

Zoom Meeting  
American Baptist Women of Maine  
March 9, 2022

Twelve ladies joined together for our meeting. Some regulars opted to attend the prayer meeting at their church.

The special speaker for tonight was the Rev. Dr. Al Fletcher, Regional Resource Minister for American Baptist of Maine. Al opened with prayer and shared devotions.

Think like a hot fudge sundae that runs over the edge of the dish. Can't miss a drop of a tastie delight. Scripture is like that hot fudge sundae, it runs over the edge. Ephesians 3:18b says, "may you have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ" a love that over flows.

Through Covid we have become indifferent, in our isolation. Studies show that only 2/3 of congregations have returned to live, in person, church. Online church is not the same. We need to touch shoulder with others and to live and love who God is and what He has done for us.

Studies prove that those who regularly attend church are healthier physically, mentally and emotionally.

We need to know others are praying for us and we need to pray and think of others. Do something for others. Send them a thinking of you note or deliver them a meal. There are so many little things we can do to brighten someone's day.

Study church buildings! What is in the parking lot daily? Studies show that more attend church Monday- Saturday than on Sunday; Bible Study, prayer meeting, youth groups, mission work, cleaning, to be alone with God and so much more. The church needs to benefit the community, to put value back into the community. Church is more than one hour per week.

We need to gather with others, to share, accept and experience the love of God. Share your faith. Stretch and grow!

Al also shared that Andy Sullivan went home on Monday. His funeral is Saturday. Russ Hartley's wife also went home this week. Jim King has had a stroke and is in Maine Medical Center in Portland. We must remember Mary Jane and family, Russ Hartley's family and Jim's family with prayer, card and notes.

Doris shared plans for the spring rally's. Speaker at the north rally will be Shelly Good. She is the pastor of the Westfield Baptist Church. She is also a psychology professor at the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Her topic is "The Healing and Love of Jesus".

The south rally's speaker is Danielle Ware of Penny Memorial Baptist Church, where she is Coordinator of Child and Family Ministries

Andrea, chair of the constitution and bylaws committee, reports they are at work and nothing is ready to present.

Julie Tankersley, Coordinator of the East Section of ABW, was in attendance. She reported on the upcoming "Virtual Tea Celebration to Nourish the Soul" to be held March 26, 2:00-3:30 EDT. Everyone is to wear a hat.

Julie also hopes to attend our summer conference. It is written on her calendar.

Julie also suggested as a way of keeping in touch with other women is to share a recipe.

Linda reported that our website is now available on the American Baptist Women's website.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Martha*