



For Immediate Release

New Baptist Hospital Cornerstone & Flag Raising Ceremony

PENSACOLA, FLA. (Oct. 17, 2023) – Baptist Health Care hosted a cornerstone and flag-raising ceremony at the new Baptist Hospital campus at Brent Lane and I-110 on Oct. 12. Attendees included Baptist board members, team members, physicians, retirees and design and construction representatives.

A year before Baptist Hospital on E Street opened in 1951, a marble cornerstone was placed in the brickwork of the building. The inscription reads, “BAPTIST HOSPITAL 1950, TO THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALING, MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROSITY OF PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS.” It was carefully removed from the masonry at the legacy location and transported to the new campus town square at 123 Baptist Way.

KC Gartman, chief development officer, Baptist Health Care, opened the event. “We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of you for being a part of another incredible day in Baptist’s history,” said Gartman. “We are truly humbled that so many of you have joined us today.”

Prayer was led by Joy Powell, director of community health, Baptist Health Care. “Thank you for every person that graces this campus. This day of celebration is a blessing from you. Help us to enjoy every moment, making memories that will last a lifetime,” said Powell in an excerpt of her message.

Naval Air Station Pensacola’s Naval Air Technical Training Center Color Guard and special guest Burl Wise performed the flag raising. Wise, age 90, a former marine and life-long Pensacola resident, participated in Baptist Hospital’s 1951 flag raising that celebrated the opening of the hospital at that time.

President and CEO Mark Faulkner led the cornerstone dedication. “God’s hand has been on Baptist throughout our history,” said Faulkner. “And through that journey He has built in us resilience. May we always be reminded of His faithfulness and goodness to us all,” said Faulkner.

After the cornerstone was unveiled, Faulkner welcomed a group of 12 board members, physicians, team members and retirees to each place a stone at the base of the monument. The symbolism comes from the Old Testament of the Bible when Joshua directed each tribe of Israel to take 12 stones from the middle of the Jordan River. The stones serve as a memorial to God in order to remember the good things He has done.

Ron Jackson, chair, Baptist Health Care Board of Directors, closed the cornerstone portion of the ceremony. “As Baptist continues to grow and evolve to meet the needs of our community, let us always remember that the true cornerstone of our organization is the dedication, passion and commitment of our team members and the trust and support of our community,” said Jackson.

He also extended appreciation and praise to former board chair Dr. Marcus Paul. Paul served in the board leadership role when the decision to build the replacement campus was made and throughout most of the construction of the \$650 million campus.

The event closed with a joint ribbon cutting by the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce and the Gulf Coast Minority Chamber of Commerce.

Visit ebaptisthealthcare.org for more information about the new campus.

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About Baptist Health Care

Baptist Health Care is a not-for-profit health care organization based in Northwest Florida that is committed to helping people throughout life's journey. Baptist continuously strives to be a national leader in quality and service. Baptist Health Care includes three hospitals, four medical parks, Andrews Institute for Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine and a large network of primary care and specialty physicians. Baptist Health Care is one of the largest non-governmental employers in Northwest Florida.

Baptist Health Care • Baptist Hospital • Gulf Breeze Hospital • Jay Hospital

- Baptist Medical Parks Airport, Nine Mile, Navarre and Pace • Andrews Institute • Baptist Medical Group*
- Baptist Heart & Vascular Institute • Baptist Health Care Foundation*