

Hart Beat

(An E-update for CNYBA Pastors and Key Leaders)

13 December 2015

➡ **Hart to Heart**

- I try not to say too much about money in the newsletter, but I thought you might like to know that as of November 30 we have surpassed our 2015 CNYBA annual budget with one more month to go! Praise the Lord!
- While I'm on the subject of budgets, let me encourage you to encourage your church to contribute as generously as possible to the 2016 CNYBA budget. I hope we can do a couple more events this next year to help strengthen the ties between our churches and between our church leaders. I try to keep the cost down as low as possible for these events. That all depends on our budget. I think it is important to do these kinds of fellowship events because, as I'm sure you've heard me say before, it's difficult to have an association unless we associate.
- The next "major" CNYBA event will be our Mid-year meeting on the last day of April – April 30, 2016. The place has not yet been determined, but our theme will be church strengthening and we will have three presentations on various aspects of the theme – as well as some worship and some fellowship. **SAVE THE DATE.**
- Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks @ **Three Pines, Doraville**, where Mike Brown has been pastor since February 2007.

➡ **News From the Churches**

- Bob Teachout has started a Bible Study in Oneida as a precursor to the establishment of Faith Baptist Church. They are meeting at Oneida Rec Center on Sunday afternoons at 3 PM.
- **Three Pines, Doraville** had over 40 youth and adult sponsors out Christmas caroling through the community yesterday. Today after church they packed and then delivered Community Christmas Outreach Baskets. Their Christmas celebration service will be next Sunday, December 20th at 10 AM and their Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be held at 6:30 PM on December 24th. Mike Brown is Pastor.
- **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk** will have its first Christmas service on Thursday evening, December 17th rather than on Christmas Eve because several have family traditions on Christmas Eve and I will be preaching at the Christmas Eve service at **Living Water, Owego**.

- **West Hill, Ithaca** heard Rick & Donna Martin today. The Martins are our missionaries to Peru. They are back in the states for a short visit before moving on to the second phase of their plan to start churches in the Andes Mountains of southern Peru. When they get back to Peru they will move from formal language school to serving with a Peruvian pastor in a Peruvian church for eight or nine months to learn more language and to get a better understanding of the culture before moving on to lead a Peruvian church planting team in planting a church in one of the large cities of Peru. Bill Lower is Pastor.
- **North Fenton BC** has a Christmas tree - cut down from a local tree farm and decorated by Chapel members. It was enjoyed this morning by a family of four adults with nine children/grandchildren/foster children, who were in church for the first time in a while. They were recipients of a Thanksgiving box from the church. > The Chapel outreach to the local volunteer fire department (Sanitaria Springs) was a success as nine Chapel members provided an Italian dinner for 22 first responders. In addition to the food, Chapel members shared several Bible verses that fit the volunteers' heart of service and also ate and fellowshiped with them during the dinner. > The Chapel will be having a Christmas Eve Service at 6:30PM with a small skit, songs of the season, a message and candlelight ending. > They will also be having a Fun Night Get Together starting at 8 PM on New Year's Eve. Rodney Kochmanski is Pastor.

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- 16th BD Jayne DePugh – PW @ Newark Baptist Fellowship Church
- 17th Open Bible Fellowship, Catatank
- 19th ANV Rickey & Deanna Fuller – P&W @ Beacon Light, Vernon
- 19th ANV Roscoe & Maryanna Lilly – P&W @ Northstar, Clifton Park
- 19th Church Financial Seminar @ Praxis, DeWitt

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- (Utah) TRAVIS KERNS says his heart breaks over Salt Lake City. That broken heart, along with his expertise in mobilizing churches and knowledge of the beliefs of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) qualify him to be the Send City Coordinator for Salt Lake City. Providentially, Travis and his family have formed solid relationships with LDS leaders and members. New churches are forming, but with only a handful of good churches for the 2.6 million people in Salt Lake and intense spiritual warfare, many more are needed. Your partnership through the Cooperative Program is critical to impact this city with the true Gospel. Pray for spiritual covering against the warfare attacking planters and pastors, their families and their partners in ministry.

- (Armenia) Locking the door, Ani* turned to leave her home. She thought she would return in six months. Instead, her life has been plagued with visions of dead bodies and war. Loss of job, home and security has caused sleepless nights, fear and sickness. Twelve thousand forcibly displaced Syrian-Armenians now live in Armenia. Christian workers love and minister to the displaced by conducting camps, medical clinics and feeding projects. These measures do not compensate for their losses, but they are making a difference. Thank you for giving through the Cooperative Program so Christian workers can minister and love the people.

➡ **The Adventures of Henry & Harley**

- The boys, our two Pomeranian puppy brothers, are experiencing sibling rivalry. They knock each other out of the way to get petted. Although Henry thinks he is the “boss”, Harley still wants to be petted before or instead of Henry. Henry has decided that when he’s on my lap, Harley can’t come up. And when Harley come us anyway, there’s growling and gnashing of teeth. When one picks up a toy, the other one has to have it and we get a tug of war. They remind me of some Baptists I know who need to heed Philippians 2:3, “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.”

➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

- A young businessman had just started his own firm. He had just rented a beautiful office and had it furnished with antiques. Sitting there, he saw a man come into the outer office. Wishing to appear successful, the businessman picked up the phone and started to pretend he had a big deal working. He threw huge figures around and made giant commitments. Finally he hung up and asked the visitor, "Can I help you?" "Yeah, I've come to activate your phone lines."