

# **Week of Prayer and Worship**

## **Shepherdstown, West Virginia**

### ***November 3 - November 9, 2024***

The Stubblefield Institute and the Shepherdstown Ministerial Association invite the entire community to A Week of Prayer and Worship during the first week of November 2024. We welcome all to join us for evening and midday gatherings as we ground ourselves spiritually through prayer, contemplation, song, healing, and meditation. All events are open to people from any faith tradition - or none at all! - in the hope that we might meet each other with compassion and open hearts. **Feel free to drop in on any event or attend them all!**

The Stubblefield Institute will host two civil discourse community events, an introductory panel, "Community Over Politics," on Tuesday, October 29, and a concluding Affirmation of Community event on Tuesday, November 12.

The Shepherdstown Ministerial Association events will take place on Sunday, November 3 through Saturday, November 9:

- Evening Prayer and/or Worship hosted by participating congregations throughout the week, 7pm (See following pages for details.)
- Quaker Silent Worship hosted by The Shepherdstown Friends Meeting throughout the week, noon
- Daily Drop-In Prayer available at St. Agnes Catholic Community throughout the week, 9am - 4pm
- Tuesday Drop-In Prayer Vigil throughout the day (See following pages for details.)

## Listing of Events

Tuesday, October 29, 7pm	Community Over Politics	Stubblefield Institute
Sunday, November 3, 7pm	Why Pray? Reflection and Song	Shep Presbyterian
Monday, November 4, noon	Quaker Silent Worship	St. Agnes Catholic
Monday, November 4, 7pm	Taizé Contemplative Chanting	St. Agnes Catholic
Tuesday, November 5, 6:30a - 7:30pm	Drop-in Prayer Vigil	All* communities
Wednesday, November 6, noon	Quaker Silent Worship	New Street UMC
Wednesday, November 6, 7pm	Contemplative Service for Healing	St. Peter's Lutheran
Thursday, November 7, noon	Quaker Silent Worship	St. Peter's Lutheran
Thursday, November 7, 7pm	Lectio Divina	New Street UMC
Friday, November 8, noon	Quaker Silent Worship	Trinity Episcopal
Friday, November 8, 7pm	Compline	Trinity Episcopal
Saturday, November 9, noon	An Invitation to Stillness Meditation	Quakers at Shepherd
Saturday, November 9, 7pm	Who Are Quakers?	Quakers at Shepherd
Tuesday, November 12, 7pm	Affirmation of Community	Stubblefield Institute

\* As part of the Tuesday Drop-in prayer vigil, St. Peter's Lutheran Church will host a labyrinth walk; Trinity Episcopal Church will be a polling location and, therefore, not open for public prayer; **The Quaker Community will be distributed throughout the other congregations, rather than hosting their own drop-in prayer vigil.**

# **Week of Prayer and Worship**

**Tuesday, October 29, 7pm**

**Community Over Politics**

**Stubblefield Institute**

**Robert C. Byrd Center, 213 N. King St., Shepherdstown**

As a preface to the Week of Prayer and Worship, the Stubblefield Institute is hosting an interfaith panel discussion. How do we work together to build community despite differing faith traditions and even political differences within the same faith tradition? What are some ways individuals, families, and congregations draw on their personal faith or spirituality to support the ability to engage peacefully and productively in civil discourse? Panelists will speak from their experience working collaboratively across diverse faith-based organizations in service to the larger community.

**Sunday, November 3, 7pm**

**Why Pray? Reflection and Song**

**Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church**

**100 W. Washington Street, Shepherdstown**

Based on themes from The Prayer of Jesus this service will offer expressions of gratitude, hope, and resilience combined with pleas for healing, wholeness, and release through a selection of readings, musical meditations, and personal reflections. Themes include: Seeking the Sacred; Seeking Wholeness; Seeking Sustenance; Seeking Healing; Seeking Protection; Seeking Rescue; Seeking Trust. Our goal is to cultivate a spirit of joy and generosity through the weeks to come. All are welcome! Bring your friends!

**Monday, November 4, noon**

**Quaker Silent Worship**

**St. Agnes Catholic Community**

**106 S. Duke Street, Shepherdstown**

The practice of Quaker Silent Worship is grounded in the belief there is "that of God in every person." Quaker Mike Proser will invite those present to engage in silent prayer and meditation.

**Monday, November 4, 7pm**

**Taizé contemplative chanting**

**St. Agnes Catholic Community**

**106 S. Duke Street, Shepherdstown**

*What is Taizé contemplative chanting?* The Taizé Community is an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in Burgundy, France. It is composed of more than one hundred brothers, from Catholic and Protestant traditions, who originate from about thirty countries around the world. Taizé prayer is a meditative form of common prayer. Gathered in the presence of Christ we sing uncomplicated, repetitive songs, uncluttered by too many words, allowing the mystery of God to become tangible through the beauty of the simplicity. **All you need to bring is an open mind and heart. Please join for this evening of prayer at a time when we need peace and unity.**

**Tuesday, November 5, 6:30am - 7:30pm**

**Drop-In Day Long Prayer Vigil**

- New Street United Methodist Church, 202 W. New Street, Shepherdstown
- Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church, 100 W. Washington Street, Shepherdstown
- St. Agnes Catholic Community, 106 S. Duke Street, Shepherdstown
- St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 112 N. King Street, Shepherdstown

Each community will be open for those wishing to pray in their own way. St. Peter's Lutheran Church will host a walking labyrinth. A Prayer Labyrinth is a form of walking contemplative prayer. One walks along the way taking the turns of the labyrinth and making the way to the center and back out again. It is a quiet, meditative prayer along a path that in many ways mirrors life.

**Wednesday, November 6, noon**

**Quaker Silent Worship**

**New Street United Methodist Church**

**202 W. New Street, Shepherdstown**

The practice of Quaker Silent Worship is grounded in the belief there is "that of God in every person." Quaker Mike Proser will invite those present to engage in silent prayer and meditation.

**Wednesday, November 6, 7pm**

**Contemplative Service for Healing**

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**

**112 N. King Street, Shepherdstown**

With a blend of contemplative prayer and the liturgy for healing from the Iona Community, we will pray for the healing of our planet, our world, our nation, our relationships, and ourselves.

**Thursday, November 7, noon**

**Quaker Silent Worship**

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**

**112 N. King Street, Shepherdstown**

The practice of Quaker Silent Worship is grounded in the belief there is "that of God in every person." Quaker Mike Proser will invite those present to engage in silent prayer and meditation.

**Thursday, November 7, 7pm**

**Lectio Divina**

**New Street United Methodist Church**

**202 W. New Street, Shepherdstown**

Lectio Divina is an ancient form of prayer that involves reading and meditating on Scripture. This prayer service will include Lectio Divina, silent contemplation, communal prayers and music to pray for peace within and for the world.

**Friday, November 8, noon**

**Quaker Silent Worship**

**Trinity Episcopal Church**

**200 W. German Street, Shepherdstown**

The practice of Quaker Silent Worship is grounded in the belief there is "that of God in every person." Quaker Mike Proser will invite those present to engage in silent prayer and meditation.

**Friday, November 8, 7pm**

**Compline**

**Trinity Episcopal Church**

**200 W. German Street, Shepherdstown**

Come and close out your noisy week with this contemplative time of prayer and reflection. Derived from the Latin *completorium*, this opportunity is meant for the completion of our day as we prepare to rest and find release from the pressures of life during the week.

**Saturday, November 9, noon**

**An Invitation to Stillness Meditation**

**Shepherd University, Student Center, Cumberland Room, 2nd Floor**

**210 N. King Street, Shepherdstown**

Religions around the world have used meditation to experience the Divine Light within each person and to find inner peace. Would you like to meditate, but when you attempt to your mind drives you crazy with its chatter of wants and needs? In this session, Quaker Sue Silver will provide tools to help you get into a meditative state as well as opportunities to practice Stillness Meditation.

**Saturday, November 9, 7pm**

**Who Are Quakers?**

**Shepherd University, Student Center, Cumberland Room, 2nd Floor**

**210 N. King Street, Shepherdstown**

The Religious Society of Friends started in England in the mid 17th century during the English Civil War. The brutality of the war led them to adopt the Quaker Peace Testimony. Today Quakers are still known for their advocacy for peace, their opposition to violence and their belief in the equality of all people. In this brief introduction to Quakerism Ginny Bainbridge, a lifelong Quaker, will provide an overview of who we are, what we believe and how we live and worship.

**Tuesday, November 12, 7pm**

**Affirmation of Community**

**Stubblefield Institute**

**War Memorial Building / Shepherdstown Community Center, 102 E. German Street, Shepherdstown**

A civil discourse community event hosted by the Stubblefield Institute.

Shepherdstown, Shepherd University, and the surrounding areas are places where people live, work, learn, and care for one another. We have many ways to worship and pray, to celebrate and contemplate – and we share many commonalities beneath our differences.

Being mindful of the varied perspectives community members will hold regarding the outcome of the election, we know that the strength of our community persists beyond any specific moment. We always have both challenges and reasons to be thankful. Meet with your neighbors, friends old and new, and the people with whom you journey through life. Together, we affirm that we are one community.

**The Week of Prayer and Worship, and related civil discourse community events, are presented in partnership by the Shepherdstown Ministerial Association and the Bonnie and Bill Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political Communications.**