

2022 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums

ITEM A: Discuss update report on methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.

Background Notes:

2021 Conference Committee on ICRF consideration:

The committee had a thoughtful and wide-ranging discussion regarding methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention, particularly the use of the Lord's Prayer and the understanding that although the prayer is part of the history of A.A. and is widely used and supported in some areas, it could make some members feel excluded and support the perception of A.A. as a religious organization. The committee also discussed possible options to the Lord's Prayer including, the Third Step Prayer, the Seventh Step Prayer and A.A.'s Declaration of Unity.

The committee agreed that it would be beneficial to gather additional shared experience from the Fellowship to make an informed decision. The committee requested that the trustees' International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee explore the preference of the Fellowship regarding methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention by use of a survey through multiple communication platforms (e.g., *Box 4-5-9*, AA Grapevine/La Viña, etc.); and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums.

Background:

1. [February 2022 update report](#)

**METHODS OF CLOSING THE BIG MEETINGS AT THE
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

February 2022 Update Report

At their July 29, 2021, meeting, the trustees' committee discussed the Conference committee consideration regarding use of the Lord's Prayer and agreed that a survey distributed to the Fellowship may be the best method to gather wider sharing from the Fellowship regarding the use of the Lord's Prayer at International Conventions; however, the committee agreed it best to table implementation until 2022/2023.

At their October 2021 the committee reviewed and discussed the draft survey designed to gather information from the Fellowship and utilize the responses to help inform the planning process. The committee provided suggested revisions and requested that the Staff secretary implement the changes and provide a redraft to the committee prior to finalizing the survey.

At their January 2022 meeting, the committee reviewed and discussed the draft survey designed to gather information from the Fellowship to help inform the planning process for the 2025 International Convention. The committee requested revisions that the staff secretary will implement and provide a redraft for the committee's review and approval at the special meeting in February 2022.

It should be noted that it is anticipated that a question regarding the use of the Lord's Prayer will be added to the survey dispatched at year end and not the initial survey.

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