

Hart Beat

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

2 April 2017

Hart to Heart

- Spring is back – again. Maybe it’s for real this time. Spring means it’s time to plant, so we can cultivate during summer, and then reap in the fall. Yes, just like farmers, we should be about the business of growing things. Only, in our case it is people and churches and ministries, etc. But it works much the same.
- We’re one month away from May 1. “Why is that date important in CNYBA?” you ask. Churches may request use of our block party trailer, tents, or scaffolding for a one event only until May 1. After that churches may request use of these resources as much as there is time left on the reservation schedule. I am posting the requests already in on our web site. If you want to use these resources this summer, get your requests in (via email or text) before May 1. After that ????
- By the way, I found the CNYBA Block Party Trailer. The updated reservation list for 2017 is posted on the CNYBA web site.
- The CNYBA Mid-year meeting is coming up in a little more than a month on May 6th. Our guest speaker for the meeting will be Todd Starnes, a Fox News Radio Commentator. He’ll be talking about religious liberty – how it’s slipping away and what we can do about it. Save the date.
- Lyn and I worshiped yesterday morning with the good folks at **Transformacion, Syracuse**, where Pedro Abreu has been pastor since the church began in November 2009. I was privileged to preach, with Pastor Pedro translating, after he and his men had had a long and tiring day on Saturday hanging sheetrock up in Saranac Lake.
- Last evening, Lyn and I worshiped with our dear folks at **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk**, where I am serving as church planter/pastor.

News From the Churches

- **The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse** will hold their annual Outreach Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 8. > They have also begun a new ministry called TNC J.O.Y., which is designed to love on and minister to young girls that come from very unchurched backgrounds, even including the daughter of a Wiccan family. > They are partnering with Child Evangelism Fellowship to do an after school program called the Good News Bible Club in Franklin Elementary School here in their neighborhood. They have been averaging 60 kids each week

with a total of 70 kids registered. > They are working on having a “Survival English” class one night a week in their building to aid refugees in their acclamation to our country. This will be headed up by a local advocate group that does a lot of work with the refugees. > They may also have an opportunity to allow their building to be used as a Crisis Pregnancy Center satellite office on occasion. This will be a great opportunity to Show Jesus with the hope of Sharing Jesus as they help young ladies make positive decisions regarding their future and the future of their unborn. > They already have a “Blessing Bag” ministry to the homeless, which includes snack items and practical essentials including church and Gospel information. They are looking at the possibility of expanding this ministry to include a Bus Stop Blessing Bag ministry, ministering to people as they wait at the several bus stops in their area. > They have also decided that since God has chosen to provide them a building between four strip clubs and since there are at least 10 prostitutes that work the streets around their building, HE must have a desire for them to minister to these precious ladies and reach them for Jesus for HIS glory. If you didn’t have a prayer list before, you do now. Ronnie Wyatt is Pastor.

- **Northstar, Clifton Park** is enjoying being in their own space, after many years of setting up and teking down every week. They had a student ministry scavenger hunt on Saturday past. On Tuesday of this week they will have another Parents & Little Stars (age 0-5) event as they visit the New York Museum in Albany. They plan four services for Easter Weekend – Saturday at 5 PM and Sunday at 8:30, 10:00, & 11:00 AM. Dr. Roscoe Lilly is Pastor.
- Pastor Phil Huber at **Inlet CC** has started volunteering with the boys track team at the high school, helping with the distance runners. It has been tremendously satisfying for Pastor Phil to use one of his loves (running) as a way to build relationships with these young people. > They are launching a prayer group called Pray ADK for men and women to come together and pray for children and grandchildren. They are opening it up to the community and hoping that concerned parents from various backgrounds will feel drawn to participate. > Their growing group of kids in Children’s Church have been working on a song that they will be sharing with the congregation in an upcoming service, probably at the end of April or early May.
- **Transformacion, Syracuse** will baptize several next Sunday. A group of nine men from **Tranformacion** and **Nueva Esperanza, Syracuse**, hung sheetrock at Lake Saranac Baptist Church on Saturday past. > They plan to do prayer walking in the not too distant future to assist two church plants in Oneida and Corning. Pedro Abreu is Pastor.
- **Cornerstone, Endicott** has enjoyed three additions in the last couple of weeks – one by profession of faith and two by statement of faith. They hold special

services at 7 PM nightly during Holy Week April 10-12. Dr. Greg Johnson is Pastor.

- **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk** will observe the Lord's Supper for the first time during their regular Sunday evening worship service on Easter, April 16. The entire service that evening will be dedicated to Bible teaching regarding this church ordinance.
- **Lakeshore, Cicero** plans to ordain Brandon Owen, their minister of youth, this coming Sunday, April 8th at 2 PM. Mike McMahon is Pastor.

This Week in Preview

- Mon – BD Soon Rhee (PW @ River of Joy, Syracuse)
- Wed – Move Block Party Trailer from Whitesboro to Syracuse
- Thurs – Open Bible Fellowship Bible Study
- Fri – BD Sue Huber (PW @ Inlet CC)
- Fri – ANV Andy & Faith Smith (AP&W @ Emmanuel, Cortland)
- Sat – BD Devon Bartholomew (Pastor @ Baptist Campus Ministry, SU)

Missionary Moments

- [Oregon] As a PhD student in China, Wei Tang was at the lowest point in his life when American missionaries helped him discover the meaning of abundant life in Christ. In 2011 he quit his job and moved to the United States to attend Western Seminary. When he discovered the high numbers of Chinese immigrants moving to the metro area surrounding Portland, Ore., he determined to reach them with the gospel. Thanks to your church's gifts given through the Cooperative Program, Wei is planting the first Chinese Southern Baptist church in Oregon. Pray that as Wei shares the good news about Jesus with Chinese immigrants, they would trust Him as Lord.
- [Deaf] As Hungarians celebrate Christmas, seasonal sights and smells of the holiday are found throughout the city markets and shops. International workers enjoy going to the various stores to look around and purchase Christmas gifts. While visiting the shops, they almost always see Deaf people out enjoying the festivities. The workers share the true meaning of Christmas and ask them if they want to follow Jesus, "God with Us." As you give through the Cooperative Program to support workers like these in Hungary, ask God to open the hearts of Deaf people in Hungary to know His love through Jesus Christ.

Have You Heard This One?

- There was a Texas oil tycoon who was watching his largest oil well going up in flames. He called in the best firefighting equipment money could buy but there was no way they could get close enough to the intense flames to reach them with their water hose. Finally, out of desperation, he called the local volunteer fire department. They chugged up in their 1946 truck and passed every one of the state of the art rigs and headed toward the center of the fire. They stopped, jumped out, sprayed each other down with water, and then proceeded to put out the fire. When they were finally finished, the millionaire was so impressed with the crew's dedication and bravery, he awarded the chief with a check for \$10,000. Later, a reporter asked the chief what he was going to do with the money. The chief replied, "Well, the first thing we're going to do is fix those lousy brakes!!"