

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AREA 86 DISTRICT 12 MARKET GROUP HISTORY

The Market Group was initially started by two brothers: Joe and Alf S. Joe, coming from the Central Group (started in September 1947). The first meeting of the Market Group was held on Friday August 13th, 1948 in the Lyceum Lecture Hall on Church St. at the corner of William Street.

The group moved to the Roman Catholic Parish Hall at 68 Church St., site of the current Regional Police Department. When the Parish Hall was demolished, the group moved across the street to the cathedral. The meetings were held on Thursday nights at 9:00 pm.

Renovations to the cathedral caused the group to move to Welland Ave. United Church at 6 Henry St. on August 7, 1986. To accommodate church activities the meeting was changed to Monday night at 9:00 pm.

In the late nineties the time of the meeting changed to 8:00 pm. The group moved to the CAW Hall in June 2008 and the meeting was changed to Tuesday nights.

In the summer of 2012, the CAW Hall was sold and the Market Group moved to its present location at the St. Columba Anglican Church on St. Columba Drive. The meeting also changed to Wednesday night.

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic in March of 2020 it forced the closing of all the churches for all Alcoholics Anonymous meetings making them scramble to find a new location to have meetings.

On November 25, 2020 the Market Group found a new home at the Silver Spire Church at 366 St Paul Street. Market Group is still at 8:00 pm Open Speaker Meeting and still held on Wednesday nights.

The Market Group has an active membership and is a well attended, Open Speaker Meeting.

Submitted December 1, 2020