



**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
HEALTH-SPARROW**  
MICHIGAN MEDICINE

**When you  
need someone  
to talk to...**

**SPIRITUAL  
SERVICES**

## **Department of Spiritual Services**

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**[UofMHealthSparrow.org/SpiritualServices](https://UofMHealthSparrow.org/SpiritualServices)**

**UM Health-Sparrow team members** are invited to visit our U-M Health Insider page. Under *Our Services*, find the *Clinical Support* menu. Select *Patient Support Services*, then choose *Spiritual Services* from the top menu.

# Department of Spiritual Services

During your hospital stay, you may like help tapping emotional and spiritual resources useful in maintaining your sense of well being, faith, and hope. Chaplains are available to assist you and your family in this quest.

## The chaplain's role

Chaplains respect your dignity and privacy. In addition, we respect your beliefs, which means we are careful not to impose our beliefs or religious practices. We are caring listeners who have been trained to help with those special concerns which arise when you or your loved ones face a medical crisis.

## Availability and how to request a chaplain visit

There is a chaplain available in the hospital during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On certain units, chaplain interns in our Clinical Pastoral Education program provide care during additional hours. At all other times, a chaplain is available on-call to respond to spiritual or emotional emergencies. The easiest way to request a visit is to ask your nurse to page a chaplain.

## Times you may want a chaplain

- When you are anxious about your condition
- When you are anticipating surgery
- When you have a religious question
- When you want someone to pray with you
- When you want to receive a sacrament
- When you are struggling with the meaning of your illness
- When you receive bad news
- When you are grieving over a loss
- When you are having trouble sorting out your feelings/thoughts
- When you are lonely

## Resources for religious needs

### Literature

TANAKHs, Bibles, Qur'ans, and The Book of Mormon can be borrowed. Prayer booklets and informational pamphlets are available on request.

### Catholic ministries

Eucharistic Minister volunteers visit regularly offering Communion. Rosaries are available on request. A chaplain can assist you with contacting a priest for urgent sacramental needs.

### Protestant sacraments

Communion is available on request. If baptism is requested by an adult or by the parents of a child, chaplains can discuss baptism and baptize when appropriate.

### Community clergy

Please be aware that UM Health-Sparrow does not routinely notify your faith community of your hospitalization. During regular business hours, the chaplain can assist you in contacting those who provide you with spiritual support if you wish.

### The chapel

Our all faiths chapels are usually open 24/7 for quiet prayer, meditation, and reflection. The UM Health-Sparrow Lansing Chapel is located on the lower level, near the South elevators. The UM Health-Sparrow St. Lawrence Chapel is on the first floor near the cafeteria. In the chapels, you will find a binder to record your prayers; in this way, the chaplains and others from the hospital can join in your prayers.