

Hart Beat

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

19 June 2017

Hart to Heart

- Well, summer appears to have arrived. Now, instead of having more projects than I had day, I have more day than I have energy. But I am getting some much needed work done on the house.
- This past week I mowed my phone under. I, and a couple other people, looked high and low throughout and around the yard – to no avail. So I got a new phone. After some tense hours I was finally able to retrieve my “data” from the cloud – wherever that is. I am most grateful for being able to retrieve my calendar. For a while there, I didn’t know where I was supposed to be.
- This past week I got a surprise phone call from Bob Beck, a retired Texas pastor. Bob was the guy who introduced me to Southern Baptists while we pastored in the same West Texas town, yea those many, many years ago. He was also the best pastor I have known and he taught me much about the art of “pastoral” ministry. It was great to hear his voice again, to remanence, and to “catch up” some. Friends are a treasure that we often do not appreciate as much as we should. His call reminded me that I have other friends with whom I need to stay in touch.
- Speaking of friends: also this past week a long- time friend went home to be with the Lord. I first met Virgie Brown when Lyn and I were planting a church in Bemidji, MN. She was the wife of the Director of Missions in Milwaukee, WI. Over the years we went separate ways, but visited one another when we could. They were even here in New York once doing a mission trip at our Carroll Street Ministry Center in Binghamton. Her husband preached at our annual CNYBA association meeting that year. This week Virgie when home to be with the Lord while on a mission trip to Alaska. I’m sure the Lord has said, “Well done, thy good and faithful servant.”
- Pastor Sam Macri (**Crosspoint, Whitesboro**) led a mission team of 9 from Crosspoint to help build a church in the state of Maine this past week. Although the temperature was warmer than expected, they got the building in the dry. Other teams are following to help complete the building.
- **The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse** will host a mission group from “down south” and do a Kids’ Bible Club in Union Park, near their church meeting place. The club will run from Monday, June 19th to Thursday, June 22nd. Ronnie Wyatt is Church Planter/Pastor.

- On Tuesday evening past we had our **Open Bible Fellowship** mid-year packing party for the Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child project. We found that we had collected enough "stuff" to pack 103 boxes. We're well on the way to our goal of 300 shoe boxes for this year.
- On Friday past, at their request, Lyn and I drove out to visit with Roger and Mary Knapton in Clyde. Apparently, Roger's nephew has convinced them that it's time for them to move into a retirement home near him so he can see after them better. Roger is 94 1/2 years old and Mary's health is not good. So, sometime in July they will be moving to Pen Yan. Since **Newark BC** was the original sponsor of the Clyde work, Pastor John DePugh feels led to step in and help the church chart a course forward. In case I forgot to mention it, during the week when I didn't have a newsletter a couple weeks back, Davis College in Johnson City conferred an honorary doctorate on Roger, who is a graduate of the school. Roger and Mary have served faithfully in our association for many, many years. Our CNYBA Associational Missions Offering is named after them.
- **Outpouring, Oswego** is ceasing to exist. Pastor Zach Neyhard of the college campus church has accepted an offer to join the Capital Police force in Washington D.C. He will be starting training at the federal police academy in July, followed by training with the Police Department in the nation's capital before becoming a permanent Capital Police Department Officer.
- On Saturday past Lyn and I enjoyed hosting a late afternoon porch picnic with one of our OBF families and our new pastoral apprentice.
- Yesterday Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Living Water, Owego**, so I could baptize a lady from our **Open Bible, Catatonk** congregation during the morning worship service. Many thanks to Pastor Wayne Sibrava for the use of their baptistery and for accommodating us in their service.
- Last night Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Open Bible, Catatonk**, where I am serving as Church Planter/Pastor. We had 25 in attendance. Last night, in addition to our usual service, we heard Steven Sager regarding his missions ministry project in Haiti.

This Week in Preview

- Friday – BD Jeff O'Brien (AP @ Northside, Liverpool)

Bible Quiz – answer from last week

- Who asked God to make the sun stand still?

Answer: Joshua **See:** Joshua 10:12

Bible Quiz – for this week

During whose reign was the Book of the Law found in the temple?

- A. Amon
- B. Manasseh
- C. Josiah
- D. Hezekiah

Missionary Moments

- [Thailand] A people group in Thailand is treated as outcasts because they are fleeing from oppression. They work long hours and make very little money. Although many migrant workers in Thailand have not heard the gospel, God is giving missionaries an opportunity to talk about Jesus. Recently, a team of high school and college students went to migrant worker villages to serve alongside missionaries who are supported through the Cooperative Program. The students went to a village to share the gospel, and five of the migrant women prayed to receive Jesus as their Savior. Pray for these women to boldly live for Jesus, and pray for more migrant workers to profess faith in Christ.
- [Utah] JEFF HURLBUT planted Morgan Grace Fellowship in Morgan County, Utah, the county with the highest per capita population of Mormons in the state. Last year missions teams from Mississippi and Kentucky helped Jeff host two daily “Party in the Park” events for children, which averaged 120 attendees. He says the children had a hard time understanding why people would come from so far away just to play, sing and teach Bible stories to them. Jeff appreciates the Cooperative Program gifts of Southern Baptists and asks you to pray for his family’s strength as they minister in Morgan County.

Have You Heard This One?

A police officer, investigating reported altercations among residents of a certain neighborhood, knocked one of the ladies’ door. When she came to the door, he asked, “What were you doing between 5 and 6?” He seemed annoyed when she said, “Attending kindergarten.”