

Hart Beat

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

19 June 2016

➡ Hart to Heart

- We've had an interesting week at the Hart house. We could almost call it "The Invasion of the Raccoons." You can read some about it below in the "Adventures of Henry and Harley" section.
- This past week Southern Baptist held their annual convention in St. Louis, MO. At the annual Crossover evangelistic event preceding the Annual Southern Baptist Convention, volunteers from throughout North America partnered with local Southern Baptists to serve St. Louis and share the hope of Jesus. This year over 550 decisions for Christ were recorded.
- In a year when International Mission Board and Woman's Missionary Union leaders expressed a compelling drive to fulfill the Great Commission, Southern Baptists responded to the charge with resounding support through the 2015 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Finalized in early June, the 2015 Lottie Moon offering totaled \$165.8 million — the highest total in the 127-year history of the offering.
- Be Reminded: CNYBA will be taking a team to St. Croix in the Virgin Islands to do VBS in a large housing project the week between Christmas and New Year's 2016. I am taking names now of people who want to be on that team of about 10 people. The cost will probably be less than \$1000, depending on air fare and you do not have to have a passport to go there. The language is English and the temperature will be between 75 and 85 degrees. Email me if you are interested.
- On Thursday past we held our regular Thursday evening Open Bible Fellowship Bible study in Catatunk with 23 in attendance – with at least 7 of our regulars out. I know that sounds just like a pastor, but I can't help myself.
- On Friday past I spent some time at Packer Hospital in Sayre, PA where Pastor Gary Culver (**Emory Chapel, Waverly**) was undergoing several procedures to help figure out what is causing all his urological problems. So far they have not determined the cause of his problem. He will be seeing an oncologist on July 1st to set a date for a lymph node biopsy. Please lift our brother up in prayer during this ordeal.
- On Saturday I talked with Pastor John Talada (**Good News, Waverly**). He has been having a lot of pain, to say nothing of sleepless nights, dealing with a gout attack. Also, his oldest and only remaining sister passed away this past week in

Georgia. He will be doing a memorial service for her next month when her remains are brought back to New York for burial beside her late husband. Let's lift this brother up in prayer.

- On Saturday at noon, I was privileged to attend and officiate at the baptismal service of **Emory Chapel, Waverly** held at **Living Water, Owego**, where three adults were baptized as a testimony of their choice to be a follower of Jesus Christ.
- This morning Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **North Fenton BC**, where Rodney Kochmanski has been Pastor since July 2015.
- This afternoon Lyn and I attended the **Living Water, Owego** Father's Day late lunch and fellowship gathering at the home of Lary and Linda Hyde in Owego.
- Tonight Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk**, where I am privileged to preach and serve as Pastor.

➡ **News From the Churches**

- **Emory Chapel, Waverly** used the baptistery at **Living Water, Owego** to baptize three new adult believers. Gary Culver is Pastor.
- **Crosspoint, Whitesboro** plans a youth missions trip to Detroit, MI later this summer. As part of their fundraising efforts for the summer mission trip they will have a yard sale at the Crosspoint New Hartford property on Saturday July 2.
> Yesterday, 25 pails of roof coating were applied to the roof of the church building. > They will host The Hoppers in a Gospel Music Concert on Saturday, June 25th. Advanced tickets are \$15. Tickets at the door are \$20. Sam Macri is Pastor.
- **Northside, Liverpool** plans a SUMMER FUEL Family XPERIENCE! On Friday, June 24 from 6:30 - 9:15 PM for families with children through 5th grade. The night will consist of fun family games, hot dogs, popcorn and a movie outside on a BIG Screen!!! Bruce Aubrey is Pastor

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- Mon – Church Planter Network, Syracuse
- Thu – BD Jeff O'Brien (AP @ Northside, Liverpool)
- Thu – Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk
- Fri – BCNY Regional Cooperative Program Celebration

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [Mozambique] Nearly a year after receiving Christ, Adel* made one of the most difficult choices of her life—to abandon her past as a witchdoctor and tear down the hut where she practiced. Three days later, BRIAN and BECKY HARRELL, who are supported through the Cooperative Program, received a call in the middle of the night reporting spiritual attacks in the village. They prayed for Adel’s family and for the people of the village as demonic attacks continued. Finally, one man renounced his witchcraft, destroyed amulets in his home and accepted Christ. The darkness is strong, but the light of Christ is stronger.
- [South Dakota] JONATHAN and SHELBY LAND moved to South Dakota with their two daughters to plant a church in Sioux Falls. Connection Church launched Easter 2014 with 43 people. The church gave their entire first offering to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® and other church planting efforts. Your gifts through the Cooperative Program help Jonathan and Shelby build relationships with their neighbors and reach a thriving metropolis of 250,000 people with the good news about Jesus. Pray that God continues to give Jonathan opportunities to share the gospel in his community. Pray that God uses the Lands to develop future church planters throughout South Dakota.

➡ The Adventures of Henry and Harley

- From time to time we’ve had a raccoon visit our back porch, eating whatever cat food our two feral cats left. This week the raccoon visitor discovered the cat food I keep in a large hard plastic tub on the back porch. Somehow he managed to get the lid open enough to slide under it and get inside the tub. I’m watching all this from the dining room window because the boys, our two Pomeranian puppy brothers, Henry and Harley, are barking like someone is breaking in the house. I couldn’t open the door for fear the boys would dart out and get in a fight with the raccoon, which was larger than they. So I beat on the window and the wall until the raccoon went away. This went on several times during the night. The next day I wired the food tub shut. Of course the raccoon came back the next night, but couldn’t get into the tub. He was making so much noise that the boys started in again. I ran the coon off again. But he returned WITH ANOTHER RACCOON, and they tried to get the tub open - the boys going nuts all the while. Now I could have slept right through it all, leaving the raccoon to find whatever food he could. But not the boys. Apparently they had heard me read **Philippians 2:4 (HCSB)**, which says “Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.” I guess I’ll have to get involved in the raccoon’s business and oil up the pellet gun.

➡ Have You Heard This One?

- A Preacher visits an elderly woman from his congregation. As he sits on the couch, he notices a large bowl of peanuts on the coffee table. "Mind if I have a few?" he asks. "No, not at all." the woman replied. They chat for an hour and as the preacher stands to leave, he realizes that instead of eating just a few peanuts, he emptied most of the bowl. "I'm really sorry for eating all of your peanuts, I only meant to eat a few." "Oh, that's all right," the woman says. "Ever since I lost my teeth, all I can do is suck the chocolate off of them."