; rehabilitation; and much more, Gordon Hospital is truly investing in the long-term health of its community.

In nearby Murray County, excitement continues to grow around the advancement of Murray Medical Center. As the Chatsworth community prepares for tremendous growth due to the soon coming inland port, Murray Medical Center is poised to meet the healthcare needs of a growing population and significantly increased industrial presence.

Partnered together, Gordon Hospital and Murray Medical Center will continue to enhance their offerings. Shared services, strategic alliances, as well as the ability to attract additional providers will provide even more healthcare access to Northwest Georgia.

As Gordon Hospital continues to seek to extend the healing ministry of Christ by providing whole-person care, they are excited about a new Adventist Health System initiative of bringing CREATION Health to the bedside. This new model of patient care will become the worldwide standard for the new environment of healthcare.



1860s

WESTERN HEALTH REFORM INSTITUTE



1900s

BATTLE CREEK SANITARIUM



1930s

JOHNSTON-HALL HOSPITAL



1950s

GORDON COUNTY HOSPITAL, PINE STREET



1970s

GORDON COUNTY HOSPITAL, RED BUD ROAD



2015

GORDON HOSPITAL, RED BUD ROAD