

Gospel Zikr

6:30pm-8:00pm Saturday 24 June 2017

Berkeley Society of Friends

Community Room

2151 Vine Street (at Walnut)

Berkeley California

Hosted by the Chaplaincy Institute

<http://chaplaincyinstitute.org/>



Perry Pike is a hospice chaplain as well as a longtime teacher of body prayer and devotional singing. During graduate school, his Beloved Sufi Guide Ibrahim Baba (*Peace be upon him*) challenged him. Baba told Perry that people love to research spiritual things and then write about them. Then he said, “But you dance. When you study I want you to create a form that invites people to move and be moved by singing and praying together.”



Perry then studied a number of great Sufi teachers – and he noticed a pattern. Over many, many years as Sufi teachers migrated, they brought Sufi teachings to diverse people and regions. In each new place teachers allowed students to combine Sufi practices with local customs and music. This birthed beautiful forms such as devotional Qawwali music in India and the turning prayer of the whirling dervishes in Turkey. This also became the inspiration for the Gospel Zikr.

This Gospel Zikr birthed as an answer to prayer. It weaves together Perry’s Beloved Sufi practice with the American musical forms of his childhood.

It is a group practice combining simple movements found in gospel music with chanting and remembrance practices found in Sufi Communities.

Celebrate the solstice with the Gospel Zikr.
Cultivate Presence through movement, chant, and song.
Everyone is welcome; no experience is necessary.

