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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMMC HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING
*Reviews Accomplishments of Past Fiscal Year
with a Nod to 60th Anniversary and Focus on Future*

PARAGOULD, AR - At its annual meeting on Monday, July 20, the Arkansas Methodist Hospital Corporation, which oversees Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, met to review AMMC's activities and accomplishments over the past fiscal year, with a nod to its 60 years of service to the community, and a keen focus on the medical center's agenda for the year ahead.

During 2008-2009, AMMC's activities and accomplishments included:

- Initiating the development of a premier continuing care retirement community, slated to bring top-notch senior living amenities to the region
- Caring for more than 104,000 patients
- Investing nearly \$2.5 million in state-of-the-art technology including a new catheterization lab, as well as new imaging and diagnostic equipment
- Providing more than \$11 million in uncompensated patient care, in keeping with the medical center's non-profit mission
- Adding an additional interventional cardiologist to the medical staff, to aid in the fight against heart disease, the number one cause of death in the state of Arkansas
- Receiving an Education Recognition Certificate for AMMC's Diabetes Care Clinic from the prestigious American Diabetes Association

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- Earning eight prestigious Service Excellence Awards from the international Healthcare Service Excellence Association, including “Hospital Provider of Choice” for the second year in a row, recognizing and reinforcing AMMC’s “It’s all about you” standard of healthcare
- Pumping nearly \$27 million into the local economy in wages and benefits

“We’re very gratified and excited to be celebrating 60 years of caring for and about the people throughout this region. In the past year, we’ve worked hard to initiate programs and improvements to help meet the expanding healthcare needs and challenges of the communities we serve,” Jannie Distretti, chairman of AMMC’s Board of Directors said. “As always, working in partnership with the community, we strive to ensure the care our patients receive is the most advanced available, coupled with the personalized, compassionate focus that has come to define AMMC.”

She added, “Looking to the year ahead, we’re also thrilled to be moving forward with the first phase of Chateau on the Ridge, our premier retirement community, with groundbreaking expected later this year.”

Chateau on the Ridge will be located on a nearly 53-acre site off Carroll Road. The first phase of this community will include a 70,000 square foot, 59-unit assisted living facility as well as building sites for individual private homes. Plans are currently being developed for the remainder of the property which, when completed, will offer a continuum of care and services ranging from independent living to various special needs. The assisted living facility is expected to open in spring of 2011 with estimated price tag of \$10 million. Individuals who would like more information about Chateau on the Ridge are asked to call Shane Carter at 239-7305.

AMMC President and CEO Ron Rooney said, “Throughout our 60 years of service, it has been people who have defined AMMC; our founders, our staff and volunteers, and most of all, our patients and their families who have been entrusted to our care. We are honored to have served this community for 60 years and counting. Moving forward, we remain committed to our mission of service, our patients, and ensuring that Arkansas Methodist continues to be the healthcare leader of the region.”

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The meeting also included the presentation of a special 60th anniversary video which will also be used as an educational and recruiting tool for the medical center.

A recognized leader, Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould provides progressive, compassionate healthcare to residents throughout Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri. Additional information about AMMC is available at: www.arkansasmethodist.org.