

Hart Beat

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

15 July 2018

Hart to Heart

- **Lakeshore, Cicero** began VBS on Sunday evening past. It runs through Thursday of this week, with a Family Celebration either Friday, July 20th or Sunday, July 22nd. TBD! Mike McMahon is Pastor.
- **Casa de Paz, Syracuse** joined **Tranformacion, Syracuse** in a special service and fellowship meal held at Fair Haven State Park on the shore of Lake Ontario on Sunday past to say farewell to Jonathan Santiago, who is moving back to Puerto Rico to head up The North American Mission Board's long term Disaster Relief efforts there. After the service and meal, Alex Rivera, Pastor @ **Casa de Paz**, baptized 3 in Lake Ontario – one of whom was his son. Pedro Abreu is Pastor @ **Tranformacion**.
- **Starpoint, Clifton Park** will provide free concessions for the Town of Clifton Park's free, children-oriented performing arts concerts for five consecutive Wednesday nights in the summer to be a good neighbor and show God's love in a practical way. On Thursday, July 19, they will be preparing a summer BBQ lunch for all Shen School District twelve-month employees (200 people). They are excited about another way they can give back to their community in a practical way! Dr. Roscoe Lilly is Pastor.
- **West Hill, Ithaca** began VBS on Sunday evening past. It will run through Thursday evening, July 19th. Bill Lower is Pastor.
- On Tuesday past I attended the Praxis Project Team Meeting at **Northside, Liverpool**, where Dan Studt is the Church Planter/Pastor. This newer congregation had been meeting in the BCNY office building, but had to move because the building has been sold and BCNY will be occupying the lower level for several months as part of the sale agreement. For the moment, they have landed at the CNYBA Ministry Center on Genesee St in Syracuse. They are looking for a more suitable location.
- Speaking of the Genesee Street Ministry Center, you may not be aware that Tim Bissell, the NAMB Church Planting Catalyst assigned to our area, has moved his office into the center and is serving as our Property Manager. Devon Bartholomew, our Baptist Campus Ministry Director @ Syracuse University, and his wife Kate, who is the Director of the new International Learning Center in Syracuse, have also moved their offices into the building. Plans are to start a

multi-cultural church and some kind of outreach to Syracuse University doctoral students, using the facilities which belong to CNYBA.

- On Friday past I drove over to Southbury, CT and retrieved the BCNY Disaster Relief Chain Saw unit and delivered it back to the BCNY office. Lyn and the boys (Henry & Harley) went along for the 13 hour day. Note to self: Never follow the GPS when it tempts you with a shorter route “through the country side.” STAY ON THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS as much as possible.
- On Saturday past I attended the funeral service for Duane Arnold, Sr., who has been pastor at **Southport, Elmira** (now meeting in Lockport) since June 1996. His sons, Duane Jr. and Christopher, conducted the services. No word yet on the future of Southport BC.
- On Sunday past Lyn and I attended the special adios service and fellowship meal for Jonathan Santiago hosted by **Transformacion, Syracuse** and **Iglesias Casa de Paz, Syracuse**. Like the Church at Antioch in Acts 13, who prayed over Barnabas and Paul as they sent them out to do “the work to which they had been called”, Pastor Pedro Abreu and **Tranformacion, Syracuse** did the same for Jonathon Santiago. I was honored to be asked to pray the commissioning prayer over the missionary and his family.
- Following the commissioning service, Lyn and I attended the **Casa de Paz** baptismal service where Pastor Alex Rivera baptized three.
- On Sunday evening past, as has been our custom, we gathered with several folks from our **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk** family for a time of fellowship at a local pizzeria.

This Week in Preview

- Mon (16th) – BD Beth McMahan (PW @ Lakeshore, Cicero)
- Tues (17th) – BD Phil Huber (Pastor @ Inlet CC)
- Thurs (19th) – Open Bible Fellowship
- Fri (20th) – ANV Jon & Kim Speed (P&W @ Christ is King, Syracuse)
- Fri (20th) – Ordination Council @ Summit, Cazenovia

Missionary of the Week

- For our missionary prayer time today, we are going to East Asia to learn about the work of Jon Gerwig. Talking to people about Jesus in a way they understand is very important in missions work. That's why missionaries work very hard to learn the languages spoken where they serve. In Jon's case this is especially difficult because the people group he serves speaks five! They are called the Torch

People. Thankfully God gets involved to help overcome language barriers as we see in the following story. One day Jon and some other believers tried to talk to a middle-aged woman we'll call Sarah. Sarah couldn't understand the dialect they used. She went on her way. Half an hour later, Jon and his team saw a farmer in a pumpkin patch. They stopped to talk to him, and he understood the dialect they were using. As they talked, the farmer's wife came up it was Sarah. Her husband translated every word of the gospel the team was sharing. Let's pray for Jon Gerwig, whom we support through our Cooperative Program giving. Let's pray he will be able to communicate the gospel to people around him, whatever their language may be.

Have You Heard This One?

- After she woke up, a woman told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for our anniversary. What do you think it means?" "You'll know tonight." he said. That evening, the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it to find a book entitled "The Meaning of Dreams."