



2016

Washington County Republican Women

Luncheon Meeting Minutes

Abbey Inn, 11:30 a.m. January 7th, 2016

WCRW regularly scheduled luncheon was called to order at 12:00 pm by President Judy Houston.

Prayer was given by Diane Adams

Pledge was given by Ralph Atkin

Announcements were given by President Judy Houston. The announcements included Republican Women Day at the Capitol on Monday February 1st at 11 a.m. and instructions to review the proposed bylaws changes on the WCRW website before our meeting next month where they will be voted on.

Introduction of Guests/New Members was conducted by Lesa Sandberg

Introduction of Guest Speaker by Cleo Atkin

Guest Speaker J. Ralph Atkin shared his experiences and insights on the Middle East, Islam, and Muslims from his experience living and serving a mission in Turkey. His premise was that perhaps American Christians and Middle Eastern Muslims have more in common than we realize. He shared stories that highlighted the good people living in the Middle East who are often demonized by the news media based on radical groups like ISIS.

There are 3 million Syrian refugees in Turkey. They are not allowed to be employed, so many beg on the streets. There is no freedom of religion or freedom of speech in Turkey. ISIS is present there recruiting families by offering lavish vacations and millions of dollars.