



2024 Rutherford Community Report



**Ascension
Saint Thomas**

A message from the President and CEO



Gordon B. Ferguson, FACHE
President and CEO, Ascension
Saint Thomas Rutherford

It is my pleasure to present the 2024 Community Report for Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford hospital. The goal of this report is to keep you informed of the great things happening at your community hospital. While it is always important to pause and recognize our successes and growth, this year has been especially noteworthy as we celebrated our 97th anniversary serving our community.

First, an enormous “thank you” to our amazing team of clinicians, associates and support staff. When our hospital opened its doors in 1927, the leaders made the commitment to care for the health and wellness of the people of Rutherford County. To this day, that dedication has not faltered as we have continued to expand our services and offerings to support our growing community.

We've had many exciting advancements to our hospital and clinical programs. At our main hospital campus, we completed our 8th floor expansion, a 22,000-square foot 36-bed wing and lobby, dedicated to serving as a step-down unit for patients in need of an intermediate level care between leaving the ICU and rejoining the general patient population. Also, in April of last year, our Heart team performed the first open heart surgery procedure at Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford. This accomplishment is a true testament of the hard work and dedication by many over the past few years, advancing the level of heart care in our community. Additionally, we opened Tennessee's first neighborhood hospital, Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford Westlawn. You can read more about these exciting updates in the pages that follow.

It is truly an honor to serve you and your loved ones. Our team of healthcare professionals and support associates look forward to seeing how we continue to grow our exceptional services for this community and the surrounding area in the coming years and beyond.

In His service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gordon B. Ferguson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Gordon B. Ferguson, FACHE
President and CEO

Ascension Saint Thomas

Ascension Saint Thomas is a leading health care system with a 125-year history of providing care to the community, and is the only faith-based, non profit health system in Middle Tennessee. Today, we offer a highly comprehensive system of care, with more than 250 sites of care that cover a 45-county area in Tennessee consisting of 16 hospitals and a network of affiliated joint ventures, medical practices, clinics and specialty facilities. Across the state, along with our partner organizations, we employ more than 10,700 dedicated associates who care for millions of patients each year. Ascension Saint Thomas is part of Ascension, one of the nation’s largest faith-based healthcare organizations committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension includes approximately 134,000 associates, 35,000 affiliated providers and 140 hospitals, serving communities in 19 states and the District of Columbia.

2023 service summary

Patient volumes

Inpatients (includes newborns).....	21,263
Patient days of care.....	120,521
Emergency visits.....	86,226

Diagnostic imaging

CT scans.....	44,812
MRI scans.....	7,571
Ultrasounds.....	12,603
Cardiac cath procedures.....	6,446

Surgery

Inpatients surgeries.....	4,628
Outpatient surgeries.....	6,728

Women’s care

Babies delivered.....	3,737
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Cancer Center

Radiation oncology.....	14,406
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Volunteer services

Volunteer hours.....	12,527
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Leading the way

From left to right back row: Scott Furniss, Chief Financial Officer; Thomas Roddy, Chief Operating Officer; Gordon B. Ferguson, President and Chief Executive Officer; Julie Hudgens, Assistant Chief Operating Officer; Wendy Regal, HR Business Partner; Tom Cummins, MD, Chief Medical Officer
From left to right seated: Stacey Beaven, Chief Nursing Officer; Gina DeJean, Foundation Director

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Expanding our services

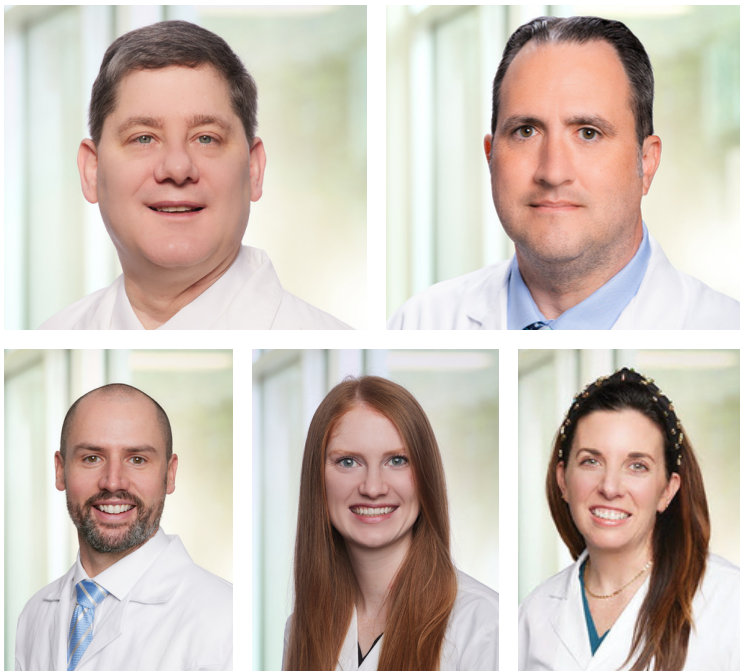
The area we serve in Middle Tennessee is one of the fastest growing in the state, and the vast scope of our services and facilities continue to expand along with the needs of our community.

Cardiovascular Surgery Program

In 2023, our hospital system achieved an exciting milestone by performing the first open heart surgery procedure at Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford. Since the program has launched, over 200 cases have been performed. This accomplishment is a true testament of the hard work and dedication by many over the past few years, advancing the level of heart care in our community to now include artery bypass grafting, aortic valve surgery, mitral valve surgery and treatment for ascending aortic aneurysms.

Top Left to Right: Wilson Clements, MD, Aaron Hoffman, MD

Bottom Left to Right: Luke Parham, PA-C, Kinsley Snyder, PA-C, Hallie McNew, NP



Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford Westlawn

In 2023, we officially opened Tennessee's first neighborhood hospital, Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford Westlawn. The new Westlawn hospital located at 5127 Veterans Parkway, is open 24/7 and features eight private inpatient rooms, staffed with an emergency-trained nursing team and board-certified Emergency Medicine physicians, eight ER exams rooms, including two treatment rooms and one triage room, onsite diagnostic imaging, including CT, X-ray and point of care ultrasound services, and in-house laboratory allowing expedited results. The second floor will eventually house clinical office space for primary and specialty care physicians to conveniently see new and existing patients.

Since opening, we have served more than 7,200 patients through the Emergency Department. We are excited and privileged to continue caring for the residents of Rutherford County, specifically the growing Blackman and Westlawn communities where the hospital is located.



Investing in the community

Critical Care Unit and NICU Investments

This year, we will be continuing with our facility development investments by adding 18 new Critical Care Unit beds and six additional bassinets to our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) to our main campus. We look forward to opening these expanded units in 2025.

This investment will allow us to bring higher acuity services to our patients, including open heart surgery and proposed higher level neonatal care.



Dedicated Associate Parking Garage

We broke ground on a new parking garage on our hospital campus. The parking garage provides 1,000 additional parking spaces for our caregivers - the physicians, nurses and support staff that are the hands and feet of our Mission.





Highlighting our doctors



Yazan Hassan, MD

Gastroenterology - Digestive Health, Internal Medicine

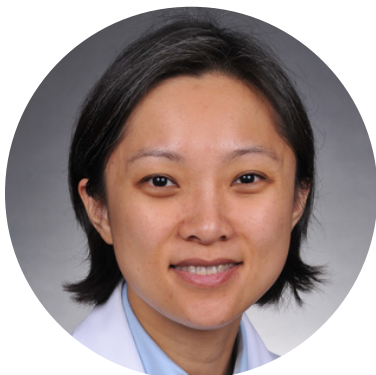
Yazan Hasan, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist and advanced/therapeutic endoscopist. In addition to performing all basic GI procedures like endoscopy and colonoscopy, he has special interest in Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS), ERCP, luminal stenting, Endoscopic Mucosal Resection (EMR) and Barrett's esophagus management. He is fellowship trained in gastroenterology/hepatology and advanced endoscopy.



Olivia Granillo Johnson, MD

Lead Hospitalist, Internal Medicine

Olivia Granillo Johnson, MD, is a board certified internal medicine and pediatric physician. She serves as the Lead Hospitalist and oversees a team of more than 50 hospitalists dedicated to the comprehensive medical care of hospitalized patients at Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford. Her professional interests include hospitalist medicine, organizational process improvement, and physician well-being.



Yanjun Ma, MD

Oncology

Yanjun Ma, MD, PhD, is a board certified medical oncologist and specializes in the treatment of all adult malignancies, breast cancer, cancer of the digestive tract, head and neck cancer, lung cancer, leukemia and lymphoma. She is fellowship trained in medical oncology and has special interest in breast cancer.

Stroke Thrombectomy

Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford became the first healthcare facility in Rutherford County to offer a potentially life-saving stroke intervention called thrombectomy. Thrombectomy is a minimally invasive procedure in which an interventional radiologist uses a catheter to remove a thrombus (blood clot) that has formed in an artery or vein. Previously, stroke patients required time-consuming transfer to Nashville in order to receive this intervention.

Residents of Cannon, Warren, and surrounding counties will also benefit from the new offering at Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford, as stroke patients at Ascension Saint Thomas Stones River in Woodbury and Ascension Saint Thomas River Park in McMinnville can now be transferred to Murfreesboro rather than Nashville for this intervention.

Offering this important intervention closer to home will save lives and reduce a patient's likelihood of acquiring a life-altering disability due to an acute stroke.



Da Vinci Xi Robot

We are thrilled to have introduced a third Da Vinci Xi surgical robot into our surgical program.



The Da Vinci Xi robot can be used across a wide spectrum of minimally invasive surgical procedures. Thanks to this advanced robotic-assisted technology, many patients at Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford experience faster recovery with shorter hospital stay.



Dr. Nadine Rampp, general and bariatric surgeon, pictured with the Da Vinci Xi Robot.

Dr. Stephen A. Rich, general and bariatric surgeon, pictured at the console of the Da Vinci Xi Robot.



Physician Awards

These physicians are recipients of our annual Physician Awards, an honor recognizing their consistent, exceptional, and personalized care they provide our patients. Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford is privileged to serve our community with the clinical excellence of these servant leaders.

2022 Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford physician awards

From left to right: Dr. David Beard honored as Physician of the Year; Dr. Matt Perkins awarded with the Dr. Olin Williams Distinguished Service Award; and Dr. Rick Michaelson honored with the Clinical Excellence Award.



2023 Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford physician awards

From left to right: Dr. Brad Chesney honored as Physician of the Year, Dr. Hady Lichaa awarded the Clinical Excellence Award and Dr. Britt Mioton honored with the Dr. Olin Williams Distinguished Service Award



Mission

Rooted in the loving ministry of Jesus as healer, we commit ourselves to serving all persons with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. Our Catholic health ministry is dedicated to spiritually centered, holistic care which sustains and improves the health of individuals and communities. We are advocates for a compassionate and just society through our actions and our words.

Vision

We envision a strong, vibrant Catholic health ministry in the United States which will lead to the transformation of healthcare. We will ensure service that is committed to health and well-being for our communities and that responds to the needs of individuals throughout the life cycle. We will expand the role of laity, in both leadership and sponsorship, to ensure a Catholic health ministry of the future.

Values

Service of the poor— *Generosity of spirit, especially for persons most in need*

Reverence— *Respect and compassion for the dignity and diversity of life*

Integrity— *Inspiring trust through personal leadership*

Wisdom— *Integrating excellence and stewardship*

Creativity— *Courageous innovation*

Dedication— *Affirming the hope and joy of our ministry*



**Ascension
Saint Thomas**

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