

Hart Beat

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

7 May 2017

Hart to Heart

- Well, I think Spring has un-sprung! They say “April showers bring May flowers.” I’m not sure what May showers bring – mud puddles?
- On Friday evening and Saturday morning, May 12-13, Baptist Convention of New York Disaster Relief Training will be held at **Grace, Rome**, where Trent Williams is Pastor. If you are interested in being part of this elite group of volunteers who are on stand-by to be called into service when disaster strikes, I urge you to attend this training. This is a great way for you to serve the Lord and Southern Baptists.
- At the end of May we will observe the SBC-wide Week of Prayer for Associational Missions. I’ll be sending out a bulletin insert churches can use to participate in prayer for associational missions. We have an offering for associational missions that is associated with this week of prayer, like we do for three other weeks of prayer. You may be more familiar with the Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions and the Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions. We also have a special offering for state missions, that goes to fund our disaster relief efforts, and our CNYBA Knapton Offering for Associational Missions. I would encourage you and your church to participate in all four of these offerings – either by receiving special offerings or by putting them into the missions section of your budget, or both.
- On Saturday past the 2017 Central New York Baptist Association Mid-year Meeting was held at **Open Bible Fellowship**, where I am serving as Church Planter/Pastor. Our special guest speaker for the meeting was Todd Starnes, Fox News Radio Commentator, who spoke to us about religious freedom. I was privileged to bring a report and then a challenge from God’s Word. To say that I was pleased with the job our OBF folks did in hosting this meeting (including the great lunch) would be a major understatement.
- Todd Starnes did a great job reminding u about the importance of Religious Liberty and reporting to us about the state of religious liberty in America. Lyn and I are planning to attend the Todd Starnes Fall Getaway November 3-5 that will be held at Billy Graham’s The Cove in Ashville, NC. It will be a week-end of worship, Bible Study, fellowship, and food – smothered in loads of laughter. Special guests and musicians include Shannon Bream (Fox News Channel host/reporter & Liberty University graduate), Greater Vision (a premiere Southern Gospel group), Dr. Dennis Swanberg (Comedian and Bible teacher),

Michelle Cox (speaker and the bestselling award-winning author of nine books), and Andy Botts (singer and praise band leader). You can find complete details at (<http://www.toddstarnes.com/fall-getaway>)

- During the worship service yesterday morning, I was honored to bring a message from God's Word as part of the deacon ordination/installation service at **Stamford BC**, where Waylen Bray has been pastor since Adam was a boy. Well, maybe not quite that long - just since November 1977. No, that's not a typo.
- Last night, Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Open Bible Fellowship**, where I continued a sermon series from Hebrews. After church we enjoyed left-overs from the lunch served at the CNYBA Mid-year meeting.
- Tomorrow (or the next day) Lyn and I plan to leave on a two week trip to Arkansas, where we will attend my "Sibling Reunion" at my older sister's home. We'll talk, laugh, tell reminiscing stories, and eat and eat and eat! My sister's a great cook. We'll end our trip at **Fellowship, Norwich** on May 21st, where I will preach in their regular Sunday worship service at 6 PM in the absence of Pastor Harold Lefler. We should be home sometime on Monday, May 22nd. Not to worry, this will be a working vacation. I have a phone and a computer, so don't hesitate to call, text, Facebook, or email as needed. If possible, next week's HART BEAT will come to you from South Arkansas.

News From the Churches

- **Lakeshore, Cicero** will kick off the summer with revival services May 17-21, with five different preachers Wednesday evening through Sunday morning – Brandon Swain (Wednesday), Stephen Skinner (Thursday), Turk Taylor (Friday), Jackson Garrell (Saturday), and Pastor Mike McMahan (Sunday). If you're in the Cicero area, let me encourage you to attend one or more of these services.
- **Stamford BC** has been praying for revival for several weeks and they have been seeing new people attend almost every Sunday. On Saturday, April 29th, 14 men from their fellowship attended the Albany area Iron Sharpens Men Equipping Conference. On April 30th Justin Hamn brought the message during the Sunday morning worship service. Yesterday, I was privileged to preach as part of a deacon ordination/installation service during the morning worship time. Next Sunday, May 21st, Pastor Waylen Bray will begin a sermon series from the book of Genesis – beginning with Eve, since it is Mother's Day. On May 21st Pastor Waylen will begin a Sunday evening series of six Grief Care sessions entitled "Hope Beyond Today."
- **The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse** had their Annual Easter Egg hunt a few weeks ago. There were over 200 kids in attendance and many adults.

While they all enjoyed games, prizes, puppets and music, they also all heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray that God will take this time of planting and watering ildren. they open their building a couple of times a week and give away free coffee to those who pass by. They have had some wonderful opportunities to encourage and pray with many in need. > They are also asking prayer as they begin an outreach to the five strip clubs around them. They will begin the actual outreach soon, but it must be bathed in prayer first. They are asking us to pray every day for this new outreach. Ronnie Wyatt is Pastor.

- **Lyons Falls BC** will host a Wonderland Tea for ladies and girls at the church on Saturday, May 13th beginning at noon. There is no cost and all ladies and girls are invited. Please RSVP to 315-286-1090 by May 7th.
- **North Fenton BC** will host a Women's Tea for ladies and girls on Saturday, May 20th from 10-11 AM at the North Fenton Chapel. There is no cost and all ladies and girls are invited. RSVP by text or call to 607-206-9049 by May 18th. Rodney Kochmanski is Pastor.
- **Newark BC** baptized two yesterday, with Deacon Ted Peck baptizing two of his grandchildren. John DePugh is Pastor.

This Week in Preview

- Sat - BD Pedro Abreu (Pastor @ Transformacion, Syracuse)

Missionary Moments

- [Southeast Asia] Before going to the hospital, Mary* prayed for miraculous healing from her cancer. When Mary met with doctors, they gave her the news: Her cancer was completely gone. Mary, overwhelmed with gratitude, wrote the first Christian worship song in her language to express thanks to God. IMB worker MONA KUHRİK*, supported through the Cooperative Program, serves among Mary's people to help train believers to share the gospel. Just last month, nine people from this people group came to faith. Pray that Mary's new songs will lead more people to faith in Jesus, and pray for Mona as she disciples those new believers.
- [Louisiana] As director of the Baptist Friendship House in New Orleans, KAY BENNETT ministers to the physical and emotional needs of people dealing with homelessness, domestic violence, human trafficking and substance abuse. As she does so, she takes every opportunity to share the gospel. Located four blocks from the historic French Quarter, the Baptist Friendship House provides transitional housing for homeless women and children. Kay ministers to the "least of these" realizing that as she does, she is ministering to Jesus. Kay thanks you for your

church's gifts given through the Cooperative Program. Ask God to give Kay strength, courage and safety as she ministers in this environment.

Have You Heard This One?

- One Saturday morning, the pastor noticed little Johnny was staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. It was covered with names, and small American flags were mounted on either side of it. The seven-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so The pastor walked up, stood beside the boy, and said quietly, "Good morning Johnny." "Good morning pastor Ron," replied the young man, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor, what is this?" Johnny asked. "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service." Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Johnny's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which one, the Wednesday night or Sunday morning service?"