

Embrace
Acceptance
Transformation
**Recovery
Sunday**
Welcoming
Healing Truth
Wholeness
Community

5 Ways to Make Your Parish Safe and Welcoming to Those in Recovery

1. Speak openly about addiction. Share recovery stories in sermons. Make recovery-talk normative. Own that *many* Episcopalians deal with addictions of various kinds. Its real life; there is no shame.
2. Provide non-alcoholic wine at Eucharist, just as we provide gluten-free wafers.
3. Bless “recovery birthdays” along with anniversaries and “regular” birthdays.
4. Invite 12 step groups to use church meeting rooms; consider them a real part of the parish. Build relationships with “12-steppers.” Clergy can sit in on Open Meetings from time to time to learn from the group’s wisdom. The church and recovery groups have much to learn from each other.
5. Periodically offer Christian formation around recovery topics. Invite folks in recovery to speak and share their experience, strength and hope with parishioners.