

Hart Beat

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

11 December 2016

➡ Hart to Heart

- I was pretty sure this time would come – time to break out the long johns. The weather forecast I'm following calls for snow on and off all week with temperatures dropping below zero on Thursday. Hello, winter!
- Gearing up for the CNYBA VBS Mission Trip to St. Croix, Virgin Islands coming up in 18 days. There are 11 people representing 4 CNYBA churches plus one guest going to do VBS in a huge housing project. We are asking each church and/or Sunday School class to set up some sort of prayer team to be praying for us while we are away December 29 thru January 5.
- Also be praying for a new work start in Norwich. The Project Team has formed and is meeting. We are looking for a church planter. Ask the Lord to reveal the person he wants to lead this new work.
- Finally got the insulation installed on either side of the sliding glass entry door we installed at the house in the fall. Insulation does actually reduce the amount of heat needed to keep the living room warm.
- Sunday morning Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at Gethsemane, Syracuse, re I was privileged to preach at the invitation of Pastor James Young.
- Sunday night Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at Open Bible, Catatonk, where I am serving as church planter/pastor. Due to illness, the weather, and snow birds headed to Florida, we had 13 in attendance, the lowest attendance we have had since we began having worship services this past June.

➡ News From the Churches

- Gethsemane, Syracuse has three awaiting baptism. James Young is Pastor.
- Crosspoint, Whitesboro had its annual Giving Tree again this year. Parishioners are asked to take one or more of the 50 tags on the tree with a suggested Christmas Gift on it. The gifts are distributed to local needy children before Christmas. This past Sunday afternoon they held a church-wide Christmas caroling event where they walked around through the local community singing carols. Next Sunday afternoon and evening they will have a Youth Christmas Party at the church. Sam Macri is Pastor.

- **Northside, Liverpool** has set their goal for the 2016 Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions at \$40,000. They will have Christmas Eve services at 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, and 11:00 PM. Dr. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.
- **Stamford BC** heard John & Dody Martin in a Christmas concert during the Sunday morning worship service this past Sunday. > They will do Christmas caroling at the local nursing home next Sunday afternoon. > They plan Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 7 PM. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- **Open Bible, Catatonk** will hear Rick & Donna Martin, missionaries to Peru, during their regular Thursday evening Bible study time this week. Ed Hart is Pastor

➡ **December Ministry Anniversaries**

- Wayne Sibrava – Pastor @ Living Water, Owego since December 1997
- Gary Culver – Pastor @ Emory Chapel, Waverly since December 1998
- Jeff Ford – Pastor @ Lyons Falls BC since December 2010

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [Deaf] The Deaf in East Asia face a difficult road in their search for Christ. Barriers crop up daily, causing problems for missionaries who are trying to share the gospel with millions of Deaf in this part of the world. Some Deaf believe Christianity has hundreds of difficult rules, making it a boring and confusing way of life. Many families also put a great deal of pressure on Deaf adults to conform to the traditional religious practices to gain financial support. Accepting Christ means losing family, home and financial support. Pray for our workers in the Deaf affinity group, as you support them with your giving through the Cooperative Program.
- [Europe] TOM and JANE BELL* opened a coffeehouse in their city, despite resistance from locals who didn't want evangelical Christians in their neighborhood. Slowly the coffeehouse was accepted. It became a hub for concerts and English classes, as well as a supplier of school supplies and Bibles. Today a church meets in the building that once was a coffeehouse. You support the Bells and this church through the Cooperative Program. Please pray for the Bells and the small group as they minister in this Eastern Orthodox city.

➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

- A lady walks into a bank in New York City and asks for the loan officer. She says she's going to Europe on business for two weeks and needs to borrow \$5,000.

The bank officer says the bank will need some kind of security for such a loan, so the lady hands over the keys to a new Rolls Royce parked on the street in front of the bank. Everything checks out, and the bank agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan. An employee drives the Rolls into the bank's underground garage and parks it there. Two weeks later, the lady returns, repays the \$5,000 and the interest, which comes to \$15.41. The loan officer says, "We are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?" The lady replied, "Where else in New York can I park my car for two weeks for 15 bucks?"