



**5th Tradition, Breaking the Cycle, But Do It, Clean & Serene,
Just For Today, Living Clean, No Matter What, Spiritual Principles, Straightline,
Stray Katz, Survivors, Traditional Recovery, Under Grace, We Do Recover**

UPCOMING EVENTS LIVING CLEAN GROUP

UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 21ST 2PM - 6PM
3003 JOPLIN ST PITTSBURG, KS

CHRISTMAS DAY

WE DO RECOVER GROUP WILL BE
OPEN ALL DAY 11AM-MIDNIGHT!
MEETINGS AT NOON, 8:00 & 11:00PM
UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER @ 6:30PM
829 MAIN STREET JOPLIN, MO

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY DECEMBER 31ST 7:30 PM

H.O.U.S.E. INC
24706 HIGHWAY 171 WEBB CITY, MO
SPEAKER DEBBIE E.
(Show up early for 5th Tradition Group
Speaker Night with Ivy C. @ 6:30pm)

30TH FREEDOM TO CHANGE

JANUARY 3-5 MARIOTT HOTEL DOWNTOWN
200 W 12TH ST • KANSAS CITY, MO

NA SPEAKER JAM

SERENITY CLUB 180 CLAREMONT DR. BRANSON, MO
SUNDAY JAN 12, 2025 11AM-5PM

CABIN FEVER PREVENTION CONVENTION

FEBRUARY 7, 8 & 9, 2025
LODGE OF THE FOUR SEASONS
LAKE OF THE OZARKS

DECEMBER

CLEAN TIME BIRTHDAYS

CHAD C 1 YEAR
BRIAN D 1 YEAR
JOSH B 18 MONTHS
ALEX B 2 YEARS
LISA C 2 YEARS
JACKIE V 3 YEARS
MISTY K 3 YEARS
WILL C 3 YEARS
PAUL G 3 YEARS
CRASHAWNA B 4 YEARS
JIMMIE W 5 YEARS
ANDY L 7 YEARS
TERRYL K 16 YEARS
TERRY L 20 YEARS
TINA T 20 YEARS
TONI M 31 YEARS

CONGRATULATIONS!

MY GRATITUDE SPEAKS... "FAITH IN RECOVERY"

Faith in recovery to me started in before I even worked the 1st step. I had never been in recovery before, but I had to put it all on the line, and have faith that if I followed the suggestions and worked the steps I could not only stay clean, but find peace, and serenity in recovery.

Cory F.

My faith grew in recovery due to having my son 3 months early and him weighing only 1lb 3oz. I was alone up in Kansas City but because of my na group and my fiancé Cody, I was able to have faith in my recovery and stay strong for Finn! He is now 9 months old and 11lbs 2oz.

Shelby K.

Hope turns to faith turns to trust... Hope absolutely means there is something wrong. We hope things will change. We hope things will get better. Faith is simply believing that it will. Trust is having that experience in our own lives. I guess faith is simply believing... Step two

Scott P. Rockford, IL

"Faith without works is dead" why would I believe 12 steps would save my life, I walk by faith listening to suggestions working those 12 steps and that's why I will have 10yrs in march.

David W.

I found out early on in recovery having or finding faith in myself is of great importance and helps the recovery process, quicker and easier

Bruce A.

Word of the day: Recovery -A return to a normal state of healthy mind or strength. Some sort of resilience lives deep within our hearts and souls as humans. To say we are recovering from something is to say we have been through something somewhat distinguished, traumatic, exaggerated, and foreign to our expectations. One must find a simple way to get back to the one thing we know is for certain. Through recovery I've noticed some people clinging to religion; otherwise known as faith. To say we are recovering from something we lost is finding something that may or may not have been missing the whole time. Faith can redirect us back to the path that leads us to good decisions, healthy relationships, friends, family, and our inner selves. This process of finding ourselves through faith and other wholesome things can be quite the eye opening experience to meeting people that are just like us in some form or another. This can open up our lives to guaranteed brighter days and hopeful daily living. With this being said, faith through recovery is not only enlightening but a huge relief just knowing that our higher power has always got our back.

Heather M.

"We feel our way is practical for one addict can best understand and help another addict."

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MY GRATITUDE SPEAKS...

JUST FOR TODAY- I'll have faith in someone in N.A. who believes in me and wants to help me in my recovery. We put our faith in a loving higher power to help us stay clean.

Jeff B

I remember when I was in treatment and it was before the basic text was available. They gave each of us an AA big book and on every page was Gods name or Higher Power. I sat in my room one day and cried because it felt so good to have God in my life again!!! I learned that the more I sought God the more my faith grew. Faith is a confidence in someone, a concept or way of life!!

Luann F.

I'm always reminded of how Faith starts out as hope. I had hoped that by following the suggestions and walking in those who had come before me's shoes that I could recover. After that hope had come true and witnessing it in others lives faith was then established from the foundation of hope.

Jacob C

When I got to the rooms I had no faith. I had no faith in you I had no faith in me and I certainly didn't have a god of my understanding. By listening to suggestions getting a sponsor going to meetings working the steps and practicing the principles today I have faith in almost everything. I trust that my higher power only wants the best for me and that most of the people that I deal with in recovery also are pulling for me today and that is so different than when I got here.

Rufus P.

My very first true experience with faith in the program of NA was about having faith that this program would work. Just trusting the process and that it would help me stay clean.

Working steps to help myself become a decent human being. Being able to believe in people and that they were being as honest as me. And after 9 years I can say, I'm glad I had put my faith in this program of Narcotics Anonymous.

Luke L.

Without faith there wouldn't be a recovery for me

Ryan C.

I can let you know that by having faith in the program and living and working the program..... Coming to meetings, getting sponsee's and working the steps with them. In a step study and one on one for certain steps when time for them to unload and let them know some of the things I did back in the day and let them know that they are no different than me.....! But I'm not the only one who has a checkered past. We all do! Stick around and get to know us and keep coming back and you will hear something from someone else like you who pulled the same thing as you! Just stick and stay. Then when you have enough clean time someone will come to you as you came to me and ask you to be your sponsor. Then have faith you can help them understand until they have faith in themselves and pass it on to others.

Mike M. Club Soda Terre Haute, IN

THE DECEMBER DISCUSSION TOPIC IS...
“FAITH IN RECOVERY”

Our lives find the greatest joy when we help others discover theirs. Over the course of our lives there are, without doubt, a number of people who have inspired us to become better versions of ourselves. We still need to surround ourselves with more people like them. The company we keep and the environment we function in either bring us inspiration or derail our purpose. If there are relationships in our past that continue to bring us down and result in bad decisions, we need to avoid those people. We need to become more disciplined, starting when we start the day. That morning routine is suggested to meditate and ask for guidance in our day. We need to recognize the habits we find that bring us meaning, joy and fulfillment. The motivation to do these suggestions will be the reward of helping others. It requires stillness, patience and consistent self-evaluation. Deep in our heart we will be rewarded by sharing what was passed to us.

It's God's will.

Bryan L

I didn't have faith in anything but myself when I got here and even that was shaky. Somewhere along the line during step work, I finally surrendered that control. For just a minute. To test this ABSURD theory everyone keep telling me, to let go and let God... I was like... "ummmm nope! Well.... ok... maybe I'll try it..." So, I did, about a work situation. Wouldn't you know, it worked! Weeeeird. I could no longer deny the reality that I don't have the ability to control everything first of all and secondly, maybe all of you had something figured out. It's brought a level of peace to my life I never thought possible!

Ginette G



OZARK AREA 24 HOUR HELPLINE 1-888-359-3339



OZARK AREA WEBSITE: WWW.OZARKASC.COM

Keep Coming Back!

OZARK AREA WEBSITE: www.ozarkasc.com

TOLL FREE HELPLINE: 888-359-3339

OUR MESSAGE

"An addict, any addict, can stop using drugs, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live. Our message is hope and our promise is freedom from active addiction."



WORD SCRAMBLE

PEKE IGNOCM CKAB_____

PESTKORW_____

OSOSNPR_____

YOHNSSET_____

SCBIA XETT_____

LAENC TON BOSRE_____

ANSWERS: KEEP COMING BACK, STEPWORK, SPONSOR, HONESTY, BASIC TEXT, CLEAN NOT SOBER

IF YOU HAVE A CARTOON, POEM, ARTWORK, OR STORY
YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER
PLEASE SEND IT TO US!!

EMAIL: OZARKAREA@GMAIL.COM TEXT:417-439-6915

**MANY OF US HAVE SAID... TAKE MY WILL AND MY LIFE. GUIDE ME
IN MY RECOVERY. SHOW ME HOW TO LIVE.**

3rd step prayer

When I think of Faith...

When I think of faith in recovery, I think of participants who have the courage to change, open mindedness, and willingness to absorb need to know information that could save their lives. This requires them to be good listeners. The ego mind tells ourselves that we are multi taskers, but in actuality many are not. For example, people may be on their phones during the meeting. By doing so, they may be missing at least 30% of any dialogue being discussed. Another example would be that we could be thinking about the monstrous dialogue that we are going to share in the meeting, unknowingly we have the ego mind that wants to impress others. While we are all up in our heads, thinking of what we are going to say, we are robbing ourselves of the gift of recovery, and not realize anything is missing as we are not paying attention to what is currently being discussed. Knowing this, a really good strategy is recognizing this in advance, and having situational awareness by casting our thoughts aside and only listening. This is much easier said than done, and takes a lot of practice. Those who lack essential listening skills can practice preventive maintenance, by bringing up a topic and the beginning of the meeting, that way they don't have the thoughts of what they are about to say. I have witnessed many who bring up a topic and then walk out of the room, robbing themselves again. Sponsorship is essential to guide and direct our sponsees with proper meeting etiquette.

Just for today, I will surround myself with people who surrender and have the humility to follow directions from our predecessor that have the knowledge to guide and direct us in the recovery way.

The disease is amongst us in the rooms of NA who loiter in our meetings that lack the courage to change. I will cosign nothing. NA is a million dollar program; just for today, I will shove a seed up the newcomers ass a nickle at a time.

Tom S Branson, MO

**JUST FOR TODAY I will have a program.
I will try to follow it to the best of my ability**

JUST FOR TODAY READING

NA RECOVERY WORD SEARCH

Y R E V O C E R P W P R U P S J Z
B W E E S N O P S M E U S U O F M
I Y M Z V U O I I H X N P O J N L
F E W K P B K L T H Y K E R T K H
Z J W Y S Q I E L X D I A G R P C
N N H I K L G F O Y G Y K E A G N
N A Q V S O Z G V A A W E M D E U
N U C Y T D N H E G Z D R O I P K
L Q R O S N O P S D E Q T H T I R
A T S W K U R M M H K S E Q I N J
U S G N I T E E M P X J V N O O B
T I A C O N C E P T S H L B N V S
I M K C M U P C W U H O E B S T J
R D S E R E N I T Y T N W H E F Z
I O E G A R U O C Z I E T P O F H
P A C I Q O E C N T A S S Y Z P Z
S T X A C T O Q O C F T M Z W V E

Traditions
Meetings
courage
wisdom
Steps

Home Group
Together
Speaker
Honest
Hope

Spiritual
Concepts
Sponsee
Twelve
Love

serenity
Recovery
Sponsor
Faith
NA

FAITH IN RECOVERY

So faith is what got me to this program in the first place. I remember after almost 15 years of using and slowly killing myself the moment I surrendered to my higher power. I had searched to no avail for a solution, never finding one. I remember where I was standing, and I remember that the terrifying lifestyle I had been living had finally got me to a place where I was ready to do anything it took to change my life. I was sick of being the complete opposite of who I was truly created to be. I got on my knees and asked god to please intervene and I abandoned all reservations I was holding onto about what I thought that should look like and I said god please: " I don't care if it means I have to get arrested today, I don't care if it means staying there for a long time, but could you please just take me out of this and get me clean and help me stay clean." It wasn't an hour later or so I was in handcuffs. I had neglected my daughter in my addiction, I had burned all my bridges, I had ruined my life and developed some serious health problems and I had nothing. No career, no loved ones, no honor, no integrity and a bunch of wasted hours at a college that never amounted to anything. While I was locked up I kept praying to my higher power to show me an option from jail, a path to take and give me the strength to seize the opportunity when it presented itself. I didn't wanna go back to my old stomping grounds when I got out. I was desperate for radical change. I thought the judge was going to sentence me to prison but instead he gave me the option to go to treatment instead so I did. In treatment, I had to figure out my plans for after I was released. They work with you the whole time to create a home plan but I didn't know what I was going to do. All I knew is that I wanted to stay clean this time and change my life. My mom kept telling me to trust the process and just have faith and listen to what god has to say. My best friend kept telling me that too. Then one day when I was getting transferred from one treatment building to another, I saw somebody that I was locked up with several years before that. He was a genuinely good guy and he told me that he was homeplanning to a place called soul's harbor in Joplin. As soon as he told me his plans I could hear God's presence pulling me in that direction and I didn't know why but I decided to listen. 90 days later I home-planned to the same spot and although that place didn't end up being the best place for me in my recovery, it led me to Narcotics Anonymous. My home group was just 1 block down and I "accidentally" stumbled into a meeting one day on the way to the chapel which was directly next door. Since then I got a sponsor and worked some steps, I got my own car, my own house, I have reconciled my relationship with my family and daughters. Many credits from the college in Texas were transferred over to MSSU and now I'm only a few semesters from graduating with a BS in public relations with which I plan on using to enter the Social Work Graduate program to become a substance-use-therapist. My plan and future are clear to me and I have never been so close to my higher power in my entire life. I chair meetings for my home group, I have an opportunity to be a father for a beautiful baby boy, my HP blessed me with the love of my life, I have 15 months clean now, I serve as Webmaster for the Ozark Area PR subcommittee, and I've been blessed with a job that allows me to work with still-suffering addicts. If I had never chosen to have faith in that moment and decided to homeplan to a place where I knew no one and nothing about, I wouldn't have found our program that changed my life and continues to do so everyday. Remaining in conscious contact with our higher power is crucial in our program. It's also crucial to pray for his will for us instead of our own will, and to have the courage to carry it out every single day. The more we practice that in our lives the more faith it requires because we can't always see the whole picture HP sees and because it's common that we start trying to take back our control and grasp on our future plans the longer we stay clean, in my experience at least. We start to see many blessings as a result of lasting freedom from active addiction and so it's easy, if we aren't careful and not constantly working and evolving our program, to think we can transition back into our own control. If we don't however, then it's hard sometimes to make sense of what god is doing because it doesn't align with what we want for ourselves but it's still important to remember it's HP's will for us and HP's plan for us and more will be revealed if we continue to trust the process and have faith. Faith is absolutely crucial in recovery and for our ultimate wellbeing and happiness. It's a wonderful day to be clean. Merry Christmas.

Cody D.