

Hart Beat

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

14 February 2016

➡ Hart to Heart

- Happy Valentine's Day!
- The ground hog saw his shadow the other day so winter is supposed to be coming to a close, not that you can tell it by looking at the thermometer or looking out the window. Try to stay warm and remember that it's already mid-February. Thank the Lord for a relative mild winter. Spring is on the way!!!!
- On Wednesday past I was at St. Joseph Hospital in Syracuse for the gall bladder surgery of one of our church planters, Ronnie Wyatt. No, I didn't have anything to do with the actual surgery. I was just there to lend support and keep Michele company while Ronnie was in surgery. When I arrived I found Elise Bissell already there. She led us in prayer before she left. Steve Sallis, our moderator, also spent some time with us later in the afternoon. Did you know Michele can make socks? She was working on a pair Wednesday. Ronnie came through the surgery just fine and is now recuperating at home. Please remember to continue praying for him, his wife, Michele, and their girls – as well as The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse.
- I can announce that we have a new congregation affiliated with CNYBA. Bhutanese, Syracuse, which is sponsored by Renovation, North Syracuse, is sponsoring a new work start in Scranton, PA. Bhim & Pricilla Rai are planting this new church. Bhim was led to the Lord by Bhim Biswa (Nepali, Syracuse) while in a refugee camp on their way to the US. We welcome this newest addition to the CNYBA family of churches.
- I believe I mentioned last week that our "scouting" trip to the Virgin Islands is coming together nicely. Bill Lower, Dan Schallmo, and I will be doing a vision trip on March 31 – April 4. Keep us in prayer. As we prepare to go see how CNYBA churches can come along side Church Planter John Smith, my doctor put me in touch with another local doctor who wants to set up some free medical clinics in the VI. I had a long conversation with her this week and she is excited about partnering with us! I don't know yet exactly what this might mean, but it sure does feel like the Lord is up to something.
- Also, there is a need for teams to do VBS in Metropolitan New York Baptist Association this summer. George Russ, Director of Missions for MNYBA, tells me they will need several VBS teams to help in various boughs of the city. If you would consider being a part of such a missions team, please let me know ASAP.

- Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at **Agape, Norwich**, where John Jablonski has been pastor since February 2015. After church we enjoyed a time of fellowship with John, Tara, and their three daughters over lunch.
- I finally got the 2015 year-end financial report from our bookkeeper this week. It's a little late coming out because Amy is also a tax preparer and this is her busiest time of year. I sent a copy of the report to all our pastors. The good news is that our churches gave more than our projected income – substantially! We have a solid Reserve Fund and a solid New Work Fund. God has blessed! Let's be praying that the Lord will open doors for us to use the resources He has provided.

➡ **News From the Churches**

- **Cornerstone, Endicott** had a pancake supper on Tuesday past. Today was Youth Day. The church will celebrate a Daniel Fast all this month. The church's new web site is www.cscommunitychurch.com. Dr. Greg Johnson is Pastor.
- **Agape, Norwich** will participate in the evangelism initiative by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and will have revival services March 13-17 with Michael Kirk, a Southwestern Seminary student preaching. They plan special music for the revival and Pastor John Jablonski invites sister churches to attend.
- **Crosspoint, Whitesboro** plans a Sweetheart Banquet this coming Friday evening. The cost will be donations only and all proceeds go towards the youth summer mission trip to Detroit, Michigan. On Friday evening, March 25th, they will present a Crosspoint Production entitled "***Steps to the Cross***". Sam Macri is Pastor.
- **Lyons Falls BFC** will host a date night with dinner and a comedy video next Sunday evening, February 21. Following will be a 6 week couples Bible study on Sunday nights. Jeff Ford is Pastor.
- **Northside, Liverpool** will host the annual "*Keep The Fire Burning Conference*" March 6-8 (Sunday evening – Tuesday noon) that provides encouragement, instruction, and fellowship for pastors and church leaders. Dr. James Merritt, Shaun Pillay, David Smith, Roscoe Lily and Bruce Aubrey are this year's speakers. Breakfast and lunch are provided and discounted hotel rooms are available. For more information, please call the church office and speak to Tammy Frisbie. 315-652-3160.
- **Stamford BC** will participate in the evangelism initiative by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and will have revival services March 13-17 with,

Sastry Meesala, a Southwestern Seminary student preaching. Waylen Bray is Pastor.

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- Today – ANV John & Ginger Talada – P&W @ Good News, Waverly
- 16th Pastors' Gathering (via Go-to-Meeting) AM & PM
- 17th ANV Waylen & Cherlyn Bray – P&W @ Stamford BC
- 18th Open Bible Fellowship - Catatunk

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [Nevada] EDWARD NEVES's life has been a preparation for urban ministry. He has been in gangs, used and sold drugs, served 30 plus years in prison and survived an execution-style shooting and multiple stabbings. His life is one of identification with those who were lost but are now found in Jesus. Edward leads an urban ministry in Las Vegas called "Homies for Christ," where he teaches Bible studies and disciples people who were formerly involved in crime, are currently involved in crime or are related to people who are involved in crime. Pray that "Homies for Christ" will be an integral, viable ministry that deploys soldiers for Christ, and support this ministry through the Cooperative Program.
- [Central Asia] Because JUSTIN and SUE KAISE* often have guests in their home, much of their ministry is hospitality. In one year they had 270 nights of overnight guests. They also invite many Muslim friends and business relationships over for dinner. The Kaisers strive to do ministry together as a family. They have taken trips throughout the Middle East as a family, and the trips were more successful because their children were with them. You support their family and provide for their home through the Cooperative Program. The Kaise family serves as representatives for Christ in a part of the world that is desperate to know Him.

➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

- A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Valentines' Day. A friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those pretty 4-Wheel drive vehicles." "She did," he replied, "But where in the world was I going to find a fake jeep?"