

Hart Beat

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

6 July 2014

➤ **Hart to Heart**

- Lyn and I continued our 50th Wedding Anniversary tour this week. We traveled from Red Bud, IL to Bemidji, MN – stopping off to visit relatives in Rockford, IL and meeting up with our daughter Robyn (from TX) who was in Minneapolis visiting friends.
- Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at Ridgewood Baptist Church in Bemidji, MN (100 miles from Canada and 100 miles from North Dakota). This is the first church I planted in Minnesota (and pastored for 8 years) back in the 1980's. It became the sponsoring church for two more church plants I initiated during the 8 years we were there. At the pastor's invitation, I was privileged to preach today. Lyn and I also did some special music.

➤ **News From the Churches**

- **River Edge, Baldwinsville** held a special evening baptismal service on July 3rd at Cross Lake. (An appropriate lake name for a baptismal service, don't you think) They held the service on this particular day because it is the wedding anniversary of the couple being baptized. They wanted this ordinance to be a testimony of what the Lord has and will continue to do in their marriage. > Pastor Allen Covington will begin a new sermon series next Sunday called "Bless This Home." > The congregation will have a new meeting place beginning July 13th at The New Legacy Apartment Complex.
- **Living Water, Owego** will share in a special "Missions Night" next Wednesday night. They will begin with a meal and then hear a report from several folks who have been on recent mission trips to Peru and/or Dominica. Wayne Sibrava is Pastor.
- **Transformation, Syracuse** had over 70 at their annual Oneida Lake church/family picnic. Jonathan Santiago preached and two ladies who had been invited by church members gave their hearts to Jesus. Praise the Lord! Pedro Abreau is Pastor.
- Devon & Kate Bartholomew were officially commissioned as **Collegiate Missionaries** to Syracuse University, SUNY-ESF and Le Moyne College at

the Southern Baptist Convention in Baltimore recently. They have already been at work in this role for some time. They have moved into a new house and are excited to see how God might use this house for ministry and His glory. Their summer Bible study is averaging 12 students per week and is a good incubator for this fall. Let's lift this young couple up in prayer.

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- Today – BD Darlene Macri (PW @ Crosspoint, Whitesboro)
- Today – BD Rebecca Neyhard (PW @ Outpouring, Oswego)
- Today - BD David Barrows (AP @ Clyde BC)
- 7th - ANV Mike & Diane Brown (P&W @ Three Pines, Doraville)
- 8th – BD (Julie Adams (PW @ Jefferson BC)
- 12th – BD Mary Knapton (PW @ Clyde BC)

➡ **1st Sunday – Missionary Story**

- (Indonesia) Since **LAURA TISDALE*** was appointed as a Southern Baptist representative 20 years ago, God has led her to Zambia, Thailand and, now, Indonesia, where she helps connect churches with unengaged, unreached people groups – people who have no knowledge of the Gospel and have no one sharing the Good News with them. Through Laura's work, one unreached people group with more than 8 million members is being engaged by three Southern Baptist churches that are working together. In Mississippi, Laura has worked with 15 of the 83 churches in the Tri-County Baptist Association to band together to adopt other Southeast Asia people groups. Gifts through the Cooperative Program make Laura's networking possible. **Names changed.*

➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

The preacher's "children's sermon" was from the 23rd Psalm.

He told the children about sheep, that they weren't smart and needed lots of guidance, and that a shepherd's job was to stay close to the sheep, protect them from wild animals and keep them from wandering off and doing dumb things that would get them hurt or killed.

He pointed to the children and said that they were the sheep and needed lots of guidance.

Then the preacher put his hands out to the side, palms up in a dramatic gesture, and with raised eyebrows said to the children, "If you are the sheep then who is the shepherd?" He was pretty obviously indicating himself.

A silence of a few seconds followed. Then a young lad said, " Jesus, Jesus is the shepherd."

The young minister, obviously caught by surprise, said to the boy, "Well, then, who am I?"

The little boy frowned thoughtfully and then said with a shrug, "I guess you must be a sheep dog!"