Falls City hospital celebrates 100 years of healthcare (KLZA)-- 100 years of healthcare in Falls City was celebrated Saturday on the Community Medical Center campus.

Ground was broken for a hospital in Falls City in September, 1918 and the first hospital opened October 15, 1919.

The hospital opened as "Falls City Lutheran Hospital" then came under the private ownership of Dr. C.L. Hustead in 1922. Dr. Hustead operated "Falls City Hospital" until 1940 and then sold the hospital to the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas, who operated the hospital until 1955, operating under the name of "Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Hospital." Bonds were sold and the hospital became Community Hospital Inc. and later Community Medical Center.

The current hospital was built in 2009 and has already had a major addition to the facility.

Community Medical Center Administrator Ryan Larsen said the hospital wanted to say thanks all those supporting the hospital.

Larsen said while no new additions are currently planned, some remodeling could be coming up. He says technology and new ways of doing things mean you have to keep up.

Larsen also commended the many doctors and other staff members that serve the hospital currently and in the past. He noted it's not only the doctors and nurses but the housekeepers, food service and everyone else that make the difference.

Hundreds turned out for the Saturday celebration.

Many Signals Communications