



MAIA

TIPPLER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Step 9 “Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”

Tradition 9 “A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

Concept 9 “Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

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“We are careful not to go to the person who had harmed us and tell him what we will do for him or her. We don’t crawl before anyone. We explain that we will never get over drinking until we have done our utmost to straighten out the past. We are there to sweep off our side of the street, realizing that nothing worthwhile can be accomplished until we do so, never trying to tell him what he should do. His faults are not discussed. We stick to our own.”

-Big Book p 83-84

Memphis Area Intergroup Association
3540 Summer Ave., Suite 104
Memphis, TN 38122

901 454-1414 office
memphisarea@bellsouth.net
memphis-aa.org

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	6:45 - 7:45 pm Treatment Committee 8:00 - 9:00 pm District 21 Committee	6:45 - 7:45 pm Memphis Area Correctional Committee	3	4	5 9:00 am - 10:30 am District 24 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm District 22
6	7	8 6:00 - 7:00 pm Memphis Area Grapevine Committee	9 6:00 - 7:00 pm District 25	10	11	12
13 11:00 am - 12:00 pm District 23	14	15	16	17	18 6:45 - 7:45 pm Memphis Area Accessibility Committee	19
20	21 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm CPC/PI Committee	22	23	24	25	26
27 3:45 - 5:00 pm Memphis Area Archives Committee	28	29	30	1	2	3

DISTRICT & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

September 1 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Memphis Treatment Committee
Came to Believe
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

September 1 @ 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
District 21 committee Meeting
Crosstown Concourse
1350 Concourse Ave #1072
Memphis, TN 38104

September 2 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Memphis Area Correctional Committee
Came to Believe
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

September 6 @ 9:00 am - 10:30 am
District 24 - Hybrid ID86700041
Highland Heights Presbyterian Church
2855 Morning Sun Road
Lakeland, 38016

September 6 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
District 22
Olympia Steak House
85 Wilkinsville Rd.
Millington, TN 38053

September 9 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Memphis Area Grapevine Committee
White Station Church of Christ
1106 Colonial Rd

September 10 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
District 25
Germantown United Methodist Church
2324 Germantown Road
Germantown, TN 38138

September 14 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
District 23
Zoom password 847990

September 15 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
CPC/PI Committee
Shady Grove Presbyterian Church
5530 Shady Grove
Memphis, TN 38120

September 19 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Accessibility Committee
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

September 28 @ 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm
Memphis Area Archives Committee
Shady Grove Presbyterian Church
5530 Shady Grove
Memphis, TN 38120



MAIA

3540 Summer Avenue

Suite 104

Memphis, TN 38122

901-454-1414

memphisarea@bellsouth.net

Monday/Friday: 8 am - 4 pm

Closed daily between 1 pm - 2 pm

The MAIA Intergroup Representatives business meeting is held on the second Sunday of every month at 1:00 p.m. Please join us at Leawood Baptist Church, 3638 Macon Road, Memphis, TN 38122, or join on Zoom. Please call the office for passcode the meeting ID 835 975 026 08 .

If you are looking for a new location for meeting space you may contact your Intergroup office for details

BECOME A HIGH FIVER

Memphis Area Intergroup has been the link between the A.A. recovery community and the newcomer and, even as importantly, with one another since 1960. Many of us are grateful to the office for its helping hand, but have either not known that Intergroup needs our support, or our contributions have been put off due to our new busy and happy lives. "High Fivers" is a way we have found to allow members to show their gratitude by making sure the services provided by the office continues. High Fivers is a program of commitment; we commit to a \$5.00 contribution per month, either monthly, quarterly, or annually. Contact our office with details on the ways with which you can submit your monetary contributions. Intergroup, in return, will send an acknowledgment for your contributions at the end of each calendar year. These contributions are tax deductible. As an expression of gratitude, you will receive a hard copy of this newsletter in the mail each month.

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

Central Gardens	Two Doors
	Down
Dan M.	Fay S
45yrs	42yrs
Cap P.	John P.
43yrs	40yrs
John McD.	Scotty
37yrs	31yrs
Fred B.	Eva G.
26yrs	27yrs
	Richard I.
Downtown	14yrs
Nooners	Vicki W.
Brenda L.	12yrs
21yrs	Scott
	11yrs
Friends of Bill	Kenny C.
Billy D.	10yrs
40yrs	Nick F.
Chris C.	8yrs
30yrs	Will B.
	4yrs
Hollywood	Kara & Odell
Bertha W.	1yr each
7yrs	
	Unity
Out of Towners	Arlene S.
Kathy O.	30yrs
34yrs	Jon O.
Cathy A.	14yrs
31yrs	Sarah G.
	4yrs
Seriously Sober	Casie W.
Beryl W.	3yrs
34yrs	
Mark T.	Winchester
33yrs	Gene H.
	6yrs

SCAN TO CONTRIBUTE TO MAIA

The Seventh Tradition states: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. In keeping with A.A.'s Seventh Tradition of self-support, we accept contributions only from A.A. members.



STEP 9: MAKING AMENDS

... Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others “Now we go out to our fellows and repair the damage done in the past. We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will...Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us.” (BB pp. 76-77) I did not have a clue how great the burden of my guilt was until I completed Step 9. I never wanted to face the harm I had done to myself and others. I wore guilt and shame like it was a garment. These invisible garments blocked my ability to form and maintain a healthy partnership with God, myself or others. Making amends has helped me put the past behind me and move on with a clearer conscience. Without taking this crucial step, I would never have known that people who have been harmed by me are generally glad to know I am working to lead a different life. I did not know I could be completely honest and vulnerable and not be taken advantage of. I did not know the power of using “I” statements during confrontation. I did not know I could not fix what I refuse to face. I did not know that true intimacy is dependent on integrity and trust. As a result of this step, many see me as a person of dignity and worth, trust me and are interested in what I do and say. I am continually learning to communicate assertively and respectfully while listening. Making amends helps me to grow in

humility. I don’t always have to be right or have the last word. Some of the people I had harmed, are no longer living. After much prayer, thought and talking to others, I realized that I could not change the past but I could live differently. I used to make choices passively, letting things happen rather than taking appropriate action. I now ask myself; Am I taking responsibility for my choices? Am I making choices or letting the choices be made for me so I have no accountability? I don’t always have to say what I think or try to persuade others to do things my way. These small but powerful changes mean I rarely need to make amends. Every time I say “yes” to hope, life starts over again. Greatness becomes possible when I am willing to stand in my own truth, whether good or not so good. God is faithful even when I am not and miracles can happen even after I have laughed in God’s face. The road that got me to AA was paved by my flawed personality. That personality chose to place myself in the hands of a loving and faithful God. I am grateful to remember and give thanks for those who came before, who made new life possible and the current companions who inspire me daily. I recall the twists and turns in my own journey, taking special note of what happened when I risked everything, and how grace keeps pulling me forward. For me, Step 9 makes this all doable. With that in mind, I consider challenges ahead, trusting in what is yet unseen, I resolve to run the race with authenticity, perseverance, hope and love. Step 9 makes that all possible because it prepares me to be of maximum service to the God of my understanding. --

Anonymous 4

RECOVERY

Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

So what is Step Nine of AA Alcoholics Anonymous? Step Nine is that big step, the one we likely have created some anxiety over because it involves making amends.

It is suggested that we make direct amends to people whenever possible.

What does that mean? There are three kinds of amends:

- Direct Amends – taking personal responsibility for your actions and confronting the person who you would like to reconcile with.
- Indirect Amends – finding ways to repair damage that cannot be reversed or undone by doing things like volunteering and helping others.
- Living Amends – when you show others as well as yourself that you have made a genuine lifestyle change and are making a commitment to yourself and those that you have hurt that you will and have discarded your previous destructive behaviors.

We have already begun making amends to ourselves by changing some of our behaviors, attitudes and beliefs. The part of the amends process whereby we change ourselves has an effect on everyone around us and goes on long after we've spoken directly to someone we have harmed.

To keep things as simple as possible, you can get your head in the game by focusing on the purpose of the Ninth Step and "The Three R's" that are associated with making amends:

Restoration, Resolution and Restitution.

CONCEPT NINE

Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

A leader in A.A. service is a person who can personally put principles, plans and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back and help them with their job. Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better.

TRADITION NINE

Our groups ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

In the real world, businesses and groups are "organized." There is a hierarchy of authority so that some of the organizations have authority to direct the actions of others. In A.A., no one has this kind of authority. The groups are a "fellowship of equals." Decisions are made by the group as a whole and not by one or a few members. By creating and maintaining this atmosphere of "true fellowship", we ensure that even the newest members can quickly gain a feeling of belonging. The most important person that walks into a group of Alcoholics Anonymous is the newcomer. Without them we will surely die as an individual and as a whole. If we try to organize him, he will flee, after all, his life is already unmanageable. When we let go and stop trying to do the organizing and let God show us what to do, "divine order" takes over in our lives.

Virtue 9

Discipline Training that corrects, molds, or perfects the mental faculties or moral character. To bring under control; to train or develop by instruction.

I am Just Learning How to do Life

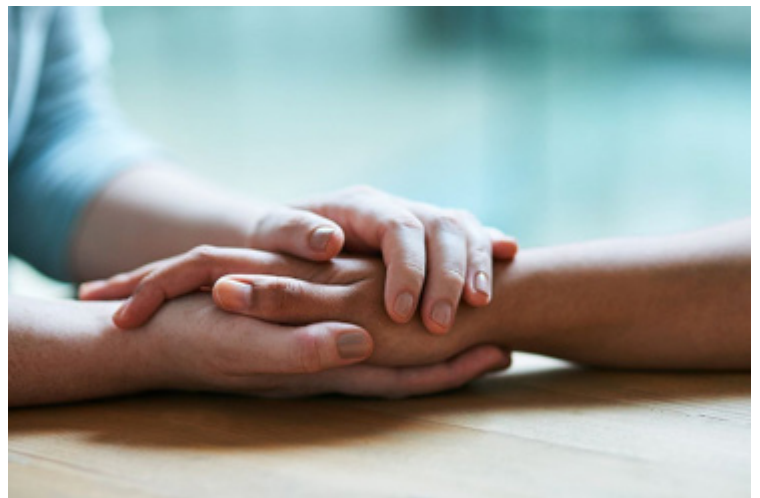
Right Back at You Grand-Pa

By Rick R.—Submitted August 2021

When my grandson was in preschool, and after many hours with him, talking about everything from stars and space to bugs and animals, and trying to give him the best perspective I could about how to respond to life issues at a level that he could understand. He came home from school one day and told me that one of the boys in his class was being bad and had gotten into trouble. I tried to explain to him that the boy was not bad, he was just misbehaving and that he was too young to be bad. (5yrs. Old) I explained to him that maybe that boy did not have someone who could teach him how to behave properly. He continued the conversation and asked ("grandpa, if someone said I was a bad boy") I stopped him in midsentence and asked, "Who said that you were a bad boy"? He replied, "no one, but if they did" I stopped him again and said, if anyone says that you're a bad boy, you can just say, "I'm not a bad boy, I'm just a kid learning how to do life." At a meeting shortly thereafter, the topic was on resentment, and, for lack of a better analogy, I told the story of my grandson and how I look at everyone in the same way. Most people act out, to compensate for deeper rooted emotional problems. None of us are perfect. We all have shortcomings and for me to condemn someone else, who may be plagued by these things and has not resolved them yet, would be like piling on, and I always feel worse when I resort back to those old behaviors. I should never let my emotions, or my ego draw me into conflict with other troubled people. I must always try to take the high road in these situations. But what about when other people cross my boundaries in a negative way, do I have to be a doormat? No, I do not have to participate in it with them, if there is a way to remove myself from the

situation, but I should not be judgmental either. I must refrain from pointing out that other person's faults. To me, they are like my grandson's little classmate. They are all like, (KIDS LEARNING HOW TO DO LIFE), and for me to engage in criticism in that situation would be like two old men in a care facility hitting each other with their canes because one was not walking fast enough for the other. It sounds funny, but we do it every day. I am no better or worse than the next man. I may be further along the path than him, but no better. I pray for understanding and compassion in these situations. I must never Judge a man on his surface behavior, I must have the strength to look deeper. We are all just like those KIDS.

A few months after that discussion with my grandson we were running a little late taking him to his Taekwondo class and he was in his child seat behind us in the car and I was bickering with my wife about getting there on time when he interrupted us saying "Guys, I can hear you." I responded by saying, "you should have been ready yourself" when he responded, "Grandpa, I am not a bad boy, I am just a kid learning how to do life." My wife and I broke out in laughter. God, I love that Kid. when he responded, "Grandpa, I am not a bad boy, I am just a kid learning how to do life." My wife and I broke out in laughter. God, I love that Kid.



Features

Dr. Bob, Good Old Timers Quotes

"If you had something wrong with you, that's what you talked about; you didn't talk about sports or politics."

"Bend our knees instead of our elbows and ask for His help . .



There are many ways to be of service in Alcoholics Anonymous. We need volunteers and it is true that helping others helps us to stay sober. Our meetings need people with leadership skills to become an Intergroup Representative, General Service Representative, District Committee Members and so much more! Your Intergroup Office needs volunteers kind smile and awesome telephone voice to answer calls from customers. Greeting customers as they enter the Intergroup Office. Each group need volunteers to arrive early to the meeting to set up amake coffee. , greet others and be a reader. How has sobriety taught us to be of service to others? What talents do we have or want to experience from? Come join us! You will discover the gift that are received from giving to others. !

Spiritual Simplicity

Gets It Done

Practice the Program with Enthusiasm by Rick R.

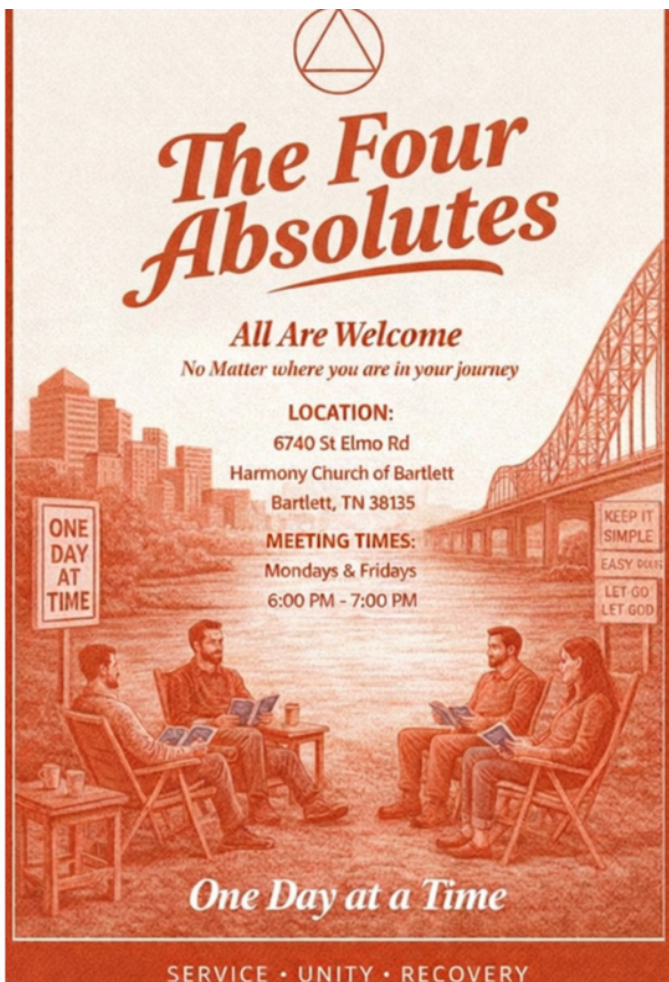
Tackling the alcoholism problem, the wreckage of the past, and trying to be Spiritual at the same time is a large order in the beginning. Most of us are consumed with the trauma left in the wake of a life run by our Egos and flooded with alcohol. We hear a variety of ways to approach the Spiritual way of life and we try to fit it into our A.A. agenda but, still reeling from the wreckage, our effort seemed scattered at best. If we manage to get a handle on those troubling issues that consume our thinking, it often frees us up to explore the Spiritual aspects of the program at a deeper level. At first, it is not easy to define, or to articulate, the word spiritual but most of us will try to put a face on it based on something we learned in church or something we have heard at an A.A. meeting etc. This is an O.K. start but it is wise to continue to look for that deeper meaning that is consistent with the spirit of the A.A. program and to practice it in our daily lives. As I research the word spiritual, I find many phrases that could define it such as: In the spirit of, Of the inside, Intangible, not of a physical or material nature, Religious, Psychic, and many more. I have read most of the publications that have come from the list of A.A. approved literature, and in “Doctor Bob and the Good Old Timers”, it suggests that when the Co-founders had to address the issue of spirituality, they got their inspiration from the book: The Sermon on the Mount, by Emmet Fox. (1938) I have found that book to be exactly what I needed to segue into a way of thinking that covers all the principles that A.A. suggests. It explains that we can live by the Letter of the Law, and still not receive the desired results until we learn to live in the Spirit of the Law. This is my Go-to Guide and I frequently reread it to reinforce my Spiritual understanding. I do not go-it alone. There I come to understand that there’s no such thing as a Selfish Spiritual Principle. We hear talk of prayer and most of us who have been around awhile have found an approach that works for us. If I pray to God, how does God communicate his message to me? I have never heard a voice that I could confirm to be the voice of God. I do, however, receive inspiration in the form that is more than enough for me, and I have a tremendous amount of faith. They speak of a kind and loving God is he may express himself in our group conscience. That works for me. The way I have come to explain this concept is as follows: I have sat in on thousands of A.A. meetings and whether I know it or not, my mind is collecting information that I am not even aware of, and storing it away, as in a file cabinet, in those 10 billion brain cells that we are supposed to have in our heads. When I pray for guidance, the search begins in the file system and comes up with the answer intuitively. This file cabinet metaphor is my way of trying to express a sound and solid approach to being open to outside influences without really having to define who or what God is. He speaks in many ways. Another thing that I believe it does without my personal effort is to Neutralize much of my negative way of thinking. Spirituality is an inside quality. It resides in my mind, my heart, and my conscience. To acquire it I had only to stop fighting and practice the rest of the A.A. program as enthusiastically as I could (12&12 page 27) and I might add, Keep it Simple.

**August 2026
Group Contributions**

	AUG 2026	AUG 2025 (PY)	JAN - AUG, 2026 (YTD)
26-On Awakening	0.00	0.00	660.00
Any Length Group	0.00	0.00	155.80
Came to Believe Group	0.00	0.00	300.00
Central Gardens Group	100.00	100.00	450.00
Cherokee Group	0.00	100.00	100.00
Collierville Group	0.00	0.00	1,284.82
Downtown Nooners N/S	0.00	0.00	50.00
Downtown Thursday Night Group	0.00	0.00	1,094.11
Earlybird	0.00	0.00	771.88
Everyday People	0.00	0.00	20.00
Friends of Bill W	0.00	0.00	227.44
Germantown Happy	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
Germantown Noon	0.00	375.00	1,650.00
Holly Springs Group	0.00	0.00	400.00
Hollywood	0.00	0.00	95.00
Horn Lake	10.00	0.00	20.00
How It Works	0.00	0.00	0.05
Into Action Midtown	84.00	0.00	84.00
Lakeland	0.00	0.00	141.23
Men of Recovery	1.16	2.81	10.75
Morning Glories	89.00	0.00	89.00
Mustard Seed	0.00	0.00	20.00
New Start	0.00	0.00	125.00
Oakland Always Open	0.00	65.00	95.00
Out-of-Towners Fellowship Group	0.00	0.00	0.08
Pleasant Hill	0.00	0.00	863.32
Primary Purpose	0.00	0.00	50.00
Queer Bees and Wanna Bes	126.46	65.00	319.96
Rule-62	0.00	0.00	175.00
S.O.S.	0.00	0.00	17.80
Serenity	400.00	197.32	550.00
Seriously Sober	770.00	0.00	770.00
Shady Ladies	0.00	300.00	720.00
Shipwreck	0.00	0.00	50.00
Sober Journey	220.00	200.00	620.00
Solutions Group	0.00	0.00	840.38
South Memphis	0.00	20.00	40.00
Straight Outta Bondage	0.00	0.00	300.00
The Nooner	400.38	0.00	1,614.83
Three Legged Stool	2.80	0.00	2.80
Traditions	50.00	50.00	200.00
Triangle Group - Somerville	0.00	0.00	61.50
Two Doors Down	300.00	0.00	2,100.00

**August 2026
Group Contributions**

	AUG 2026	AUG 2025 (PY)	JAN - AUG, 2026 (YTD)
Unity Group	415.37	149.98	1,459.79
WAAGL	75.00	75.00	525.00
West Memphis Group	0.00	0.00	20.00
Whitehaven Morning Sunrisers-	0.00	0.00	200.00
Winchester	0.00	0.00	350.00
TOTAL	\$3,044.17	\$1,700.11	\$20,894.54



"The Tippler" is a free monthly publication, and will be emailed to anyone interested. However, if you'd like to receive a copy via USPS, a contribution of \$5 monthly, or \$60 annually, helps defray the costs involved. Fill out the form below and , along with your contribution, mail to the above address. We thank you!

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____



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