

Young at Heart

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November

OCTOBER LUNCHEON

A couple of years ago we had Burt Kettinger come to Dayton, all the way from Chicago, to bring his "Songs in the Night" music to our luncheon and he was an instant hit. Because of this success and also a previous concert in our church, we were happy to include him on our schedule again this year. He has a fantastic baritone/base voice and it was truly a pleasure to hear him again.

We also had an outstanding meal provided by Lisa and our volunteers. I know many of you requested the recipe, so we'll put it on the Blog and in the Dec. newsletter.



FALL TRIP (CAPE COD)

We had a fantastic trip with a fantastic group of YAH people. There were a total of 51 of us on the trip. It seemed like it took forever to get there and then the return (two days each way) but I think that was perfect considering the distance we traveled. We could not have asked for better weather, in the low 70s and bright and clear. We saw Cape Cod from one end to the other and also visited the island of Martha's Vineyard. Actually, Cape Cod is also an island. Finally, before returning home, we stopped at Plymouth Rock and enjoyed the sights there, including the Mayflower II.

OCTOBER DAY TRIP

This month we did a trip to visit the home of an important family in Dayton's history; the Wright Brothers home. Actually, only one of the brothers, Orville, lived in the home but their sister, Catherine and father also lived there. This home has some very unique features and is very much worth a visit. If you missed it you can tour it through the Carollon Park.

I've visited this home many times because NCR owned it and used it to house and entertain International customers. I would visit and have dinner there and make business presentations.

Although Wilbur was dead before the home construction was finished, there were actually separate entrances for each of the brothers. Another unique feature was the shower. They had it designed as an all-around experience!

Jim & Carol Neely
Jim graduated to Heaven, October 14.



James Neely

Aug. 20, 1933—Oct. 14, 2010.



WHAT'S COMING UP?

November 2010

Luncheon (Nov. 9)

Gary Lare will return with his ventriloquism act. We had him here before and everyone enjoyed his performance. He has some wacky friends and perhaps he will even involve some of you!

Day Trip (Nov. 16)

We haven't visited the governor's mansion since I have been here, so we thought it would be time to do it again. We will tour the mansion and grounds then have a special meal at Buca Di Beppo.

December 2010

Luncheon (Dec. 14)

We always try to do something special for Christmas. This year we will feature speaker Dr. David Warren and a host of musicians for special music; all with a special Christmas theme.

Day Trip (Dec. 17)

This is another of those on-going programs that are becoming a tradition for Young at Heart. We will go down to La Comedia for a nice buffet meal then watch the special Christmas presentation of White Christmas. This one is always a sell-out but we will take names for our waiting list, if someone cancels.

Jim Neely was an Associate Pastor here at Washington Heights Baptist for 23 years and served on the staff of three lead pastors. He had many responsibilities. These included men's programs, senior adult ministries, and mission teams. Perhaps the most important contributions Jim gave us were the forming of Young at Heart and also our missions teams that traveled around the world to serve our missionaries and build churches, mission homes, schools and hospitals.

PEARLY
GATES

by Ian Jones



Heaven is Jim's Home

For a long time I've contemplated writhing something about Heaven. During almost three years as a pastor on the staff here at Washington Heights, I've had a number of good friends pass from this life into Heaven. Several of those have been Young at Heart members. As I write this, Nancy and I are preparing to go to the viewing and memorial service for someone who is very special to me and to Young at Heart. October 14, Pastor Jim Neely took up residence in Heaven, his eternal home. He went to sleep here on Earth and woke up this morning in Heaven. Wow! Can you imagine what that would be like. I have always enjoyed a special song, "Finally Home". The words include:

THINK:

*Of stepping on shore
And finding it Heaven!
Of taking hold of a hand
And finding it God's Hand!
Of breathing a new air
And finding it celestial air!
Of feeling invigorated
And finding it immortality!
Of passing from storm and tem-
pest
To an unbroken calm;
Of waking up and finding
Yourself HOME!*

--Robert E. Sella

I've heard this song sung frequently at funerals and I think I'll request it for mine, too. Can you just imagine "waking up and finding it heaven—waking up and finding Yourself Finally Home!"

I often use cartoons for this page by Ian Jones called "Pearly Gates". The location of this is supposed to represent Heaven and features characters

such as Walter and Peter. The cartoons are meant to represent Heaven as a fun place and I believe it will be a place of unlimited Joy. The cartoons are not true but Heaven is real. Hell is real, too; but lets think about Heaven, for now.

I said Heaven is a real place, Jesus himself told us this when he talked with the thief on the cross beside him. He said, "**Today, you will be with me in paradise.**" Luke 23:43. Paradise is another word for Heaven. The thief wasn't going to Hell, or even Purgatory (there is no such place in the Bible). He was going directly to Heaven with Jesus, that very day! If he wasn't going physically, He would have probably said something like "your spirit will be with me". He didn't say that because he was going to a real place as a real person.

Earlier when Jesus spoke to his disciples, He told them, "**In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you.**" (John 14:2) He talked about a place in ways the disciples would understand because He was describing a real place.

Satan would like for us to believe Heaven is only make-believe because it is difficult to get excited about going to a make believe place. Revelation 13:6 tells us that Satan opened his mouth to blaspheme God and his home (Heaven) and all who live there.

Pastor Jim Neely is a very good and very special man. He had the vision to see the potential of a ministry for seniors and called it "Young at Heart". He also pioneered the sending of men and women from our church on short-term mission trips to assist our missionaries. I've had the honor and privilege of serving with him on several of those

teams. He was a good man and a very special friend to me and many of you. However, he was not good enough to earn a place in Heaven. No one is, or can ever be, good enough to earn a place in heaven. I know that because the Bible tells me so! Ephesians 2:8,9 says: "**For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.**" As you can see, our works cannot get us to Heaven but the Grace of God is a gift that we must accept for our ticket to Heaven. We are fortunate that we don't have to continually worry about being good enough to measure up to God's standards for living with Him. He knew we could never measure up this way but instead gave us an easy way—to simply accept his gift and trust Him for our salvation.

I hope that each of you have accepted Christ as your savior and you are not putting a false trust in being good enough to earn a place in Heaven. If you have not done this and would like to talk with me, I certainly welcome the opportunity to talk with you at your convenience.

I know I have only touched on the topic of Heaven, and I will certainly add more as time and space allow, assuming the Lord wills it.

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.

Washington Heights Baptist Church
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