

Young at Heart

Newsletter FEBRUARY

JANUARY LUNCHEON— CANCELLED

January 12th, we had scheduled Stan (the Magic Man) Good as our special guest magician.

Unfortunately, a large number of you cancelled your reservations for this luncheon because of the cold and also threat of snow. We cancelled the January luncheon and have rescheduled Stan for our July 13th luncheon. That will be a fun program.

FEBRUARY DAY TRIP (Feb 4)

I know everyone missed having a day trip in January. But we have a great one planned for February 4 to make up for that. We scheduled this one earlier in the month and will be going to the Cedarville University to see the play "Much Ado About Nothing". We will be leaving the church at 8:30AM and returning after lunch.

Much Ado About Nothing mixes every element of great storytelling into one delightful romp. All the opposing forces are there—suspicion and loyalty, deception and honor, jealousy and true love. And no opposing forces are more delightful to watch than Benedick and Beatrice. Their merry war of wits creates a hilarious backdrop for their transformation from sassy singles to sentimental spouses, while Claudio and Hero are reunited after the truth of Don John's venomous and divisive plot against them is revealed.

Experience the triumph of love in this lively production filled with music, celebration, and a cast of some of Shakespeare's most clever characters!

Special Note: Since we did not have a luncheon on January and this program precedes our February Luncheon, you will need to call the office to get your name added to our list! Call 434-4676 if you want to be added!

YOU ARE SPECIAL!

You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.

Do you know that you are special? Some of you who are introverts are saying, "Who me -- naw, not me, I'm just ordinary." See if you still feel that way after reading Col. 1:22-23 -- "yet now He has brought you back as His friends. He has done this through His death on the cross in His own human body. As a result, He has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before Him without a single fault."

Think of it, God who created the universe is your personal friend because of what Christ did. That makes you 'special.' Excuse the language, but "God don't make no junk!" You ARE special, so hold your head high and act like it.

The verse above is followed by an obligation in verse 23 -- "But you must continue to believe this truth and stand in it firmly. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the good news..." We can't just say, "I believe" and then walk away without being changed for the better. You need what some of us used to call 'sticktoitiveness.'

It's easy to get all caught up in the emotion of a moment, but when you are through shouting and your feet land back on the floor, that's when you prove what kind of stuff you are really made of. **YOU ARE LOVED!**

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON (Feb 9)

This year we are fortunate to have Dayton Christian Schools groups entertain us several times. I know everyone enjoyed the program that they did for us in December. Our February program will be a little different and will include some great Jazz music. Brian Stiffler is their leader. You won't want to miss this program of special music by the kids.



MARCH

Luncheon (Mar 9)

Chris Thompson will provide a vocal concert and may bring along some friends for support and help. Chris brought a similar concert last year and it was very enjoyable.

Day Trip (Mar 23)

The Sign Museum in Cincinnati is a new location for us and I think it will be a very interesting experience. Bring your cameras and let's enjoy some memories of the "signs of the times". Our family traveled extensively when I was growing up and we spent many days (and weeks) in the car. One of my favorite things in those days was to read the Burma Shave road signs.

APRIL

Luncheon (Apr 13)

Our Adult Ministries and Missions pastor, Mikal Kildal, will talk and show pictures of the winter missions trip in Togo, Africa. Mikal leads our mission work teams and will do a fantastic job with this program.

Day Trip (Apr 27)

The KitchenAid tour is an old favorite that hasn't been done for several years. I am anxious to see their manufacturing facilities and enjoy the tour. We will also find a good place to eat!

Reminder: Several of you mentioned, in December, that you forgot your Baby Bottle Banks and would like to bring them in. You can bring them to our February Luncheon, if you forgot them.

Laughs & Giggles

Pearly Gates
by Ian Jones



Did You go to Church on Sunday?

by Roger Jensen (written Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010)

The news of this past week brought back many good memories to Nancy and me. You may ask how could all of the devastation in Haiti bring back good memories. So, I'll explain. As you know, Nancy is a nurse. She worked for a doctor in our church who organized medical mission trips to Haiti. Nancy went without me first but I went along with many later visits. She would assist Dr. Stalter in surgery and I would help where ever I could. Sometimes in the operating room and other times just doing odd jobs around the mission compound. We really came to love the Haitian people and enjoyed working with the missionaries there in the hospital.

Today many of the networks went to church. In Haiti, that is. The faith celebrated there today has become part of the story of Haiti's darkest hour.

It's not a surprise to those of us who have been with these brothers and sisters in Christ. Some of them live every day with a tenacious faith that sustains them through their grinding poverty. And when they worship, it's not all buttoned down like so many American churches. It's exuberant!

That's why the CNN reporter at a Haitian Sunday service had a hard time hearing the anchorwoman on the other end. Yes, their church was destroyed by the earthquake. But that didn't stop them. They worshiped in a nearby park, patching together a platform from wood scraps and somehow finding a generator and a sound system. Those Haitian believers were clearly experiencing the Presence of God in the middle of the death and destruction all around them.

In another case Fox News reporters visited an orphanage to see them barely surviving but still these tiny children were happily singing songs

about Jesus.

One reporter seemed almost incredulous at the faith he had encountered. "Everyone we've spoken to - they're not questioning God; they're thanking God. We see spontaneous processions through the streets of Port-au-Prince, joyously praising and thanking God. At times like this, so many people's faith has defied the odds. That's what's pulling them through."

Defiant faith. That's what it is. Not faith that denies the awful grief of having lost someone whose death and final resting place they may never be able to confirm. Not faith that doesn't struggle with where to go when you've lost most of the little you had. Those realities are painful, undeniable. But for all the pain and loss on their scale, they have something on the other side of the scale. Something - or Someone - who balances the scale on the side of hope.

And the world is watching and listening. What they are seeing is a power that is greater than even life's most overwhelming shocks. Because its Source goes beyond this life.

Put simply, their life is in the hands of a Savior who conquered life's most fearsome enemy, death. Who, according to history, walked out of His grave under His own power. He stands above all the religions and prophets of history as the only Man who validated His message with a resurrection. Most every religious leader has promised eternal life. But only Jesus proved He has it to give.

What we are seeing in the defiant faith of the believers of Haiti is, in short, Jesus Christ alive. In them. The Bible describes this infusion of uncrushable life this way: "In His great mercy He has given us new birth, into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus

Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3). Hope that is a Person, not a religion.

For 2,000 years, men and women have praised Jesus Christ through the fires of persecution, the ravages of disease and the agony of grief with this "resurrection power" inside them. Because an empty tomb in a Jerusalem garden has opened eternity to them. Before that tomb came the cross - where Jesus died to remove the sin-wall between us and our God. Then came the resurrection and the life-Source the Bible calls "the power of His resurrection" (Philippians 3:10). Available to all who belong to Him. Sustaining you when your world has come down around you.

And Jesus' followers in Haiti are showing the world a hope and a joy that truly does "defy the odds." They are - for all of us to see - "more than conquerors through Him who loved us" (Romans 8:37). They have much to teach us, their brothers and sisters around the world. And much hope to offer those who have yet to experience this powerful love in their own lives.

If you don't have this hope and joy and would like to know how you can, please contact me and give us a chance to show you how you can experience this in your life.

Who Are We?

"Young at Heart" is the Senior Adult Ministry of Washington Heights Baptist Church.

Roger Jensen is the Pastor of Senior Adult Ministries. Our goal is to provide opportunities for meaningful fellowship in a Christian environment.

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