

## **Hart Beat**

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

**3 January 2016**

### **➡ Hart to Heart**

- Almost unbelievably, this is the first Sunday in 2016! What a great opportunity for a brand new start in our efforts for the Kingdom. As individual churches and as an association, we should not rest on our laurels, but make a new commitment to urgency in sharing the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.
- I've spent quite a bit of time in the office during the last week getting year end stuff done. My big project right now is a new CNYBA Congregational Directory – combining pastor & wife data (birthday, anniversary, etc), worship times, email address, etc into one format, which I hope to be able to share with the pastors soon. If I have counted correctly, we have 48 congregations affiliated with CNYBA.
- I have also completed my year end DOM Accountability report, which I will share with our Leadership Team. It looks like I worked a few more days than I was supposed to, but all in all this has been a good year for me and for the association.
- The last few days have been relaxing, watching lots of football, eating way too much, and spending time with my college sweetheart and the boys. I've lost count of the number of football bowl games we watched. Our Arkansas Razorbacks did win their bowl game and later tonight our Minnesota Vikings will play for the NFL North Division Championship. We'll be watching.
- Yesterday, I was honored to be asked to preach at the ordination of a new deacon at **Newark Baptist Fellowship Church**. I was also privileged to sing with Pastor John DePugh and a couple of the men of the church during the service. I enjoyed it so much that after lunch we spent several minutes singing and harmonizing around the piano just for fun. Maybe you'll hear this group at our next associational meeting.
- Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at **West Hill, Ithaca**, where I was privileged to preach in the absence of Pastor Bill Lower, who is in Florida tending to his parents and getting his daughter off on an eleven month eleven country missions experience.

### **➡ News From the Churches**

- **West Hill, Ithaca** has exceeded their \$1500 goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. They will have "Movie Night" of Friday,

January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM with the showing of the film War Room.” They will have a Men’s Breakfast at 8 AM on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Bill Lower is Pastor

- **Emory Chapel, Waverly** will have a “work bee” on January 5<sup>th</sup> to take down the Christmas and get the Church Sanctuary back in order after the Christmas activities. They will have a Fellowship Meal following the morning worship service on January 10<sup>th</sup>. They will observe the Lord’s Supper the following Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Gary Culver is Pastor.
- **Northstar, Clifton Park** will be holding “Toddler Tuesday” on January 12<sup>th</sup> at the Rotterdam Mall, where there will be a half-hour class based around music or play, and then a half an hour of free play in a large gross motor play area. On January 14<sup>th</sup> they will have “Empty Nesters” Night Out at the Ugly Rooster Café. And on January 29<sup>th</sup> they will have a night of worship, prayer & reading Scripture for young adult singles in Pastor Tom Madison's basement apartment. They’re calling it “Underground Worship.” Dr. Roscoe Lilly is Pastor.

### ➡ **This Week in Preview**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Open Bible Fellowship = Catatonk

### ➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [Central Asia] For the New Year celebration, ELIZA KORN\* and her team were assigned a kind and gentle helper named Mehmet.\* He did his best to explain traditions and activities and escorted them to a local restaurant for lunch. Traditionally, the eldest at the table offers a hastily mumbled “prayer” at the end of the meal. Instead, Mehmet asked Eliza to pray. She thanked the Lord for their time together and asked that Mehmet would come to believe in Him. Mehmet said no one had ever prayed for him before. Thank you for giving through the Cooperative Program so that Eliza can serve among Central Asians.
- [Alabama] Even as a child, BRITTANY KENT had a God-given desire to serve others through medicine. When she was 7, through the influence of an IMB missionary, she knew she was to serve their spiritual needs as well. In high school she became active in apartment ministry. Today she is a college student in Tuscaloosa, working as a NAMB GenSend campus mobilizer. Brittany mobilizes students for service in Indianapolis, one of NAMB’s Send Cities. She and her team serve alongside church planters. Because you give through the Cooperative Program, students are learning to live missionally and people are coming to Christ. Pray for Brittany as she leads students and completes her master’s degree.

### ➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

- My sister landed a good job with an accounting firm, and after a while she got a generous raise. The day she found out about it, her husband picked her up from work, and they stopped for ice cream. As they continued home, my sister blurted out, "Isn't it hard to believe that I have a job that pays this much money?" Just then, she went to toss the last of her ice cream cone out the window. However, the window was closed, and it smacked against the glass. Her husband replied calmly, "Yes."