

Contents

List of figures and boxes

vii

Acknowledgements

viii

1 Contemporary and historical contexts

1

Introduction

1

The human condition – a good place for social work to start?

6

Religion, secularism and social work

8

The resurgence of 'religion'

16

Social work's rediscovery of spirituality

18

Conclusion

21

Taking it further

22

2 Meaning, mystery and social work

23

Introduction

23

Religion and belief

24

Secular spirituality

28

Spirituality and meaning-making

30

The search for definitions

33

The dark side of spirituality

36

A conceptual framework for social work practice

39

Conclusion

44

Taking it further

45

3 Spiritual need

46

Introduction

46

Social work and the concept of need

47

Assessment of spiritual need and spiritual distress

55

Debates and dilemmas for social work

69

Conclusion

71

Taking it further

72

4 Spirituality and the quality of life

73

Introduction

73

Perspectives on quality of life

75

Quality of life, health and well-being

84

Conclusion	93
Taking it further	94
5 Spiritual care	96
Introduction	96
Empowering spirituality	98
Partnership and spiritual care	98
Transcendence	100
Transformation	102
Wholeness	103
The importance of hope	104
Building resilience	107
Meaning-making and spiritual narratives	110
The Fellow Traveller model	111
Conclusion	121
Taking it further	122
6 Spiritual care in the multidisciplinary team	123
Introduction	123
Background to interprofessional working	124
What is multidisciplinary working?	125
Organisational structures	127
Interprofessional issues	128
Palliative care	131
Restorative Justice	134
Spirituality and ourselves	138
Conclusion	143
Taking it further	144
7 Spirituality and community	145
Introduction	145
Meaning-making in society	147
Celebrating diversity with social justice	148
The contribution from faith communities	154
An eco-spiritual perspective	157
Conclusion	162
Taking it further	163
8 Global and multicultural perspectives	164
Introduction	164
Social work practice in multicultural settings	165
Spirituality and the challenge to western social work paradigms	174
Conclusion	181
Taking it further	183
<i>References</i>	184
<i>Index</i>	199