

## Hart Beat

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

4 August 2013

### ► Hart to Heart

- ✚ As you know, I've spent quite a bit of time in the extreme northeast corner of our association lately helping with disaster relief in the Herkimer area. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Pastor Sam Macri and **Crosspoint, Whitesboro**, who have opened their building for us to use as an Incident Command Center and lodging for volunteers. They even graciously made adjustments and re-arrangements for their VBS this past week so we would not have to move. Thank you Pastor Sam. Please express our gratitude to your people.
- ✚ Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at **Agape, Norwich** where Harold Lefler has been pastor since June 2010. After church we enjoyed a time of fellowship with Harold and Jan over lunch.
- ✚ I spent most of this week (Tuesday – Friday) working with our BCNY disaster relief effort in the Herkimer area, which is in the extreme northeast corner of our associational territory. During this time it was my privilege to serve as the substitute Incident Command Director in the absence of our state DR Director, Mike Flannery, who was in a meeting in the Dallas, TX area. On Thursday afternoon we had only one volunteer (a church planter from over near Kingston, NY), so we went out on a simple job to power wash and sanitize a basement. We had the opportunity to talk extensively with the home owner, and to make a long story shorter, we were able to witness his praying to receive Christ on his front porch. Made my day!
- ✚ Yesterday, Lyn and I led a senior adult event at **West Hill, Ithaca** (Bill Lower, Pastor). We sang, I preached, and we had a great time of fellowship over lunch. When we left West Hill we drove on out to **Clyde BC** to participate in the 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Pastor Roger and Mary Knapton. Of course we enjoyed more good food and fellowship there as well.
- ✚ Time to mark your calendar, if you haven't already, so you don't forget the In-Association Mission Trip we have scheduled for August 15-17 at the associational pole barn site on the property of **North Fenton Baptist Church**. We plan to finish nailing up the board siding, install the bats, and paint the whole thing.

- ✚ Another calendar event I would like for you to mark is the Leadership Forum we have scheduled for 9 AM to Noon at **Emmanuel, Cortland** on August 24<sup>th</sup> with Tom Fillinger as our facilitator. We have 12 signed up so far. I'd like to add your name to the list. Our churches will never be any stronger than the Leadership. This is an opportunity to strengthen the church.
- ✚ I'll be talking with a potential church planter on Monday. That will make 4 potential church planters I'm talking with at the moment. Please join me in praying that those whom God is calling will respond. We're told in Scripture to pray for the Lord of the harvest to send laborers.

### ► **News From the Churches**

- ✚ **Nepali, Syracuse** did have their outdoor worship/baptism last week in spite of the thunder storms. They baptized 23 (not a misprint). They have a new Sunday morning worship meeting place – 1501 Lodi St, Syracuse, NY 13208. Bhim Biswa is Pastor.
- ✚ **Lakeshore, Cicero** baptized 5 today – 2 in the lake and 3 in a pool. 2 others received Christ today as well. Karl Novak is Pastor.
- ✚ **Agape, Norwich** enjoyed a concert of music by John and Dody Martin tonight. Harold Lefler is Pastor.
- ✚ **Stamford BC** had a a cook out after church today. Vacation Bible School will be, August 18-22 (6 PM-8 PM) - beginning on Sunday night and continuing through Thursday. On Saturday, August 24, (weather permitting) they will have a VBS celebration/Church Open House from 2 PM-Til. That event will include food and fellowship for the families of the church and of the Vacation Bible School students. The painting of the church building is progressing very well and the stripping of the parking lot is also coming along nicely. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- ✚ **Bellewood, North Syracuse** (Matt Hallenbeck, Pastor)
  - will participate in the Christmas in August mission project that will provide school supplies for kids for the new school year. It is a project in partnership with the North American Mission Board and Graffiti 2 church in New York City.
  - Held VBS last week with sixty children attending. They had over 120 people at their VBS Celebration Night.
  - They will soon join a local ministry that provides food for the hungry called Matthew 25 Farm in Tully to help them harvest food that will go

to those less fortunate. Bellewood volunteers will be making trips to the farm to help in the harvest.

- Bellewood ladies are involved with Project Linus, a national organization gathers quilters to make quilts to help provide hope to children in crisis.
- Today they held a Neighborhood Cookout at 5 PM.

✚ **Freedom Fellowship** rejoices over two new couples and some kids who have been attending. They will be doing an outreach in September by collecting school supplies and then handing them out in their neighborhood as a tool to reach the children and their families for the Lord. If you, your Sunday School class, your church, or any other group with which you are affiliated would like more information or would like to collect school supplies for this project, you may contact Pastor Bill Deckert at [billd22@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:billd22@twcnny.rr.com) or 315-382-0468. I will be happy to transport any supplies you collect. This is an opportunity to be involved in missions right here in our association.

✚ **Northside, Liverpool** is listed at #522 in Thom Rainer's 2013 listing of SBC Churches averaging over 1000 in weekly worship. This means that only 521 of the 14,500 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention average more in weekly worship than does Northside. When you dig deeper into the list you find that only 13 SBC churches outside the South average more in weekly worship than does Northside. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.

### ► **This Week in Preview**

- ✚ Mon (5<sup>th</sup>) – Coffee with potential church planter
- ✚ Tues (6<sup>th</sup>) – BD Karl Novak (Pastor @ Lakeshore, Cicero)
- ✚ Tues (6<sup>th</sup>) – ANV Bruce & Kathy Aubrey (P&W @ Northside, Liverpool)
- ✚ Thurs (8<sup>th</sup>) – BD John Talada (Pastor @ Good News, Waverly)
- ✚ Thurs (8<sup>th</sup>) – ANV Mitch & Lisa Mullenax (P&W @ Common Grounds, Beaver Meadow)
- ✚ Sat (10<sup>th</sup>) – BD Duane Arnold Sr (Pastor @ Southport, Elmira)
- ✚ Sat (10<sup>th</sup>) – ANV Karl & Bonnie (P&W @ Lakeshore, Cicero)
- ✚ Sat (10<sup>th</sup>) – ANV Matt & Kristin Hallenbeck (P&WV @ Bellewood, North Syracuse)

### ► **August Ministry Anniversaries**

- ✚ John DePugh – Pastor @ Newark Baptist Fellowship since August 1994
- ✚ Jeff O'Brien – Assoc. Pastor @ Northside, Liverpool since August 1994
- ✚ Milt Kornegay – Pastor at Central, Syracuse since August 1996
- ✚ John Talada – Pastor @ Good News, Waverly since August 2009

- ✚ Mitch Mullenax – Pastor @t Common Grounds since August 2009
- ✚ Greg Johnson – Pastor @ Cornerstone, Endicott since August 2011

## ► **1st Sunday – Missionary Story**

A barren tract of land marked the spot – no trees, no fences and no buildings, only a dream.

Forty years later, a countless variety of trees and buildings reflected the rising sun on that same tract of land where the Bangalore Baptist Hospital now stands.

The hospital got its start when Dr. Jasper McPhail, the first Southern Baptist missionary to India, obtained permission from the government to build a Baptist hospital. With permission granted and the general area chosen, Dr. Ralph Bethea arrived, searched for and chose the site – a dusty 13-acre strip of land.

Dr. John Wikman arrived in 1967 as the first surgeon and formed the beginnings of the hospital – first as a clinic out of his home in Bangalore, then in a converted cowshed on the property. “When we got here, we hit the ground with evangelism work,” Wikman said. “We had medical clinics in slum areas where our church work was going on.”

Bangalore Baptist Hospital planted its first church in 1968 in Sonnen Halli, “Mosquito Village.”

“Before we had the hospital, we couldn’t go into the villages,” Wikman said. “It opened the door to share the Gospel.”

The hospital broke ground on Feb. 27, 1971, and celebrated its grand opening ceremony on Jan. 15, 1973.

Arriving in 1974, Dr. William C. Mason, who later served as administrator, said, “As we were putting the finishing touches on the hospital, I wanted a Christian symbol to put on the wall.” Today the carved plaque with the Scripture – “I am the way, the truth and the life” – is still in the hospital.

The first day Dr. Rebekah Naylor went to work there in 1973, there were 12 patients. As the hospital expanded, Naylor performed surgeries, delivered babies, taught doctors, trained staff, planted churches and more

► **Have You Heard This One?**

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

'Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.'

'Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?' his Mother asked..

'Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!'