

# The MESSENGER

## Middle Tennessee Central Office Intergroup

DECEMBER  
2014

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### The Messenger

is available at an annual subscription price of \$12.00. A limited number of free subscriptions are available upon request by writing or calling the Central Office.

It is also available on-line at  
[www.aanashville.org](http://www.aanashville.org).

**If you read  
The Messenger  
on-line, a  
contribution to  
The Middle  
Tennessee Central  
Office would help and  
be appreciated.**

### RECIPE FOR A SOBER HOLIDAY

**How to stay away from the Yuletide sauce? A Member whips up some ingredients that work.**

The holiday season always poses special problems for we who are avoiding the Yuletide sauce. If we are working our program one day at a time, each of these days should be considered the same as any other, I know. But as I make meetings in early December, the ominous question on many lips, especially newcomers', is "How am I going to get through the holidays?"

My first Christmas sober was a tough one, and may be for others, too. So I'd like to pass on my favorite holiday recipe for a sober Christmas: Take a lot of meetings; mix generously with some finely grated Easy Does Its; add a day at a time; simmer over a few well-seasoned remember-whens.

For me, meetings are an essential key to any success in the AA program. Those members whom I see putting one sober day at a time back to back also seem to be making lots of meetings. I don't think it's a coincidence. How many meetings one should make is surely an individual matter, but if the holidays pose special problems, as they always do for me, "too many" simply doesn't exist. As a matter of fact, if I'm uptight over any situation anytime during the year, meetings offer at least a start, and

often a solution, to getting loose.

I think Easy Does It gives sobriety some durability. I'm inclined to be an intense person, and remembering not to take myself so seriously also keeps me loose. It can be hard to live a day at a time when advertisers are hitting us from mid-November on with nearly 800 messages daily that there are only so many days till Christmas. They have their own program to work, but I have to be careful not to let the pressure and expectations of the season lead me to blow my cool.

"A day at a time" is a great philosophy of life, in addition to being the only way I can stay sober. My first year in AA, I was wondering on Thanksgiving Day how I'd get through an office party in mid-December. (How futile!) Sometimes it's even necessary for me to break the day down to a few hours or even a few minutes at a time. (I've often imagined myself as Grapevine's Victor E., thinking, "One beer commercial at a time.") The nice thing for me is that every minute, hour, or day gained makes the hump that much easier to get over.

When I remember Christmases past, I have a tremendous temptation to rationalize all the "wonderful times" the liquid season brought to my otherwise dreary life. Christmas

(Continued on page 3)



## THE BIG DAY FOR REGISTRATION HAS OCCURRED

(SEE PG 6)

PACKAGES FOR THE 2015  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ARE  
AVAILABLE.

IF YOU ARE NEW AND  
HAVE NEVER GONE TO  
A CONVENTION OR  
CONFERENCE

—THIS IS THE ONE  
FOR YOU! DON'T BE  
INTIMIDATED—

ASK QUESTIONS AND  
SHOW UP FOR A MIND  
BLOWING EXPERIENCE.  
YOU WON'T BE THE ONLY  
NERVOUS ONE

—JUST REMEMBER—  
WE ARE ALL THERE FOR  
RECOVERY.

IT'S CLOSE—ATLANTA

## SOBER IN KOKOMO

### A relapse during his retirement in Florida brought him home.

I drank hard for nearly 20 years from the age of 16 until I was 35. I had started trying to control my drinking when I was about 27. It was around then that I could no longer predict what would happen, how much I would drink, or where I'd wind up.

My wife and I got married in 1962. I made a living as a union electrician. My wife had a 3-year-old daughter when we married. Our first child together – our son – never made it home from the hospital. He was born with a hole in his heart and died within five weeks of coming into this world. I cursed God for his death. I stayed drunk a long time. A couple of years later, we had another child. A little girl. I thank god she was healthy and still is to this day.

I started going to AA in 1975. I really wanted to stop drinking in those years but I wasn't capable of being honest with myself. I finally stopped in June of 1979. My wife still drank during the first year of my sobriety. We ultimately divorced in 1982. Our divorce made me crazy for about a year but I didn't drink.

Later, I re-married. My second wife was 18 years younger than I and despite what many of our friends and family thought, we have had 29 great years together.

For many years, I was "Mr. AA." I went to a lot of meetings, I sponsored many people and worked and lived a good program. My growing electrical business took up more and more of my time and I lessened my meeting attendance. Eventually, I was down to one meeting a year. On my AA birthday.

I retired and we moved to Florida. Then it happened, I wanted to drink. Finally, it overwhelmed me. I drank one day and thought I could control it.

Within months, I controlled my way right to the Cass County Jail for a DWI. It was a Friday night. I got out of jail on Saturday morning and called a friend to take me to a meeting. It was the Sunday morning meeting in Rochester, Ind. I had known the people in that meeting for over 25 years.

The hardest thing I ever had to do was walk into that meeting and tell my friends I had been drinking. No one said anything negative to me. They were glad to see me back. That was 10 years ago. God has taken away the craving to drink twice from me, once in June 1979 and again in September 2003. For this and AA, I am eternally grateful.

—Russ P., Kokomo, Ind.

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### What Are the Requirements?

#### *An AA considers religion in meetings in the context of the Third Tradition*

Sometimes, it seems that the Third Tradition has been amended to "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking and a belief in God. In many meetings, as well as Grapevine articles, I hear that unless I profess a belief in God, I am doomed to drink again. This God is usually not a God of my understanding but a God of their understanding.

I have been sober in AA for well over 30 years. For the first 10 years or so, I tried to believe and I made believe that I believed. At my sponsor's suggestion, I prayed daily and worked the Steps. The more I studied religion and God, the more convinced I became that this was not for me. Yet, I continued going to meetings, sponsoring others (if they believed in God I did nothing to discourage them), engaging in service work, and stayed sober.

I find most AA literature, on this subject, very condescending. Even chapter four of the Big Book, "We Agnostics," promotes the idea that atheists and agnostics will eventually come to believe in God.

(Continued on page 3)

## RECIPE FOR A SOBER HOLIDAY (con't)

*(Continued from page 1)*

always broke the routine of drowning my sorrows alone. Police officers were more understanding. Tavern-owners (already wealthy on my daily contributions) were generous and bought for the house. And of course, didn't everyone get a little tight for Christmas?

But then I have to pause and realistically remember when my children's father spent the holidays in fluid drive. I have to be honest and remember those "wonderful times" at our house: the loans to pay for the presents, to cover the guilt of never being a parent; the loans to pay "the electric bills" (when I knew all the time that the money would go to pay the bar tabs); the last-minute shopping that ended with "just one quick one" on Mahogany Ridge and only a \$1.98 hat for a wife who had waited all day for me to come home; the used watch purchased from the barroom therapist in the white apron (who would, of course, put it on the tab); the



"wonderful" sense of accomplishment I felt on Christmas Day watching my four children open their gifts, as I nursed a big head and a weak stomach and wondered how I'd repay the loan that had paid for the presents that were bought to pay for the guilt of taking the loan; and the hope that in the whole deal I'd bought some respect and given some love.

Boy, those were "wonderful times"! I found it really tough to give all that up. But now it's much more pleasant to think of the four great Christmases my family and I have enjoyed in sobriety.

Looking back, I see that my recipe lacks one vital instruction: It should be baked 365 days a year in an oven of gratitude. The deep gratitude I have for the AA program and the life it has opened for me is beyond expression. There must be a Santa Claus—or something!

—Ray S., Snyder, N.Y.

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*(Continued from page 2)*

### What Are the Requirements? (con't)

#### *An AA considers religion in meetings in the context of the Third Tradition*

Discretion as become the better part of valor for this atheist at meetings. Many AAs will insist that this is a spiritual program and then go on to explain their religious beliefs and why I should accept them.

Convincing them to become an atheist is not my job or intent. While it is not appropriate for me to point out the errors of their thinking, why do they think it is their responsibility to convert me? I have no problem in believing in many powers greater than myself. I just believe in one less God than they do.

In the June 2013 Grapevine, "K.K." wrote, "Tradition six reminds us to be careful not to endorse." When a new-comer, or a visitor, comes to an AA meeting and experiences it being closed with the Lord's Prayer, wouldn't they assume that, since this is a Christian prayer, and AA endorses it, therefore AA must be a Christian organization? We say, "We want the hand of AA to always be there..." Are we placing restrictions on who will be allowed to grasp that hand?

—Bob L., Gilbertsville, Penn.

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**"The difference between my will and God's will is that my will starts out easy and gets hard, and God's will starts out hard and gets easy."**

A perfect example of this quote is the program itself. My will told me it was much easier to keep using and doing what I was doing then to work the program and the steps. Of course, my will may have appeared easier at first, but oh how hard that path was. By contrast, God's will for me was to recover, and though it was hard at first my life is infinitely better and life truly is easier.

The main problem with my will is that it is first and foremost about me. It tricks me into believing that if I take care of my wants first, then I'll be able to help another -- of course I usually find out that my wants are insatiable, and I quickly become lost in their demands.

God's will, on the other hand, is usually about helping others and with what's right for all concerned -- the whole picture in which I am just part. While this seems backwards to me at times, I always find out that when I'm able to surrender to God's will, my real wants and needs are met and exceeded in ways I never could have imagined.

These days it's easier for me to differentiate between my will and God's will, and more and more I'm able to make the right choice. Ultimately, it's about being comfortable in my own skin, and only choosing God's will guarantees me that.

<b>CENTRAL OFFICE OFFICERS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>PHONE #</b>	<p align="center"><b>A Tapestry of Understanding</b></p> <p><b>In sobriety, she learned that while she could only see the various threads, her Higher Power could see the overall design</b></p> <p>"Please God, give me inspired thought and action. Please show me what you would have me do today."</p> <p>This is my daily prayer, and it doesn't come naturally. It takes effort and habit to get out of my selfish state of being and ask God what he would have me do, or how he'd have me act or react, in the day he gave me.</p> <p>I know the answer is not going to be, "Well, Amber, this day is all about you! Focus solely on your wants and desires without a care in the world about what others think or feel."</p> <p>Ultimately, if that were the case, I wouldn't be a good friend, daughter, niece, girlfriend or fellow member of AA because I'd probably talk about myself all the time, not ask about others and how their lives are, sleep a lot, try to control people, places or things, not answer my phone and isolate with my own company...maybe even drink. I know this does not work because it's what I used to do before entering the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous.</p> <p align="right"><i>(Continued on page 5)</i></p>
Chairperson	Michael A	615.497.6617	
Central Office Manager	Charles C	615.973.9898	
Central Office Bookkeeper	David W	615.973.9962	
Vice Chairperson	Cathy M	615.500.0863	
Secretary	Whitney J	615.533.2308	
Treasurer	Chris K	615.689.2706	
Public Information/ Cooperation with the Professional Community	Paul S	615.556.3357	
Corrections	Charlie B	615.554.9085	
Treatment Facilities	George S	615-636-6798	
Archives	Everett C	615.226.4880	
Sobriety Dinner	Cathy M	615.500.0863	
<b>FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH:</b> District 30 Meeting <b>When: 6:30pm – 7:30pm</b> <b>Where: 5925 O'Brien</b>		<b>SECOND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH:</b> Intergroup Meeting <b>When: 5:45pm – 6:45pm</b> <b>Where: Central Office</b> <b>417 Welshwood</b>	<b>STEERING COMMITTEE</b> <b>When: Thursday Jan 22nd</b> <b>5:45pm – 6:45pm</b> <b>Where: Central Office</b> <b>417 Welshwood</b>



**NEW**

**37072** Made A Decision - Parkway Baptist 505 Cuniff Pkwy M-8p OD

**37130** Free Thinkers—Cumberland Heights IOP Bldg 745 S Church St Suite 505 Murfreesboro 5:30 p 1st Sat

**37205** S.O.S. - Belle Meade United Meth - 121 Davidson Rd F-9aOD/Lit/Wmn

**37206** Every Sat Nite at 7 OD - House of Blessing Church 900 Gallatin, Nashville

**37209** WANGL -BBStudy 6:30p Monday Quaker House 530 26th Ave N.

**37211** Steel Magnolias Wmn Last Stop 2122 Utopia TH - 6:30p CD/LIT/WMN

**MOVED**

**38464** Winners Coleman Memorial United Methodist 322 N. Military Ave, Lawrenceburg M & Tu 7p CD - Sa 7p OD

**CANCELLED**

**37172** Robertson County - Tu 8pm downtowners- W Noon 208B - Th 7p 208B

**37207** Seven Dips Tu 11a & Tu 7p

**37210** Young Timers Wed 8p

**37334** Fayetteville Group - W & Sa cancelled

**CHANGES**

**37115** Search for Serenity - Tu OD/Beg - W OD/BB aln - F OD/GV aln

**37206** Eastside Men's Stag Woodland Pres Ch. 211 N. 11th St Thurs - 7p Men (not Wed)

**37210** Come as You Are—Zip Code is wrong in the directory

**37210** The Spiritual Giants—Zip Code is wrong in the directory

**37210** Young Guns—Zip Code is wrong in the directory

**37210** Last Call Group—Zip Code is wrong in the directory

**37210** Unity Group—Zip Code is wrong in the directory

**37210** Saturday Eye Opener Group—Zip Code is wrong in the directory

**37210** Peachtree Group—Zip Code is wrong in the directory

**37334** Serenity Cellar West End Baptist Church 200 Morgan Ave Fayetteville Tu - 7p CD - Sa - 9a OD

(Continued from page 4)

## A Tapestry of Understanding (con't)

When I humble myself and say this prayer, I usually go about my day doing the next right thing. On the other hand, when I neglect to say this prayer, I notice my thinking to be overly analytical, easily drifting into worry, my words become bitter and cutting towards others and myself, and the choices I make become sometimes overwhelmingly baffling even to me.

With this knowledge, for me, amongst other experiences that I've had, I know that there is a God working in my life. The love I feel from him is omnipresent! When I invite him in and ask for guidance, before speaking, responding, or even writing, life flows with ease and good people, kindness, creativity, solutions and lovely things pour in at covert mach speed.

It's quite amazing to know that I can only see the colorful threads individually, some of them weaving together to form designs that make sense once I've moved on to the next thread. Yet, he can see the whole tapestry!

In my past, I had faith and knew in my heart that there was a loving God, but I was so busy acting defiant. Even in recovery, there have been several times in which I knew the choices I made were not in alignment with God's will, and I was disciplined with painful consequences. The biggest is looking at my image in the mirror and not liking the eyes looking back.

Feeling lost, baffled, remembering my poor choices, not okay with who I am ... This is the most disturbing feeling. Though, through great teachers, I found a solution that works when I use its power: prayer first, then action.

My daily connection with God is a must. As God created me in his image and is a loving God who loves me, who gave me purpose in this world with a gift of sobriety to boot, who am I to loathe myself and run on my own esteem if I know it hasn't turned out well in the past?

Today, I have no interest in walking through the day lost without guidance. I am responsible for asking for his hand and reaching mine out to help others, as other people and God have done for me so lovingly.

—Amber M., Coon Rapids, Minn.

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## 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 2 - 5, 2015  
Atlanta, Georgia



The 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2 - 5, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia with the theme "80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free." A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 80th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Georgia Dome. Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the Georgia World Congress Center and local hotels.

We know many are excited about the International Convention and eager for detailed information. As the time gets closer, additional information about the Convention and Atlanta, our host city, will be provided.

This Web site will be updated as more information becomes available. Also, watch for articles in *Box 4-5-9* that is mailed to the general service representative of every group in the U.S. and Canada listed with G.S.O. and is also posted on the Web site.

Convention registration and housing reservations will open in fall 2014. All necessary information will be included in the registration packet which will be available in September 2014. This packet will list numbers to call for answers to specific questions about housing, the program, etc. The information will be mailed to A.A. groups, offices and contacts around the world and posted on the Web site.

[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

**We look forward to seeing you in Atlanta!**

**REGISTRATION PACKAGES**  
**ARE NOW AVAILABLE**  
**AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

2015 International Convention  
of Alcoholics Anonymous  
July 2-5, 2015 - Atlanta, Georgia



**VOLUNTEER KICK-OFF MEETING**  
**Saturday, January 10, 2015**  
**1 to 4pm**

**at Georgia World Congress Center**

285 Andrew Young International Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30303

This is the first big event in preparation to host an amazing convention that will welcome AA's from all over the world. We will need around **4,000 volunteers** to serve **over 50,000 attendees!**

Plan to attend and **bring friends and sponsees** with you! Learn about all of the opportunities and service roles that will be essential to make this convention work. We'll gather some information, sign up for service, enjoy some **entertainment**, and kick-off this amazing **celebration of recovery** the right way!

Volunteers **MUST** be registered attendees. You can register anytime before the convention. Registration is \$100 through May 12. After May 12, registration is \$110. Registration and convention/hotel information is available at [aa.org](http://aa.org).

More volunteer information is available at [www.aageorgia.org/international.html](http://www.aageorgia.org/international.html)

*"an experience you must not miss"*



### Christmas Carols for the Psychiatrically Challenged

Schizophrenia --- Do You Hear What I Hear?

Multiple Personality Disorder --- We Three Queens Disoriented Are

Dementia --- I Think I'll be Home for Christmas

Narcissistic --- Hark the Herald Angles Sing About Me

Manic --- Deck the Halls and Walls and House and Lawn and Streets and Stores and Office and Town and Cars and Busses and Trucks and trees and Fire Hydrants and.....

Paranoid --- Santa Claus is Coming to Get me

Borderline Personality Disorder --- Thoughts of Roasting on an Open Fire

Personality Disorder --- You Better Watch Out, I'm Gonna Cry, I'm Gonna Pout, Maybe I'll tell You Why

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder --- Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells,

*Middle Tennessee Combined Districts Presents*



Episcopal Church of the Resurrection  
1216 Sneed Rd  
Franklin TN 37069

Doors Open at 7 PM  
Speaker at 8 PM  
DJ Starts Spinning Tunes at 9 PM  
Drunks Dance at 9:01 PM

Suggested donation \$10. Proceeds go to support 2015 Area 64  
Voting Assembly. Bring desserts or favorite dish.

Contact Jon P 615-818-9633 or Katie C 615-582-5861

## 48th Annual Women's Holiday Party

hosted by the NOW\* AA group

Sunday, December 14 4 pm  
Trevecca Community Church Auditorium  
Trevecca Nazarene University-  
335 Murfreesboro Rd., Nashville

AA speaker at 5 pm

Please arrive at 4 to mix and mingle.

Finger foods and desserts and coffee will be served.

Please bring a healthy treat to share in a  
disposable container.

Admission is free but a donation of \$6.00 is  
suggested for those who can give.\*\*

For more details, visit <http://nowaaholidayparty.weebly.com/>

## POP Annual Christmas Dinner

December 12th  
Dinner 6:30pm  
Speaker 8pm  
Meat and drinks  
provided  
Please bring a side  
dish

Brush Hill Cumberland  
Presbyterian Church  
3705 Brush Hill Road  
Nashville, TN 37216

Find answers about  
Traditions 3, 4, & 5, & how  
they impact your meetings & groups.

### District 31 Singleness of Purpose Workshop

Dec. 13, 2014  
12 PM till 2:30 PM  
Woodland Presbyterian  
211 N. 11<sup>th</sup> St. (@ Gartland)  
Nashville, TN 37206

Panel: Deborah L.  
Charlie B. Marc N. Al C

LIGHT LUNCH, WATER,  
SOFT DRINKS & COFFEE  
PROVIDED

Sponsored by:  
District 31 Committed  
For more information call  
615-587-1616 or mail  
[12x12p53@gmail.com](mailto:12x12p53@gmail.com)





"I WANT A SMALLER CARROT."



"Life really was short. I should've eaten more chocolate."



GROUP/MEETING	Dist	Sept	YTD
24 HOUR	32		600
60 MINUTES		50	50
ANONYMOUS (ALL)	0	80	614
CONTRIBUTIONS			
ANY LENGTHS	13	40	75
AUBURN TOWN AA			50
BACK ROOM	35	347	4,694
BACK TO THE BIG BOOK	12		172
BAR NONE		100	100
BELLEVUE	35		100
BELLEVUE WINNERS AND BEGINNERS	35	50	100
BILL WILSON LITERARY SOCIETY	31		134
BRADFORD BEGINNERS			199
BRENTWOOD FULL MOON	33	375	860
BY THE BOOK (LEBANON)	13		15
BY THE BOOK -DICKSON	15	64	332
CAME TO BELIEVE	33		75
CAMELS		5	125
CELEBRATE SERENITY		200	600
CHICKEN PLUCKERS MENS MEETING	33		240
Clarksville AA (6&8)	14		50
COLUMBIA	40	20	200
COMFORT ZONE			502
COOL SPRINGS NEWCOMERS			80
CROSSVILLE NON-SMOKING STEP	9		40
DAVIDSON RD MEETING	30	1,000	5,250
DAVIDSON ROAD WOMEN'S MEETING			470
DICKSON AA	15		390
DONELSON YET	31		100
DOWNTOWN LUNCH	32	225	649
DRUNKS IN THE PARK	33	128	2,066
EAST NASHVILLE 86'ers	34		185
EAST NASHVILLE WOMENS MEETING	31		224
EAST SIDE SATURDAY MEETING		300	2,150
EASY DOES IT (Mt Juliet)	31		500
EVERY NIGHT AT 6	32		218
FAIRFIELD GLADE	9		165
FAIRVIEW	33		14
FAYETTEVILLE	40		80
FIRST THINGS FIRST	34	200	700
FIVE & FIVE	30		823
FRANKLIN 4TH BB STUDY	33		150
FRANKLIN	33		1,400
FRANKLIN MENS	33	500	1,000
FRANKLIN ROAD WOMEN'S	33	100	200
FREE TO BE	31		722



GROUP/MEETING	Dist	Sept	YTD	GROUP/MEETING	Dist	Sept	YTD
G.O.D. ( OF DRUNKS)	40		160	PRIMARY PURPOSE	34	71	338
Gallatin AA (GAA)			25	PULASKI	40	5	45
GLADEVILLE GRATITUDE	13		113	REBOS (SOBER)	34		180
GOODLETTSVILLE A.A.	34		267	RIDGETOP BASICS	34	115	115
GRATEFUL ALIVE	33		306	ROAD OF HAPPY DESTINY	14		55
GRATITUDE	11		275	SAFE HARBOR (D14)	14		50
HAPPY HOUR -LEWISBURG	40		50	SANGO SOLUTIONS			20
HAPPY HOUR- COOKEVILLE	9	25	150	SATURDAY LIVING BY THE PRINT	30	100	375
HARDING ROAD	30		450	SATURDAY NIGHT ALIVE MEETING	11	30	270
HENDERSONVILLE BIG BOOK	34		50	SEARCH FOR SERENITY	34		233
HERMITAGE	31		300	SEEKING SANITY	31	426	1,442
HIGH NOON	34	288	723	SERENITY (12)	12	50	350
HIGHER POWERED	32		133	SHADE TREE	31	1,320	4,030
HILLSBORO ROAD	32		1,000	SHELBYVILLE	11		200
IBI-UBU	13	100	250	SMITH COUNTY FRIENDSHIP	13		100
JOELTON MEETING	34	50	150	SMYRNA GRATITUDE	12	100	1,031
KEEP IT SIMPLE BELLEVUE (d35)	33	110	390	TCYPAA	32		9
KEY TO SOBRIETY	31		140	TEMPLE HILLS	33		250
KICKOFF ISN'T UNTIL NOON	33		175	THE BASEMENT BUNCH OF MURFREESBORO	12		300
LADIES NIGHT OUT	34		100	THE STRAGGLERS	33	100	182
LATE LUNCH BUNCH	33	400	1,950	THE UNITED	13		125
LAWRENCEBURG	41		100	THE WAY OUT	33		100
LET IT HAPPEN	35		150	TRINITY	11	50	100
LIFE SAVERS	30		200	TRUDGING THE ROAD	33		75
LIVE AND LET LIVE	9		25	TURNING POINT	33		476
LIVING IN THE NOW, PRIME-TIMERS	33		86	WANGL	30		187
MADE A DECISION			115	WAVERLY	15		30
MCMINNVILLE	12		100	WAVERLY-BELMONT	32		100
MIDDAY BREAK	32	262	1,009	WEDNESDAY STUDY	11		20
MONDAY NIGHT PRIME TIME	33		20	WEEKENDERS	34		50
MT JULIET FELLOWSHIP	31		750	WEST NASHVILLE	35		53
MURFREESBORO	12		120	WESTMINSTER	30		731
MUSTARD SEED	32	50	450	WHITE HOUSE	34		80
NEEDED MEETING CLOSED	35		216	WILSON COUNTY FRIENDSHIP	13		25
NEW ATTITUDES			43	WINNERS AND BEGINNERS	35		50
NEW BEGINNINGS( Dist 12)	12	10	180	WOMEN IN THE SOLUTION	11		100
NIPPERS CORNER MEETING	32		73	WOMEN'S FREEDOM MEETING	30		304
NO NAME YET			40	WOMENS SPEAKER MEETING	30		300
NORTHSIDE , CLARKSVILLE	14	75	375	WOODBINE	32		25
ONE DAY AT A TIME	31		900	YOUNG GUNS	32		52
ONE STEP CLOSER	33	257	698				
OUT TO BREAKFAST	30	10	215				
PAY DAY	15		125				
PEACHTREE			45				
PORTLAND UNITY	13		40				
				<b>Grand total:</b>		<b>7,786</b>	<b>53,252</b>

	October Actual	Budget	Budget- Variance	October YTD Actual	Budget	Budget- Variance
<b>INCOME</b>						
LITERATURE SALES	16,062	11,363	4,698	144,765	113,633	31,132
LITERATURE PURCHASES	(10,691)	(8,333)	(2,358)	(102,249)	(83,333)	(18,915)
FREIGHT IN	(28)	-	(28)	(348)	-	(348)
DIRECTORY	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET LITERATURE SALES</b>	<b>5,342</b>	<b>3,030</b>	<b>2,312</b>	<b>42,169</b>	<b>30,300</b>	<b>11,869</b>
GROUP	7,809	5,070	2,739	53,433	50,697	2,736
INDIVIDUAL	335	517	(182)	2,832	5,167	(2,334)
MESSENGER	52	92	(40)	376	917	(541)
SPECIAL EVENTS	-	417	(417)	-	4,167	(4,167)
INTEREST	1	18	(17)	17	175	(158)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>13,539</b>	<b>9,142</b>	<b>4,397</b>	<b>98,827</b>	<b>91,422</b>	<b>7,405</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
CASUAL LABOR	200	200	-	1,950	2,000	(50)
PAYROLL	5,768	4,453	1,315	45,599	44,531	1,068
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	-	400	(400)	-	400	(400)
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL	175	217	(42)	1,882	2,167	(285)
SALES TAX EXPENSE	8	-	8	(1)	-	(1)
RENT	946	1,137	(191)	10,642	11,373	(732)
PRINTING	-	400	(400)	2,109	4,000	(1,891)
PAYROLL TAXES	441	340	101	3,168	3,398	(230)
MAINTENANCE	101	83	18	930	833	96
TELEPHONE & FAX	410	722	(312)	4,707	7,223	(2,516)
ANSWERING SERVICE	204	253	(49)	2,228	2,533	(305)
POSTAGE	94	200	(106)	1,788	2,000	(212)
OFFICE SUPPLIES	213	208	4	2,866	2,083	783
BANK SERVICE CHARGE	-	-	-	(10)	-	(10)
MOVING EXPENSES	-	-	-	1,965	-	1,965
COMPUTER PROJECT	26	200	(174)	675	2,000	(1,325)
INTERGROUP EXPENSE	-	63	(63)	932	625	307
INSURANCE	-	200	(200)	1,752	2,000	(248)
SPECIAL EVENTS / FUNCTION	-	167	(167)	-	1,667	(1,667)
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	-	83	(83)	-	833	(833)
CUSTODIAL	-	50	(50)	50	500	(450)
TRAVEL	504	666	(162)	2,717	2,156	561
DEPRECIATION	25	-	25	571	-	571
OVER/UNDER	-	-	-	-	-	7
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>9,115</b>	<b>10,042</b>	<b>(927)</b>	<b>86,528</b>	<b>92,322</b>	<b>(5,794)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>4,424</b>	<b>(900)</b>	<b>5,324</b>	<b>12,299</b>	<b>(900)</b>	<b>13,198</b>

## HOME GROUPS

WHERE DOES THE MONEY YOU PUT IN THE BASKET GO?

GROWTH IN THE PROGRAM INCLUDES ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ALL THE MONEY YOUR HOME GROUP RECEIVES -  
HAVE YOU EVER ATTENDED YOUR BUSINESS MEETING?

DONELSON YET	
Charlie B	12.12.05
<b>John Mc</b>	<b>12.01.85</b>
<b>Kenny W</b>	<b>12.27.92</b>
<b>Liston K</b>	<b>12.07.82</b>
Stacy H	12.28.03
EASY DOES IT	
Andi M	12.24.13
FELLOWSHIP	
<b>Bob H</b>	<b>12.30.77</b>
Helen B	12.06.13
Michele E	12.11.12
Mike McK	12.02.13
Sylvia T	12.23.12
FULL MOON	
Caleb V	12.12.04
<b>Frank S</b>	<b>12.12.86</b>
Jason A	12.04.12
Nikki S	12.18.12
IBI-UBU	
Amy R	12.11.13
LOVE & LAUGHTER	
Adam V	12.18.07
Chris A	12.15.12
Chris S	12.30.05
<b>Dave G</b>	<b>12.05.80</b>
Elgin R	12.01.13
Kristen H	12.25.12

MID-DAY BREAK	
Audria S	12.01.08
Ethan J	12.01.13
Jackie J	12.27.12
Jeff F	12.21.10
Katie C	12.21.11
Lavenda W	12.13.13
Mike E	12.24.08
<b>Si W</b>	<b>12.08.91</b>
Steve G	12.01.13
Susie M	12.18.12
Tracy G	12.02.13
NIPPERS CORNER	
Bob S	12.08.13
Wayne B	12.28.06
PORTLAND UNITY	
Fred G	12.09.09
<b>Keith O</b>	<b>12.27.92</b>
PRIMARY PURPOSE	
Carlos V	12.15.12
Jeff L	12.15.12
Jennifer S	12.04.13
SEEKING SANITY	
Bianca	12.29.09
Fate T	12.17.06
Lynn H	12.31.10
<b>Nick C</b>	<b>12.29.87</b>
Peggy D	12.13.02
Scott W	12.17.06
Tanja M	12.28.03

SHADE TREE	
Adam S	12.08.06
Bobby D	12.14.07
<b>Buster B</b>	<b>12.07.86</b>
<b>Charles C</b>	<b>12.09.87</b>
Charlie B	12.12.05
Cindy R	12.31.03
Jeff S	12.11.06
<b>John Mc</b>	<b>12.12.83</b>
Karen M	12.30.13
Krystle D	12.08.13
Lahi R	12.24.09
Marsha H	12.28.12
Megan B	12.20.04
Mindy T	12.26.12
Scott S	12.17.07
Stacy F	12.10.13
Stacy H	12.28.03
Susie M	12.03.98
Tanya M	12.28.03
SMYRNA GRATITUDE	
Alex S	12.21.12
<b>Clint M</b>	<b>12.14.92</b>
<b>Craig M</b>	<b>12.19.80</b>
<b>Jan S</b>	<b>12.03.85</b>
Jeff S	12.02.07
<b>John P</b>	<b>12.25.84</b>
Karen M	12.09.10
Mike G	12.20.00
Robert B	12.31.11
Roman P	12.21.97
Ryan H	12.09.09

WEEKENDERS	
Anthony L	12.21.01
<b>George C</b>	<b>12.09.93</b>

WOMEN'S SPEAKER	
Caroline G	12.19.13
Cathy S	12.03.13
<b>Wendie O'F</b>	<b>12.14.85</b>

WOODBINE	
Katherine H	12.01.07
Katie C	12.02.11
Kristy S	12.02.13



One Christmas, Joe and Peter built a skating rink in the middle of a field.

A shepherd leading his flock decided to take a shortcut across the rink. The sheep, however, were afraid of the ice & wouldn't cross it. Desperate, the shepherd began tugging them to the other side.

'Look at that, 'remarked Peter to Joe, 'That guy is trying to pull the wool over our ice!'



The bad news was Santa brought rotten Johnny coal for Christmas. The good news was it was clean coal.

There were two blondes who went deep into the frozen woods searching for a Christmas tree.

After hours of subzero temperatures a few close calls with hungry wolves, one blonde turned to the other and said,

"I'm chopping down the next tree I see. I don't care whether it's decorated or not!"





**Middle Tennessee  
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