

# Spiritual Care Services

## When to Call a Chaplain

- ◆ when you are having physical, emotional or spiritual challenges
- ◆ when you are facing a difficult decision
- ◆ when death seems near and you are wondering what will happen to you or your loved one
- ◆ when you are wanting someone to talk to confidentially about important matters
- ◆ when you want sacraments or prayer
- ◆ when you want a sacred text to read

## Two Chapels Available

Two sacred spaces are available 24 hours a day for private prayer and meditation. An interfaith **chapel** is located on the second floor adjacent to the Same Day Surgery welcome area, and a **meditation room** is adjacent to the second-floor OR welcome area.

There is also a **quiet room** available for prayer on 5 East (#5331) next to the Family and Visitor Welcome Center.

## Garden Area

In front of the hospital outside of the chapel is a beautiful garden area that provides a living place of peace and tranquility.

## A Patient's Prayer

O Gracious One, source of all life and healing, be with me in this time of physical and emotional need. Help me to rest and cope with the challenges I am facing.

Comfort and encourage those who love and care for me whose lives have been unsettled and disrupted by my illness and hospitalization.

Guide and give wisdom to the healthcare personnel who are committed to my treatment and well-being.

In this special moment of my need, I pray for healing and for inner peace. I pray for patience and for understanding. I pray for a deepening of my faith and belief in you, my loving God. Amen.

*Chaplains are available to serve patients, families, volunteers, and staff.*



## Spiritual Care Services

11116 Medical Campus Road, Suite 2904  
Hagerstown, MD 21742  
301-790-8716  
MeritusHealth.com

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Meritus  
Medical Center

# Spiritual Care Services

## Our Mission

Your spiritual well-being is important to us. Spiritual Care Services provides spiritual support for patients, their families, volunteers, and staff.

Spiritual Care Services provides pastoral presence, care, counseling, prayer, support groups, classes, religious rituals, and worship opportunities. These are integrated into the total care and treatment of our patients so that they may discover and experience hope, compassion, meaning, and purpose in life.

## Openness to Everyone

Our chaplains and spiritual care volunteers are trained to provide ecumenical, multi-faith, and non-religious care. We do not try to convert or change people's beliefs. We encourage patients to use their own belief system as a resource for healing.

If you wish, we can contact your clergy or house of worship. If you do not have one, we can contact a local minister, priest, rabbi, or imam for you.



## What Do Chaplains Do?

Chaplains spend time with patients and their families listening and gathering information, offering emotional and spiritual care and support, accompanying those in crisis or grief, and assisting people to reflect on ethical concerns and difficult decisions.

Chaplains allow the patient to direct the flow of the interaction during their time together. Chaplains may offer prayer, use scripture, administer sacraments, provide counseling, or assist with advanced care planning.

## How to Reach a Chaplain

A chaplain is available in the hospital week-days from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on weekends 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A chaplain can be reached by phone after hours.

To reach a chaplain, ask a staff member to contact one for you, or contact a chaplain yourself by dialing 301-790-8000 and asking the hospital operator to page a chaplain for you.

For non-urgent matters, you may request a chaplain by calling Spiritual Care Services at extension 8479. Leave a detailed message.

Sacred texts such as Bibles and Qurans, as well as rosaries and other devotional items, are available from Spiritual Care Services. Please call #8716 to have one delivered.

## Spiritual Care and Healing

Healing involves more than curing. It is the process of becoming whole in body, mind, spirit, and relationships. We are healed by the presence of healing hearts around us. Spiritual care helps healing occur by creating a safe and friendly space where those who suffer can tell their story to someone who listens with real attention and without judgement.

Even when no physical, mental or social cure seems possible, our chaplains can help identify the needs, hopes and spiritual resources of each person, and work with that person and his or her belief system to nurture healing in ways that are appropriate for the individual.

## TV Channel 115

Channel 115, the "Chaplain's Channel", features continuous soothing instrumental music and peaceful scenes designed to encourage relaxation and healing.

