

SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS

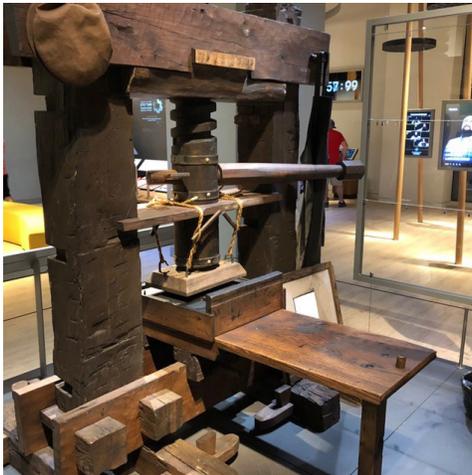
A Day at the Bible Museum

Since its opening a little more than a year ago the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. has received rave reviews from across the country. To the 55 members of Winfree who made the day trip to visit the museum in early June, you would find no one who would disagree with all of the plaudits. Thanks to the excellent organizational efforts of Hugh Ames and JoAnn Carter and their team our Winfree outing was a smashing success! The trip was fun-filled and worth the two hour + bus ride up and down I-95. Betsy Harris led us in a multiple choice Bible quiz and we all sang along with the old Sunday school songs that we learned as kids. It was a hoot!

The museum itself is beautiful, well-organized, and technology driven. From interactive activities with museum employees, to interactive touch screens, to videos, there literally is something for every learner. The information is presented from an objective



Bus ride to D.C.



Gutenberg Printing Press

perspective – not from a specific viewpoint or faith tradition.

The 4th floor, definitely a favorite for most, provides a series of travelogues that help connect the dots of how the scriptures were first written and then found their way across the world. From the very first scrolls, to the first scriptures written in Hebrew and then Greek and Latin, to the printing press which was so valuable in getting the scriptures into the hands of the people, each of our travelers gained insight to how God was able to bring His word to light. The 3rd floor had a detailed exhibit of the village of Nazareth allowing us to view what life was like at the time of Jesus.

At the end of the day all who traveled, while tired and quiet on the way home, agreed that this was a trip worth taking. We are beginning now to plan future excursions and hope that as those plans come to fruition that more of our Winfree members and friends will come on board.

WINFREE AGELESS WONDERS

Come join us the 1st Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the MAC for the following Winfree Ageless Wonders programs. Bring a bag lunch and join us. Dessert and beverages provided.

Tuesday, September 4

Our own Mike Weaver will present a music program

Tuesday, October 2

Medicare Updates for 2019

Tuesday, November 6

Thanksgiving Pot Luck Lunch

Saturday, December 1

Winfree Senior Adult Christmas Party from 2-4pm



Dear Mrs. Noah with Roberta Damon

SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS: TOM & DOT MCNENY

Each quarter in our “Round the Grounds” we hope to shine the spotlight on our senior membership. In this, our first edition of “Spotlight On...,” we are shining the spotlight on Tom and Dot McNeny. Did you know that currently we have four generations of the McNeny family active at Winfree? What a blessing! And at the very top of that family pyramid is patriarch, Tom, and matriarch, Dot. Tom and Dot’s son, Sam and his wife, Robin, are here. Sam and Robin’s son Thomas and wife, Emily, are here. And, Thomas and Emily’s sons, Samuel and Barrett are here. Having four generations in the same family in one congregation is rare these days. And so, we thought you’d enjoy knowing a little about Tom and Dot who led the way to Winfree.

Their story goes back “quite a ways.” You see, they first met in elementary school back in the 30’s, in Charlotte County, Virginia and attended Randolph Henry High School. Tom likes to note that he was a year ahead of Dot, a comment that Dot shrugs off with a smile. And, while they were acquainted in their high school years it was after Tom’s service in the Navy that their relationship came into full bloom. Dot was in nursing school at the old St. Luke’s Hospital here in Richmond. Tom was just beginning a career with Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO), the forerunner of what is today, Dominion Energy. Dot caught Tom’s eye and then his heart! Theirs was indeed true love. They were married in 1948 and this October 31st will celebrate 70 years of marriage!

I greatly enjoyed my visit with Tom and Dot recently. It’s very clear and evident from photos strategically placed in the family room that family is most important to Tom and Dot. It’s also clear that they love their Baptist heritage. Being the curious minister that I am, I love to ask the seniors to talk about the early days. You see, I think we can learn so much from the wisdom of the elders. The Bible teaches that the righteous will flourish, they will still yield fruit in old age; they will be full of sap and very green (Psalm 92:12-14). Tom and Dot are living examples of this passage.

I asked Tom and Dot that if they could go back now and tell their younger selves something that experience has taught them, what might that be. Without blinking an eye Tom said, with Dot’s nodding affirmation, “I would tell my younger self ‘listen to your elders, you don’t know it all.’” That’s a hard lesson isn’t it? When we’re young we might be bold enough to think we have all the answers to life and its questions.



We might even think we’re bullet proof. Experience teaches us a different lesson. Our elders may just be able to teach us a thing or two! Thanks, Tom and Dot, for this advice.

Tom and Dot spoke about their earliest childhood memories of church and their favorite hymns. They each recalled that in their childhood days itinerant preachers would serve their churches. Baptism was always by full immersion. Favorite hymns? That one was easy, no hesitation at all! “How Great Thou Art” and “When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder.” Two old favorites of mine also.

When asked what it was about Winfree that meant the most to Tom and Dot they smiled and immediately replied; “We feel so at home at Winfree; the staff and the people are so friendly and caring. We’ve never felt so comfortable as we have at Winfree.” Tom and Dot have never hesitated to take active rolls in our church. Among others, Tom, for a number of years led our property and space committee, often coming to church at all hours to take care of something that was needed around the grounds. He was our ‘Mr. Fix-it’ and is still consulted from time to time on property and space issues, long after he has passed the torch to others. And Dot, among many other roles as well, was a long time, valued and dearly loved teacher of our children, a role that her son, Sam, has carried on.

Blessings abound at Winfree Memorial Baptist Church. Tom and Dot are among them.