

Hart Beat

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

18 September 2016

➡ **Hart to Heart**

- Can you believe its mid-September? Summer just flew by this year. I did not get nearly as much accomplished this summer as I had intended.
- In case you haven't been paying attention, we are in the closing weeks of a presidential election. Let me urge you to get a free copy of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association's Voter Guide for 2016. You can request a free copy at <https://lp.billygraham.org/decision-magazine-2016-electoral-guide/>
- Pastor Wayne Sibrava is recuperating nicely from cancer surgery. He's up and about, but still not at full strength. He was at church today, but did not preach. Please continue praying for him and his family.
- Pastor Gary Culver continues with chemo treatments for his bone and lymph node cancer. He has three more treatments to go – three weeks apart. After that they will re-evaluate and come to a decision about the path forward. For the time being, he continues to preach each week. Please continue praying for him and his family.
- The annual meeting of the Baptist Convention of New York is approaching. It will be held at Word of Life facilities in Schroon Lake on September 25-27. You can register on the BCNY web site www.bcnysbc.org.
- Lyn and I worshiped this morning with the good folks at **Christian Bible, Oneida**, where Dick Fort has been pastor since December 2008.
- Tonight Lyn and I worshiped with the good folks at **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk** where I am privileged to serve as Church Planter/Pastor. Tonight I continued a sermon series through Philippians. There were 29 in attendance. After church we enjoyed a time of fellowship with some of our folks at a local pizzeria. Got home just in time to watch the Viking game on Sunday Night Football. It's half time right now and we're ahead. I'm sending this out before the second half.

➡ **News From the Churches**

- **Canastota BC** baptized two yesterday using the facilities of Vernon Baptist Church. The two baptized was the late former Pastor, Jeff Scott's second son, Tim, and his brother-in-law, Kevin. Phil Wright is Pastor.
- **Summit, Cazenovia**'s Men's Group traveled to **Maryland BC** last Saturday and tarped the roof of the two story parsonage. Great to see our churches helping each other. Dan Schallmo is Pastor.
- **Cornerstone, Endicott**'s Pastor, Dr. Greg Johnson. Held a book signing and discussion yesterday afternoon at the River Read Bookstore in Binghamton, NY for his new book "Merging with Grace."

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- Tues - ANV Pedro & Ana Abreu (P&W @ Transformation, Syracuse)
- Thurs – Open Bible Fellowship Bible study
- Sat – BD Darlene Stedge (PW @ Maryland BC)

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [Kansas] MATT MAESTAS, a Wyoming native, grew up in an unbelieving home. He came to faith through a combination of his grandmother's love and prayers, Vacation Bible School in fifth grade and a television show called "Gospel John" that came on at 5 a.m. every morning before Scooby Doo. Now he and his wife, JESSICA, serve to recruit, resource and train church planters in Kansas and to connect planters and partner churches to under-reached people groups and areas in need of the gospel. Please give through the Cooperative Program, and pray for interns, apprentices and church planters as they sow the gospel in Kansas and for the collection of multiplying church centers in Kansas.
- [Southeast Asia] When IMB missionary, NORM STARR,* took educational supplies to Muslim and Christian families living on the run from persecution in 2001, he never imagined it would open a door to share the gospel 12 years later. In 2013, Starr went back to the area and met an imam from the community he had helped years before. Thankful to him, the imam took Starr into the mosque. Starr shared the gospel with the imam. Thanks to your Cooperative Program gifts, Starr was able to continue relationships and share the truth of God's Word with an unreached group.

➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

- A man had been driving all night. He decided to stop in the next town he came to, park in a quiet place, and get a couple hours sleep. As luck would have it, the quiet place he chose happened to be on one of the city's major jogging

routes. No sooner had he settled back to snooze when there came a knocking on his window. He looked out and saw a runner jogging in place. He rolled the window down and the jogger said, "Excuse me sir, do you have the time?" The man looked at the clock on the dash and said, "8:15." The jogger said "Thanks" and left. Just as the man was drifting off to sleep again there was another knock on his window. Another jogger said, "Excuse me sir, do you have the time?" "8:25," the man replied. The jogger said "Thanks" and left. Now the man could see other joggers passing by and knew it would be only a matter of time before another one interrupted his nap, so he got out a piece of paper and put a sign on his window saying, "I do not know the time." Once again he settled back to sleep. He had just gone to sleep when there was another knock on his window. As he rolled the window down, a jogger said, "It's 8:45 sir."