

Hart Beat

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

23 March 2014

➡ Hart to Heart

- We've been praying for Bonnie Novak, Pastor's wife at Lakeshore, Cicero and Professor at Davis College, who had a stroke a while back. I checked in on her this week to see how she was doing and got this reply:

I am making progress! Moved from aquatic to land therapy and from a walker to a cane. My stamina and endurance are increasing, so I am able to sit up for longer periods of time and work. On March 2, I taught my Discover 301 course during Sunday School and that was fun. It is just a very SLOW process climbing up and out of this "rabbit hole."

- Week before last Devon Bartholomew (along with wife Kate), our student ministry leaders on three campuses in the Syracuse area, led a group of students from the Syracuse University and the College of Environmental Science & Forestry campuses on a Spring Break Mission trip to Staten Island. The students participated in the Staten Island Hurricane Sandy Rebuild with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief. They installed and finished drywall. Last week Devon and Kate returned to Staten Island with a group of students on Spring Break from Le Moyne College. Pray for the good work Devon and Kate are doing in the lives of College and University students.
- Thanks to all you who have called, texted, or emailed regarding my echocardiogram and stress test. I finally got the "all clear" this week. I guess I'm just old, fat, and out of shape. I can't do anything about the first part, but I plan to begin working on the latter two.
- Yesterday Dr. Milo Thompson and I led the first of three CNYBA Spring Leadership Forums. Emmanuel, Cortland hosted the meeting. There were 20 in attendance representing 14 churches. The second and third forums in this series will be held on the 4th Saturday mornings of April and May.
- Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at Freedom Fellowship, where Bill Deckert has been pastor since January 2012. I was impressed with the size of the congregation and the spirit I felt. I left the service praising the Lord for the depth and clarity of the Biblical teaching.

- Some time back, Pastor Bill asked me to accompany him and some of the church leadership on a walk-through of a near-by building that might be a possible relocation site for the **Freedom Fellowship** congregation. We did that after services today.

➡ **News From the Churches**

- **RiverEdge, Baldwinsville** did not move to the YMCA today as planned. A last minute zoning issue arose that will require some time to resolve. They are working on a long-term solution and looking for a short-term option. They will continue meeting in a home for the time being. Let's lift this congregation up in prayer. Allen Covington is Pastor.
- **Christ Is King, Syracuse** has just completed a second round of church membership classes and has three new members to add in the next couple of weeks. They have added four other members over the previous two months. They are close to having a new website completed for the church. When completed, the web site will be www.christiskingbaptist.com. Jon Speed is Pastor.
- **Lakeshore Baptist Church**, 6696 Lakeshore Road, Cicero, NY, will host its annual outdoor Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 20, 2014, at 6:15 AM (sunrise), followed by breakfast inside. The public is invited to attend. There is no charge. For more information, contact Pastor Karl Novak at 315-572-1502 or kjvak@aol.com.
- **Northside, Liverpool** is making available CDs and DVDs of the recent "Keep the Fire Burning" Conference for \$25 per set and can be ordered through the church office (315-652-3160) or by emailing Sue Huber at shuber@northsideonline.org. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.
- **Three Pines, Doraville** held a baptismal service this afternoon at First Baptist Church in Afton. Their theme for 2014 is "To Be A Disciple" (Ephesians 5:1-2). Mike Brown is Pastor.
- Don't forget BCNY VBS training event hosted by **Bellewood, North Syracuse** on April 5th beginning at 9 AM. The GPS address for Bellewood Church is 445 Church Street, North Syracuse, NY 13212. Matt Hallenbeck is Pastor.
- Pastor Liem Do @ **Vietnamese, Utica** writes,

“Two new Cambodian families just came to the US hear about Gospel that they never hear before in their country. They didn't make decision to accept Christ yet, but we will continue to visit their family and pray for them.”

- **Missio University, Syracuse** had a Serve Syracuse week in which they had students from Ft Myers FL come and do evangelistic outreach. They spent an entire day out in their neighborhood serving coffee, as well as buying groceries and gas. They also training leaders to start and lead missional communities (Bible Studies) in other nearby neighborhoods. They have already identified the Salt Springs neighborhood as the next area they will attempt to penetrate. Brandon Owen is ChurchPlanter/Pastor.
- Easter Sunrise Services are planned at the following CNYBA churches:
 - **Lakeshore, Cicero**
 - **Stamford BC**

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- 23rd BD Cindy Schallmo (PW @ Summit, Cazenovia)
- 24th BCNY Admin Committee Mtg
- 26th BD Frank Adams (Pastor @ Jefferson BC)
- 28th BD Dianne Brown (PW @ Three Pines, Doraville)

➡ **4th Sunday – The Gospel According to Holly** (re-run)

Chapter thirteen of my evolving book (inspired by my wife's Pomeranian puppy) "The Gospel According to Holly" is entitled **We Never Seem to Learn**. Back in the coldest part of the winter Holly went outside, as usual. However, she got back to the door before I did and began licking the snow off the metal sliding door jam. You never heard such squalling. Her tongue was stuck to the jam! As I was about to get down and blow on her tongue to see if it would come “unstuck”, she just yanked it loose. I don't even want to think about how much that must have hurt. Then a couple of days later, she did the exact same thing again. More pain. This time my wife was about to let her in and I thought I was going to have to render first aid to Lyn as well as Holly. You would think she would learn not to put her tongue on metal in the cold of winter! She's bound to be a Christian dog, because she acts just like us. We never seem to learn. Not too long after pain and agony, we do the same things over again, resulting in more pain and agony. And as often as not, someone else gets disturbed in the process. You would think we would learn.

◆ **Have You Heard This One?**

A porter loaded down with suitcases followed the couple to the airline check-in counter.

As they approached the line, the husband glanced at the pile of luggage and said to the wife, "Why didn't you bring the piano, too?"

"Are you trying to be funny?" she replied.

"No, I really wish you had" he sighed. "I left the tickets on it."