

Hart Beat

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

17 June 2018

Hart to Heart

- Well, Praise the Lord, I'm back to normal – at least with the back situation. Reports of my inability to function, due to elderliness, is highly exaggerated. I do appreciate all the texts, emails, and FaceBook posts expressing concern. I'm still about the Father's business and, whenever possible, working on the house.
- One of the "hats" I wear is CNYBA/Thousand Islands Baptist Association (TIBA) Area Coordinator for BCNY/SBC Disaster Relief. Lary Hyde (who is the SBC Northeast Region DR Coordinator for Mass Feeding) has volunteered to help me "get the word out" about the various kinds of disaster relief we do and how volunteers can get involved. Contact me if your church would be willing to hear about disaster relief. We are committed to bring training to as many of the churches in CNYBA/TIBA as possible.
- A week ago Saturday past **Lakeshore, Cicero** members participated in some of the ten different missions projects set up with local non-profits in Syracuse by Beautiful Mess Ministries, seeking to unify and mobilize Christians, and later attended the connected concert in the evening. On Saturday past (June 16th), Lakeshore hosted a First Responders Appreciation Dinner. Mike McMahon is Pastor.
- **West Hill, Ithaca** heard Lary Hyde's presentation regarding Southern Baptist Disaster Relief. On June 22-29 six folks from WHCC will join Builders for Christ in helping to construct a 20,000 foot addition to the facilities of the Chinese Bible Church I Lowell, MA. Please join me in praying for safe travels and work site safety for this group. Bill Lower is Pastor.
- **Open Bible Fellowship** is just about finished with approving a constitution and by-laws (i.e. Operations Manual). In addition to Participating Members (believers who choose to participate), we have a growing number of Covenant Members (believers who have been baptized by immersion after salvation by OBF or a church of like faith and practice, embrace the OBF Articles of Faith, and sign the Church Covenant). We are also very involved at the moment with remodeling as part of the change taking place at the Auction House where we meet. It is becoming an Antique Mall and we have been given a 20 x 40 section. We're building walls, sound room, cabinets, counter, etc. The "new" Antique Mall is scheduled to open the first week of July.

- On Friday past I spent the better part of the day making hospital visits at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse. I visited Julie & Bob Teachout. Julie fell and broke her leg in three places. She was being discharged today, but will need to return for more surgery sometime soon. Bob will have a defibrillator installed in his chest later this month.
- While I was at Upstate, I also visited with Nancy and Dan Dow, members at **Living Water, Owego**. Nancy was having surgery today to clean out some infection that has developed from the recent surgery to install rods in her back and neck. She is battling blood cancer that has eaten away at her bones. I also visited briefly with Dan & Nancy's pastor, Wayne Sibrava, who was at the hospital for the surgery.
- When I got home on Friday afternoon I got word that one of our OBF families had received word that their son had passed away suddenly in NYC. Lyn and I made a visit to their home late Friday afternoon. Please pray for this family.
- On Saturday past I spent some time building a wall to separate our Open Bible Fellowship area from other vendors at the remodeled Bostwick Auction House (now called Bostwick Antique Mall). Pat & Laurie Bostwick are providing a 20 x 40 foot area for OBF in the newly remodeled facility. This week we'll build a sound room and a serving counter for our weekly meetings.
- On Sunday past (June 17th) Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Newark Baptist Bible Fellowship Church**, where John DePugh has been pastor since August 1994. I was privileged to preach both Sunday morning and Sunday night, the first two services of their revival effort that will run through Wednesday night, with a different speaker each night. The other speakers include Wayne Sibrava (Mon), William O'Neill (Tues) and Steve Sallis (Wed).
- On Sunday afternoon Lyn and I joined Pastor John & Jayne DePugh visiting with Jessica DePugh at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, where she is still in ICU 235 days after being in a horrific auto accident. Please continue to pray for Jessica, as well as for her mom and dad during this ordeal.

This Week in Preview

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

Important Life Lessons

3. Always remember those who serve.

- In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" he asked. "Fifty cents," replied the waitress. The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it. "Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he inquired. By now more people were waiting for a table and the waitress was growing impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she brusquely replied. The little boy again counted his coins. "I'll have the plain ice cream," he said. The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left. When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies. You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave her a tip.

Missionary of the Week

- Today we want to pray for Jason Carmichael, who is one of our missionaries serving in Central Asia. Central Asia is a region where people have responded to the gospel, but in some areas the government makes it difficult for missionaries to even live there. We support Jason through our church's Cooperative Program giving. Like all our missionaries, Jason is constantly looking for new ways to talk to people about Jesus. He has been studying one of the Asian languages, so he went online to a site for learning that language. He connected with a student we'll call Nesra. Jason started by telling Nesra that Jesus is the most important part of his life, and he told how he had become a Christian. Then he told some stories from the Bible. Nesra understood him and did not object to the Bible stories. But she said she wasn't sure God even exists. She agreed to do more talking over the Internet and said she would read more Bible stories with Jason. Today let's be thankful there are many ways to share the gospel, and let's pray that Jason Carmichael will be able to share the gospel with many people in Central Asia.

Have You Heard This One?

- A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that her name is Patricia Whack. "Miss Whack, I'd like to get a \$10,000 loan to take a vacation." Patty looks at the frog in disbelief and asks his name. The frog says his name is Kermit Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's okay, he knows the bank manager. Patty explains that he will need to secure the loan with some collateral. The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain elephant, about an inch tall, bright pink and perfectly formed. Very confused, Patty explains that she'll have to consult with the bank manager and disappears into a back office. She finds the manager and says, "There's a frog called Kermit Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow \$10,000, and he wants to use this as collateral." She holds up the tiny pink elephant. "I mean, what in the world is this?" The bank manager looks back at her and says, "It's a

knickknack, Patty Whack. Give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone."
(You sang it, didn't you? Yeah, I know you did.) Never take life too seriously.