

## New Freedom Group History

The New Freedom Group of Alcoholics Anonymous began as a meeting in April of 1975. The meeting was set up by Jerry T. and Barbara J. and met on Friday nights in the Covenant Presbyterian Church on Gaines School Rd. Giving support to the meeting and its desires to become an official group was Floyd B. from the Oconee County Group in Watkinsville. Due to delayed paperwork, the meeting was not listed as an official group until 3/24/76. Barbara was the first GSR of the group and Jerry was the contact person. There were 5 members at that time.

In the period 1979 through 1983 the group remained at such a low membership that it reverted back to a meeting instead of a group. There is no record of any permanent trusted servants being named during that time. Dr. Bill T., Jim H., Emory S., Irene J. and others took turns attending to the business of the meetings. Other early members were Beany H., Dortha D., Bill S., Jerry McC., and Nelson R.

In 1983 through 1984, Vicki A. was treasurer. There is no record of the GSR in those years. In 1985 Rose Mary K. was elected treasurer along with Lester E. as GSR. Rose Mary remained treasurer for the next four years. Lester was replaced as GSR by Jim S. in 1986. Jim reestablished formal contact with the General Service Office in New York and New Freedom has been a viable group since.

The group has grown from 20 members in 1989 to 35 by 1991 and 43 in 2013. Meetings continue twice weekly (8:00 PM Tuesdays and Fridays) at Covenant Presbyterian Church. There is a discussion meeting as well as a literature study on both nights. New Freedom's Group Conscience adheres firmly to the traditions and concepts of AA and is fully represented at the state and district levels. The group celebrates its anniversary every year as the oldest group in Athens meeting in the same place.

NEW FREEDOM GROUP  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
1065 Gaines School Rd  
Athens 30605

