MAIA

TIPPLER

NOV 2026

Step 11 Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

Tradition 11 Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

Concept 11 While the Trustees hold final responsibility for A.A.'s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Therefore the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs, and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern.

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Words of encouragement

To handle sobriety one day at a time with prayer and meditation daily and nightly. Staying God (conscience), open-minded, willingness, and humility to work and hang along-side with other alcoholics.

To always pray for the alcoholic and/or alcoholics who are still suffering. We practice the 12 steps each & every day remembering that God is doing for us that which we cannot do for ourselves. That he hasall power. The power to have friends to stay sober and to be sane. Not to be selfish or self-centered. We don't go it alone and we do die alone. He givesus our right minds and our sound minds. Thank you Higher Power! -R.J.

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

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

NOVEMBER 2026

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

Holidays and Observances: Election Day (3), Veterans Day (11), Thanksgiving Day (26), Black Friday (27)

DISTRICT & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

November 7 @ 9:00 am - 10:30 am
District 24
Highland Heights Presbyterian Church
2855 Morning Sun Road
Lakeland, 38016

November 7 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
District 22
Olympia Steak House
85 Wilkinsville Rd.
Millington, TN 38053

November 9 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Memphis Treatment Committee
Came to Believe
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

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

November 10 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Memphis Area Correctional Committee
Came to Believe
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

November 11 @ 6:00 pm- 7:00 pm
District 25
Germantown United Methodist Church
2324 Germantown Road
Germantown, TN 38138

November 15 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
District 23
Zoom password 847990

November 17 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Memphis Area
Grapevine Committee
White Station Church of Christ
1106 Colonial Rd

November 23 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
CPC/PI Committee
Shady Grove Presbyterian
5530 Shady Grove
Memphis, TN 38120

November 29 @ 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm
Memphis Area Archives Committee
Shady Grove Presbyterian
5530 Shady Grove
Memphis, TN 38120

December 12 @ 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
MAIA Annual Open House
3540 Summer Ave
ste 104
Memphis, TN 38122

MAIA

3540 Summer Avenue
Suite 104
Memphis, TN 38122
901-454-1414
memphisarea@bellsouth.net



Monday/Friday: 8 am - 4 pm
Closed daily from 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 on November 8, 2026 at Leawood Baptist Church, 3638 Macon Road, Memphis, TN 38122, or join the online platform. Meeting ID#835 975 026 08 please call or email the office for the meeting passcode.

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 acknowledgement 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.

Central Gardens

Ruthe M.	39yrs
Laura L.	34yrs
Mary J.	32yrs

Four Absolutes

Joy C.	35Yrs

Friends of Bill W.

Gary	31yrs
Ronnie	19yrs
Ann	8yrs

Out of Towners

Ron A.	37yrs
John R.	37yrs
Jack S.	22yrs
Jon M.	12yrs
LaShown	6yrs
Lily W.	5yrs
Danielle	2yrs

Seriously Sober

John T.	9yrs

Traditions

Jerry W.	35yrs

Unity

Rufes	35yrs
Sally I.	28yrs
Jill D.	11yrs
Laura V.	5yrs
Jenny S	5yrs
Janis T.	4yrs
Alyssa	3yrs
Michael	2yrs
Telitha	2yrs
James E.	2yrs
Chase C.	1yr
Mary M.	1yr

Winchester

Melisa B.	14yrs

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.

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News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.®

www.aa.org

Vol. 63, No. 3 / Fall 2017

Intergroup/Central Office: Then and Now

Established and supported by local groups to carry out the functions of a centralized office, intergroups have provided thousands of desperate alcoholics with their first contact with Alcoholics Anonymous, either over the phone, in person, or, increasingly, online. With 469 intergroups/central offices listed with G.S.O. in the U.S/Canada alone (and nearly 700 worldwide), A.A. is so easily "searchable" these days that we often forget that, at one time, it played a little hard to get. Back in the early days, "A.A. wasn't that easy to find," wrote one oldtimer. "A carefully selected group of priests, judges and policemen knew about A.A.; our phone number wasn't listed, and it could be gotten only by dialing Information." This was a deliberate attempt to ensure that anyone wanting to get sober was sincere enough to make a real effort. But gauging the level of someone else's desire to quit drinking was an often subjective judgment that the Third Tradition fortunately did away with.

In the very beginning, there was the Central Committee in Cleveland, Ohio, where by October 1939 a group of seven members convened on a regular basis to coordinate efforts regarding hospitalizations and sponsorship, doing crucial work at a time when the slip of just one member or the dissolution of just one group seemed to threaten the very existence of A.A. itself.

What Bill W. called "A.A.'s first organized service center" — the forerunner of today's intergroup — sprang up in the Chicago suburb of Evanston. Around 1940, an A.A. member named Sylvia used the proceeds of her monthly alimony check to rent an apartment and establish a phone line. In 1941, after publication of the Jack Alexander article about A.A. in the *Saturday Evening Post*, Sylvia's apartment began to resemble, according to Bill, "a sort of Chicago Grand Central," with so many phone calls that Sylvia had to enlist the aid of Grace Coultice, a nonalcoholic secretary. Eventually, Sylvia and Grace upgraded to an office in the Loop (only a few blocks from where the current Chicago Area Service Office now has its offices), where they welcomed, Bill wrote, "a stream of applicants for Twelfth Step attention, hospitalization, or other help."

Most early intergroup offices were nowhere near as elaborate as this: they were simply phone lines listed as belonging to A.A. but that were in fact connected to members' homes. But Sylvia's office inspired the opening of numerous early intergroup/central offices all over the Midwest, notably ones in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and



Minneapolis, Minnesota.

On the East Coast, New York Inter-Group essentially started when the doors of the 24th Street Clubhouse at 334½ West 24th Street opened in June 1940 and began serving the members of Alcoholics Anonymous in the metropolitan area. By 1942, the Club, as it was called, began to serve as more than a meeting place and to function as a de facto central committee for over 20 A.A. groups, with two paid clubhouse secretaries who answered phones and manned the desk 12 to 14 hours a day. These were some of A.A.'s first "special workers," as articulated in Tradition Eight, who were paid to make A.A. Twelfth Step work possible, as opposed to individual A.A. members who, on a voluntary basis, carry the message as part of their own Twelfth Step efforts. Eventually, in 1946, New York Inter-Group was established, moving away from the clubhouse (it was difficult to carry on the work of intergroup in a social atmosphere that included an endless poker game and, at one point, a restaurant) to a space on West 75th Street.

By the time of the first General Service Conference in April 1951, at least 16 intergroup/central offices were serving local groups. Since they predated the formation of the general service structure and performed a different A.A. function, they were not a part of the A.A. structure (except in Chicago, where the area service office and area committee are essentially one). At times over the years, there has been an overlapping of services, but, for the most part, intergroups and general service have come to work in harmony.

Matthew C., office manager of the Ventura County Central Office (VCCO), is the epitome of a contemporary



Step 11

'Sought through prayer and meditation to mprove our conscious contact with God as we nderstood Him, praying only for knowledge o is will for us and the power to carry that out."

The vital principle of the 11th step is Spirituality." Intuitiveness and Insightful Planning are the rewards. Practice the proper se of "Will" with Quiet Meditation.

One of the many things that I didn't ave when I came into A.A. was spirituality. Over the years of drinking and observing the world around me, I developed many esentments towards religion and God. The esentments were so numerous that I just gave p on God. So when I came into A.A., I tumbled on Step 2, as I didn't want anything o do with God. I'm grateful my sponsor nderstood where I was coming from and told ne to not worry about naming God, just to elieve a power greater than myself could estore me to sanity.

As I continued working the steps, I began to pray little prayers to this higher power and began to believe that something, that higher power, was helping keep me sober. I certainly wasn't doing it. Continuing through the steps, my attitude began changing as I incorporated more prayers into my daily ritual, and I eventually came to the conclusion that my higher power had been with me all along. It was God as I understand Him.

Prayer had become something I did everyday and at some time, I began including prayers for people other than myself. This is something I rarely did while I was still attending church. I was seeing and feeling the benefits of prayer in my life. I began seeing the benefit of having God in my life.

I still struggle with meditation. Sometimes I am not exactly sure what to do, but I continue to try. I ask what God's will is for me that day. I quietly reflect on my daily readings and how the message in the readings could have a positive influence on my day. Sometimes I've found something in a reading has a lasting effect on me.

As I prepare for writing articles for the newsletter, I take the topics and reflect on both my past and present, evaluating how I've progressed. I look at the positive and the negative, where I might need improvement and where I am doing things that benefit myself and those around me. That is what Step 10 has taught me to do. For me, Step 11 is for me to get to know God and what he has in store for me. The step allows me to not think of myself so much, but think about others and pray for them. It allows me to do the next right thing, because both A.A. and God have taught me that is the best way to live.

JJG

STEP 11: Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

A Thousand Wishes

When I finally entered the rooms of AA in earnest, I read the Steps over and over. Early in recovery, I attended a meeting focused on Step Eleven. Thinking about this Step, where we "sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God," I realized that I understood how to meditate, but I didn't know how to pray. An analyst by nature and by training, my mind was always spinning, dissecting my thoughts and contemplating my actions. I planned my day each morning and took stock each evening. I analyzed and over-analyzed each and every event of the day, trying to put things into perspective, to grasp the meaning of life, and to understand my role in the universe. But I did not pray.

I've had more religious training than most, with years of formal religious studies from kindergarten until the age of 16. By rote, I'd learned hundreds of prayers, but knew little of their true meaning or intent. I'd sat through thousands of hours of instruction and services, without taking to heart the words I heard. My family celebrated holidays together. They were an enjoyable tradition and ritual, but in no way spiritual events. I was an agnostic, clinging to the belief of some cosmic force, always dismissive of the idea of one true, paramount religion and always skeptical of any single view of an all-powerful God.

The night I returned from rehab, I walked onto my front porch. It was a beautiful, warm summer evening. The stars were shimmering brightly in the sky. I don't know why, but I looked up and said that childhood rhyme, "Star light, star bright, first star I see tonight; I wish I may, I wish I might, have the wish I wish tonight." Then I had to decide on my one wish for the evening, out of all the many things I needed and wanted. This focused me and forced me to decide, for that night, what was the one most important thing for me. Then I made my wish.

I did the same thing the next night—and the night after. Soon, this became my own personal nightly ritual. After about two weeks, I went onto the porch, but it was a cloudy night and the sky was just a dark gray blanket. Even though I couldn't see the stars, I knew they were still there. This gave me comfort, so I made my wish anyway.

One day, I shared my star story with this kind woman in my home group. Her ever-present smile grew even wider. She leaned over and gave me a big hug. Looking into my eyes, she said, "That's so good." I was happy she liked the story. Then she said, "That means you're praying every day." Wow, how her words struck me. This insight she so simply stated opened the door for me.

Indeed, I had been praying without even realizing it! In some small way, I did have faith in the order of the universe and its permanence, embodied in those stars. I had hope, not that all my wishes would be granted, but that important ones might come to pass. Prayer, faith and hope then made me able to separate religious doctrine from spirituality. Spirituality led me to begin to believe in a Higher Power. That belief helped me begin my journey toward discovering a God of my understanding. By the time I really started working Step Eleven, I knew how to both meditate and pray.

It's now over a thousand wishes from my first one that summer evening. I can't remember them all, but I vividly remember the very first one. On that night, I knew what I most wanted: I wished for sanity. Over time, I have grown to understand that a prerequisite for sanity is sobriety. More recently, my wishes are for more moments of serenity, sanity and sobriety. To me, that's the progression the Steps lead us through.

A wish is a hope for tomorrow. My Higher Power and the AA program are what give me hope today.

Grapevine March 2015
Anonymous



OCTOBER 2026
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

	OCT 2026	OCT 2025 (PY)	JAN - OCT 2026 (YTD)
26-On Awakening	0.00	0.00	660.00
Any Length Group	0.00	0.00	155.80
Bluff City Group	200.00	0.00	200.00
Came to Believe Group	750.00	0.00	1,050.00
Central Gardens Group	0.00	150.00	450.00
Cherokee Group	0.00	0.00	100.00
Collierville Group	496.40	546.78	1,781.22
Committee - Archives	0.00	0.00	125.00
Common Solution	0.00	0.00	200.00
Downtown Nooners N/S	0.00	0.00	50.00
Downtown Thursday Night Group	0.00	63.55	1,094.11
Earlybird	0.00	489.00	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	0.00	1,650.00
Grace in the Grove	0.00	0.00	184.09
Hernando	20.49	0.00	20.49
Holly Springs Group	0.00	0.00	400.00
Hollywood	0.00	0.00	170.00
Horn Lake	0.00	0.00	20.00
How It Works	0.00	0.00	0.05
Into Action Midtown	0.00	0.00	151.20
Lakeland	0.00	183.38	141.23
Men of Recovery	0.00	1.59	10.75
Millington	0.00	50.00	0.00
Morning Glories	0.00	0.00	89.00
Mustard Seed	50.00	0.00	70.00
New Start	25.00	25.00	175.00
Oakland Always Open	0.00	0.00	95.00
Out-of-Towners Fellowship Group	0.00	0.00	150.08
Pleasant Hill	0.00	365.10	863.32
Primary Purpose	0.00	50.00	50.00
Queer Bees and Wanna Bes	0.00	0.00	319.96
Rule-62	0.00	200.00	175.00
S.O.S.	0.00	0.00	17.80
Serenity	0.00	300.00	550.00
Seriously Sober	0.00	0.00	770.00
Shady Ladies	0.00	0.00	1,170.00
Shipwreck	0.00	0.00	50.00
Sober Journey	0.00	0.00	620.00
Solutions Group	0.00	0.00	840.38
South Memphis	0.00	0.00	40.00

OCTOBER 2026
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

	OCT 2026	OCT 2025 (PY)	JAN - OCT, 2026 (YTD)
Straight Outta Bondage	0.00	0.00	300.00
The Nooner	317.10	508.25	1,931.93
Three Legged Stool	0.00	0.00	2.80
Traditions	50.00	50.00	300.00
Triangle Group - Somerville	0.00	0.00	61.50
Two Doors Down	300.00	300.00	2,700.00
Unity Group	712.12	0.00	2,171.91
WAAGL	75.00	75.00	675.00
West Memphis Group	8.54	0.00	28.54
Whitehaven Morning Sunrisers-	0.00	0.00	200.00
Winchester	138.50	0.00	488.50
TOTAL	**$3,143.15**	**$3,357.65**	**$25,738.98**

MAIA

GRATITUDE DINNER

Grateful For The Journey!



FOOD FELLOWSHIP *FUN*

A CELEBRATION OF SOBRIETY AND THANKFUL HEARTS

NOVEMBER 7TH
11:30 AM - 3:30 PM

SPEAKER:
JUDY W.
THREE LEGGED STOOL

performance by:
RECOVERY REPERTORY THEATRE

$10 Suggested Contribution

WHITE STATION CHURCH OF CHRIST
1106 COLONIAL ROAD 38117

EVERYONE WELCOME
TOGETHER WE STAY SOBER

SHARE THE JOY
TOGETHER WE GROW



"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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