


March | April 2024

NNED NEWS



...the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’” Then they remembered his words. When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

Luke 24: 5b-9



Superintendent

Dan Abbatiello

THE PRAYER FORCE

Think back to that great Pentecostal prayer meeting in the book of Acts. *“These all with **one mind** were continually devoted to prayer...”* (Acts 1:14). This prayer effort was the prelude to a new era. The great revival that followed that prayer meeting brought the outpouring of the Spirit and the expansion of Christianity throughout the Roman world. We need a fresh move of the Holy Spirit today that will revive and renew us and prayer is our beginning point.



Probably no one in history did more to advance the cause of Christ than the Apostle Paul and his launching pad was a praying church - the church at Antioch. *“While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘set apart for me Barnabas and Saul to the work which I have called them.’ Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.”* (Acts 13:2) The most powerful ministry in Christian history started from a church prayer meeting.

God can, has and does act on His own, but most of the time He desires our participation. Therefore, we must not sit back and merely wait for something to happen; we must pray. Prayer is essential to forward progress in our mission to win the lost.

My desire is to see literally thousands of Assembly of God congregants around Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire, praying together, collectively exercising their faith, and believing God for fresh vision, unity, a fresh touch of the Spirit, people saved, healed, delivered, set free, baptized in the Spirit, and called into ministry. Just the thought of that level of solidarity excites me.

I believe the Lord has given us some goals to direct our prayer that will move us forward in fulfilling the great commission, they are:

- For every church to participate in the “Prayer Force.”
- For 5000 individuals to sign up and participate in the “Prayer Force.”
- For every church to dedicate a portion of each service for corporate prayer.
- For every church to create an environment safe enough to enable people to deal with the deep emotional wounds that thwart authentic spiritual transformation.
- For believers to have a heart for the lost and courage to share their faith.
- For every church to implement a discipleship strategy thus creating a missional and multiplication mindset.
- For churches to make a positive contribution the community in which they are located.

If you have yet to sign up for the Prayer Force there are a number of ways you can join.

- Fill out a hard copy prayer card, provided by your pastor.
- Go to the Northern New England District website.
- Scan the QR code.



Scan the QR Code, or go to
www.nnedaog.org to sign up.



Secretary/Treasurer

Ed Shearer

PRAISE GOD

*Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.
Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre,
praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe,
praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

Praise the Lord.

Psalm 150

In just a few weeks, we will commemorate the suffering, death and then the resurrection of Jesus. Easter, along with Christmas, are major celebrations for the church each year. As followers of Christ, we have sober moments when we contemplate the cost of sin and our own struggle to live a life worthy of the Lord. However, we cannot forget that Christ died to free us and that He lives again, which brings us to a time of celebration.

In his book, *Celebration of Discipline*, Richard Foster shares thirteen practices that we as Christians should strive to make a part of our lives. Practices such as meditation, prayer, fasting, study, simplicity, solitude, submission, and service help us develop individually. He also includes corporate disciplines such as confession, worship, guidance. But the last discipline that he lists as the culmination is celebration. Many of the disciplines are seen as being sober and that they should be done with a “pious” or “proper” attitude, but as Christians we must realize that in everything we rejoice in the Lord.

We must celebrate the Lord, not with silliness but with true worship. We praise Him! Look at what He has done. In Hebrews 13, the writer starts with the example of Christ’s death on the cross, and the disgrace He carried because of our sin, but then states in verse 15, “*Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that confess His name.*” We celebrate the death of the Savior because of what He accomplished through that death. And because of His resurrection, we celebrate the new life He has given us, the promise that death’s sting is venomless. When a Christian dies, we can truly celebrate because they are in the presence of the Lord, a place where we long to be one day. Praise the Lord!

When praise to the Lord is continually on our lips. When we can continually find joy in what He has done, or is doing. When we can as Paul says, “*Rejoice in the Lord always, let me repeat that “Again I say rejoice.”* (Phil 4:4) We find ourselves in a place where, because of our trust in Him, we can celebrate even in the midst of trials and tribulations. Instead of letting our spirit become depressed and heavy, we trust in the Lord which allows us to lose anxiety, and bring our requests to the Lord with thanksgiving. We can celebrate because we know what He has done.

In our worship, we can proclaim His greatness. Just as Psalms 150 says use instruments, use your voice. Praise the Lord. The words of a song from a few years ago said it this way:

I will celebrate, sing until the Lord, I will sing to Him a new song.

I will praise Him, I will sing to Him a new song

And then repeats

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelu, Hallelujah

During this Easter season, remember what the Lord has done, and celebrate. Praise the Lord!

Northern New England NWM

with Rev. Abi Cyr

WHY THE NETWORK OF WOMEN MINISTERS?

OUR MISSION

Mobilizing Women to Fulfill their Ministerial Call

OUR GOAL

Advocate | Collaborate | Train



BELIEF STATEMENT

The image of God is best reflected and the Church of Jesus Christ is healthiest when both men and women are empowered to fulfill their calling at every level of ministerial leadership.

**Women in ministry, help us serve you.
Follow the QR code to connection surveys.**



WOMEN
PURSUING
INITIAL or NEXT
CREDENTIAL



WOMEN
CREDENTIAL
HOLDERS

*Our former Superintendent, Pastor Dennis Marquardt,
encouraged the formation of our regional NWM group.
Our current Superintendent, Pastor Dan Abbatiello,
continues the efforts to mobilize women to fulfill their call
toward Kingdom expansion in Northern New England.*

~ Q & A with PASTOR DAN ~

Q: Are there some notable women in ministry who have impacted your walk with the Lord?

The first person that came to mind is Sister Mary Corvene. She was my pastor from when I received Christ at age 5 till I was about 13. She was a powerful preacher, manifested the gifts of the Spirit and was strong leader. Prior to being elected to as our pastor she traveled as an evangelist. Her election could be considered unexpected since the church was an ethnic Italian church – a church which you might suppose to be quite patriarchal and prefer a man as pastor. Nevertheless she was elected and did an excellent job. Under her ministry the church grew to a point of needing a new building which was built and paid it off in 5 years. Her strongest emphasis was missions. Every year we had a missionary convention. Eight straight days, ten services, ten missionaries, it was truly a highlight of every year. My mom received Christ under her ministry and my sister and I followed suit close after. Not only do I attribute my foundation in Christ to her but she was also formative in my love for missions and call to ministry. She of course is with the Lord now but her legacy lives on.

Q: What do you see as the benefits for the church and the world when men and women are ministering side by side?

I think this question is about widening and deepening perspective. Women hear and see things differently than men. The addition of a female perspective allows for better and more complete decision making and increases the “bandwidth” of ministry. Although Angela does not hold a credential, she has worked side by side with me for all 49 years of our ministry. And she is a powerful minister in her own right. I would not have been able to be effective in fulfilling God’s call without her ministry and perspective.

Q: What are some possible barriers for women in ministry in our district, and how can we begin to overcome them?

Paul told Timothy, “Let no one look down on your youthfulness but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself to be an example of those who believe” (1 Timothy 4:12). I would give every woman called of God the same advice, just change the word “youthfulness” to “womanhood.” Don’t let anyone look down on your womanhood. The AG has opened the door to women in ministry at every level of credential so be willing to pursue the call of God regardless of potential opposition.

Q: What do you want the next generation of called women in NNED to know?

I want called women to know that the call of God is not restricted by which set of chromosomes we possess. If God has called you to ministry please obey.



Around the District

Pastoral Commissioning

Grace Assembly of God, Woodsville, NH
January 14, 2024



Rev. Alan & Priscilla Thompson
Rev. Dan Abbatiello

One Year Anniversary

Riverside Church, Exeter, NH
January 28, 2024



Rev. Aaron & Barb Grass

Pastoral Commissioning

Bethel Church, Oakfield, ME
February 4, 2024



Rev. Reggie & Joanne Adams
Rev. Dan Abbatiello

Pastoral Commissioning

Green Mountain Christian Center
Bennington, VT
February 11, 2024



Rev. Eric & Sarah Graffam
Rev. Dan & Angela Abbatiello
Rev. John Goyette

Pastoral Commissioning

Cambridge Christian Fellowship
Cambridge, VT
February 25, 2024



Rev. Kris & Teresa Davis
Rev. Dan & Angela Abbatiello

The Collective Journey Retreat

January 18-19, 2024



2024 Invest Conference

May 6-7, 2024

Restoration Church, Plymouth Campus
Plymouth, NH

Our Guest Speakers:



Rev. Dale Everett



Dr. Linda Seiler

breathe

SPRING EXPERIENCE

with KELSEY DOMENY
coach, speaker, author, podcast host



REGISTRATION togetherwomen.net
\$35 until 2 weeks prior to each event // \$45 at door

SATURDAY SCHEDULE
9am check in & coffee hour // 10am - 3pm event

Together
GROW · LEAD · LOVE

MARCH 16th
Connect Community
Portsmouth NH

MARCH 23rd
Church of the Rock
St. Albans VT

APRIL 6th
Community AG
Lincoln ME

APRIL 13th
Kennebec Valley AG
Chelsea ME



Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Psalm 150:6

SUBSCRIPTION IS FREE UPON REQUEST

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