

GOOD SHEPHERD GROUP

June 11, 1982

The initial meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous (Good Shepherd Group), was held at the Church of the Good Shepherd- 359 Grantham Avenue, St. Catharines on the a/m date; in the church hall, ground floor.

The meeting originated to assist a number of A.A. members to find a meeting on Friday Evenings in a more central area in St.Catharines.

At this time the only option available was a large busy meeting- St. Ann's Group which met on Friday evenings in the west end of the city, on St. Paul crescent, currently meeting at St. Alfred's church hall Vine St; St.Catharines.

Some of the original members and friends present at the initial and subsequent meetings of the Good Shepherd Group included- Hugh McK, Janet G, Dave McK, Bill G, Dave S, Winn & Joan, Dunc & Mary C., who were instrumental in finding the Good Shepherd Church hall, still currently the home base of the group today.

As the Good Shepherd Group became known, numerous members of other A.A. groups in the Niagara Peninsula and surrounding areas became frequent visitors.

A number of such A.A. members included Harry B., Moses S., Harry F., Doug & Alf S. Kevin and nee Willie both of the Market group, are still visitors to this day.

As with all new organizations, some initial problems were overcome, the principle complaint was the acoustics of the church hall, which was subsequently lined with sound boards, which were installed with wonderful assistance of the pastor.

The initial speaker at the first meeting was Tommy D., a long-time well respected member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

As with other A.A. groups, membership and attendance over the years has fluctuated, however the number of alcoholics who have become & stayed sober with the assistance of the Good Shepherd Group in conjunction with other such groups has made it all worthwhile.

Long may the Good Shepherd Group continue to prosper and grow and pass on the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to present & future generations- One day at a time.

Submitted by: Group Conscience