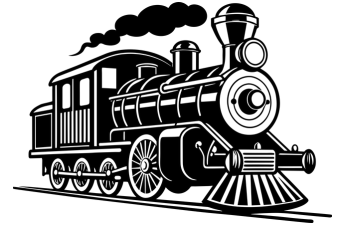




INTERGROUP-EXPRESS



October—November 2025, Vol 45 #10

Lee County Area Intergroup, 7050 Winkler Rd. #119, Fort Myers, FL 33919

(239) 275-5111—Email: leeintergroup@gmail.com—Website: <https://leecountyaa.org>

Office/Store Open Monday-Friday 10:00am-5:00pm and First Saturday of the month 10:00am-1:00pm

AA GRAPEVINE needs your support

From AA Grapevine, Inc:

“For over 80 years, Grapevine and La Viña have carried AA’s message of experience, strength, and hope. Today, we share it through magazines, podcasts, videos, apps, and free content for alcoholics in prisons and institutions.

But we can’t do it alone. Grapevine’s primary support comes from the sale of subscriptions and books — and now, more than ever, we need your help.”

From Tim C, PICPC, Area 06 Delegate, posted in Technology in AA Online Community:

“The Grapevine magazine, started in the early days of AA by several service-minded women, has been one of our most effective public outreach tools for generations.

For decades, many AA groups have delivered copies of the Grapevine to jails, prisons, and institutions. It remains a perfect tool to introduce newcomers to AA—how the organization works, the unity of the fellowship, and the hope it offers to those still suffering who may not yet realize they are not alone.

Buy a copy for yourself, and consider leaving an extra copy in doctors’ offices, bars, restaurants, coffee shops, and community centers. Your home group can also purchase subscriptions for local schools and community libraries—don’t forget the college libraries, which will gladly accept your gift.

Many AI-Anon members also support AA indirectly through their Grapevine purchases, helping carry the message to the public.

Becoming a Grapevine representative is a great opportunity for newcomers to get involved in service. It gives them a reason to connect, share, and meet others in service.”

From AA Grapevine, Inc:

“Here’s how you can help Grapevine help others:

1. **Subscribe** or renew your Grapevine or La Viña subscription today. You can subscribe to the print magazine or online — or subscribe through the apps and read and listen to the magazine right on your smartphone.
2. Ask your group to start a Grapevine or La Viña subscription — or add another.
3. Contribute to the **Carry the Message** program as an individual or as a group to provide subscriptions to those in need.
4. Tell your friends, home group, district and area that we need subscribers now more than ever.
5. Consider gifting a subscription to someone who could benefit from the AA message.
6. We need help from Area and District trusted servants to reach groups that don’t have Grapevine or La Viña — or even know that the magazines exist.
7. Make Grapevine and La Viña part of your local events with workshops and presentations.”

Lee County Area Intergroup sells AA Grapevine books, Traditions Checklists, Anniversary cards, and AA Preamble cards. We can also help you subscribe to receive the AA Grapevine magazine. Come see us today!

Service

Good for Your Recovery

Lee County Area Intergroup

- ⇒ Get involved in our 12 Step Call program, Speaker Exchange, as a volunteer at the office/store, or join a fundraising committee
- ⇒ Attend the monthly meeting—3rd Thursday, 6:30pm, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Fort Myers
- ⇒ Become an Intergroup Representative for your home group

District 7

- ⇒ Become a General Service Representative for your home group
- ⇒ Attend the monthly meeting—last Sunday, 2:00pm, YANA Foundation, Fort Myers
- ⇒ Join a committee:

Accessibilities—Bob L—accessibilities@district7area15aa.org

Archives—Kathie W—archives@district7area15aa.org

Corrections—Linda S—corrections@district7area15aa.org

Corrections committee meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30pm on Zoom*

Grapevine—Martin C—grapevine@district7area15aa.org

Grapevine committee meets monthly on the 3rd Monday at 6:30pm on Zoom*

Literature—Deb F—literature@district7area15aa.org

Outreach—Steve M—outreach@district7area15aa.org

Outreach committee meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday at 9am on Zoom*

PI/CPC (Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community)—Shawna C—picpc@district7area15aa.org

PI/CPC committee meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 7pm on Zoom*

Treatment—Kyle—treatment@district7area15aa.org

Treatment committee meets monthly on the 1st Sunday at 2:00pm at YANA

Website—Nick S—website@district7area15aa.org

***ZOOM DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON THE DISTRICT 7 WEBSITE AT DISTRICT7AREA15AA.ORG.**



RULE 62: "Don't take yourself too damn seriously."

~ Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 149



- ⇒ Making new friends as an adult is hard. The people I'd get along with the best also don't want to leave their house.
- ⇒ Thanks for always thinking about me to the detriment of your own mental health.
- ⇒ Does running away from your responsibilities count as exercise?
- ⇒ I love that our friendship has lasted longer than our ability to hold grudges.
- ⇒ Remember not all your life decisions have to be smart. Some can be purely for cinematic value.
- ⇒ "Are you with me so far?" Buddy, I am nodding and smiling but I have not been with you for some time.
- ⇒ Not wanting to scare my dog is the perfect excuse for never vacuuming my house.
- ⇒ You know when you buy a bag of salad and it gets all brown and soggy? Cookies don't do that.
- ⇒ On a positive note, you are now too old to have a midlife crisis.
- ⇒ If it hurts you more than it hurts them, you are probably holding the taser wrong.
- ⇒ Did you know 14 muscles are activated when you pour a cup of coffee? Fitness is my passion.
- ⇒ I'm not procrastinating. I'm doing side quests.
- ⇒ Just checked my bank account. It said, "return everything you just bought except the hooker heels ... you're gonna need those."
- ⇒ Me in HR Office: "Does this rule apply to me?" HR: "A lot of these rules are because of you, so yes."
- ⇒ I don't rise and shine ... I reluctantly emerge from my blanket burrito, throw back coffee like it's holy water, and pray I don't throat-punch someone before 10am.

From the L.C.A.I. STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

When I was quite new to the program, struggling to stay sober and questioning my place, I went to my first big speaker meeting and heard a message that changed my life. Among the many things that he shared was a story that really hit me. I often remember this story, and I want to share it with you.

There was a young boy who lived on a farm just outside a small town. One day he saw a man in a big car talking with the boy's father. They shook hands and some money was exchanged. A few days later, some men came and placed a large banner on the side of the barn, near the road. It was brightly colored with pictures of clowns, elephants, wild animals and pretty ladies. It was announcing that a circus was coming to town.

The boy had never before seen anything like that, and he looked at the sign every day. He wanted to see the circus, so he asked his father if he could have the 50 cents so he could go and see the circus. His father said that if he did his chores and worked really hard around the farm, that he would give him the 50 cents to go and see the circus,

The day came for the circus to come to town, and the boy's father gave him the money for the circus. He walked to town and shortly after he arrived, a grand parade was passing down the main street. It was so amazing to the young boy. He saw elephants, lions and tigers, men juggling and pretty women waving hoops and streamers.

As the parade passed by, a clown came over to him and tipped his hat. As he did so, the boy tossed his 50 cents into the clown's hat. He then got up and walked home. When he got there, his father asked him if he had seen the circus, and the young boy said, "Yes, I saw the circus."

This is a sad story. The boy didn't see the circus; he only saw the parade. He didn't go to the Big Top to see the circus.

So often we see people who come to Alcoholics Anonymous and don't get to see the big top, they only see the parade.

That's when I understood that just going to meetings was not enough. I had been struggling to try and stay sober for over a year and was failing. I was sober for two weeks when I heard this speaker, and I have remained sober ever since.

I didn't want to be a sad story; I had to do what was suggested. Work the steps with a sponsor, take a service position, get engaged in the program in my home group, find a spiritual path of my understanding, and read the book.

This month I will celebrate 41 years sober, by Gods Grace, and I'm so very grateful that I got to the Big Top of Alcoholics Anonymous.

May your God be as good to you as mine has been to me.

Tim B. Lee County Area Intergroup Steering Committee Chair

Compassion asks us to see beyond the surface. To listen with our whole selves. And hold space for stories that stretch our hearts.

A quiet breath before the rush.

A kind word offered freely.

A moment to remember someone who's hurting.

Compassion is not passive. It is a daily choice to show up with love, even when it's inconvenient.

OFFICE STATS for September 2025

(all are approximate)

Visitors = 116

When visiting our office, please sign our DAILY visitor log!

Phone Calls (during business hours) = 110

12 Step & Newcomer = 12

Spanish = 3

Meeting Info = 40

Other 12 Step (Al-Anon, NA, CA, etc) = 7

Treatment (detox, etc) = 1

General Info (hours, location, merchandise, etc) = 26

Management (inquiries that require manager) = 21

MEETING CHANGES

As of October, groups were able to return to meeting in person and inside at Iona-Hope Church on Gladiolus. Another Peace of Hope (T 6p), Eye on Hope (F 6p), and Steps to Awakening (Sa 8a) are now meeting in the sanctuary.

Monday Recovery, 6p, Cape Coral Community Church is now 12&12 discussion.

Friday Night Lights meets at 7:30pm, not 7:00, on Beacon Blvd in Fort Myers

DISBANDED—N.E.W. (Nothing Else Worked), Sun 7p, Fort Myers; Your Story, Mon 12p, Cape Coral

Intergroup Steering Committee 2025

Chair: Tim B.; Vice Chair: Casey B.; Treasurer: Joyce D.; Secretary: Gale P.; Members-at-Large: Mike B. & Roben D.; Office Manager: Stephanie H.

Intergroup Office Volunteers

Deb L., Gary K., Gretchen N., Janet Q., Mike B., Paula B., Remington L., Roben D., Sandy B., Sebastian S., Tom M., Robert

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

Name	Sep	YTD
1 2 3 Go Group		50.00
12&12 Step Study		
1935 Step Group		57.50
5 Alive! Beginners		46.69
5:30 Group		346.00
CC Beginners Wed Nt		
7&7 Group		330.00
A New Perspective		
Anonymous		155.00
A to Z meeting		110.00
A Woman's View of ABSI Zoom	25.00	223.00
ABC Beginners Group ^	205.00	933.58
ABSI by the River Group		563.00
After Hours meeting		
Against All Odds Group		
All Lit Up		100.00
Alva A.A. Way Group		450.00
Another Peace of Hope ^		
As Bill Sees It		
Attitude Adjustment Group		100.00
B-Happy Joyous & Free Group		314.00
Back to Basics Women's Group		
Basics Recovery Meeting		
Beginners 123		
Beginners Big Book Workshop		
Being Convinced		
Beyond Belief		
Big Book Babes		63.50
Big Book Connections Group		
Big Book Steppers Group		488.25
Big Book Study		
Big Book Study Group		
Bike Night Group		
Bonita Banyan Group		415.02
Bonita Men's Group		1400.00
Bonita Springs Step Group		
Bonita Springs Womens Step Group		150.00
Bonita Unity Group		
Book Worms Group		120.00
Bottom of the Barrel Group	50.00	300.00
Brown Baggers Group		1000.00
Buckingham AA Group ^		173.00
Calamity Janes Group		
Calusa Harbor Bunch		

Name	Sep	YTD
Cape Connected		310.00
Cape Coral Bookies Group		
Cape Reflections Group		500.00
Central Group		50.00
Chiquita Bananas Group ^		1100.00
Clean Slate Big Book Group		268.23
Clear the Air Group		1217.50
Courage to Change Women's Group	118.00	307.95
Daily Reprieve Group^		523.80
Depot Park Men's meeting		
Digital Drunks Men's Discussion		
Doctor's Opinion Study		
Dragon Fly Group ^		139.84
Drunkin Donuts Group		
<i>Early Riser's Group</i>		800.00
Eye on Hope Group ^		400.00
F.B.I. (Friday Book Investigation)		
Favorite Passages in AA literature	27.00	113.50
First Things First Group	250.00	721.00
Footprints in the Sand		
Fort Myers Beach Men's Group		270.00
Fort Myers Group ^		550.00
Fort Myers Shores Group		200.00
Freethinkers of Bonita Springs Group	125.00	305.00
Freethinkers of Fort Myers Group		
Fresh Start; Fresh Start Step mtg		200.00
Friday Night Beginners Group ^		240.00
Friday Night Group		
Friday Night Lights		
Friends of Bill Group ^		125.00
Garden Group		100.00
Garden Group Zoom		30.00
Get Well Group		100.00
Grupo 4 De Julio		
Grupo Hispanos de Lehigh		
Grupo Quinto Paso		
Grupo Recuperacion de Immokalee		
Grupo Sendero de Vida		
H.O.W. Group		100.00
Highsteppers Group		
Hotrod Ranch Group		
How It Works		
Interesting Topic Group		672.00
It's 5 O'clock Somewhere		
Joe & Charlie Big Book		

Name	Sep	YTD
Just for Today Group		300.00
Just Show Up Group		
Keep it Real Group	100.00	100.00
Keep It Simple Group	187.00	294.00
LaBelle Group ^		200.00
Ladies Night Group		
Lambda Drummers Group		
Lehigh 12&12		
Lehigh Acres Group		
Lehigh Big Book Study Mtg		
Lehigh Happy Hour Group	25.48	25.48
Lehigh Sunday Night		
Light at Heart Group		400.00
Living Sober (ABSI) Group ^		
Living Sober by the River Group		300.00
Lunch Bunch		
Mad Hatters Group		
Maintenance Grp (Came to Believe)		
Meat & Potatoes Group ^		363.74
Men's Big Book		
Men's Recovery Group ^		250.00
Men's Stag		
Mid Day Miracles Group	56.00	226.00
Mixed Nuts		
Mon. Morning Big Book Study Group		
Mon. Morning Sanibel Big Book		75.00
Monday Beginners Big Book		
Monday Big Book Study ^	150.00	320.00
Monday Living Sober Group ^		200.00
Monday Recovery Group		
Morning After Group		388.00
Myana Group		152.90
New 7:30 Group	155.00	1178.00
NFM Sat Nite Spkr Group		400.00
Not A Glum Parking Lot Group		430.00
Nuevo Despertar		
Nuevo Horizonte		
ODAAT		296.00
Old Timer's		
Open Door Group		
Our Primary Purpose Big Book Study		400.00
Parking Lot Meeting		
PI Groupers		
PI Sisters in Sobriety Group		50.00
Pit meeting		
Plan of Recovery Group ^		716.00

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

Name	Sep	YTD
Port LaBelle Group ^		712.00
Precisely How We Have Recovered Group		
Primary Purpose Group		100.00
Primary Purpose with Joe & Charlie		
Principles in All our Affairs		
Progress Group		
Promises of Cape Coral Group		200.00
Recovery Group		
Recovery Rocks Group		1102.00
Recovery Too Group		
Refuge for Recovery		
River Reflections Group		
San Carlos Park Group		1350.00
Sanibel Approved AA Literature		
Sanibel Beginners		
Sanibel Friday Nite Spkr Group		
Sanibel Noon		
Sanibel Speaker Meeting		
Sanibel Step Meeting		
Sanibel Survivors Beach Meeting		
Sanibelles (seasonal)		
Sat Night Open Discussion Group		
Saturday Night Beginners Group		325.00
Saturday Night Women's Group ^		100.00
Serenity Group		175.00
Sermon on the Mount		
Serving Our Brothers		100.00
Singleness of Purpose Group		450.00
Sisters in Sobriety Group ^		220.00
Sisters Step Study Group		
Sober in East L.A.		115.00
Sober on the Shores Group ^		400.00
Sobriety at Six		
Soul Sisters Group		579.00
Southern Women Group ^		200.00
Spiritual Search Group	45.00	115.00
Step & Grow Group		
Step Sisters Group		391.50
Step Sisters in Sobriety Group		
Stepping with the Big Book Group ^		300.00
Stepping with the Girls Group	140.00	280.00
Steps to Awakening Group ^		828.43
Steps to Live By		
Steps to Sobriety		
Steps to Sobriety from the 12 and 12 Group		194.00
Sugarsweet Group		
Sunday Breakfast meeting		

Name	Sep	YTD
Sunday Morning Serenity Group		311.00
Sunday Night Group (ABSI Lehigh)		40.00
Sunday Speakeasy Group		
Sunlight of the Spirit Group		
Sunshine Sisters Group		142.50
Support System Group		
Survivors Group		100.00
SWFL Women's Speaker mtg		10.00
T.G.I.F.		
The Brady Bunch Group		260.00
The Islanders		250.00
The Lunch Break Big Book Meeting		
The Nooners Group		1200.00
The Serenity Group		350.00
The Shared Gift	300.00	985.00
The Way Out		
Toes in the Sand		200.00
Tough Love Group		
Tuesday Night Step		
Tuesday Night Young People's Group		200.00
Upon Awakening		
Veterans meeting		
Walk with Purpose Group ^		150.00
Way of Life Group (aka Way of Living)		200.00
Way of Living Big Book Study		
Way of Living Newcomer Workshop		
We Agnostics		
We Care Group		
Welcome Home		
What It's Like		1425.95
W.I.S.E. Group ^		589.77
Women of Willingness Group		100.00
Women of Worth Group		
Women's Big Book Group		100.00
Women's Daily Reflection meeting		
Women's Evening Meditations Group		
Young at Heart Group		285.00
Zoom Sisters Group		

CONTRIBUTIONS	SEP	YTD
Groups	1,958.48	39,433.63
Individuals	110.00	5,380.00
Monthly LCAI Meeting	50.00	468.00
Gratitude Dinner	2,655.00	3,015.00
Interest Income	39.28	488.16
Miscellaneous Income	4.73	57.87
TOTAL	4,817.49	48,842.66



CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

"There are no dues or fees for membership in A.A., but we do have expenses such as rent, refreshments, A.A. Conference-approved literature, meeting lists, and contributions to services provided by the local intergroup (central office), district and area, and the General Service Office of A.A." (P16 "The A.A. Group ... where it all begins". Reprinted with permission of A.A.W.S., Inc.

Lee County Area, District 7, suggested contributions:

50% to Lee County Intergroup
30% to District 7
10% to Area 15
10% to General Service (NY)

Lee County Area Intergroup
7050 Winkler Rd, Suite 119, Fort Myers, FL 33919
 via PayPal at: leecountyaa.org



General Service District 7
P.O. Box 61732, Fort Myers, FL 33906-1732

Area 15 Treasurer
2950 W Cypress Creek Rd, Ste 101 #1097, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
 OR via PayPal at: area15aa.org
 OR via Zelle to: Treasurer@area15aa.org

General Service Board
PO Box 2407, James A Farley Station, New York, NY 10116-2407
 OR <https://contribution.aa.org>

^ means the group rep attended the monthly Intergroup meeting

November Anniversaries



ABC Beginners

11/10/99 Phil S
11/14/23 John D

Alva AA Way

11/17/72 Larry B

Buckingham AA

11/1/10 Kenny M

Clear the Air

11/22/12 Mark N
11/3/00 Jeannie T
11/9/09 Tracy C

Courage to Change

11/22/78 Paula B
11/22/93 Susan NG
11/28/21 Jeanne G

Daily Reprieve

11/2/22 Susan A
11/24/22 Brian M
11/23/20 Jeff S
11/25/22 Pam E

Dragon Fly

11/20/16 Ingrid A
11/21/05 Michele C
11/5/14 Marissa H

FMB Sat Morn Men

11/12/21 Bob M
11/15/01 Dan H
11/25/78 Gary K
11/19/87 John R
11/1/21 Ron F

Fort Myers Shores

11/18/23 Jeremy F

Friends of Bill

11/11/10 Bryan S

LaBelle

11/23/92 Joe T

Living Sober ABSI

11/10/01 Patrick M

Meat & Potatoes

11/3/03 Tony F
11/12/22 Mel G

Monday BB Study

11/9/20 Cody F
11/12/18 Paul B

Sisters in Sobriety

11/25/11 Lisa C
11/28/90 Debi A

Stepping w/the Girls

11/17/82 Sara F

Steps to Awakening

11/7/24 Melissa S

The Nooners

11/1/15 Dave D
11/15/16 Corey B
11/26/23 Nick M

W.I.S.E.

11/11/19 Holly B
11/21/14 Laura M

R.I.P.

Wayne (YANA)

Starting next month, contributions from Anniversary Celebrants will be shared here. Usually \$1+ per year of sobriety.

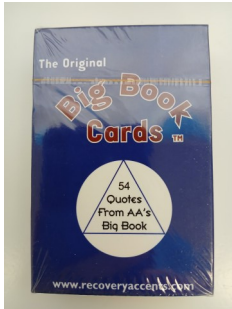
- ☐ Later
- ☐ Tomorrow
- ☐ Today
- ☒ **NOW**

1. Submit an updated anniversary list for your meeting every year.
2. If you have changed home groups, inform your previous group.
3. If you have added your name to more than one group's anniversary list, your name will only be included under one group. If you have a preference of which group, please contact the Intergroup Office.
4. When a member of your group dies, please notify the Intergroup Office so that their name can be removed from your group's list.

TWELVE SIGNS OF A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

1. An increased tendency to let things happen rather than make them.
2. Frequent attacks of smiling.
3. Feelings of being connected with others and nature.
4. Frequent overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
5. A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fears based on past experience.
6. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
7. A loss of ability to worry.
8. A loss of interest in conflict.
9. A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
10. A loss of interest in judging others.
11. A loss of interest in judging self.
12. Gaining the ability to love without expecting anything in return.

NEW DESIGNS



Many are familiar with the Big Book Cards which we have sold in the past. It is a set of 54 cards with quotes from AA's Big Book. Some of our local meetings use them to drive discussions.

They are back in stock.

Now we are also carrying Playing Cards with AA slogans and sayings on the back. It is a regular deck of 52.

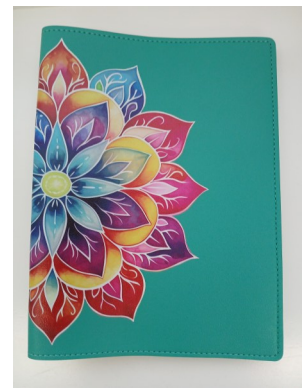
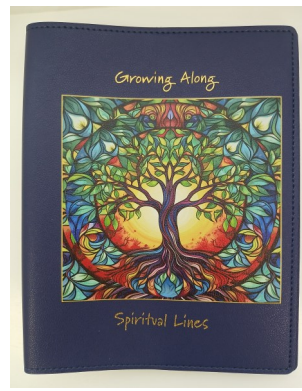
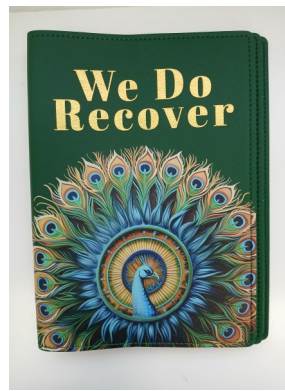
Each sells for \$5.50.

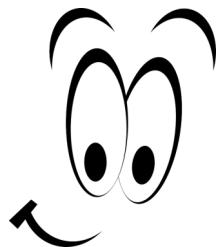


Double Book Covers for Hardcover Big Book and 12&12

We found a new vendor who has these available at a lower cost, giving us the opportunity to pass the savings on to you. Blank with medallion holder are available in black, pink, and blue. Flames on black also has a medallion holder. The following do not have a medallion holder: We Do Recover peacock design is available on green or blue; Growing Along Spiritual Lines tree is available on blue; flower mandala design is available on aqua or purple.

Each sells for \$22.50. (Our previous ones were \$29.95.)





**Port LaBelle Group's
11-year Anniversary**

October 17, 2025
Potluck 5:00pm—Speaker 6:00pm

Good Shepherd Church
1098 Collingswood Parkway, LaBelle

4th Annual Halloween Fundraiser Party

Sunday, October 26, 2025, 6pm-9pm
Tickets \$15; Kids under 12 eat free

Food. Costumes. 50/50. Family friendly.
Spooky Entertainment

Dry Palms Club
1251 Lamar Rd, North Fort Myers

**A.R.M. 10 & R.W.R. 4
The 10-4 Halloween Bash**

November 1, 2025
Doors open 4:00pm
Food served 5:00pm
Speaker 6:00pm
Admission \$20; under 12 Free

Rise Christian Church
50 Bell Blvd N, Lehigh Acres

Clean Slate Big Book Group's 10th Anniversary Breakfast Buffet

November 1, 2025
Breakfast 8:30am Breakfast—First Speaker 9:30am—Second Speaker 9:50am

Faith United Methodist Church
15690 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers 33908
In The Fellowship Hall—Building B

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LCAI's 41st Gratitude Dinner
Raising funds for our Intergroup

Saturday, November 1, 2025 * 5:00pm—9:00pm**
Faith Presbyterian Church, 4544 Coronado Pkwy, Cape Coral

Open Seating — Holiday Dinner Buffet — Music — Speaker
Tickets \$45.00

*****More volunteers needed for that day & night*****

Setup & Breakdown
Ticket collection at door
Soda sales
Intergroup literature/book table

Call the office 239-275-5111 for more information

**District 7 hosts
Carry the Message Day**

November 22, 2025
Free event
Lakes Park, Fort Myers



Intergroup's Holiday Pig Roast

December 13, 2025 , 2:00-5:00pm
Tickets \$20 — Lakes Park, Pavilion B2, Fort Myers

Fundraiser Event—meal included

You are welcome to bring your favorite
holiday sides and desserts to share.