

**STRATHROY MIDDLESEX
GENERAL HOSPITAL**
395 Carrie Street
Strathroy, Ontario
(519) 245-5295

MIDDLESEX
HOSPITAL
ALLIANCE

To contact any of our On Call Spiritual Care Providers:

Call 519.245.5295

and request the On Call Spiritual Care Provider be contacted on your behalf.

The staff member will need to know which of our Spiritual Care providers you would like to have contact you. You will be asked to provide your name, and telephone number.



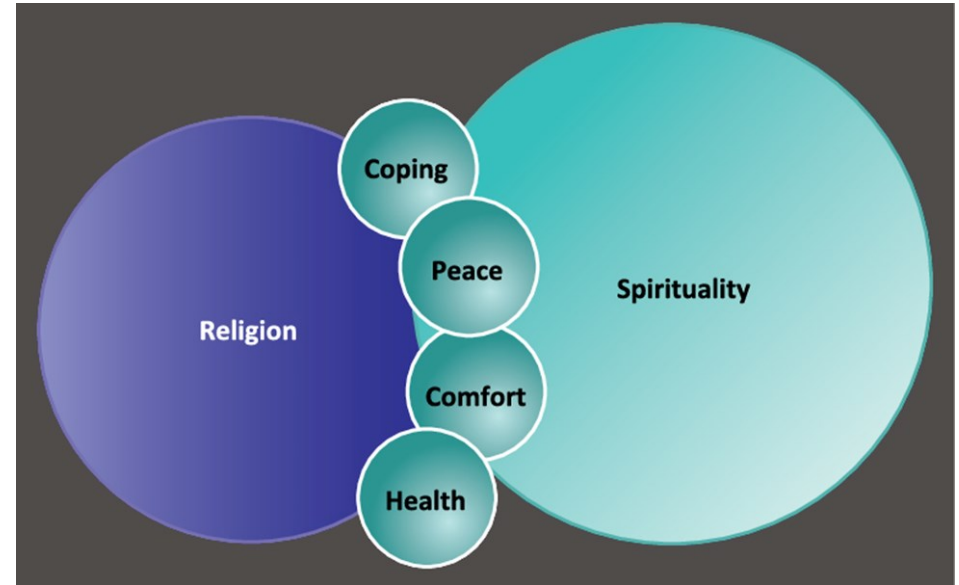
*« When we seek for connection,
we restore the world to
wholeness.
Our seemingly separate lives
become meaningful
as we discover how truly
necessary we are »*

What is Spiritual Care?

Definition

That care which **recognizes** and **responds** to the needs of the **human spirit** when faced with trauma, ill health or sadness and can include the **need** for **meaning**, for **self worth**, to **express oneself**, for **faith support**, perhaps for rites or prayer or sacrament, or simply for a sensitive listener. Spiritual care **begins** with encouraging human contact in compassionate relationship, and moves in **whatever direction need requires**.

The Volunteer Spiritual Care Providers at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital are important members of our healthcare team, providing emotional and spiritual care to patients and their families, as well as our staff. They draw upon religious tradition, ritual, prayer, scripture, and sacraments to assist persons in meeting their particular needs. Our Volunteer Spiritual Care Providers will talk with patients and families directly, or help them find a spiritual leader from their own unique faith needs and traditions.



You might benefit by having a non-judgemental, non-medical professional provide some guidance, so that you can cope with whatever is ahead:

- ⇒ Having your feelings acknowledged and validated
- ⇒ Redefining a sense of hope in the midst of despair
- ⇒ Working with family conflict as it relates to your palliative journey
- ⇒ Helping to make peace with your life story; finding forgiveness and acceptance
- ⇒ Discovering resilience in the face of your life-limiting illness
- ⇒ Finding ways for you and your family to cherish memories (legacy work)
- ⇒ Defining meaning, purpose and value on your journey
- ⇒ Addressing any rituals that bring inner peace

Patients and families may recognize some of the difficult issues caused by emotional/spiritual distress:

- ⇒ Questioning the meaning of life and/or suffering
- ⇒ Feelings of anger or hopelessness; not feeling heard
- ⇒ Difficulty sleeping and/or stressful dreams
- ⇒ Breakdown in communication; inability to talk about what you're experiencing
- ⇒ Feelings of depression/anxiety; e.g. fear of death; reluctance to discuss mortality
- ⇒ Questioning beliefs or experiencing sudden doubts about spiritual or religious beliefs
- ⇒ Asking why this situation occurred; perhaps feeling punished
- ⇒ Needing spiritual help or guidance; e.g. feeling abandoned



Spiritual Care Ministry



At Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital, we have a quiet space available 24/7. We also have a small chapel available to all for prayer, meditation and quiet reflection. Both of these areas are wheelchair accessible.



In accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, all areas of the Hospital are smoke free, except as under the Exemption for Traditional Use of Tobacco by Indigenous Persons. Arrangement for this exemption can be requested by first speaking with your Nurse.

Our Spiritual Care Team

Caring for the Human Spirit



Rev. Brad Morrison, D.Min., R.P. (CRPO) is an ordained minister serving Strathroy United Church. He is a Registered Psychotherapist with a doctorate in pastoral counselling and marriage and family studies. Brad is assistant professor at Huron University (UWO) teaching counselling.

*Lord, you call us to your service,
Each in our own way.
Some to caring, loving, healing;
Some to preach or pray;
Some to work with quiet learning,
Truth discerning,
Day by day.*

*Marjorie Dobson
(B1940)*