

## Hart Beat

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

**23 April 2017**

### **Hart to Heart**

- Little late getting this “in the mail” this week.
- Here’s a late item that didn’t make it into last week’s newsletter. Mira Marjorie, newborn daughter of Devon and Kate Bartholomew, arrived last Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Papa Devon is our Student Ministry Leader at Baptist Campus Ministry, Syracuse University and Mama Kate is the Director of the new International Learning Center in Syracuse. We are happy to support both ministries in the CNYBA budget.
- One of the objectives we adopted back in 2000 when we were forming CNYBA was to promote what our churches were doing so other churches could participate without having to “reinvent the wheel.” So, even though you may be in one of our smaller churches, you can participate in mission trips, youth retreats, men or women’s conferences, ministry projects, etc by joining one of such activities being sponsored by one of our CNYBA churches or by the association. Don’t let the fact that you and your church do not have the resources to pull off these kinds of events by yourself keep you from participating and gaining the experience, inspiration, and strength these kind of activities bring to the local church.
- REMEMBER: CNYBA churches have until May 1<sup>st</sup> to reserve the association’s block party trailer or tents for one event. After May 1<sup>st</sup>, churches and/or individuals may reserve one of these resources for additional events, as calendar dates are available, on a first-come-first-served basis. There is a \$100 use fee for non-CNYBA churches. The list posted on the CNYBA web site is the reservation list as of 19 April. The red entries are “stand-by” reservations for after May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- NOTE: The 2017 CNYBA Mid-year Meeting is coming up soon – May 6<sup>th</sup>. One of our newest church plants will host the meeting – **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk**, which meets at Bostwick Auctions on Highway 96 between Owego and Candor. The meeting will be called to order at 9:59 AM and will be dismissed at 12:01 (or thereabouts). Our special guest speaker will be Todd Starnes, a Fox News Radio Commentator, who will speak about “The State of Religious Liberty”.
- I have posted the latest newsletter from Rick Martin, our missionary in Peru, to our CNYBA web site. You can find it under the Information Center tab/Missions Reports/2017-4b Rick Martin (Peru)

- New York State Gideons are conducting a Scripture Distribution Blitz in the Syracuse area today (Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>) through Wednesday. Let's pray for this effort and if you happen to see one or more of them in the process of distributing Scripture, thank them for their effort and wish them God's speed.
- On Thursday evening past I led the weekly Bible study at **Open Bible, Catatonk**, where we are continuing our exploration of Scripture regarding discipleship. Thirty-one attended this session on "Sharing our Faith". This coming Thursday's topic will be Baptism.
- On Saturday past Lyn and I spent the evening with several of our OBF folks at Family Life Network in Bath, NY for a dinner and concert of Southern gospel music.
- Yesterday Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Korean, Vestal**, where Daniel Song has been pastor since July 2005. I was honored to be asked to do the opening prayer for the baptismal service that occurred between the Korean speaking service and the English speaking service and to lead the dismissal prayer for the English speaking service.
- Last night, we worshiped with the good folks at **Open Bible, Catatonk**, where I am serving as church planter/pastor. Earlier in the day we had received a message from a lady from Missouri who, along with her parents, were involved in a church plant I led back in the mid-1970's. She was on a trip with a disabled gentleman for whom she is a care giver. They are on the way to Montreal to participate in Botchy Ball try-outs for Special Olympics. As it turned out, they got here in time to attend church services with us last night and to join us for the usual after-church fellowship at a local Pizza place. We've had only limited contact with Lanna over the years and really enjoyed our brief time of fellowship.

### **News From the Churches**

- **Northside, Liverpool** rejoices over more than 1700 attendees in their Easter week-end services with several making decisions to follow Jesus. Dr. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.
- **Open Bible, Catatonk** announces that it is officially incorporated. They look forward to hosting the Mid-year Meeting of CNYBA this year and will provide lunch after the meeting.
- **Northstar, Clifton Park** has recently moved to their new permanent location. They are rejoicing that they no longer have to set up and tear down each week. They will hold a Grand Opening on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, April

29-30. We rejoice with them. They will have baptismal services on May 20 & 21. Dr. Roscoe Lilly is Pastor.

- **Korean, Vestal** will participate in the Challenge Youth Retreat on July 2-5, I believe held somewhere in northern PA, and a mission trip to Honduras August 14-19, where they will do VBS, teaching English, and ministry to poor neighborhoods. BOTH these events are in ENGLISH, so if you, or someone else in your church, is interested in participating in either of these events, contact Pastor Daniel Song via text, email, or phone at 607-232-6137 or [bingpastor@gmail.com](mailto:bingpastor@gmail.com).

### **Missionary Moments**

- [Eurasia] Christian workers TERRY and FAYRENE WILLET moved to Germany with their four children. Both planned to share the gospel with Germans, but Fayrene was worried about her effectiveness in sharing the gospel without having German fluency and while taking care of her children at home. Then God brought an evangelism opportunity right to her doorstep. Jehovah's Witnesses were active in that German neighborhood, and they spoke fluent English. Fayrene invited the Jehovah's Witness missionaries into her home for coffee, and she shared her testimony. Continue to give generously through the Cooperative Program so the gospel will spread in Eurasia.
- [NEVADA] A church planting catalyst in Las Vegas, JIM COLLINS has been part of church planting as a lead planter and staff member since 2004. In his current role, he encourages and coaches church planters in the area. Considered by many a "pioneer area" for missions, Las Vegas includes many people who have never heard the good news about Jesus, according to Jim. Although that makes the work difficult, Jim says it also makes church planting in Las Vegas exciting. Your church's giving through the Cooperative Program helps Jim prepare church planters for this difficult mission field. Pray God will raise up more church planters in Las Vegas.

### **Have You Heard This One?** – from a reader

- Old Jake had cut firewood by hand with a Swede hand saw for a living going on 50 years. He averaged about four cords a day. His son was home from college and watching him work remarked, "You could probably cut 10 times as much if you bought yourself a chainsaw". "Not interested in those new-fangled things," Jake responded. His son returned to college and Jake began to think that maybe the young guy was right; his old body seemed to ache more and more at the end of the day. So he went into town and bought a brand new top-of-the-line chainsaw. The first couple days were not very productive - he only cut one cord each day. By the third day he had cut 3 cords, but was dead tired. "This is not working," he

thought to himself, "My son said I should be able to cut 10 cords a day. I'm taking this stupid thing back." The next day he was in the hardware store complaining to the sales clerk about his lack of production. "Blade seems a little dull, but not that bad. Let's start it up," the clerk muttered as he pulled the starting cord. The motor roared loudly. Jake jumped back and yelled out: "What the heck is that noise?"