

Hart Beat

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

8 October 2017

Hart to Heart

- Well, we've just about gotten "back to normal" – whatever that is. I finally got through all the mail from the past two weeks. The truck is still in the shop getting a new turbo charger, fuel filter, and electric trailer brake controller. The good news is that my doctors' appointments resulted in the news that my breathing and voice issues are not the result of COPD or asthma and my blood sugar issues resulting from of dwindling pancreas function can be fixed with new medication and a new exercise regimen. Of course, EVEZRY doctor always says, "You need to lose some weight." SO, the new normal will include a lot more exercise and a lot less carbs.
- Last week I mentioned the need for a generator for Church Planter/Pastor John Smith in St. Croix. **Jefferson BC** immediately sent word that they would cover the cost of a generator and **Open Bible, Catatonk** has agreed to cover shipping costs. With the help of John Sheehy (who was part of our mission team to St. Croix at the end of 2016) we have ordered a 4850 watt generator that runs on gasoline or propane. It is in-route to Miami where it will be put on a ship to St. Croix. If all goes as planned, Pastor John and his family should have it by October 9. It is a joy and privilege to serve mission minded churches who respond quickly to meet needs in Jesus name.
- If you, or your church, would like to do something else to help Pastor John and his family, you can go to the **Open Bible Fellowship** Face Book page and find a list of items the Smith family can use, which are now hard to come by in St. Croix. Get one of the largest one-rate shipping boxes from the Post Office and fill them with these items. Whatever fits in the box can be mailed for just over \$18. Everybody on the island of St. Croix has PO Boxes and the Post Office has reopened and is operating. Send your box (or boxes) to John and Kia Smith, PO Box 657, Kingshill, VI 00851.
- **Northstar, Clifton Park** has new service times. They now have three services: Sunday at 9am, 10:30am, or noon! (no more Saturday!) Their Middle School ministry will meet at the 9am service, High School Ministry at the 10:30, and birth-Kindergarten ministries will run at all 3 services. Dr. Roscoe Lilly is Pastor.
- Roger & Mary Knapton have moved into an assisted living facility in Penn Yan, NY. David and Vickie Barrows will resume leadership and work toward re-planting the **Clyde BC**.

- Liem Do has stepped down as Pastor @ **Vietnamese, Utica** in order to work more hours and have more time to care for his wife, who is battling depression. The assistant Pastor has assumed leadership of the church and has moved their meeting place and affiliation to a Christian Missionary Alliance church.
- **Vietnamese, Endicott** has ceased having worship services, have reverted to small group status, and are no longer meeting at **Cornerstone, Endicott**. The four or five remaining congregants are meeting with a smaller group being led by an ex-member lady who is affiliated with American Baptists.
- Yesterday Lyn and I intended to worship with the good folks at **Emory Chapel, Waverly**, where Gary Culver has been pastor since the church started in December 1998. But I woke up Sunday morning with a slight case of vertigo. It wasn't as bad as it was the last time, but I was so dizzy I could hardly walk. So I took some medication they gave me last time and tried to shake it off. By mid-afternoon I knew I would not be able to stand up to preach Sunday night, so I called Lary Hyde, who graciously agreed to step in.
- Some of our **Open Bible, Catatonk** snow birds have already begun to migrate to Florida, with a couple more leaving this week. Last Thursday night we heard, and approved by consensus, several recommendations from our Leadership Team. They included adding Rick Savage to our Leadership Team, paying shipping costs for sending a generator to Pastor John Smith in St. Croix, and spending up to \$200 for sending "care packages" to Pastor John and family over the next few weeks.
- **The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse** is praying about and seeking wisdom on planting another church within the next year – preferably in a similar to their own urban, low income etc. area. They are looking for a man who may feel called of God to work in an urban context and would like to do an internship with them at TNC, which may lead to the next step for TNC. If you, or someone you know, might fit that call, call and talk with Pastor Ronnie Wyatt at 315-876-0558. If you do not personally know of anyone, will you please pray that God will reveal to them who that man is and that He would bring him to them in HIS timing?
- Last night Lyn worshiped with the good folks at **Open Bible, Catatonk**, where I am serving as church planter/pastor. After two weeks away helping with disaster relief in Florida, I really wanted to be back in the pulpit last night. But I finally acquiesced to my wife's advice and stayed home, hoping that the medication would work completely by Monday. And so it has – at least the dizziness is gone. Still have tight sinuses with a constant heart beat "wave like" rhythm in my ears. This past week I had a breathing test and tomorrow I will have a CAT Scan. So far no lung issues. I think the persistent cough, the light headedness, the raspy

voice, etc is likely related to sinus issues, which I inherited from my mother. Just have to wait until the doctors figure that out.

October Ministry Anniversaries

- Sam Macri – Pastor @ Cross Point, Whitesboro since October 1990
- James Young – Pastor @ Gethsemane, Syracuse since October 2003
- Matt Hallenbeck – Pastor @ Bellewood, North Syracuse since October 2005
- Yong Mun Rhee – Pastor @ River of Joy, Syracuse since October 2005

This Week in Preview

- Yesterday – BD James Young (Pastor @ Gethsemane, Syracuse)
- Mon – ANV Wayne & Connie Sibrava (P&W @ Living Water, Owego)
- Wed – BD Jon Speed (Pastor @ Christ Is King, Syracuse)
- Thurs – BD Pauline Potter (former PW @ North Fenton BC)

Missionary Moments

- [East Asia] As churches around the world remembered and celebrated Christ's death and resurrection on Easter, IMB workers in East Asia helped lead 30 people to make decisions of faith. These new believers joined a local church, and now approximately 1,800 people attend its services. Church members and IMB workers are training new believers to share the gospel in discipleship classes and training classes. Small groups of national believers are prayer-walking throughout their town and dedicating them to the Lord. Pray God uses your gifts through the Cooperative Program to help IMB workers and East Asian believers as they disciple these 30 new believers and continue to carry the gospel further into their communities.
- [Maine] SAM and JOAN BENNETT moved to Maine to plant a church in one of the least-churched states in America. Before making the journey to Maine, Sam pastored churches in Pennsylvania and Louisiana, served with ministries to the homeless in New Orleans and Tampa, Fla., and served with Joan as International Mission Board missionaries in East Asia. They're planting Solid Rock Church in Rockland, Maine, with the hope of reaching their community and bringing others to faith in Jesus. Your Cooperative Program financial gifts help them develop relationships with non-Christians who need to hear about Jesus. Ask the Lord to draw people to Himself through their ministry.

Have You Heard This One?

- Two men go on a fishing trip. They rent all the equipment - the reels, the rods, the wading suits, the rowboat, the car, and even a cabin in the woods. The first

day they go fishing, but they don't catch anything. The same thing happens on the second day, and on the third day. It goes on like this until finally, on the last day of their vacation, one of the men catches a fish. As they're driving home they're really depressed. One guy turns to the other and says, "Do you realize that this one lousy fish we caught cost us fifteen hundred bucks?" The other guy says, "Wow! Then it's a good thing we didn't catch any more!"