

Hart Beat

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

10 November 2013

Hart to Heart

- Lyn and I worshipped this morning with the good folks at **Stamford BC**, where I was privileged to preach in the absence of Pastor Waylen Bray, who was in Delaware performing a wedding. After service we enjoyed a time of food and fellowship with some of the folks who took us out to lunch.
- This past week included some time on the campus of Davis College in the role of Chaplain. I hope to spend a couple of afternoons a week being available to students who want to talk about personal, school, spiritual, or other kinds of issues.
- In an earlier issue of HART BEAT I had mentioned that Ronnie Wyatt, one of our church planters in Syracuse, had a family attending who was sleeping on the floor and needed some beds. Ted Benjamin, who attends Emory Chapel, called me and donated two beds plus a foam rubber pad. I was able to pick those up and deliver them to Syracuse on Friday. Part of why we have an association is to bring needs and resources together. Praise the Lord!
- Last night Lyn and I attended the Saturday night service at First Assembly of God in Binghamton in support of one of Lyn's students at Davis College who was among those baptized during the service. This young man is far away from home with no family here to attend his baptismal service, so we sort of stood in for them.
- Other parts of the Hart beat this week included:
 - > Consultations with Pastors
 - > Mentoring/Coaching
 - > Sermon preparation
 - > Web site maintenance
 - > Lunch & Fellowship with a Pastor & Wife
 - > Perspectives mission class @ Davis College
 - > 'The Disciple Making Process' course preparation
 - > Misc office work

- If, for whatever reason, you do not receive the HART BEAT some week, you can always find it posted on our web site at www.cnyba.org.

News From the Churches

- **Lighthouse, Syracuse** and Marketplace Ministries, headed up by Pastor James Pannafino, is sponsoring a Central New York Apologetics Conference on Saturday, November 16th at First Baptist Church, Baldwinsville. The Conference program is posted on www.cnyba.org under the Upcoming Events tab. For more information you may contact Pastor Pannafino at 315-471-4301 or 315-395-6102.
- **Stamford BC** is participating in Operation Christmas Child again this year – in fact they are a collection site. With a “packing party” scheduled for next Saturday, their goal is at least 300 shoe boxes packed and ready to ship to a child this Christmas. On November 23 they will assemble Thanksgiving Baskets to be distributed to families in the community. They are also planning a live Christmas Tree made from Poinsettias. Their next Family Movie Night will be December 6 when they will be showing “Silver Bells”. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- **Emory Chapel, Waverly** baptized 4 more, using the baptistery at **Living Water, Owego**. Gary Culver is Pastor.
- **Crosspoint, Whitesboro** will participate in Operation Christmas Child again this year. They have a “packing party” scheduled for next Saturday. As a collection site, their goal is to ship over 1000 shoe boxes. They will also host a Thanksgiving Dinner at the church on Thanksgiving Day. They will have a “Work Day” next Saturday to work on the gym and annex wing of the building so the youth can move into the annex area ASAP. The deacons will be coordinating a “Giving Tree” again this year to provide Christmas gifts for children in need.
- **Northside, Liverpool** hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive yesterday morning at the church building. They will participate again this year in Operation Christmas Child, and in an effort to assist the greater Syracuse area during this holiday season, they will be holding a food drive to benefit the Rescue Mission and the CNY Food Bank. Collection dates will be the weekends of November 17th and 24th. Pastor Bruce Aubrey and his wife Cathy will be doing a “Shop Talk” event for Davis College this coming Thursday morning. They will spend the morning talking with students about various aspects of ministry.

- **West Hill, Ithaca** will have a Thanksgiving Dinner after services on November 17, a Senior Saints breakfast on Saturday morning, November 23, and a Men's breakfast on Saturday, November 30. Bill Lower is Pastor.

This Week in Preview

- 11th BD Bob Teachout (Assoc Pastor @ Canastota BC)
- 11th BD Stephanie Johnson (PW @ Cornerstone, Endicott)
- 12th ANV Gary & Margaret Culver (P&W @ Emory Chapel, Waverly)
- 16th CNY Apologetics Conference @ FBC Baldwinsville

2nd Sunday – Baptist Heritage

The General Assembly.—Each branch of English Baptists called its national organization the General Assembly. Composed of representatives from the various churches and associations, these General Assemblies usually met in London. General Baptists were first to develop this national organization, with evidence of such a body by 1653. This would correspond roughly to a national convention today.

Function.—What was the purpose of these organizations, and what did they do? They provided fellowship, counsel, and comfort to Baptists who lived during difficult days of persecution. General and Particular Baptists developed sharply different concepts of the function and authority of the denominational meetings. In a 1678 confession, General Baptists said,

General councils, or assemblies, consisting of Bishops, Elders, and Brethren, of the several churches of Christ . . . make but one church. . . . And to such a meeting, or assembly, appeals ought to be made, in case any injustice be done, or heresy, and schism countenanced, in any particular congregation of Christ.

These Baptists considered a meeting of the General Assembly to be a meeting of “The General Baptist Church,” with full authority to do “churchly” acts. They also gave the denomination a certain amount of jurisdiction or control over local congregations. Particular Baptists, on the other hand, never allowed an association or their General Assembly to become “The Church” or to do churchly acts. They leaned over backwards to protect the freedom of the local church and prevent the denomination from interfering in their affairs. In their Second London Confession (1677), Particular Baptists dealt with the question of how to handle problems that arose in local churches. The confession stated:

In cases of difficulties or differences, . . . it is according to the mind of Christ, that many Churches holding communion together, do by their messengers meet to

consider, and give their advice in, or about that matter in difference, to be reported to all the Churches concerned; howbeit these messengers assembled, are not entrusted with any Church-power properly so called; or with any jurisdiction over the Churches themselves . . . or to impose their determination on the Churches, or Officers.

This clearly protected the autonomy of the local church and refused to allow the denomination or its leaders any control.

Have You Heard This One?

Murphy's Laws for Parents

1. The tennis shoes you must replace today will go on sale next week.
2. Leak proof thermoses -- will.
3. The chances of a piece of bread falling with the grape jelly side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet.
4. The garbage truck will be two doors past your house when the argument over whose day it is to take out the trash ends.
5. The shirt your child must wear today will be the only one that needs to be washed or mended.
6. Gym clothes left at school in lockers mildew at a faster rate than other clothing.
7. The item your child lost, and must have for school within the next ten seconds, will be found in the last place you look.
8. Sick children recover miraculously when the pediatrician enters the treatment room.
9. Refrigerated items, used daily, will gravitate toward the back of the refrigerator.
10. Your chances of being seen by someone you know dramatically increase if you drive your child to school in your robe and curlers