

Hart Beat

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

26 November 2017

Hart to Heart

- I have been trying to get a count of how many shoeboxes CNYBA churches packed this year. Not included in last weeks count is **Central, Syracuse** = 50 boxes. That brings the CNYBA total (as far as I know) to 1,428 boxes.
- **Renovation, North Syracuse** rejoices over 10 new members and for three faithful men stepping forward as Deacons to serve Christ's people. Mike Mazzye is Pastor.
- **Christ Is King, Syracuse** distributed the gospel and Thanksgiving baskets to 7 needy families in their immediate neighborhood on Monday past. Jon Speed is Pastor.
- **Living Water, Owego** provided 4 Thanksgiving baskets to area families this past week. > In the days to come they will be giving out door-to-door 350 copies of O.S. Hawkins new booklet, "Christmas Code" to homes in Owego and the surrounding community. <http://www.churchsource.com/the-christmas-code-booklet> . Wayne Sibrava is Pastor.
- **Northstar, Clifton Park** will host BLOOM, a monthly gathering of women in the Capital District, on December 2nd. This month they will BLOOM BY GIVING by bringing in toiletry items for children at St. Margaret's...a skilled nursing facility providing short-term, long-term and respite care to children and young adults with complex medical needs. > This month their Stitching with the Stars will be participating in the Linus Project! The Linus project provides love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children & teens who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers." Volunteers knit, crochet, or even TIE TOGETHER a blanket (with fleece) as they warm the hearts of children in their community. Dr. Roscoe Lilly is Pastor.
- **Northside, Liverpool** baptized two on Sunday past. They will have five Christmas Eve weekend services (6pm Saturday, and 9:30am, 11am, 3:30pm and 11 pm on Sunday - all identical services). They are encouraging their members to impact their street, workplace, friends and family by giving away the new 25 daily devotional booklet by O. S. Hawkins. Dr. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.
- **Open Bible, Catatonk** began a five week Advent series on Sunday past, which will culminate with a special Christmas Eve service. OBF participants are

encouraged to use the new 25 daily devotional booklet by O. S. Hawkins to impact family, friends and neighbors with the Christmas message and an invitation to the Christmas Eve service. Ed Hart is Pastor.

December Ministry Anniversaries

- Wayne Sibrava – Pastor @ Living Water, Owego since December 1997
- Gary Culver – Pastor @ Emory Chapel, Waverly since December 1998
- Jeff Ford – Pastor @ Bible Fellowship, Lyons Falls since December 2010

This Week in Preview

- CNYBA Pastors' & Wives' Christmas Luncheon

Missionary Moments

- [Central Asia] After months of Bible studies with Christian workers DAVE and CAROL BRANSON*, seven Syrian refugees made the decision to follow Christ. The new believers reached out to other refugees and met seven other families who also wanted to study the Bible. The group is now learning to pray and depend on God through the difficulties they face. Their employers demand long hours and cheat them of their wages. Local school children hit and ostracize the refugee children. But through the Cooperative Program, hurting people are receiving hope. The women told Carol they rejoice as refugees because through those trials they found the truth.
- [South Carolina] JEREMY SPARKS wanted nothing to do with church ministry when he re-committed his life to Christ. But as a student at Colorado Christian University, a professor challenged his distaste for the church with a question: "What are you going to do about it?" As he reflected upon those words, God ignited a passion for church planting. Today Jeremy is planting Heritage Fellowship in Clinton, S.C. Jeremy thanks you for your gifts given through the Cooperative Program and asks you to pray that the Lord will strengthen the church's leadership. He also asks you to pray for numerous broken marriages within the church.

Have You Heard This One?

- Two guys were taking their first train trip through the Alps. A vendor came down the corridor selling bananas, which they'd never seen before. Each bought one. The first one eagerly peeled the banana and bit into it just as the train went into a tunnel. When the train emerged from the tunnel, he looked across to his friend and said, "I wouldn't eat that if I were you." "Why not?" "I took one bite and went blind for half a minute."