

Hart Beat

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

15 September 2013

➤ **Hart to Heart**

✚ Well, yesterday was an amazing day! They tell me that over 100 people came to eat and help celebrate my 50th year in the ministry. When she first started talking about having this celebration I tried to talk my wife out of having a big to do. I didn't think more than a handful of people would show up. I thought if we did anything, we should just have a cook-out at the house. I was blown away by the number of folks who showed up yesterday for my 50 Years in the Ministry Celebration. Besides the folks from all across CNYBA, there were people there from as far away as Texas, Illinois, Tennessee, and Arizona – including my baby sister who was not supposed to be there. It will take a while for me to go through all the cards and letters sent by folks who could not be present. These will go in a memory book, which I will cherish for the rest of my life. A special thanks to Connie Sibrava and her two daughters, who did all the decorating and food preparation. And thanks also to the youth of Living Water, Owego who served tables. I am so blessed!

✚ In addition to Saturday's celebration, life on the Hart Beat this past week included:

- Work on the "Honey Do" list in preparation for yesterday
- Sermon Preparation
- Perspectives Class at Davis College
- Several phone calls to work out details regarding our Peru Project
- CNYBA office work
- BCNY meetings

✚ Please join me in praying regularly for the following new church planting efforts in CNYBA.

- Brandon Owen, who is planting a church in the community around Syracuse University and Upstate Medical School
- Ronnie Wyatt, who is planting a church in the Schiller Park neighborhood of Syracuse
- James Pierson, who will be planting a church somewhere in the Elmira area

✚ Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at **Living Water, Owego** where, at the invitation of Pastor Wayne Sibrava, I preached as part of my

50Years in the Ministry Celebration. I preached a “reworked” version of the first sermon I preached on September 15, 1963.

✚ Tonight Lyn & I, her cousin & husband from Illinois, and our friend from Texas, worshipped with the good folks at South Owego Bible Church where Scott Watson is pastor. Scott and his wife Karissa opened their home to host Donnie and Barb Roth (Lyn’s cousin and her husband) for a couple of nights while they are here for yesterday’s celebration.

➤ **News From the Churches**

- **Three Pines, Doraville** had services outdoors last Sunday, baptized 4, and celebrated our 15th anniversary as a church. Mike Brown is Pastor.
- **Common Grounds Fellowship** has moved the Sunday morning worship service to The Daily Grind Coffee Shop in South Otselic, NY. They will meet at 11:30 AM and have a fellowship meal afterward. Mitch Mullenax is Pastor.
- **Freedom Fellowship** recently conducted a “School Supply Give-a-way Outreach.” They were able to serve just under 70 children in their neighborhood. Each child got, in addition to the school supplies, a Bible, a gospel tract, and an invitation to church to take home to their family. Pastor Bill Deckert was personally able to share the Gospel with 2 pre-teen girls who live on Susquehanna St. Neither had ever heard the Gospel, and thought they could earn their way to heaven. Though they do not appear to have trusted the true Gospel, one of the girls was certainly open to talking more in the future. After the outreach they discussed ways to improve for future outreaches. They were grateful for the CNYBA churches that provided much of the supplies they used.

➤ **This Week in Preview**

- ✚ 15th – BD Tim Bissell (NAMB Church Planting Catalysis)
- ✚ 17th – BD Jeff Scott (Pastor @ Canastota BC)
- ✚ 21st – Pastors’ Breakfast NW Cluster Area

➤ **3rd Sunday – Truth from the Old Hymns**

Faith of our Fathers

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1849

Music: Henri F. Hemy, 1864,

Refrain: James G. Walton, 1874

Faith of our fathers, living still,
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whenever we hear that glorious Word!
Refrain

Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers, we will strive
To win all nations unto Thee;
And through the truth that comes from God,
We all shall then be truly free.

Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife;
And preach Thee, too, as love knows how
By kindly words and virtuous life.

➤ **Have You Heard This One?**

10 Things I've Learned from My Children*

1. A king size waterbed holds enough water to fill a 2000 sq. foot house 4 inches deep.
2. If you spray hair spray on dust bunnies and run over them with roller blades, they can ignite.
3. A 3-year-olds voice is louder than 200 adults in a crowded restaurant.
4. If you hook a dog leash over a ceiling fan, the motor is not strong enough to rotate a 42 pound boy wearing Batman underwear and a superman cape. It is strong enough, however, if tied to a paint can, to spread paint on all four walls of a 20 by 20 foot room.
5. When you hear the toilet flush and the words "Uh-oh," it's already too late.
6. Brake fluid mixed with Clorox makes smoke, and lots of it.
7. A six-year-old can start a fire with a flint rock even though a 36-year-old man says they can only do it in the movies.

8. Swimming Pool filters do not like Jell-O.

9. VCR's do not eject PB&J sandwiches even though TV commercials show they do.

10. The spin cycle on the washing machine does not make earthworms dizzy. -
It will however make cats dizzy.