

Hart Beat

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

19 February 2018

Hart to Heart

- Please continue praying for Jessica DePugh (Pastor's daughter still in ICU after 100 + days following auto accident), Diane Brown (Pastor's wife in the midst of chemo treatment for breast cancer), and Gary Culver (Pastor @ Emory Chapel, Waverly whose bone cancer has returned). I have included their addresses this week in hopes that some of you will want to send cards of encouragement, letting them know they are being prayed for.

Jessica DePugh

Strong Memorial Hospital
Burn/Trauma ICU 3-1800
601 Elmwood Avenue
Rochester, NY 14642

Diane Brown

PO Box 503
Marathon, NY 13803

Gary Culver

1430 Snow Rd
Sayre, PA 18840

- **Praxis, East Syracuse** is the newest congregation affiliated with CNYBA. They are sponsored by **Northside, Liverpool** and meet in the Baptist Convention of New York building. Their emphasis currently is prayer – both personal and corporate. Their first Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International missions this past December totaled about \$4,500. Dan Studt is Church Planter/Pastor
- As you know, we are trying something new this year – a Fall Retreat. We are partnering with Todd Starnes and will be part of his Fall Gat-A-Way at Billy Graham's Training Center called The Cove, just outside Asheville, NC. On September 7-9. The cost is \$400 per person (double occupancy) or \$600 per person (single occupancy). For those who do not want to drive down themselves, I am providing transportation. If we get enough people, it will be a coach bus, if not it will be a rented van. I have a block of 20 rooms reserved until May 1. You can make deposits anytime in any amount. Make checks payable to CNYBA, but send them to me, so I can record them before taking them to our bookkeeper.

- On Tuesday night past the monthly Ministry 101 Forum met via Go-to-Meeting with five in attendance. There were four in attendance at the face-to-face version earlier. Next month the face-to-face session will be held on the first Thursday (March 1st) @ Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk. The Go-to-Meeting version will be held on the second Tuesday (March 13th) via Go-to-Meeting. The topic for discussion in March will be Vision – what it is, why we need it, how to cast it. If you would like to “join the meeting” let me know and I’ll be sure you get the “how to connect” details.
- You might have heard an unexpected and unexplained shout this past week. It was me! I read the following in the newsletter of my friend, Dr. Tom Fillinger, who leads a church consulting ministry in Cullman, AL. He wrote, ” The proper measure of ministry effectiveness is Transformation. Are people becoming more like Christ in Character and Conduct?” In the discipleship seminars and classes I’ve taught around the association we define a true disciple as a believer who is being transformed into the image of Christ – in both character and conduct.
- Yesterday Lyn woke up nauseous and couldn’t shake it before time to leave for church, so she stayed home. I worshipped with the good folks at **West Hill, Ithaca**, where Bill Lower has been pastor since April 2007. Yesterday Associate Pastor Justin Pepicelli preached in the absence of Pastor Bill and his wife Christina, who are in Virginia visiting their daughter.

This Week in Preview

- Mon – President’s Day
- Mon – meeting with Tim Bissell, our Church Planting Catalyst
- Wed – BD Bill Lower (Pastor @ West Hill, Ithaca)
- Thurs – Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk

Missionary of the Week

- Today we're going to visit the hills of eastern Kentucky because that's where two of our missionaries serve. They are Jamie and Rachael Reynolds who direct the work of the Three Forks Baptist Association. It's a fellowship of more than three dozen churches, but they are mostly small and spread over a big area. That's why Jamie and Rachael welcome teams of Southern Baptist volunteers to come help them minister to the people in and around Hazard, where there is much poverty and many kinds of social problems like alcoholism and drugs. Since many people do not have a personal relationship with Christ, it means there are spiritual problems as well. These are conditions found all over the Appalachian region, and it's why thousands of Baptist volunteers are needed. We are helping support Jamie and Rachael in their ministry there in Kentucky through our Cooperative Program giving. Let's pray for them now.

Have You Heard This One?

- The students in a third-grade class were bombarding the teacher with questions about her newly pierced ears. "Does the hole go all the way through?" "Yes." "Did it hurt?" "Just a little." "Did they stick a needle through your ears?" "No, they used a special gun." Silence followed, and then one solemn voice called out, "How far away did they stand?"