

# Nursing update



## Outstanding work, outstanding preceptor

Dawn Gosnell, MSN, APRN-CNS, CCRN, has long been known throughout Via Christi for her passion for Nursing and teaching. So it came as no surprise to learn that Dawn had received the Outstanding Graduate Clinical Preceptor award at Wichita State University Nursing's recent Pinning and Hooding ceremony.

During the past semester, Dawn precepted two Via Christi RNs pursuing their masters in Nursing Education: Sara Turner, 5W, St. Joseph, and Titus Degraaf, 4SE at St. Francis. Sara worked on fall prevention and Titus on Chest Pain Certification survey readiness. Each spent 120 hours with Dawn working on their projects as well as on topics ranging from foundational education strategies and techniques to presentation tips to the importance of process thinking and planning.

Congratulations, Dawn, and to Sara and Titus as well!

## '...with her every step of the way'

Kimberly Young, RN, isn't new to nursing, just relatively new to Via Christi Hospital in Manhattan. So while they were making assignments, neither her director nor manager realized that they'd assigned a patient undergoing a mastectomy to a nurse who, prior to joining Via Christi, had undergone the procedure herself.

"We didn't think about her having an emotional response to this procedure because we are making decisions as best and as quickly as we can," says Toni Downs, RN, director of Perioperative Services, Pain Clinic and Cath Lab. But it turned out to be of benefit to them both.

"Kim shared her story with this patient pre-operatively and told her she would be with her every step of the way," says Downs, adding that she even offered to share some ways to be more comfortable with the drains and to manage her pain following her surgery. "This meant the world to this patient – the compassion and knowing that her nurse understood was so comforting," says Downs.

Kim picked flowers from her garden and brought them to the patient's room the next day—a testament to the connection that was forged between patient and nurse. "I am teary-eyed just sharing this," says Downs.

## Keep on sharing

Thanks to everyone who took part in the recent Model Community Survey, helping us exceed our goal. Your voice is important!