

Hart Beat

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

23 November 2014

➡ Hart to Heart

- Vickie Barrows, wife of Associate Pastor Dave Barrows @ Clyde Baptist Church is in the hospital after suffering chest pains. Tests have determined that it is an intestinal virus that is causing the pain. Please lift this family up in prayer this week.
- I may have already mentioned in a previous post that Rickey Fuller, Pastor @ **Beacon Light, Vernon** will have hip replacement surgery on Dec. 29th. Pray for Bro. Rickey, his family, and his church while he goes through this major surgery.
- Lyn will have knee replacement surgery on December 15th at Packer Hospital in Sayre, PA – if she can get approval from the cardiologist. Some test were done this past week, some will be done this week, and a stress test will be done on December 10th.
- I know that several of our churches participate in the Christmas Child Shoe Box program through Samaritan's Purse and I know three or four of our churches are collection sites for the gathering of the boxes to be shipped. I would be interested to know (so I can report in next week's newsletter) how many boxes were packed by CNYBA churches. If you are a collection site, please just give me the number of boxes your folks packed.
- Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at **Freedom Fellowship, Binghamton** at the last worship service before they merge into Calvary Baptist, Binghamton. We enjoyed a delicious fellowship meal afterward. Bill Deckert is Pastor.

➡ News From the Churches

- **Mission University, Syracuse** reports that their three groups in the university area continue to grow and are inviting new folks each week to join the fellowship. Each group is currently working on individual neighborhood strategies to take the gospel to their neighbors or a specific group Their Westcott group is hosting a Thanksgiving dinner for international students and there has already been a good amount of interest. In the new group in Salt Springs they are working on partnering with the local school to provide Christmas dinners for families in need. Their college age group is settling

into a regular routine and has just finished up the last week of evangelism training. Brandon Owen is Church Planter/Pastor.

- **Outpouring, Oswego** reports having some great opportunities for sharing the Gospel as Pastor Zach Neyhard, a couple speakers, and several university students made memories together during Fall Retreat, Oct.18, in Lake Placid, NY. Pastor Zach opines, “We needed this time to give us some high-impact relationship-building time, and it went exactly like we hoped it would.” Other recent highlights include starting a study of 1 Peter as a church, restarting their Monday night international student game night, and continuing support raising activity, which has produced some new supporters who are SUNY Oswego graduates.
- **The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse** reports two professions of faith in recent days. They are also involved in coat and blanket distribution as the colder weather moves in. They are searching for a building to use as a meeting place. Recently they had over 50 in Pastor Ronnie Wyatt’s house. Join them in prayer for a new location.
- **Emory Chapel, Waverly** is saying good bye to the only pastor they have ever known. Pastor Gary Culver is retiring and moving to Texas for the winter. His last Sunday with them will be December 7th. They will also be voting on a replacement pastor on December 7th. They plan a candlelight Christmas service on Christmas Eve.
- **Christ Is King, Syracuse** has fully moved into the used and rare book store operated by Pastor Jon Speed. They are enjoying their own space with a permanent sign out front. Pastor Jon’s family is rejoicing over more space at home now that the books have been moved to the store. Jon Speed has been pastor since the church began in September 2011.
- **Summit, Cazenovia** had a Thanksgiving dinner today. They plan a December 14 Christmas party with white elephant gifts. Dan Schallmo is Pastor.
- **Baptist Campus Ministry, Syracuse** displayed an act of kindness to the Syracuse University campus by giving out free breakfast bars on the quad the first week of November. It was a great opportunity for students to start conversations with their classmates and peers. In November BCM students donated knitted and crocheted hats and scarves they had created to the Hendricks Chapel Food Pantry where they will be made available to students. Devon Bartholomew is BCM Leader.

➡ This Week in Preview

- 29th BD Allan Covington (Pastor @ River Edge, Baldwinsville)

➡ Missionary Moments

- **Sharing the Love of God**

(Russia) On a cold, winter day, missionaries MICHAEL and PATSY HOLYFIELD and their son, Caleb, arrived at a house in the middle of a small village in Far East Russia. They went to the village to tell Maria and others about God's love. Maria accepted a Bible and asked them to pray for her husband, Veleri, who had a sad, sunken face, no legs and only one arm. The Holyfields shared the Gospel, and both Veleri and Maria accepted Jesus as Savior. The Holyfields are the only missionaries within 1,500 miles in any direction. The work is difficult, but Cooperative Program gifts help them take the Good News into Russian villages.

- **Responding to God's Call**

(Colorado) In most areas of the western United States, less than 10 percent of the population is evangelically churchied, and the established churches are often small with few resources. New churches are in demand to reach the vast numbers of unbelievers. As a North American missionary serving as the Mobilization Professor at the Rocky Mountain campus of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Colorado, ALLAN KARR is making disciples by training future church planters and missionaries. Your prayers for Allan and his wife, KATHY, and your continued support of the Cooperative Program are needed to help raise up a new generation of missionaries.

➡ Have You Heard This One?

- An eccentric philosophy professor gave a one question final exam after a semester dealing with a broad array of topics. The class was already seated and ready to go when the professor picked up his chair, plopped it on his desk and wrote on the board: "Using everything we have learned this semester, prove that this chair does not exist." Fingers flew, erasers erased, notebooks were filled in furious fashion. Some students wrote over 30 pages in one hour attempting to refute the existence of the chair. One member of the class however, was up and finished in less than a minute. Weeks later when the grades were posted, the rest of the group wondered how he could have gotten an A when he had barely written anything at all. His answer consisted of two words: "What chair?"

