The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

November 2020

If your group is reopening the doors for meetings in person please do not forget to reach out to the Intergroup Office so we can post the correct information on our website promptly.

ONLINE AND IN PERSON MEETING INFORMATION WWW.AAMIAMIDADE.ORG

GENERAL SERVICE DISTRICT 10 - MIAMI

1st EVER Virtual Gratitude Event via Zoom

"Virtual Gratitude in Action"

NOVEMBER 14, 2020

2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

ZOOM ID# 898 3282 2769

Password – GRATITUDE

Zoom Room opens at 1:30 for fellowship ZOOM IN – FELLOWSHIP, SPEAKERS, TRIVIA AND A VIRTUAL A.A. LITERATURE RAFFLE

*FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS-

Tallahassee, FL. 2:15

Sedona, AZ, 4:00

Raffle drawing after speakers

THE PURPOSE OF THIS EVENT IS TO SUPPORT THE A.A. GENERAL SERVICE BOARD*

Accepting contributions NOW

- VENMO @district10generalservice
- Credit Card aa-disrict10-gratitude-in-action.betterworld.org
- **BUY YOUR A.A LITERATURE RAFFLE TICKETS VISIT**
- aa-disrict10-gratitude-in-action.betterworld.org/ (do not type "www")



Non-Association – The District 10 Virtual Gratitude in Action Event is not associated or allied with betterworld.org in any way. Betterworld.org is simply the platform we are using to facilitate the A.A. District 10 Miami - 56th Annual

Sougth through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we <u>understood</u> praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out."

Due to COVID-19 and the inability of the groups to meet in person we find ourselves limited to attend mostly online meetings. Even though people do contribute as per our 7th Tradition the Intergroup Office has been very affected and will be having a hard time keeping the doors open in the near future if us, the members and the groups don't contribute to keep its doors open.

Please keep your Intergroup Office in mind when you send your contributions, the office has a direct link for contributions on our website. www.aamiamidade.org -Thank you!

We can accept contributions through PayPal or Zelle under Alcoholics Anonymous of Greater Miami.

A New Holiday Perspective Bringing Joy to the Less Fortunate

How appropriate it seems that there are twelve months in a year, and we have twelve steps in the program. November is often referred to the Gratitude month, mainly due the celebration of Thanksgiving. The joy of good living is the theme of Step Twelve and it blends right in with the Christmas holiday season in December and ending with the New Year's Eve celebration. This time of year does bring a lot of joy to many of us but it also brings distress to some of the less fortunate ones who have yet to been blessed with the gift of sobriety and peace of mind, in and outside of A.A.

During my drinking days I used to be extremely uncomfortable about the holidays. I never knew how to act around normal people unless I was half smashed. When invited by one of my siblings to Thanksgiving dinner, I felt like a charity case and would rather just hang out at the bar where I felt safe. I never got into the spirit of reaching out to others. My family always celebrated the different holidays, especially Christmas, and I would always (due to my discomfort) put a damper on it by complaining about the tacky gifts that people would buy for each other at Christmas and the mad rush to go shopping and the commercializing facade that it had become. Any excuse was better than facing me and the miserable wretch I had become. After being sober for several years it occurred to me that I still had some of those same attitudes, and that I was still holding on to them to some degree largely due to the inconvenience of it all. I explained this problem to a dear friend once, and he asked," Does the rest of the family enjoy the holidays?" I said yes. He then said, "Why don't you just take a back seat and just watch the joy in their eyes as they experience these things." I did exactly what he suggested and when I started to observe my wife and two adolescent girls and the childlike innocence and happiness it brought to them; it gave me a whole new appreciation for this time of year. It brought tears of Joy to my eyes and I no longer wanted to be the grouch, putting a damper on the joy that they were having. I have been following this line of thinking ever since and it has changed my whole perspective concerning these things.

This change of attitude has inspired me to apply the unselfish lessons that I have come to understand and now I spend the holiday season filled with Joy. If it works like that for the holidays, then why can't I bring it with me for the rest of the year? This has been my mission ever since my friend suggested it, and I am always looking for the opportunity to brighten the lives of people less fortunate than myself. I try to do these things anonymously and without fanfare. I also try to consider the discomfort that I used to feel when I was the one on the receiving end of a charitable gesture. I am careful to do these things in a way that preserves the dignity of that other person. I do not have to wait for the holidays to do these things. Every day is a holiday in and outside of my home, and you can believe me when I say; I reap more than my share of the joy. I hope this brings a new perspective to those who, like me, had trouble enjoying this time of year and I hope you all have a joyful Holiday Season, and many more.

By Rick R.

WHATIS A.A.?

A.A. is a spirit.

It cannot be touched, nor can it be completely understood.

It is as wide as the world, yet small enough to fit snugly into the hearts of women and men.

It has brought light where only darkness dwelt.

It has given hope to the hopeless and help to those who yearned in despair. It has nourished forgiveness in those

that knew no pity.

It has given strength to the weak, and humility to the strong. It has spurred to higher goals those that strove for nothing. It has taught patience to the hurried and action to the lazy.

To youth it has given vision and to the aged promise. To the lonely, companions, and to the restless, rest. To the sick it has been a doctor, and to the dying it has revived the desire to live.

It has no judgement against the unteachables, nor has it praise for those who learn.

To the outcast it has been a family, and to the childless it has given children.

To the ignorant, wisdom, and to the wise, tolerance. It has given to all men and women that which is most precious. It has given a love for truth with enough left over to share.

Anonymous

"THANKSGIVING HOURS" MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

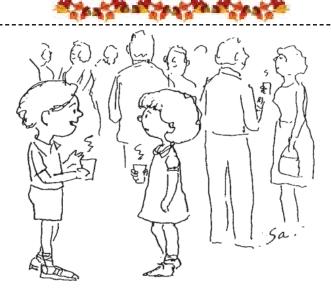
OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON

THURSDAY - NOV. 26th, 2020 FRIDAY - NOV. 27th, 2020



JAN 6

"I may be a little late, honey. Charlie's in town and wants me to have a New Year's Eve drink with him."



"I suppose we can relax the 'men with men, ladies with ladies' rule."

AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.

Making Amends (Finding a New Freedom)

Features 55 candid, firsthand stories from A.A. Grapevine magazine of members' experiences with Step Nine of the A.A. program. The book includes chapters on making amends to parents, children, family members, exes, financial institutions, friends and coorkers. These powerful stories illustrate how practicing Step Nine can help us, as AA's co-founder Bill W. wrote, "know a new freedom and a new happiness."



MAKING AMENDS Finding a new freedom



Just a quick note to let you know the new book bundle "The Best of the Grapevine" volumes 1,2 and 3 will be available later this month.

Item #GV41

A Deeper Look at the Word: LOVE Love is as Love Does

The longer I attend A. A. meetings the more aware I become of the evolution of the subject matter of meeting topics. In my early days in the 1970s the topic was normally about drunkalogues or whatever the leader wanted to talk about that day. Most of the meetings that I attend today are literature-based meetings and there is amplifying information in the literature that reinforces the topic. On page 164 in the Big Book it says "We realize we know only a little. God will constantly disclose more to you and to us." Today we have access to all that they had learned up to that point in time plus everything we have learned since then and the sharing in the meetings is so much deeper as the result of those disclosures. I was at a meeting recently and the topic was "Love without strings" Sept. 28 in The Daily Reflections. It was interesting to hear the differing perceptions mainly based on the differing lengths of sobriety and how the word Love was perceived. I looked up the word in the Thesaurus and it is all about feelings like fondness, passion, adoration, affection, and many others. Over the years I have heard it said that "I can love him, but I don't have to like him." Is it him I don't like or is it his behavior I don't like? All of us come to A.A. with behavioral problems. It is not about him. It is about me being judgmental. There were comments about sexual attraction or "erotic love" which are common in most online definitions but that is not our purpose when dealing with the word Love. There are many definitions of the word LOVE and for our purpose, I believe the one that Scott Peck writes about in his book "The Road Less Traveled" He defines love as "The will to extend oneself for the purpose of nurturing one's own or another's spiritual growth." He implies that it is not that version that we see on the movie screen. To me this means that love is, caring for, and nurturing another person. I can love everyone, even if they do not love me back. It is not about them; it implies that it's about me and my actions. As I took this approach, one by one I defused and neutralized all those mental conflicts and accepted everyone exactly as they are. No longer do they crowd my thinking. Do those people that still have behavior problems sometimes cross my boundaries? Óh yes, they do. Sometimes their EGO is threatened by something I shared at a meeting or in the community and they need to defend their position. Today I recognize these symptoms in others, and I try to be understanding about what I say at a meeting as to not make him/her uncomfortable. This takes time and I never respond to inuendoes when someone is trying to draw me into an argument. It takes two to tango and over a period of time he gets to know who I really am, and he is no longer threatened by the thing I share. I try to Care for and Nurture everyone and at some point, in time I have run out of adversaries, that I know of, in fact, I become their best advocate. Today, the word Love is not a noun. Love is a verb. Love is as Love does. Understand them, wish the best for them, and be willing to help them when you can. Who could understand the behavior of an alcoholic more than another alcoholic who has experienced their own development in the program? The founding principles of A. A. is the By Rick R. caring for and nurturing of another alcoholic. If that is not love, then what is? With all my love, I rest my case.

cido.

THE MESSENGER

ME LLAMO LUIS Y SOY ALCOHOLICO (Ateo)

Me dirijo a los alcohólicos que han tenido dificultades en adaptarse a las referencias religiosas dentro del programa de A.A. A aquéllos que no pueden aceptar la idea de un ser sobrenatural, permítanme decirles que siempre han sido los seres humanos quienes me han fortalecido cuando necesitaba ayuda.

Reconozco que necesito más fuerza de la que yo personalmente tengo para vencer la compulsión de beber. Recibo esta fuerza adicional del poder para crear el bien que en A.A. se genera. He interpretado la frecuente referencia a Dios en los Doce Pasos y en otros lugares, como el poder que viene de otras personas.

Después de un año y medio de verdadera sobriedad (anteriormente pasé tres años tratando de captar el programa de A.A.), sufrí una catástrofe personal. No considero esta situación como un castigo por los "pecados" del pasado; ni tampoco soy tan vanidoso como para creer que una deidad me eligió como mártir. Es ciertamente irónico verme paralítico después de un período de verdadera sobriedad, y no como resultado de una borrachera. Pero no es más que eso — irónico.

Tengo una firme creencia en la moral humana. Creo que los malos impulsos pueden ser superados por las acciones honestas. A.A. pone de manifiesto los impulsos sos para crear el bien, y esto tiene una fuerza tremenda. A mi parecer, el total de las buenas acciones constituye el "poder superior". Estas son las palabras de un ministro Unitario: "En un mundo que ha perdido, o que va perdiendo rápidamente, toda idea convincente de la providencia divina en acción, de un Dios que dispone de los asuntos de la humanidad, no es necesario suponer que la única alternativa a un universo amante del ser humano es un universo enemigo y satánico. Existe la alternativa más probable de un universo neutral, en donde viven los seres humanos forjando su salvación, sin esperanza del cielo ni temor del infierno. Se puede encontrar que la vida tiene un valor no porque un padre divino así lo dispone, sino porque los logros de buenos hombres y mujeres trabajando juntos con amor y respeto mutuos, son en y por sí mismos valiosos y gratificadores."

Durante más de dos años, fui casi un Solitario, pudiendo asistir solamente a unas pocas reuniones cada año. Afortunadamente, mi esposa comprende bien lo que es el alcoholismo (debido a su asociación en el pasado con un grupo familiar), y tuve la oportunidad casi diaria de tener conversaciones con ella. Ahora, hemos formado un grupo de A.A. en esta área que se reúne cada semana en mi casa.

No fui capaz de aceptar a A.A. ni la ayuda verdadera que prestaba, hasta que hice una interpretación racional del programa. Sigo siendo ateo, pero soy un ateo agrade

No quiero cambiar a A.A. Funciona para mí. Sólo quiero que A.A. logre atraer a los racionalistas. Como miembros de A.A., ellos pueden aportar mucho a la Comunidad.

- De la pagina web del grupo 24 horas

REUNIONES VIRTUALES EN ESPANOL

WWW.AAMIAMIDADE.ORG

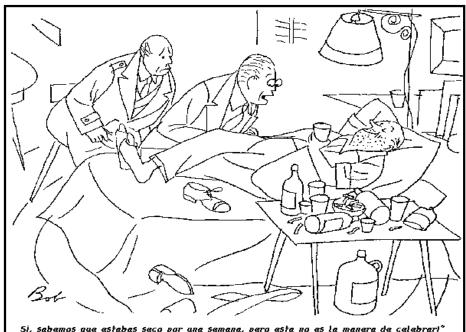
GRUPOS:

VIVIENDO SOBRIO CORAL GABLES LA GRAN MANZANA NORTH MIAMI GROUP

Si necesitan postear sus reuniones virtuales en el website de

Miami-Dade Intergroup
por favor
enviar e-mail a
aamiamidade@bellsouth.net
o llamar al
305.461.2425
con su informacion.

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UNDECIMO PASO

"Buscamos a través de la oración y la meditación mejorar nuestro contacto consciente con Dios, como nosotros lo concebimos, pidiéndole solamente que nos dejase conocer su voluntad para con nosotros y nos diese la fortaleza para cumplirla."

UNDECIMA TRADICION

"Nuestra política de relaciones públicas se basa más bien en la atracción que en la promoción; necesitamos mantener siempre nuestro anonimato personal ante la prensa, la radio y el cine."



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THE MESSENGER

FAITHFUL FIVER MEMBERS

Yes, I want to parti Contribution information:	•				
Amount:	Monthly:	Quarterly:	Annually:		5
I am a new Member:		ber can contribute more than Member:		Member:	
Check Enclosed: Na	ame:	Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	Tel: _()	
Yes, I would like For Credit Card recurring of "Each day that your Group pa Contributions, or Sobriety Con	contribution informaticipates in the work o	f our local A.A. services, wh	e at: 305.461.242 ether through those	.5 e who "Contribu	ute their Time" or Grou
indeed a miracle. Your contrib newcomer that reaches out fo carrying the message of hope	utions show that you c r help. Words cannot fo	are about the services we as ully express the deep gratitu	s a fellowship provid	de and continue	ed hope for the

FAITHFUL FIVER FRIENDS are fellow A.A. members who contribute \$5.00 a month to the Intergroup Office as an act of gratitude. Their generosity help us to carry the message of A.A. to the still sick and suffering alcoholics throughout the year! THANK YOU TO OUR FAITHFUL FIVER'S....Your contributions are very much appreciated. 5 Anonymous.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

GS DISTRICT 10 Monthly Business Meeting

1st Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm at the CG Congregational Ch. 3010 De Soto Blvd., CG

GS DISTRICT 10 Corrections Committee

4th Thursday of the month @ 8:00pm at Sabal Palm Room 10102 SW 107th Av., 33176

Miami FCYPAA Host

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month @ 1:30pm at the Lambda Miam 28 NE 5

es Committee

sday of the month @ 6:30pm - Sunset Room 6999 N. Waterway Dr. *****

Remote Communities

3rd Sunday of the month @ 10:00am at Little River Club 51 NE 82nd Tr. *********

Accessibilities

3rd Tuesday of the month @ 7:15pm Upper Room 811 NE 125th St. # 111 - NM ******

GS DISTRICT 10 Grapevine Committe

1st Wednesday of the month @ 7:15pm Upper Room 822 NE 125th St. # 111 North Miami, FL 3316

GS DIS Litera

2nd Tu the month -5.00pm Metodista Unida Ponce de Leon Blvd. *******

Meetings at the **CORAL ROOM**

1100 Ponce de Leon, CG 305.446.9558 *********

GS DISTRICT 10 PI/CPC

4th Saturday of the month @ 3:00pm

Treatment Committe

3rd Saturday of the Month @ 3:00pm

For more information go to www.district10miami.org

HAPPINESS VS JOY

The Big Book tells us that God wants us to be happy, Joyous, and free (p. 133). At first reading I thought this statement was a bit redundant for, after all, were not happiness and joy synonymous emotions? I was later to take a different view.



Some years ago, I attended an AA gathering in a large campground near Sault Ste. Marie, Canada. While preparing to sleep in my tent I was taken over by a tremendous sadness. It came in vivid memory the happy night where my lovely then-bride and I spent in the same tent above the Grand Canyon following our Las Vegas marriage. At once, a heavy depression crashed down with tremendous despondency. The happy times that we shared during our California years were gone—now we were divorced—she is gone from me forever. It was far past midnight and the black doom pressed down without pity. . . and it went on and on.

But then, all at once, my surroundings seemed to brighten! It was as though a beautiful light was shining in some mysterious manner. Although I was overcome with sadness, certainly not happiness, I was at once filled with JOY! I was experiencing both sadness and JOY at the same time! This bright JOY sparkled deep into the morning.

That experience convinced me that happiness and Joy are not at all the same. Happiness is a biological phenomenon that comes and goes with life happenings. If the boss says, "you're fired," I will become sad, but if he gives me a raise, I am happy. But not so with spiritual JOY because true Joy comes from God and is not under the domain of this world. God has told us: 'I am not of this world!"

True Joy has come to me spasmodically since that episode, but it comes and goes before I seem to be able to capture it, yet it is proof to me that God is with me. The Big Book speaks of the "Great Reality" deep within (p. 55). So, I believe if I live the life that AA has offered, I will continue to be mostby happy, but also experience surges of great JOY from time to time.

The Big Book promise of being happy and joyous is not redundant; this duo has helped me from taking that first drink for many years. Thank you, God!

Bob S.

INTERGROUP CONTACT LIST

aamiamidade.org

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Vice-Chair

Raz S.

Treasurer

Dylan S.

Secretary

Del H.

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Jennifer R.

Tom D.

Tamara K.

Richard A.

Ian S.

Trustees

Askia K.

Virtual Founder's Day

OPEN POSITION

Intergroup Banquet

Ian S. (Chair)

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

The Messenger

Office

Outreach

OPEN POSITION

Public Information

Sam H.

Twelve Step Relay

Jenn G.

Big Service Breakfast

Dylan S.

General Service Liaison

Jorge L.

Spanish Intergroup Liaison

OPEN POSITION

Webmaster

Office

GENERAL SERVICE CONTACT LIST

www.district10miami.org

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Big Service Breakfast

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District 17 Liaison

Sonia H.

Remote Communities

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Webservant

Nino P.

"THE MESSENGER"

Published Monthly by

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NOTICES

Notices published in "The Messenger" are taken from information submitted to the Miami-Dade Intergroup Office Information is based on what is current at the time of printing.

If your group discontinues a meeting or changes it's schedule time, please notify Intergroup as soon as possible at (305) 461-2425

Articles and opinions expressed herein not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

Further endorsements, opposing views and rebuttals to articles published are also welcomed. Also, please tell us how we can improve.

Contributions to "THE MESSENGER"

will be gratefully accepted.
A sign up form is on the back cover.

E-mail the Editor at: aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Please make checks payable to: MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

TRADITION ELEVEN

"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."

OCTOBER

PALMETTO BAY

Caron N. 1 Olivia 2 Rolv 3 Chris R. 4 Stan R. 5 Becka 9 Nino P. 32

SOUTH DADE

Olivia D. 2 Roly 3 Sonia H. 4 Rachel F. 4 Isabel 8 Marji 9 Penny G. 12 Stacia V. 12 AJ 34 Fred R. 35

SOBER WAY OUT

Itara M. 2 James D. 3 Sadie MGL 6 James L. 7 Voncel J. 8 Johnne S. 14 Paul B. 14 Dennis S. 18 Elizabeth R. 29

Please use this QR Code for your online contributions to your Intergroup Office. Please just scan the code and it will take you directly to PayPal.

No contribution counts as small. We at Intergroup appreciate your continued support!



As Bill W. wrote in a letter in 1959, "If you carry the message to others, you will be making the best possible repayment for the help given to you. Box 459, via Victor

A PROGRAM FOR LIVING

When we retire at night, we constructively review our day....

On awakening let us think about the twenty-four hours ahead.....

Before we begin, we ask God to direct our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity, dishonest or self-seeking motives. Alcoholics Anonymous, p.86



MEETINGS IN RUSSIAN

Do you know any Russian-speaking

friend, who has drinking problems?

Please invite them to our new 7pm

Sunday Russian-speaking

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting.

www.russianaa.com





Take Me To Your Sponsor

Sobriety can be tough sometimes, which is why recovering alcoholics can always use a good laugh. In AA, members learn to not take themselves too seriously, to be happy, joyous and free. Luckily, sobriety can be pretty darn amusing.

Group Conscience/Business/Service Meetings

Brickell Group/3rd Thursday @ 1:05pm Brickell Circle/3d Saturday @ 8:15pm Coral Gables Group/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm Good Morning Group/3rd Friday @11:00am Happy 1060 Group/3rd Sunday @ 11:45am Happy Hour Group/ 3rd Thursday @ 6:35pm Homestead Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm Lincoln Road YP/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm Little River Group/2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm Miami Young People/3rd Saturday @ 7:00pm Mix Nuts Group/1st Monday @ 9:30pm New Beginner's # 2/2nd Thursday @ 7:30pm Night Owl Group/2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm North Miami Group/Last Wednesday @ 7:15pm Palmetto Bay/3rd Wednesday @ 6:35pm Primary Purpose/Last Wednesday @ 6:45pm Quinto Paso/1st Monday @ 7:00pm Sabal Palm/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm Sober Way Out/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm Something Happens/1st Saturday @ 10:00am South Dade Group/3rd Wednesday @ 7:00pm South Dixie Group/2nd Sunday @ 12:15pm Sunset Group/2nd Friday @ 7:00pm West Miami Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm We Stopped in Time/1st Monday @ 9:35pm Young, Sober &Free/Last Sunday @ 8:05pm

Group Anniversaries

Almeria Group/Last Tuesday @ 7:30pm Bickell Circle/Last Thursday @ 8:00pm Coral Gables Group/Last Monday @ 8:00pm Grupo Central/Last Sunday @ 1:00pm Good Morning Group/Last Friday @ 10:00am Happy 1060 Group/Last Sunday @ 10:45am Happy Hour Group/Last Friday @ 5:30pm Homestead Group/Last Thursday @ 8:30pm Key Biscayne Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Killian Pines Group/Last Friday @ 8:00pm Lincoln Road YP/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm Little River Group/Last Wednesday @ 8:30pm Miami Springs Group/Last Monday @ 7:30pm Miami Young People/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm Mixed Nuts Group/Last Monday @ 8:30pm North Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Palmetto Bay Group/Last Saturday @ 5:30pm Plymouth Group/Last Wednesday @ 7:00pm Primary Purpose/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm Sabal Palm Group/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm Shamrock Group/Last Tuesday @ 8:30pm Sober Way Out/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Something Happens/Last Saturday @ 9:00am South Dade Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm South Dixie Group/Last Saturday @ 7:30pm Sunset Group/Last Friday @ 7:30pm West Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm We Stopped in Time/Last Monday Young, Sober and Free/Last Sunday

LOOKING FOR MEETINGS?

Learn more at: www.meetingquide.org



Do you want to know..... How can you help? How can you do service? Come to our next monthly meeting of Miami-Dade Intergroup which will be held **on** Thursday - December 10th, 2020 @ 8:00pm Via Zoom. This is a great opportunity to do service!

Help Support "The Messenger" This Publication Belongs To You!

To make address changes you can notify the Intergroup Office or mail in the form below. To subscribe to "The Messenger" please fill out the form below and mail with your \$12.00 for a yearly contribution.

> Please make checks payable to: **MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP** c/o The Messenger

Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	

Please note: When you mail in this form, feel free to add something you would like to share with the fellowship (a thought, a story, a joke or something you heard at a meeting.)

HELP US CARRY THE MESSAGE!!!

