

Hart Beat

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

29 January 2017

➡ Hart to Heart

- The first month of 2017 is already used up. Time marches on. Let's not let time slip away from us without our being about the Master's business – with urgency!
- Our long time CNYBA treasurer, Billie Winskie, and her husband are in Florida for the winter. Last week she was hospitalized with a perforated ulcer and an infected foot. She had surgery for both. She's out of ICU but still hospitalized. Please pray for Billie and Elton.
- I'm still looking for some hearty folks to join me on a mission trip to Alaska to erect a 12 x 16 log cabin in a remote village that will serve as a "parsonage" for the missionary who visits several outlying villages. This will be a rustic setting with long work days, but with a good team, we can get this project done and help advance the Kingdom. The total cost of the trip is estimated to be between \$1300 and \$1550. Don't let the cost scare you off. The Lord has a way of providing when we step out by faith. So far 12 people have expressed interest.
- The CNYBA 2016 end of year financial report is in. I'm sending a copy to all our pastors. I have some good news and some good news. We exceeded our projected giving from the churches by \$6,220.07 in 2016. The other good news is that we did not spend it all. We were able to transfer the \$9,076.49 of unspent undesignated income into our reserve fund, which now stands at a little more than \$22,600. Total giving from CNYBA churches in 2016 was \$58,720.07. At our last annual meeting our Leadership Team recommended and we adopted a budget that includes a projected income from our churches in 2017 of \$58,000.
- Men from **Crosspoint, Whitesboro** and **West Hill, Ithaca** will participate in a mission trip to build a church building in Jay, Maine July 23-July 1.
- Yesterday, Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **West Hill, Ithaca**, at the invitation of Pastor Bill Lower. Special guest speaker yesterday was Cliff Morris, the founding church planter of the West Hill Church. Some of you might remember that I served as Interim Pastor there for about six months between Pastor Cliff and Pastor Bill. It's unusual, and most times impossible, to have every pastor who has ever served at a church present in a single service. After church we enjoyed a great time of fellowship over lunch with both pastors and their wives.

- Last night, Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **Open Bible Fellowship**, where I serve as church planter/pastor. Last night I finished up the sermon series through 1 Thessalonians. We have been studying Hebrews in our Thursday evening Bible studies. This week we will switch the Hebrews study to Sunday evening and I will finish it up as a sermon series. This Thursday evening we are starting a long term discipleship study. Winter has been a little hard on us. We have added some folks, but have some folks in Florida for the winter, so we're still averaging about 25 or so for both gatherings each week.

➡ **News From the Churches**

- **The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse** will be having their biggest outreach of the year, their annual Community Easter Egg Hunt. The date this year is Saturday, April 8th - the week BEFORE Easter this year, not Easter weekend. In addition to the Eggs Hunt, this outreach which also includes games and a bouncy house, some of the TNC family and friends walking through the crowd and chatting with the adults, building relationships and passing out church info and Gospel tracts, an evangelistic Puppet show, a short message by Pastor Ronnie Wyatt, and a drawing for prizes. Their goal is 30,000 eggs this year. If your church, or group within your church, would like to provide some plastic eggs, filled with candy, and taped, I would be happy to transport them to Syracuse before April 8th.
- **Crosspoint, Whitesboro** will have a Ladies Cook & Chat on February 11. There will be food, fellowship and a devotional about Life's Storms. Their youth ministry sponsored an all-night lock in for youth last night, and are raising funds through a variety of events for their summer mission trip. Sam Macri is Pastor.
- **Northside, Liverpool** baptized 4 this past week-end. > They are in the "planning stages" for an October 2017 Medical/Dental Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic. > On February 28 they plan a Seniors Ministry Pot Luck Luncheon & Make Your Own Sundaes event. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.
- **Stamford BC** heard guest speaker Justin Hamm yesterday and they plan a Red Cross Blood Drive at their facility on February 6. Waylen Bray is Pastor.

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- Mon – Church Planter Network Meeting, Syracuse
- Wed – Min ANV Mike Brown (Pastor @ Three Pines, Doraville)
- Wed – Lunch with Pastor
- Thurs – Open Bible Fellowship
- Fri – Visit with Church Planter
- Fri – Benediction @ Eagle Scout Court, Owego

- Fri PM & Sat AM – Battle Ready Men’s Conference @ Living Water, Owego
- Fri PM & Sat AM – Battle Ready Men’s Conference @ Crosspoint, Whitesboro

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [South Dakota] As the state director of missions for the Dakota Baptist Convention, BUCK HILL wears various hats. He serves as the team leader for church planting as he works with church planting catalysts to help start new churches throughout North Dakota and South Dakota. He also directs disaster relief work in the two states. Your church’s gifts given through the Cooperative Program help Buck travel the long distances between towns in the Dakotas in order to encourage church planters and fill in for pastors who need a week off. Please pray God will draw more people to Himself as Dakota Baptists start new churches in the region.
- [North Africa and Middle East] A Syrian man arrived at the refugee camp, vengeful and angry. He had lost everything to the war—his house, his job and his shop. At the camp, the Syrian man met a Christian worker, supported through the Cooperative Program, who gave him a Bible and shared the gospel. He was struck by the love and forgiveness he saw in this man, and he decided to follow Christ. He was baptized with his wife and three children. The man said, “God saved me [from the war] to bring me here to know Him and His love through His Son, Jesus.”

➡ **Have You Heard This One?**

- The Sunday School Teacher asks, "Now, Johnny, tell me frankly do you say prayers before eating?" "No sir," little Johnny replies, I don't have to. My mom's a good cook."