

Hart Beat

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

5 February 2017

➡ Hart to Heart

- I have posted an update from Rick Martin, our missionary in Peru. You can find it on our web site under the Information Center tab/Missionary Reports
- On Monday evening past, I was privileged to attend the Church Planters' Network meeting led by Tim Bissell (NAMB Church Planting Catalyst) at **The Neighborhood Church, Syracuse.**
- On Tuesday past I spent some time at Packer Hospital in Sayre, PA, where Pastor Gary Culver (**Emory Chapel, Waverly**) had back surgery. The surgery went well and he is at home now recuperating. He is experiencing quite a bit of pain. So let's lift our brother up in prayer as he recuperates from both the surgery and the bone cancer treatments he has been going through.
- On Wednesday past I enjoyed a time of fellowship with one of our CNYBA pastors over lunch. I'm always honored when pastors want to talk. I pray that I can be an encouragement to them. I urge you to pray for your Pastor. He's carrying a much heavier load than you may realize.
- On Thursday past I began a new discipleship course at **Open Bible Fellowship, Catatonk,** following our weekly fellowship meal. 27 were in attendance for the beginning of this course.
- On Friday past, along with Tim Bissell (NAMB Church Planting Catalyst) and Terry Robertson (BCNY Exec. Director), I visited with our CNYBA Nepali church planter and his wife in Scranton, PA. Bhim and Priscilla Rai are planting **The Shelter Church** among first generation Nepali Hindu refugees, which is like planting in Nepal. We enjoyed a great time of fellowship with them over an authentic Nepali lunch. I hope we were able to encourage them in what is a very hard and slow ministry. They have about 15 gathered so far. I would ask you to put this couple on your prayer list and leave them there for a while.
- Late Friday afternoon Lyn's car broke down – broken tie rod. We were blessed that it happened at the grocery store and not out on the road. Finally got it to the shop where it remains. We should be back up to full mobility later today.
- On Saturday evening past I was honored to be asked to do the Invocation and the Benediction for the Boys' Scout Court of Honor ceremony where several young

men were awarded various badges and awards, including two young men were recognized as having completed all requirements to be promoted to the rank of Eagle Scout. One of these young men, Dylan Feliciano, has been an “adopted” part of our family since Lyn began working with his mother when she worked at Lourdes Hospital Customer Service Department right after she retired from public education. He and his mother have since come to know Christ. We always love having them in our home and we couldn’t be prouder of Donna and Dylan.

- So, this was a busy week. In between the various events each week there is always preparation for Thursday night and Sunday night. Everyone should pray for your pastor, but if you have a bi-vocational pastor – add a few more prayers and give him a little slack because he’s busier than a one arm wall paper hanger.
- Yesterday morning Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **Cornerstone, Endicott** where Dr. Greg Johnson has been pastor since Beautiful Plain and Lincoln Avenue churches merged in August 2011.
- Last night Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **Open Bible, Catatonk**, where I am serving as church planter/pastor. This week we switched our Hebrews study from Thursday evening to Sunday evening so we could begin a discipleship course on Thursdays. The remainder of the Hebrews study will be a sermon series, which began last night.

➡ **News From the Churches**

- **Northside, Liverpool** Last weekend was a wonderful opportunity to worship and serve the Lord together. We were blessed to witness five people follow the Lord in believer's baptism. More than 1050 people gathered for worship. This week-end they had 2 more professions of faith. Dr. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.
- **Inlet CC** had a teen bonfire with s’mores, hotdogs, hot chocolate, and rambunctious board games last Saturday evening for youth. They are already planning the next event, an evening of cross country skiing. Yesterday they had a Super Bowl party. Starting Sunday, February 12 they will begin a four week marriage series based on principles from the book of Song of Solomon. Phil Huber is Pastor.
- **Outpouring, Oswego** had a very successful ministry in 2016. From informal hang outs like on-campus game nights to their “If You Could Ask God One Question” tabling in the campus student center, to their 3 day evangelism campaign tent, they worked hard to spread the Good News. There were over 150 gospel presentations this year on campus – many by their student leaders! > They and are off to a great year this year. Pastor Zach Neyhard works as a security guard and has been promoted to First Shift Sergeant. Please be praying

for Pastor Zach, and his wife, Rebecca. In addition, we should try to be as intentional as they are about trying to get the gospel out.

- **Three Pines, Doraville** had a special service yesterday to celebrate Pastor Mike Brown's 10th anniversary at the church.

➡ **This Week in Preview**

- Fri – BD Jim Hundley (Pastor @ Emmanuel, Cortland)

➡ **Missionary Moments**

- [California] SALVADOR and MARIA FERNANDEZ have seen firsthand the incredible impact of church plants. They both came to faith in Jesus while attending church plants in Tolleson, Ariz. Salvador surrendered to full-time ministry at a new church plant in Grand Rapids, Mich. He now serves as a church planting catalyst for the Sequoia Baptist Association in Visalia, Calif., where he focuses on planting new churches in a region where many cities have transitioned to being 85 to 95 percent Spanish-speaking. Salvador thanks you for your gifts given through the Cooperative Program and asks you to pray God will call more church planters to reach the counties of Tulane and Kings in California.
- [Connecticut] God called WILLIAM CLARK and his family to Hartford, Conn., to launch Living Faith Church "in the city, for the city." Clark's vision for the church is for it to provide a community space for worship and authentic community services that transform the spirit and lives of the families it touches. Since the family's move to Hartford, God has used them to establish a ministry to seniors in the community, develop a targeted employment ministry, provided online Bible studies and more. Your church's gifts given through the Cooperative Program ensure that the Clarks' neighborhood has a faithful gospel witness. Pray that God will provide opportunities to tell people about 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 is a good cook."