

Hart Beat

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

27 March 2016

➡ Hart to Heart

- Some of you know that Lyn spent three days in the hospital this week. After two nights of nausea, fever, and chills I took her to a local walk-in on Monday morning. They were concerned about her heart so they sent us to the ER at Packer hospital. They ruled out heart issues fairly quickly, but spent the rest of the time trying to figure out what was causing the fever. After umpteen tests (that did not include a test for the flu) and a diagnosis that we believed was incorrect, we came home and went to one of her regular doctors. The best guess is that she had the flu.
- The bad news is that until she is free and clear of flu symptoms – including fatigue, they will not do the knee replacement surgery. So, we're in limbo on that right now.
- I mentioned last week that Pastor Gary & Margaret Culver (Emory Chapel, Waverly) had a house fire, which destroyed or ruined most everything inside the house. They did not have renters' insurance. Our CNYBA Leadership Team has responded with a grant from our Emergency Fund and we have received one other check for them so far. If you or your church would like to help the Culvers, you can make a contribution through CNYBA or send it directly to them at their new temporary address, which is 1430 Snow Rd, Sayre, PA 18840.
- Pastor Gary and Margaret asked me several times to be sure and express their thanks to the association for the gift to help them through this difficult time following their house fire. They wanted to be sure you knew how grateful they were when I presented them with the check. I think they were surprised and a little overwhelmed. Let's keep them lifted up to the Lord in prayer.
- Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at Agape, Norwich this morning, where I was privileged to preach in the absence of Pastor John Jablonski. I believe this is the first time I've preached on Easter in almost 20 years – since I've been a Director of Missions.
- Late this afternoon and evening Lyn and I enjoyed fellowship with one of the families who attend Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk. They had invited us to join them and a few other folks for a late Easter dinner.

➡ News From the Churches

- **Stamford BC** had a Candlelight Good Friday service on Friday evening and an Easter sunrise service this morning, followed by breakfast before their regular scheduled services. Their April schedule of events includes Family Film Night (showing “The Last Flight Out”) on April 8th, a Leadership Workshop I’m leading on April 9th, and a Red Cross blood drive on April 11th. Also some men from Stamford BC will attend the Iron Sharpens Iron Conference in Loudenville, NY on April 16th. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- **Northstar, Clifton Park** plans a Parents & Little Starts Playdate for children ages 0-5 on April 6th. On evenings of April 8 & 9 they plan a Ladies Pottery Painting event – with a twist. The ladies will be painting a piece for someone else, based on info each lady provides about their likes and interests with the big reveal and guessing game at the end! Sounds like fun. Roscoe Lilly is Pastor.
- **Lakeshore, Cicero** had a Last Supper service on Thursday evening past, followed by a fellowship meal. Today they had two Easter services – 6:45 AM followed by breakfast and 10:00 AM (instead of their regular 11:00 AM service). They will host a Retirement/Moving party for Pastor Karl & Bonnie Novak on Sunday Afternoon, April 17th from 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM. A Priscilla Shirer Simulcast will be hosted at Lakeshore Baptist Church, on April 23, 2016. Doors will open at 8:00 AM, Simulcast worship begins at 9:00 AM. Tickets are \$15.00 advance sale, \$20.00 at the door. Box Lunch can be purchased for additional \$9.00. Must pre-register by April 17th in order to get the \$15.00 plus box lunch price. No box lunch provision after April 17th.
- **West Hill, Ithaca** had over 125 in worship today, preceded by a morning Easter breakfast with a large turn-out. They had two new people inquire about how to become a Christian this morning. This coming Saturday they will have a men's breakfast and then will provide a noon meal for the local Rescue Mission – all while Pastor Bill Lower is with me on a “scouting” mission trip to St Croix, US Virgin Islands.
- **Cornerstone, Endicott** will host a Youth Expo on Saturday, April 2nd. They held a Holy Week revival this past week. Dr. Greg Johnson is Pastor.
- **Northside, Liverpool** will begin a 10-week study for single moms on April 11th studying “No More Christian Nice Girl” by Paul Coughlin and Jennifer D. Degler. They will learn what healthy Christ-like boundaries and behaviors are. > They plan a Men’s Pasta Dinner on Friday, April 8th. > Northside Men's Softball will play in the Holy Name Softball League on Friday nights during the Spring & Summer. > Diverge is Northside’s summer youth camp and is for students finishing 6th – 12th grade. This year, Diverge will be held on July 28th to 31st at North Bay Adventure Camp! Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.

- **Summit, Cazenovia** had a Good Friday service on Friday past in addition to their regular Easter service this morning. Pastor Dan Schallmo will accompany me and Pastor Bill Lower (**West Hill, Ithaca**) on a “scouting” mission trip to St. Croix, US Virgin Islands on Thursday of this week. We’ll be visiting with Church Planter, John Smith, about how CNYBA churches can plug-in and help him establish Shephard’s Fold Church. We are scheduled to return the following Monday.
- **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk** has progressed from averaging between 10-15 to averaging between 15-20 at our Thursday evening fellowship meal and Bible study. We will have three outreach events this spring and summer. We will have a booth at the “Get Your Flea Market Fix on Route 96” event where businesses and individuals have flea markets and yard sales all along highway 96 between Owego and Ithaca July 8-9. Our booth will be at Bostwick Auctions in Catatonk, where we will give away evangelistic materials of some sort, register people for winning a Bible, and gathering names for follow-up later. We will also do a one day Outreach VBS Fun Day in or near a local mobile home court on August 20th with the goal of meeting families for follow-up later. Also, we also plan to put a copy of Charles Brock’s book “Good News for You” (which is seven Bible studies in the Gospel of John) into every home within a 3 mile radius of our meeting place this spring and summer. We are also giving serious thought and prayer to adding a Sunday evening worship service in May. I am leading this effort and ask for your prayers.
- **Crosspoint, Whitesboro** produced and presented a play entitled ”Steps to the Cross”, depicting in graphic detail the passion week as their Good Friday service. Sam Macri is Pastor.

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- 28th BD Dianna Brown – PW @ Three Pines, Doraville
- 31st – April 4th Vision Mission Trip to St. Croix, US Virgin Islands
- 2nd BD Roger Knapton (93) – Pastor @ Clyde BC
- 2nd BD Liem Do – Pastor @ Vietnamese Utica

➡ **April Ministry Anniversaries**

- Jim Hundley – Pastor @ Emmanuel, Cortland since April 1992
- Bill Lower – Pastor @ West Hill, Ithaca since April 2007
- Frank Adams – Pastor @ Jefferson BC since April 2009
- Dave Barrows – Associate Pastor @ Clyde BC since April 2011

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [North Dakota] God has called WILL and DEBRA PAGE to plant churches among the people of North Dakota. In 2012, the couple moved to Williams County, where an oil boom led to a 30 percent growth in population from 2010 to 2013. With the partnership of First Baptist Church of Williston, the Pages started a church in the dining room of a restaurant in Ray. They also helped to start a church that is reaching out to African immigrants in Williston. Thanks to your gifts, the Pages are reaching this growing community in North Dakota with the hope of the gospel. Pray that God would strengthen these two new churches and the Page family
- [Middle East] JOHN and EVA VADER* will never forget the day they went to the sea for a picnic with their friend, Amir,* and his family. There, they found a place to baptize Amir and watched in awe as he also baptized his wife and children. "We're Christians now, 100 percent!" Amir declared. John and Eva were forced to leave Amir's country, but they rejoice that a Christian family remains. The Vaders have moved to another Middle Eastern country and are meeting others who hunger for the Word. Continue to give generously through the Cooperative Program so the gospel will move through the Middle East.

➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

- A shy little 4-year-old came in to the dentist for his first cleaning and check-up. The hygienist tried to strike up a conversation but no response. After the cleaning, the dentist was called in to do the final check. The dentist tried to strike up a conversation as well. "How old are you?" Immediately, four tiny fingers went up. "Oh," replied the dentist, "and do you know how old that is?" Four little fingers went up once again. Continuing the effort to get a response, the dentist asked, "Can you talk?" The solemn little patient looked at him and asked, "Can you count?"