



Alcoholics Anonymous Area 33 - District 21 & 22

Sober Times

March 2026

I AM RESPONSIBLE ... When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.



The District 21 & 22 monthly newsletter’s purpose is to share the AA message and inform members of upcoming events around our area and the needs and celebrations of our local AA groups. Supporting our members in unity, service and recovery. Please email district21.22aa@gmail.com with details of your group’s upcoming celebrations, events and/or needs.

Did you know...

Each week AA Grapevine holds an open virtual AA meeting with a host and two speakers.

Join the meeting live on zoom
WEDNESDAYS AT NOON
 Zoom code: 871 2036 8287
 password: 238047

Can't make the meeting?
 Listen to the open talk on your favorite podcast platform or go to the link below

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/grapevine-weekly-open>

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~ AA Hotline ~  
 (877) 337-0611

~ Area 33 Accessibilities ~  
 (586) 335-2840

[Area33accessibilitieschair@aa-semi.org](mailto:Area33accessibilitieschair@aa-semi.org)

**Upcoming Events**

🍷 = food will be served 🍰 = dessert provided

- March Round Up ~ March 6th-8th  
 Motor City Hotel - 2901 Grand River Ave. Detroit  
 Additional information: [area33mruchair@aa-semi.org](mailto:area33mruchair@aa-semi.org)
- Richmond H.A.L.T. 45th AA Anniversary & Monday Night Journey 16th Al-Anon Anniversary 🍰 March 9th  
 7:00 pm doors open; 7:30 pm dessert; speaker 8:00 pm  
 AA speaker (Mike L.) Al-Anon speaker (Lisa L.)  
 St. Augustine Parish Hall - 68035 S. Main Street Richmond
- District 21/22 Meeting - March 9th 7:00 pm  
 Grace Episcopal Church - 115 S. Main St. Mount Clemens
- Richmond Saturday Night Live ~ 15th Anniversary 🍷  
 March 14th 6:00 pm doors open; 7:30 pm speaker (Melissa G.)  
 Trinity Lutheran Church - 35110 Division Road Richmond
- Area 33 Assembly Meeting ~ March 15th at 12:00 pm 🍷  
 10:00 am committee meetings; 11:00 am new GSR orientation  
 Madison High School -915 E. Eleven Mile Rd. Madison Hgts.  
[www.aa-semi.org](http://www.aa-semi.org)

**Third Step**

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*.

**Third Tradition**

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

**Spiritual Principles**

Step Three~ Faith: the next step up from hope; the direct belief in a power that knows better than us where our spiritual truth lies.

**Third Step Prayer**

God, I offer myself to Thee - to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life. May I do Thy will always.  
 (page 63 BB)

**Concept 3**

To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. - the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives-with a traditional "Right of Decision."

# High-wire Faith

BY: J. W. | ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A SALTY MEMBER of my home group once quipped, "If you were at the circus, watching a performer on a high wire push a wheelbarrow across, would you have faith that he would make it?"

Energetically nodding my head, I replied, "Sure. Those guys are professionals. They do it several times a day." "Well," he said smugly, "that's not real faith. Faith is when *you* get up there and ride across *in* the wheelbarrow."

Since that evening, I have often pondered the quality of my own faith and wondered whether I would, indeed, be willing to climb into my Higher Power's wheelbarrow. At my sponsor's suggestion, I have repeatedly used the Eleventh Step to improve my conscious contact with my Higher Power thereby strengthen my faith. This also improves my ability to work the Third Step.

Trust seems to be the key here. I have often heard around the tables that God will provide opportunities for us to grow spiritually. I have also heard that hardship and pain can become a pathway to peace. Well, I recently had just such an opportunity.

After suffering a heart attack, I was faced with coronary bypass surgery and also the distinct possibility of death. My surgeon could offer no guarantees before or after surgery. However, there was One who could offer strength, and that One was God. Could I put myself in His wheelbarrow and have real faith and trust? Not just words. Real faith, real trust. Could I work the Third Step in that crisis? Otherwise, our old enemy fear would be right there to control me.

Fortunately, the Eleventh Step paid off, and my faith became stronger. I realized that of myself, I was nothing. I was here to do God's will. As they wheeled me under the operating lights, a strange peace and strength stole over me as I simply prayed, "I can't; You can; I think I'll let You."

The next thing I remember is regaining consciousness in the recovery room and being grateful that I had another twenty-four hours. I was fighting the respirator at first, but my Higher Power was with me, and as I relaxed and let Him take over, things smoothed out. I had new, greater spiritual strength. I had grown spiritually. The experience, albeit painful and frightening at times, had improved my ability to work on the Third Step. I had a further spiritual awakening, a better spiritual condition. The Big Book tells me these things will help keep me sober.

I shudder to think of the nightmare my recent experiences would have been if I had still been drinking. Coping would have been impossible. My old barroom cronies certainly couldn't have taught me inner strength, nor were they there at all. My sponsor and AA friends *were* there, though. My Higher Power was there. They and all the wonderful people around the AA tables helped me climb into that wheelbarrow without fear, and actually learn to like it up there on that higher wire.

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| <b>District, Area, G.S.O. and Central Office are common service entities groups donate to.<br/>Below is how to make contributions for those in our area.</b>                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>District 21 &amp; 22</b><br>PO Box 480594<br>New Haven, MI 48048<br>* Now accepting donations through Zelle<br><a href="mailto:aadistrict21and22@yahoo.com">aadistrict21and22@yahoo.com</a> | <b>General Service Office</b><br>PO Box 2407<br>James A. Farley Station<br>New York, NY 10116-2407                                                                              |
| <b>Area 33</b><br><a href="http://aa-semi.org/contribution-page/">aa-semi.org/contribution-page/</a>                                                                                           | <b>AA of Greater Detroit</b><br>380 Hilton Rd<br>Ferndale, MI 48220<br>or online <a href="http://www.aafferndale.org/how-you-can-help">www.aafferndale.org/how-you-can-help</a> |