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## **General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous**

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## **MEMORANDUM**

Date: August 15, 2022

**To:** Members of the General Service Conference

From: Conference Agenda Committee

**Re:** Conference Agenda Committee Request for Theme Suggestions

Dear Friends,

The members of the 2000 Conference Agenda Committee, included in their report as an additional consideration that:

"The staff secretary prepares a letter and form to be sent out annually in early August to all Conference members to gather suggestions for the Conference theme, presentations and workshop topics."

Theme, presentation and workshop topics for each General Service Conference are discussed by delegates during the week of the Conference.

Theme, presentation and workshop topics revolve around basic principles of A.A. and can spark thought-provoking discussion at Area and district meetings as well. Regions, areas and districts may incorporate discussion of these topics into workshops, meetings, pre-Conference assemblies, etc. This gives A.A. members the opportunity to participate and become more informed about A.A.

The 2023 Conference Committee on Agenda will consider suggestions for a theme, presentation and workshop topics for 2024. We hope that you will assist us by asking members in your area to offer suggestions for the theme, workshop and presentation topics for the 74th annual meeting of the General Service Conference.

<u>Please send suggestions in by December 2, 2022</u>. A list of past Conference themes is enclosed for your reference, as well as a form for your convenience in submitting suggestions.

Email Attachments: Suggestion Form (English, French and Spanish) and Conference Themes, 1951-2023 (English, French and Spanish)

#### PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

Area Name & Number		& Number	Date	
То	:	2023 Conference Agenda Committee	<b>;</b>	
Subject:		Suggestions for the Theme, Presentation and Workshop Topics for the 74th An Meeting of the General Service Conference.		
He	ere are our	suggestions:		
>	Theme fo	or 74th Annual Meeting of the General S	ervice Conference:	
<b>&gt;</b>	Presentar	tion Topics (related to theme suggestion	ns):	
<b>&gt;</b>		p Topics:		
Pr	int your na	ame		
Co	omplete Ad	ddress		
Da	ytime Pho	one		

Email this form to: Conference Assistant, Nathalia Sande at Conferencesa@aa.org

#### Themes of the General Service Conference 1951 - 2023

- 2023 A.A.'s Three Legacies Our Common Solution
- 2022 A.A. Comes of Age 2.0: Unified in Love and Service
- 2021 A.A. in a Time of Change
- 2020 2020: A Clear Vision for You
- 2019 Our Big Book 80 Years, 71 Languages
- 2018 A.A. A Solution for All Generations
- 2017 Supporting Our Future
- 2016 Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts
- 2015 Celebrating 80 Years of Recovery, Unity and Service The Foundation of Our Future
- 2014 Communicating Our Legacies Vital in a Changing World
- 2013 The General Service Conference Takes Its Inventory Our Solution in Action
- 2012 Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age
- 2011 We are Responsible for A.A.'s Future Let it Begin With Us
- 2010 Practicing A.A.'s Principles The Pathway to Unity
- 2009 Our Commitment to Carry A.A.'s Message Enthusiasm and Gratitude in Action
- 2008 Communication and Participation The Key to Unity and Self-Support
- 2007 Our 12<sup>th</sup> Step Responsibility Are We Going to Any Length?
- 2006 Sponsorship, Service and Self-Support in a Changing World
- 2005 Basics of Our Home Group Recovery, Unity and Service
- 2004 Our Singleness of Purpose The Cornerstone of A.A.
- 2003 Living A.A.'s Principles Through Sponsorship
- 2002 Sharing the Steps, Traditions and Concepts
- 2001 Love and Service
- 2000 Trusting Our Future to A.A. Principles
- 1999 Moving Forward: Unity Through Humility
- 1998 Our Twelfth Step Work
- 1997 Spirituality Our Foundation
- 1996 Preserving Our Fellowship Our Challenge
- 1995 Pass It On Our Three Legacies
- 1994 Spirit of Sacrifice
- 1993 A.A. Takes Its Inventory The General Service Conference Structure
- 1992 The A.A. Message in a Changing World
- 1991 Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action
- 1990 The Home Group Our Responsibility and Link to A.A.'s Future
- 1989 Anonymity Living Our Traditions
- 1988 Singleness of Purpose Key to Unity
- 1987 The Seventh Tradition A Turning Point
- 1986 A.A.'s Future Our Responsibility
- 1985 Golden Moments of Reflection
- 1984 Gratitude The Language of the Heart
- 1983 Anonymity Our Spiritual Foundation
- 1982 The Traditions Our Way of Unity
- 1981 A.A. Takes Its Inventory

#### Themes of the General Service Conference 1951 - 2023

- 1980 Participation: The Key to Recovery
- 1979 The Legacies: Our Heritage and My Responsibility
- 1978 The Member and the Group Recovery Through Service
- 1977 The A.A. Group Where It Begins
- 1976 Sponsorship Our Privilege and Responsibility
- 1975 Unity Through Love and Service
- 1974 Understanding and Cooperation Inside and Outside A.A.
- 1973 Responsibility Our Expression of Gratitude
- 1972 Our Primary Purpose
- 1971 Communication: Key to A.A. Growth
- 1970 Service The Heart of A.A.
- 1969 Group Conscience Guides A.A.
- 1968 Unity Vital to A.A. Survival, Growth
- 1967 Sponsorship The Hand of A.A.
- 1966 Principles and Responsibility
- 1965 More Effective Ways to Use Tools of Service
- 1964 Sharing
- 1963 Our Common Welfare
- 1962 One Primary Purpose
- 1961 Working and Growing Together
- 1960 Need for Improved Internal and External Communications
- 1959 Confidence Absence of Fear of the Future
- 1958 Promise and Progress
- 1957 Stability and Responsibility Without Complacency
- 1956 Petition, Appeal, Participation and Decision Prinicples of A.A. Service
- 1955 A.A. Had Truly Come of Age
- 1954 Self-confidence and Responsibility
- 1953 On the Threshold of Maturity
- 1952 Progress Humility and Unity
- 1951 Genuine Faith It Begins as an Experiment and Ends as an Experience

#### Presentations recommended by Conference 1985 – 2023

2023: General Service – Our Mighty Purpose and Rhythm:

Our Common Perils and Common Solution Using A.A.'s Literature in Carrying the Message Fostering a Thriving Three Legacy Culture

2022: How do A.A.'s go to any lengths to Recover, Unify, and Serve?

Going Beyond Fear

How to Reach Anyone, Anywhere

2021: Practicing A.A.'s Spiritual Principles in a Changing World:

Recovery in a Changing World Unity in a Changing World Service in a Changing World

2020: Recovery – Who is Missing in Our Rooms?

Unity – Practicing Our Principles Service – Keeping A.A. Relevant

2019: Yesterday's World – Our Legacies Begin

Today's World – Demonstrating Integrity, Anonymity and Service

Tomorrow's World – Courage to be Vigilant

2018: Today's Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion

Participation in All of A.A. – Is My Triangle Balanced? A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets The Traditions Attraction not Promotion: A.A.'s Relation to the World

Group Conscience: The Guiding Force

2017: 1. Growth:

Diversity – Outreach and Attraction

Safety – Our Responsibility

Communication – Today and Tomorrow

2. Participation:

Fellowship vs. Membership

Leadership: "I am Responsible. . . "

Is Your Voice Heard?

3. Contributions:

Spirituality and Money

Fully Self-Supporting Our Obligations

Apathy and Power of the Purse

2016: Connecting With the Newcomer

Connecting With Each Other Connecting with A.A. as a Whole

CONFIDENTIAL: This is background for the General Service Conference, and as such may be a confidential A.A. document. Distribution is limited to A.A. members. Placement of this material in a location accessible to the public, including aspects of the Internet, such as Web sites available to the public, may breach the confidentiality of the material and the anonymity of members, since it may contain members' full names and addresses.

#### 2015: Our Common Welfare Through Gratitude in Action

- 1. Diversity in A.A. Our Heritage of Inclusion
- 2. Safety and Respect Practicing the Principles Begins in our Home Group
- 3. Safeguarding our Traditions through the Evolution of Technology
- 4. Inventory Looking Back to Move Ahead

#### 2014: Living in the Heart of A.A.:

- 1. Recovery, Unity and Service Our Responsibility
- 2. Passing It on Through Sponsorship
- 3. Participating in Our Common Welfare through Contributions
- 4. Inventory A Guiding Tool to Our Future

#### 2013: Spiritual Principles for World Service:

- 1. The Triangle More Than a Shape
- 2. The General Service Conference Inventory Why is it Necessary?
- 3. Self-Support What Does it Mean to the Fellowship?
- 4. Primary Purpose Carrying the A.A. Message

#### 2012: a: Carrying the A.A. Message:

- 1. Still Our Primary Purpose
- Social Web Sites
- 3. Young People in A.A.
- 4. Importance of Sponsorship
- b: Change Essential to A.A.'s Growth:
  - 1. Service: Our Third Legacy
  - 2. Spirit of Rotation
  - Diversity Let's Keep Our Doors Open for Any Who May Suffer from Alcoholism
  - 4. Archives Where the Past Meets the Present

#### 2011: a: Alcoholics Anonymous in a Digital Age:

- 1. Practicing Our Traditions in a Digital Age
- 2. Carrying A.A.'s Message Online
- 3. Grapevine "A.A.'s Meeting in Print" and More . . .
- b. An Informed Group Conscience: The Voice of A.A.:
  - 1. Self-Support Where Do Money and Spirituality Mix?
  - 2. Humility Accepting the Group Conscience
  - 3. An Informed Group Conscience Using the Three Legacies
- c. Diversity in A.A.:
  - 1. The Language of the Heart is Spoken Here
  - 2. The Hand of A.A. Inclusive Never Exclusive
  - 3. Tradition Five Our Primary Purpose
- d. Sponsorship:
  - 1. Importance of a Home Group
  - 2. Leading by Example Attraction Not Promotion
  - 3 Recovery, Unity, Service

- 2010: a: Practicing These Principles in All Our "Service" Affairs:
  - 1. What is the Difference Between General Service and Service in General?
  - 2. Love and Tolerance is Our Code
  - 3. Setting an Example Attraction to Service
  - b: Unity Through Inventory:
    - 1. Our Common Welfare Should Come First
    - 2. This We Owe to A.A.'s Future
    - 3. What Happens After Inventory?
  - c: General Service Conference Agenda Selection Process:
    - 1. How it Works.
    - 2. Collective Participation.
    - 3. Communication The Key to an Informed Decision
- 2009: a: Humility and Sacrifice:
  - 1. Setting an Example
  - 2. Changing Our Perceptions
  - 3. Anonymity Sacrificing Our Egos
  - b: Enthusiasm and Gratitude:
    - 1. Hope and Purpose from Defeat and Despair
    - 2. Happy, Joyous and Free
    - 3. Enthusiasm A Gift of Inventory
  - c: Spiritual Program in Action:
    - 1. Maximum Service Our Spiritual Benefit
    - 2. Persistence The Key to Progress
    - 3. Living the Traditions
- 2008: a. Communication and Participation:
  - 1. Sharing the Message of Service
  - 2. Our Key to Keeping A.A. Strong
  - 3. Leadership in A.A.: Building Communication
  - b: Unitv
    - 1. Our Common Welfare Should Come First
    - 2. Principles Before Personalities
    - 3. Diversity: Reaching Out to All Alcoholics
  - c: Self-Support:
    - 1. Self-Supporting Through Members' Voluntary Contributions Only
    - 2. Contempt Prior to Investigation
    - 3. Responsibility to Communicate and Participate
- 2007: a. Inclusiveness in A.A.:
  - 1. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Tradition
  - 2. Growth of the Fellowship
  - 3. Reaching Out to All Who Want It
  - b. Our Primary Purpose:
    - 1. Attraction Rather Than Promotion

- 2. Working with Wet Drunks
- 3. Practicing These Principles in All Our Affairs
- c. Humility and Responsibility:
  - 1. Expressed by Anonymity
  - 2. Are We Resting on Our Laurels?
  - 3. Raising Literature Prices or Footing the Bill?

#### 2006: a. Sponsorship:

- 1. Presenting A.A. to Newcomers
- 2. Changes in the Alcoholic Coming to A.A.
- 3. Sponsorship Into Sobriety, Into Service
- b. Service:
  - 1. Performing Service Without Expectations
  - 2. Leadership An Ever Vital Need
  - 3. Responsibility With Accountability
- c. Self-Support:
  - 1. An Informed Group Conscience
  - 2. Gratitude through Self-Sacrifice

#### 2005: a. Recovery:

- 1. "How It Works" in Our Home Group
- 2. Carrying the Message Through Practicing the Principles of Our Daily Lives
- b. Unity:
  - "Love and Tolerance of Others is Our Code" (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 84)
  - 2. The Basket Where Money and Spirituality Mix
  - 3. The Spiritual Principle of Our Twelfth Tradition
- c. Service:
  - 1. Concept One Final Responsibility and Ultimate Authority
  - 2. Minority Opinion Are We Listening?
  - 3. Leadership Responsibility for A.A.'s Future Concept Nine

#### 2004: a. Our Singleness of Purpose:

- 1. Our Responsibility to the Newcomer
- 2. Communicating Our Singleness of Purpose
- b. The Cornerstone of A.A.:
  - 1. Safeguarding Our Unity
  - 2. The Role of the Home Group
  - 3. Traditions Three and Five: Our Members, Our Message

#### 2003: a. Sponsorship:

- 1. Responsibilities of Sponsorship
- 2. Is Sponsorship Fading Away?
- 3. Working with Medical Practitioners, Other Professionals and Friends
- b. Principles:
  - 1. What are the Principles?

#### 2. Living the Principles, Accepting Our Differences

#### 2002: a. Unity:

- Spirit of Rotation—Letting Go!
- 2. Does Our Committee System Work?
- 3. The Internet—A Part of or Apart From?
- b. Inventory:
  - 1. A.A. Literature—Is It Being Utilized or Collecting Dust?
  - 2. Seventh Tradition and Spirituality—Do They Really Mix?

#### 2001: a. Sponsorship:

- 1. The Home Group
- 2. Sponsorship into Service
- 3. Never Too Late to Get a Sponsor
- b. Language of the Heart:
  - 1. Listening to the Language of the Heart
  - 2. Sharing Experience, Strength and Hope
  - 3. Passing On Our Three Legacies
- c. The G.S.R.'s Role in A.A.:
  - 1. In the Home Group
  - 2. Link to the District. Area and G.S.O.
  - 3. Guardian of the Traditions

#### 2000: a. Recovery:

- 1. Trust the God of Your Understanding
- 2. Clean House
- 3. Work With Others
- b. Unity:
  - 1. Our Common Welfare
  - 2. The Informed Group Conscience and Substantial Unanimity
  - 3. Practicing Genuine Humility Through Anonymity
- c. Service:
  - 1. Am Responsible...
  - 2. Our Primary Purpose
  - Spirit of Rotation

#### 1999: a. Our Responsibility to A.A. Unity:

- 1. Home Group
- 2. A.A. Service Structure
- 3. A.A. Worldwide
- b. Many Faces—One Fellowship
  - 1. Accepting Our Differences
  - 2. I Am Responsible...
  - 3. Principles Before Personalities
- c. Our Future Together:
  - 1. Sponsorship
  - 2. A.A. Literature

#### 3. Tradition Seven

- 1998: a. Our Twelfth Step Work:
  - 1. Reaching the Newcomer
  - 2. Carrying This Message
  - 3. Back to Basics
  - b. Tools for Twelfth Stepping:
    - 1. The A.A. Member
    - 2. Sponsorship
    - 3. Literature
  - c. Diversity of Twelfth Step Work:
    - 1. Home Group
    - 2. Service Structure
    - 3. Around the World
- 1997: a. Group Conscience—Seeking Our Ultimate Authority
  - b. Carrying A.A.'s Message Around the World
  - c. The Hat—Where Money and Spirituality Mix
- 1996: a. Preserving Our Fellowship—Let It Begin With Me
  - b. Preserving Our Fellowship—Carrying Our Original Message
  - c. Preserving Our Fellowship—Unity and Spirituality in All Our Affairs
- 1995: a. Pass It On: Recovery—Our First Legacy
  - b. Pass It On: Unity—Our Second Legacy
  - c. Pass It On: Service—Our Third Legacy
- 1994: a. Spirit of Sacrifice: Bill's and Dr. Bob's Farewell Messages:

Bill's Message

Dr. Bob's Message

b. Spirit of Sacrifice in the Long Form of the Traditions:

Traditions One, Two and Three

Traditions Four, Five and Six

c. Spirit of Sacrifice in the Long Form of the Traditions:

Traditions Seven, Eight and Nine

Traditions Ten, Eleven and Twelve

1993: a. A.A. Takes Its Inventory

The Purpose of the General Service Conference

The A.A. Conference Relation to A.A.

The General Service Conference and Its General Procedures

b. A.A. Takes Its Inventory

Conference Relation to the General Service Board and Its Corporate Services

The General Service Board: Composition, Jurisdiction, Responsibilities

- c. The General Warranties of the Conference
- d. A.A. Takes Its Inventory: Finance

e. A.A. Takes Its Inventory: The Grapevine

1992: a. The A.A. Message in a Changing World

Our Common Welfare Unity: Together We Can

The Language of the Heart Worldwide

b. The Joy of Living

The Newcomer: A.A.'s Future Principles Before Personalities Humility Through Rotation

- c. Love and Service
- d. G.S.O. Finances

1991: a. Sponsorship

Help and Hope I Am Responsible A Way of Life

b. Our Collective Humility

How We Identify Ourselves

Anonymity—Our Spiritual Foundation

In All Our Affairs

Self-support Project—Five Years Later

G.S.O. Finances

1990: a. The Importance of the Home Group

In Recovery For Unity For Service

I OI Selvice

b. Sponsorship

In Recovery For Unity For Service

- c. Self-support
- d. G.S.O. Finances

1989: a. Self-support

- b. G.S.O. Finances
- c. Anonymity

How It Developed Its Necessity Today

**Principles Before Personalities** 

d. Back to Basics

The Group in the Structure

Sponsorship in Recovery and Service

A.A. Literature—Tool or Mandate

1988: a. Self-support

b. Singleness of Purpose—Key to Unity

Groups vs. Meetings

Are We Being Too Friendly with Our Friends? Our Primary Purpose—Is Our Message Clear?

c. Focus on the Positive

Communications—Challenges What Are We Doing Right? Spirit of Rotation

Spirit of Rotation

1987: a. Are We Carrying the Message to All?

b. Area Structure

General Service Representative District Committee Member

Area Committee

Delegate

c. Finance

Can G.S.O. be Self-supporting Through Group Contributions Only?

What About the Birthday Plan?

Could Groups Pledge Contributions?

Group Support to District, Area and Intergroup

d. Maintaining the Basics—A.A.'s Principles

Our Primary Purpose

The Twelve Steps

The Twelve Traditions

The Twelve Concepts—How Can We Live the Concepts in Service?

e. Right of Decision

1986: a. The Committee System

Do We Trust It?

Does It Eliminate Conflict?

b. Responsibility in Service

Why Are You a General Service Representative?

Why Are You a District Committee Member?

Why Are You an Area Officer?

Why Are You a Trustee?

c. Trusted Servants

Do We Trust Them?

Ultimate Authority—Are We Listening?

Are Trusted Servants Informed?

The Importance of Rotation

1985: (Presentation and/or workshop for 1985)

a. Will the Hand of A.A. Always Be There?

The Middle Years of Sobriety—A Dangerous Time

Are We Diluting Ourselves?

8 of 9

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Communication Within the Fellowship

- b. The Warranties
- c. Beyond the Seventh Tradition—Group Responsibility In the Meeting Place To the Newcomer
- d. Fifty Years of Caring and Sharing
  In Treatment Centers
  In Correctional Facilities
  With Young People
  In the Group
- e. The G.S.R.—The Key Role
  Obtaining the Most Qualified Member
  The Service Sponsor

# Workshop Topics Recommended by General Service Conference 1985 – 2023

2023:	Practicing Our Twelve Traditions Across All Group Settings.
2022:	The Warranties – Our Promise to the Fellowship and the World
2021:	Inform - Communicate Involve - Act Inspire - Attract
2020:	Attraction Through Action
2019:	Clarity of Purpose – Addressing the Needs of Our Meetings
2018:	Getting the A.A. Message Out
2017:	Anonymity – The Spiritual Foundation
2016:	G.S.B. Brainstorming Ideas – no Workshop
2015:	Conference Inventory – no Workshop
2014:	Conference Inventory – no Workshop
2013:	Conference Inventory – no Workshop
2012:	Safety in A.A.: Our Common Welfare
2011:	How to Increase Participation in A.A. – Striving for Self-Support in All Our Affairs
2010:	Discuss the General Service Agenda Selection Process
2009:	Language of the Heart – Keeping It Simple
2008:	Love and Tolerance, Now More Than Ever
2007:	Spiritual Value of Our A.A. Dollars
2006:	Passing It On in a Changing World
2005:	Do I Carry the A.A. Message Or My Own?
2004:	How is Singleness of Purpose Important to the Individual, Group, District, Area, G.S.O. and Grapevine Office?
2003:	Sponsorship – Remembering to Practice Our Principles
2002:	Using the Steps, Traditions and Concepts in Our Daily Lives

#### 2001: Love and Service

- a. Carrying the A.A. Message of Service
- b. Living the A.A. Principles in All Our Affairs
- c. Maintaining the Spirit of Anonymity

#### 2000: Trusting Our Future to A.A. Principles

- a. Twelve Steps
- b. Twelve Traditions
- c. Twelve Concepts

#### 1999: Moving Forward: Unity Through Humility

- a. Harmony in the A.A. Community
- b. Principle of Rotation
- c. Spiritual Significance of Anonymity

#### 1998: Our Twelfth Step Work

- a. In the Home Group
- b. In the Service Structure
- c. Around the World

#### 1997: Spirituality – Our Foundation

- a. Spirit of Rotation
- b. Working with Faith, Serving with Love
- c. Unity We are Responsible

#### 1996: Preserving Our Fellowship - Our Challenge

- a. Through Your Home Group
- b. Through Your District
- c. Through Your Conference Area

#### 1995: How We Pass It On:

- a. Our Basic Message
- b. Sponsorship in Recovery and Service
- c. Communication The Language of A.A.

#### 1994: The Twelfth Step in Action:

- a. Where have we been?
- b. Where are we now?
- c. Where are we going?

## 1993: A.A. Takes Its Inventory—The General Service Conference Structure (Focus to be on the other six articles of the Conference Charter)

A Vision for Us-Where Are We and Where Are We Going?

#### 1992: The A.A. message in a Changing World

1991: a. Sponsorship: Gratitude in Action

b. Sponsorship: Our Three Legacies

c. Sponsorship: The Hand of A.A.

1990: a. Home Group—Where Love and Service Begin

b. Home Group—Our Link to the Fellowship

c. Home Group—Our Responsibility and Link to A.A.'s Future

1989: Anonymity—Our Past, Present and Future or

Anonymity—Living Our Traditions

Love and Service

1988: Our Singleness of Purpose—Key to Unity

(Per conference: A second workshop be scheduled, if time permits, with the subject to be determined at the trustees' Conference Committee's discretion)

1987: Unity—Let's Talk About It

Living Sober—Growing Together or Growing Apart?

1986: a. Letting Go of Old Ideas:

New Ways of Carrying the A.A. Message

Are We Getting Too Rigid?

b. A.A.'s Impact on the World

Are We Being Friendly With Our Friends?

How A.A. Cooperates

1985: (Presentation and/or workshop for 1985)

 a. Will the Hand of A.A. Always Be There?
 The Middle Years of Sobriety—A Dangerous Time Communication Within the Fellowship

- b. The Warranties
- c. Beyond the Seventh Tradition—Group Responsibility

In the Meeting Place

To the Newcomer

d. Fifty Years of Caring and Sharing

In Treatment Centers

In Correctional Facilities

With Young People

In the Group

e. The G.S.R.—The Key Role

Obtaining the Most Qualified Member

The Service Sponsor