

## **Hart Beat**

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

**24 March 2019**

### **Hart to Heart**

- Well, spring is here – at least on the calendar. I think after a long dreary winter, we're all looking for some more user-friendly weather.
- The 2019 Mid-year Meeting of Central New Baptist Association will be held at **Newark BC** on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM til Noonish.
- Another Disaster Relief Training event will take place on April 26-27 (Friday evening and Saturday) at **Lakeshore BC, Cicero**. If you are interested in helping with Disaster Relief, go to [www.bncysbc.org](http://www.bncysbc.org) and register. As advanced Feeding Unit Training will also be held at **Lakeshore, Cicero** on June 7-8.
- The Christian comedian Brad Stine will be speaking in churches in our area in May and June. At the moment his available dates are May 16,17,19 or June 26-30. If you would like to have Brad in your group, club, or church contact Jeff Bisher at [bish1961@yahoo.com](mailto:bish1961@yahoo.com) or 570-423-0023.
- **Open Bible Fellowship**, will host a Faith, Fellowship, & Fun event on the second Thursday afternoon of each month from 2:00 – 3:30 PM beginning April 11<sup>th</sup>. Creative Joy, a local crafting organization, will provide a Make & Take Project each month. The cost is \$10 and includes all the supplies needed for the project. Ed Hart is Pastor
- **Lakeshore, Cicero** had their first open mic night of 2019 at the Calm Waters Café on Saturday evening past, featuring Charlotte Dennis. There were deserts, great coffee, music, and fellowship at this event in their newly remodeled “corner” of their fellowship area. Mike McMahon is Pastor.
- **The Neighborhood Church** will conduct their big annual Easter Egg outreach event on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at Washington Square Park on Park Street in Syracuse. If you are interested in filling some plastic eggs with candy and sending them to TNC the mailing address is 1012 Oak Street, Syracuse, NY 13203. They will need them by April 13<sup>th</sup>. > They are in the fourth week of doing an after-school Bible Program at a local public elementary School. They have been averaging between 40-50 kids in attendance. > Pastor Ronnie Wyatt asks prayer for two of thier leaders, Patrick Tynan and Bob Harris, as they go next week for “Celebrate Recovery” training. They hope to start this awesome addiction recovery program at The Neighborhood Church by the summer.

- **Starpoint, Clifton Park** Starpoint will be sharing and showing the love of Jesus by blessing businesses in Clifton Park with donuts on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>! They will pick up donuts early in the morning, put some stickers on the boxes, then going out in teams of 2 to distribute the donuts! > On Saturday morning April 20<sup>th</sup> they will facilitate a FREE Easter Egg Hunt at Starpoint Church! They'll have a bounce house, pony rides, games, face painting, popcorn, cotton candy, the Easter Bunny, and an Easter Egg Hunt for kids up to 5th grade! To make sure everyone is safe and has fun they will have separate egg hunts for each age group. > As part of their year-long 15 year anniversary celebration, they donated \$2750 to the City Mission of Schenectady for it "Dress for Success" program. Starpoint has made significant donations to other area agencies as part of their 15 year anniversary celebration. Dr. Roscoe Lily is Pastor.
- **Stamford BC** has 9 adult men and two students registered for Iron Sharpens Iron, Albany on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- **North Fenton BC** will host a "Thrive" Ladies' Conference on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, from 3-6 PM, led by ladies from **Northside, Liverpool**. Lasies from other churches are invited to attend. For more information contact Judy Kochmanski at [jkochmanski@lourdes.com](mailto:jkochmanski@lourdes.com) or by calling 607-206-9049.
- On Thursday past Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Open Bible Fellowship** where 25 gathered for our weekly Worship & Bible Study. On Thursday past we finished out look at Abraham in our chronological Bible study through the Bible.
- On Friday past Lyn and I enjoyed meeting Devon & Kate Bartholomew, alone with their daughter Mira, in Cortland for a time of fellowship over lunch. Devon is our CNYBA Student Ministry Director at Syracuse University, where he, among other things, pastors Baptist Campus Church. Kate has transitioned from directing the International Learning Center to full time assistant to Devon in ministering to students at SU. They office in our CNYBA Genesee Ministry Center and are developing plans to use that facility as an outreach tool to reach university graduate students, who live in the immediate area. We support Devon & Kate through our CNYBA budget.
- On Saturday past Lyn and I attended the CNYBA Church Strengthening Conference, which was held at **Lakeshore, Cicero**. Dr. Bruce Aubrey, pastor at **Northside, Liverpool**, did a tremendous job leading the conference on "The Spiritual Life of Church Leaders." Our churches are strengthened when our church leaders are strengthened. Thanks to Pastor Mike McMahon and Lakeshore BC for hosting the conference.

- On Sunday past Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **North Fenton BC**, where Rodney Kochmanski has been pastor since July 2015. After service we stayed to enjoy a time of fellowship and food at their fellowship meal. Pastor Rodney has also been preaching regularly at **Fellowship, Norwich** on Sunday evenings while Pastor Harold Lefler has been recuperating from a broken ankle.

### **This Week in Preview**

- Tues (26<sup>th</sup>) BD Frank Adams (Pastor @ Jefferson BC)
- Thurs (28<sup>th</sup>) BD Diane Brown (PW @ Three Pines, Doraville)
- Thurs (28<sup>th</sup>) Open Bible Fellowship, Catatunk

### **Missionary of the Week**

- Let's go to sunny, Miami, Florida, today because we want to pray for our missionaries, Fabian and Melissa Portunato, who have four children. Fabian and Melissa have planted Revolution Church and are working hard to reach people for Christ. Fabian says he looks for opportunities to share the Gospel all the time, especially when he does not expect them. Along with his church ministry, Fabian holds down a full-time job, mainly because he can tell more people about Jesus. He recalls that, on the day he put up a sign announcing the church, a homeless man in his 20s came up to ask what he was doing. The church welcomed him and six months later that young man accepted Christ as Savior and was baptized. Now he regularly invites people to Revolution and tells them, "These people truly care for the least of these." Our church supports Fabian and Melissa and their ministry in Miami, because we give through the Cooperative Program. Fabian appreciates the Cooperative Program. He says, "Without the Cooperative Program, this (church) would not have come about." He quotes Hudson Taylor, an early missionary, who said for someone to dig a well, one must dig while another holds the rope. The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists holding the rope. Let us pray now for Fabian and Melissa.

### **Have You Heard This One?**

- The pastor was preaching a powerful message about heaven and hell, at the end of which he bellowed, "No, who wants to go to heaven?" Everyone in the small congregation raised their hand, except a wide-eyed little boy who was seated down front. The pastor boomed out the question again, but still the little boy was a hold-out. The pastor stepped down from the pulpit and walked over to the child and said, "Son, don't you want to go to heaven?" "Sure Pastor, someday – but not if you're getting up a group today."