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Presbyterian Villages of Michigan partners in providing affordable senior living and health services on Detroit's east side

A partnership of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, Henry Ford Health System and United Methodist Retirement Communities will break ground this month on Phase 1 of the East Jefferson Neighborhood Project on Detroit's east side.

Scheduled to open in July 2012, the East Jefferson Neighborhood Project was awarded a \$2 million grant from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. The grant spans two years for the development.

It will be built across from the UAW/GM Center for Human Resources, just south of Jefferson Avenue, a neighborhood in which there is compelling need for affordable senior housing and health services.

The initial phase includes Detroit's first Affordable Assisted Living option and a second location for Henry Ford Health System's Center for Senior Independence. The CSI program will be a joint venture of HFHS and PVM.

"This exciting development is an important step toward effectively addressing the increasing needs of the City of Detroit's rapidly aging population," said Roger Myers, president and CEO of PVM.

How to increase church attendance. . . or not



Father Brian, an elderly Catholic priest, was speaking to Father Karl, a younger priest, saying, 'You had a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theatre seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now.'

Father Karl nods, and the old priest continues, 'And you told me adding a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n' roll gospel choir. Now our services are consistently packed to the rafters.'

'Thank you, Father Brian,' answers the young priest. 'I am pleased that you are open to the new ideas of youth.'

'All of these ideas have been well and good,' comments Father Brian wisely. "But I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-thru confessional.'

'But, Father Brian,' protests the young Father Karl, 'My confessions have nearly doubled since I began that!'

'Indeed,' replies the elderly priest, 'And I appreciate that. But the flashing neon sign, "Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell" cannot stay on the church roof.'

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