

Hart Beat

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

26 January 2014

➡ Hart to Heart

- I heard someone say this week that his false teeth were chattering in the bowl on his nightstand. They say we have global warming. Aren't you glad? If it weren't for that, we might be really cold.
- As it turns out, I did not have to take the Disaster Relief trailers to Buffalo on Tuesday. Steve Sallis (from BCBY) took one over on Saturday and the other one on Sunday. That was a blessing because I was not feeling well on Tuesday. When I came home from teaching my class at Davis College on Monday, I loaded up on medication, drank a hot cup of tea, curled up in my recliner, and didn't stir until mid-morning on Tuesday.
- Lyn took a fall on Friday while substitute teaching. She was descending a short flight of steps and thought she was stepping off the bottom step onto the floor, but was actually stepping off the second step. She fell onto her knees and hands and then sprawled out onto the floor. Fortunately it was on carpet, so she didn't break anything, but she hurt her knees and twisted her ankle pretty good. She's been taking some pain pills I had left over from my fall and spending a lot of time in the recliner with her feet up. I got her an ankle brace yesterday and she seems to be doing OK. I'm insisting she sit by the fire for a couple of days and stay off that ankle as much as possible. I guess we have officially become the old couple who takes turns falling.
- I worshipped today with Devon and Kate Bartholomew and the students at the Baptist Campus Ministry worship service on the campus at Syracuse University. Bro. Devon invited me to join the Leadership Team Meeting/Luncheon. I had a great time of fellowship. CNYBA is supporting Devon and Kate and their student ministry work in our 2014 budget.
- I had intended to worship with **Nepali, Syracuse** at their 2 PM, forgetting that they moved their worship time to 9 AM when they changed locations.
- In the providence of God, I came upon a Dunkin Donut store, got a cup of coffee and a donut, and caught up on some emails, texts, and reading while I waited for 4:00 PM – at which time I worshipped with the good folks at **Iglesias Bautista Transformacion** (meeting in the facilities of **Missio, Syracuse**), where Pedro Abreu has been Pastor since the church began.

➤ News From the Churches

- **Renovation, Syracuse** had a MyCircle Holiday Challenge. Each person within the congregation was encouraged to reach 5 people in 5 ways over 5 weeks. Prayer, service, giving, sharing, and hospitality were the main ways of engaging people over the holiday season. Mike Mazzye is Church Planter/Pastor
- **West Hill, Ithaca** had a great day today. They had 6 people today come forward to accept Christ and one for rededication! One of the people that came forward only came last week for the first time and this week she brought about 8 to 10 people with her today. Four of those she brought were in the group that trusted Christ today. Pastor, Bill Lower says, “Our congregation was in tears as was I.”
- **Common Grounds, South Otselic** had their first men's small group on Friday evening past with 5 in attendance. Pastor Mitch Mullenax was excited
- **Emory Chapel, Waverly** plans the Lord's Supper for Feb 9 and a Fellowship meal after church on February 16. The Woman's group that meets during the daylight saving time hours has purchase a refrigerator for the kitchen. Gary Culver is Pastor.
- **Clyde BC** in involved with several Wayne County churches working together to have tent revival meetings again this summer. The one in Clyde will be Aug 14-16. Two others will be scheduled for June & July and at least three others are in the works. The church has joined a clown ministry that has been active for more than 10 years. Any of the CNYBA churches that might be interested in using this ministry can call Associate Pastor, Doug King @ 315.573.8057. Roger Knapton is Pastor.

➤ This Week in Preview

- 29th BD Sam Macri – Pastor @ Crosspoint, Whitesboro

➤ February Ministry Anniversaries

- Mike Brown – Pastor at Three Pines, Doraville since February 2007

➤ 4th Sunday – The Gospel According to Holly (re-run from Apr 2005)

Chapter eleven of my evolving book (inspired by my wife's Pomeranian puppy) "The Gospel According to Holly" is entitled **Timing Is Everything**. Holly loves to play – with me – or you – or anybody that will give her some attention. This is fine most of the time. But, when the alarm goes off at 4:45 AM, that's not a good time! Holly does not seem to understand why my wife thinks coffee, devotions, exercise, and morning hygiene is more important than playing with her. And she sure doesn't understand why I want to get a few more Z's while Lyn is "about her business." She jumps on my face and chews my hand trying to get me to change my mind about my priorities. I get aggravated until I realize that we humans do the same thing. It's not what we're doing most of the time, it's when we're doing it that is the problem. The Bible says (Ecc. 3:1-8) there is a time for everything under heaven. A time to be born, to die, to plant, to harvest, to kill, to heal, to weep, to laugh, to speak, to be silent, for war, for peace, etc. Verse 11 of that chapter says "He has made everything beautiful in its time." I guess the old adage is true – Timing is Everything.

◆ **Have You Heard This One?**

A teacher was helping one of her kindergarten students put his boots on?

He asked for help and she could see why. With her pulling and him pushing, the boots still didn't want to go on.

When the second boot was on, she had worked up a sweat. She almost whimpered when the little boy said, "Teacher, they're on the wrong feet."

She looked and sure enough, they were. It wasn't any easier pulling the boots off then it was putting them on. She managed to keep her cool as together they worked to get the boots back on - this time on the right feet.

He then announced, "These aren't my boots." She bit her tongue rather than get right in his face and scream, "Why didn't you say so?" like she wanted to. Once again she struggled to help him pull the ill-fitting boots off.

He then said, "They're my brother's boots. My Mom made me wear them." She didn't know if she should laugh or cry. She mustered up the grace to wrestle the boots on his feet again.

She said, "Now, where are your mittens?"

He said, "I stuffed them in the toes of my boots..."