

Hart Beat

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

17 February 2019

Hart to Heart

- Our mission trip to Puerto Rico April 13-19 is a GO! We are officially registered with NAMB Send Relief and our team is just about filled. There will be 10 of us from CNYBA repairing roofs. I will be going a few days early on a vision trip to St. Thomas to look at a possible mission trip there later, as well as the possibility of a partnership with SBC churches there over the next several years.
- Judith "Judy" Sonich, a member of **Bellewood, North Syracuse**, is one of three persons that have been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors of Lifeway Christian Resources, the publishing/ministry center for the Southern Baptist Convention, until the SBC elects directors to fill the unexpired terms.
- The International Ministry Center that we support through our CNYBA budget is changing. After this semester they will not be doing the weekly classes they have been doing and are looking for a church or churches who feel led to reach out to the international community. If you or your church is interested in picking up this ball and running with it, let me know ASAP.
- **Grace, Rome** showed the movie, "I Can Only Imagine" on Friday evening past. Trent Williams is Pastor.
- **Stamford BC** will once again be participating in the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary "Revive This Nation" evangelism initiative in which they send seminary students out across the nation to preach in traditional revival meeting services. Stamford will hold this year's spring revival March 10-13 with Dale Allen as their revival preacher. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- On Thursday evening past I was at my normal post facilitating the weekly worship/Bible study at Open Bible Fellowship. During the winter we are averaging 25, more or less, each week. Based on last year, we anticipate when the snow birds return, the weather changes, and flu season is over we'll be up there close to 40 in attendance again, which is capacity in our current facility. We are asking the Lord to open up more space, but do not want to leave the hamlet of Catatonk. With larger quarters, we hope to move to regular Sunday morning Sunday School and worship sometime this year, with me and two other OBFers sharing Sunday morning preaching duties. Help us pray.
- On Friday past, at Pastor David Barrows' prior invitation, I met with the leadership at **Clyde BC** to consult with them about the future direction of the

church. I am always honored to be asked to lend a listening ear and to give input as churches sit down to discuss the way forward. I stayed for their Friday night worship service, where John DePugh, pastor @ **Newark BFC**, preached.

- On Saturday past I was privileged to participate in the ordination council for Tara Man Sunwar at the Genesee Street Ministry Center in Syracuse. Bro. Tara is planting another Nepali church in Syracuse and will be ordained next Saturday.
- On Saturday past, after the ordination council, I met with Tim Bissell, our Church Planting Catalyst, over lunch. We have several opportunities for church plants, but have not as yet been able to enlist church planters for those places. Please join me in prayer that the Lord of the harvest will send laborers.
- On Sunday past Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **West Hill, Ithaca**, where Bill Lower has been pastor since April 2007. On this Sunday Pastor Bill and his wife were out of town visiting their daughter in Washington DC. Associate Pastor Justin “Pep” Pepicelli preached. We always enjoy visiting this church where I served as interim pastor for some months back in 2007.

This Week in Preview

- Thurs (21st) BD Bill Lower (Pastor @ West Hill, Ithaca)
- Thurs (21st) Open Bible Fellowship

Missionary of the Week

Our missionary prayer time today will be spent in Airdrie, a city in Alberta Province, western Canada, about a 15-minute drive north of the larger city of Calgary. To the west, the Rocky Mountains parade across the horizon. This city of about 60,000 people is where two of our missionaries, Herwyn and Sheryl Tagle now live with their three children. Herwyn and Sheryl are natives of the Philippines. They moved to Airdrie in 2012 and the next year they were called to plant Hopelink Community Church, which is reaching mostly other Filipinos. Through our church's Cooperative Program giving each month, our church helps pay the salary and expenses of Herwyn and Sheryl as they lead their new church. We're also supporting many other missionaries planting churches across western Canada. These missionary partners make a great support network for Herwyn and Sheryl. Let us pray today specifically for Herwyn and Sheryl as they disciple their new believers and help them grow in faith. Can we ask the Lord to bless their ministry and use them to bring many more to faith in Christ.

Have You Heard This One?

- Irene, the church gossip, and self-appointed monitor of the church's morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several members did not approve of her extracurricular activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence. She made a mistake, however, when she accused George, a new church member, of being an alcoholic after she saw his pickup parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon. She emphatically told George, and several others present in the fellowship hall, that everyone seeing it there would know exactly what he was doing. George, a man of few words, stared at her for a few moments and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend, or deny! He said nothing. Later that evening George quietly parked his pickup in front of Irene's house, walked home, and left it there overnight! You gotta love George!