

THE ECHO of Central New York Baptist Association
(Excerpts from **HART BEAT**, a weekly E-update for CNYBA Pastors and Key Leaders)

February 2012

From HART BEAT – 5 February 2012

- I worshipped this morning with the good folks at **Bible Fellowship, Lyons Falls** where Pastor Jeff Ford preached the second in a series on Love from the Book of Ruth. And wouldn't you know it, they were having a fellowship meal afterward. It was good to see their new facilities. They are not complete, but they are using it and it looks great!

Lyn worshipped at our home church, **Living Water, Owego**, today in order to help one of the single moms who could not figure out how to be in two places at once.

- I have asked prayer several times for Steve Snow, former moderator of CNYBA and current pastor of Memorial BC, Chinle, AZ. Here is an edited version of an e-mail I received this week from Bro. Steve.

Again, God has demonstrated His mercy and proved that He hears prayer. I came home from the hospital last Sunday, having once again experienced God hearing your prayers on my behalf. As you are aware, I went in the hospital a little over a week ago to try and get my body straightened out from an extreme fluid (edema) buildup. With ministrations from my doctors and the hospital staff, I lost approximately 40 pounds of water weight gain. GOD IS GREAT, ALL THE TIME!!!! Thanks for your love and your continued prayer support. Hopefully things will be better now.

- **Canastota BC** has had several visitors these past few weeks, especially young people. On Feb 12 they will hold their 2nd "Sontastic Sunday" youth meeting (the beginning of their youth group). They currently have 6-7 youth attending. They are continuing with their Fireproof Couples Bible Study, and will be starting a second one in March. They just celebrated their 2nd Annual Women's Ministry Celebration. Many of their ladies took part in the service. They will be hosting a Concert with Les & Linda Green on Feb 26th at 6:00 PM at the church. They are praying that many will attend and enjoy an evening of music and ministry. Pastor Jeff Scott has returned to school, working on a degree in counseling.
- **Three Pines**, Doraville received one new member last Sunday and has 2 awaiting baptism right now. Pastor, Mike Brown celebrates 5 years as pastor this month.

- **Bellewood, North Syracuse** will host a volunteer mission group from Mississippi in March, as they continue their re-building program. This week drywall is going up. Matt Hallenbeck is pastor.
- **The Church at Beaver Meadow** (Mitch Mullenax, Pastor) will begin a new outreach Bible study this Thursday night (Feb 9) at The Daily Grind (an Otselic coffee house) called Common Grounds at the Daily Grind. They will begin by walking through the Book of Philippians. Other outreach efforts include:
 - Connection Café - They will open their fellowship center on the third Thursdays of each month from 9:30 to 11:30 as a place for the community to connect.
 - A Teen Gathering called Friday Night - once a month starting on the 24th of this month. Friday Night will also serve as a point of entry for their youth ministry.
 - On Saturday the 25th they will host Skip House Keeping Day! - a 10:30am breakfast for ladies.
- **Bible Fellowship, Newark** had a Super Bowl party tonight.
- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Thru many dangers, toils and snares,
 I have already come;
 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
 And grace will lead me home.

- **Did You Hear This One?**

10 Lessons You Can Learn From Noah & The Ark

- My favorite is #9
1. Don't miss the boat.
 2. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark, you know.
 3. Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone might ask you to do something REALLY big.
 4. Don't listen to critics; just get on with what has to be done.
 5. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
 6. Speed isn't always an advantage; after all, the snails were on board with the cheetahs.
 7. When you're stressed, try floating awhile.
 8. Remember that the ark was built by amateurs; it was the Titanic that was built by professionals.
 9. Remember that woodpeckers inside are a larger threat than storms outside.

10. No matter what the difficulty, trust in the Almighty: There'll be a rainbow at the end of the storm.

From HART BEAT – 12 February 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped at **River of Joy, Syracuse** today. With the aid of good technology and a great translator, we were able to enjoy a good practical message by Pastor Mun Yong Rhee from Romans 15 on “What is Strong Faith.” Earlier we enjoyed what has to be one of the finest small orchestras you will hear in a Baptist church – or anywhere else for that matter. Since they had English words on some of the music slides, we were able to participate in the congregational singing. Even when the words were not in English, the music moved our spirit and we worshipped. Of course, we enjoyed some great Korean cuisine after church.
- Our State Convention voted last fall at the BCNY Annual Conference to form a Task Force for the purpose of determining the future God has for BCNY. To that end the Task Force has scheduled Listening Sessions around the BCNY territory for pastors and leaders of our churches. We will have three of these listening sessions in the CNYBA territory. I urge you to attend at least one of these sessions. This is the perfect opportunity for pastors and lay leaders to make their voice known to our BCNY leadership about how they think the state convention should proceed. Here are the three sessions to be held in CNYBA.

Clyde Baptist Church (Rev. Dale Suel Facilitating)

30 Galen Street

Clyde, NY 14433

Saturday, Feb 18 at 10:30 (lunch to follow)

Phone: 315-923-3102 Pastor Roger Knapton

Central Baptist Church Rev. Milton Kornegay Facilitating

1926 Midland Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205

Tuesday Feb. 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Phone is (315) 475-5012

Email: miltcbcsyr@aol.com

Davis College (Rev. Jim Hundley and Rev. Milton Kornegay Facilitating)

400 Riverside Drive Johnson City, NY 13790

Tuesday, March 20th at 2:00 p.m.

Contact phone is 607-760-7316 (Jim Hundley)

Email: jphundley@stny.rr.com

www.davisny.edu

- As you know, the CNYBA Leadership Team has asked every affiliated church and mission to affirm whether they are sympathetic to the purpose of the association and

are willing to support the work of the association – wording taken directly from our constitution.

As churches process this request according to their polity, they are responding. Most are responding very positively to both parts of the question. However, three so far have said they are not sympathetic and do not intend to support the work of the association. I reported the first two earlier. The latest to respond negatively is **One Heart, Floyd**.

Of course, believing as we do in the autonomy of the local church, we will respect their decision. The Leadership Team will bring a recommendation to the Mid-year Meeting of the association that we acknowledge their response and officially drop them from the list of affiliated churches.

- I believe you know that we believe in church planting and support it heavily in our associational budget. By my count, CNYBA, and its immediate predecessors, have been involved in at least 18 church plants over the past 15 years.

One of our current church planting projects is to plant a church or churches among the Quechua Indians in the Andes Mountains of Southern Peru. Waylen Bray, pastor at Stamford, has done an outstanding job as our Project Coordinator. Rick Martin, former director of our Carroll Street Ministry Center, has announced that he feels led to move to Peru to advance this project. The association has endorsed him and has included \$2400 in our 2012 budget for support.

Rick and Donna are in the process of raising support and making plans to move to Peru later this year. Let me encourage you to have Rick in your church to share his heart with you and prayerfully consider supporting this endeavor in your church budget.

His web site is www.missionsperu.org and his email address is rmart111@yahoo.com

- Here is an edited version of an update email I received from Pastor Jon Speed at **Christ Is King, Syracuse. Lakeshore, Cicero** is the sponsoring church.

I just returned last night from the Super Bowl in Indianapolis. We didn't go to the game, but we joined an outreach called The Super Bowl Outreach (www.superbowloutreach.org). 110 believers from around the nation gathered at the Highland Lakes Baptist Camp south of Indy where we stayed and were taught each morning. 115,000 tracts were specially printed for this event and almost all of them went out on Friday alone. Everyone brought many additional tracts and so there were probably 200,000 tracts distributed.

Teams of 10-12 set up throughout the Super Bowl Village and engaged the masses with open-air preaching and one-to-one evangelism. Celebrities, various NFL

players, and others received tracts or heard the gospel. There were several professions of faith in Christ and many believers who are new to evangelism were trained. I had four on my team who had never done anything like this before and one of them, a former Secret Service agent, open-air preached for the first time. Four of us went from Syracuse, including three from our church plant.

Our church plant was blessed with a great sermon by Jamel Robinson in my absence. It was his first pulpit sermon and he did a fine job by all accounts.

Blessings,
Jon Speed
Christ is King Baptist Church

- **The Church at Beaver Meadow** started their new outreach Bible study in Otselic this past Thursday night. Pastor Mitch Mullenax reports. "...we had 10 people last night for Common Grounds. All new faces"!!!
- **Lakeshore, Cicero** had an Extreme Marriage Makeover Workshop on Friday, Feb. 10, and they had 50 in attendance! Three couples--Roger and Shirley Burdick, Carl and Diana Putzer, Scott and Ala Ladd--shared and challenged listeners from their own life experiences. Karl Novak is Pastor.
- **Stamford BC** had a gospel concert tonight featuring Randy Simpson, a full time gospel music evangelist from Pennsylvania. They plan a spring revival March 11-14 with Bernard Euikyoan Ahn, a Korean student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Ft. Worth, TX) serving as evangelist. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Things We Wouldn't Know Without Sunday School

- ✓ With your eyes closed for prayer, anything can happen in a room full of preschoolers.
- ✓ Prayer requests reveal a lot about parents.

- ✓ A fire extinguisher is a handy device.
- ✓ Helium tanks should be chained down tightly.
- ✓ Cheap glue adheres to skin.
- ✓ Grand pianos are not as durable as you might think.
- ✓ Offering money always rolls to the other side of the room when dropped.
- ✓ Parachute games should not be used in a room with a chandelier.
- ✓ Animal crackers can be sneezed out the nose.
- ✓ There are good reasons why pastor's kids have a bad reputation.

From HART BEAT – 19 February 2012

- Last Sunday night while I was trying to finish up my HART BEAT report, I got side-tracked by emails, texts, and phone calls regarding a couple of important matters and I forgot to finish writing the opening paragraph or running spell check before I sent it out, I'll try to do a better job tonight.
- Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **Grace, Rome**, where I was privileged to preach in the absence of Pastor Dan Goewey, who has come down with the flu. We had planned to worship with **Outpouring, Oswego**, but Pastor Dan called late Saturday afternoon. I am always happy to preach – even when it's at the last minute. And, of course, they had a fellowship lunch afterwards!
- As I mentioned to you last week, BCNY is holding listening sessions across the convention territory to give pastors and church leaders an opportunity to voice their opinions about the future of BCNY. There will be three sessions held in CNYBA territory. One was held yesterday at **Clyde BC**, where Pastor Dale Suel from Amherst, did a great job facilitating the session. Another will be held at **Central, Syracuse** at 7 PM on Feb 28 and another at **Davis College** on Mar 20 at 2 PM. If you cannot make one of these sessions, you can attend one of the other sessions scheduled across the state. You can find the entire list of scheduled listening sessions, including times and places, at the BCNY web site – www.bcnysbc.org.
- Don't forget the "Keep the Fire Burning" Pastors' and Leaders' Conference at **Northside, Liverpool** on March 4-6. See more details at www.northsideonline.org.
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Jim Hundley's mother is in failing health in Michigan. Jim & Pam are in Michigan at her bedside. Jim is pastor at **Emmanuel, Cortland**.
 - Jon Speed's mother-in-law has been diagnosed with some sort of cancer. I do not have any other details at the moment. Jon and Kim are with her in South Carolina tonight. Jon is pastor at **Christ Is King, Syracuse**.

- **Northside, Liverpool** – (Bruce Aubrey, pastor)
 - **March 4-6, 2012** ~ Keep the Fire Burning Conference
 - **Risen Redemption Easter Musical** - March 30-April 1
 - **April 27-28, 2012** ~ Men's Conference with James Merritt
 - **October 5-6, 2012** ~ Women's Conference with Jennifer Kennedy Dean
 - **March 17** - "The Nurtured Heart Approach" Parenting Seminar
 - **March 18-25** - Mission Team to Haiti

- **Stamford BC – (Waylen Bray, Pastor)**
 - **Feb 17:** Family Movie Night — “A Greater Yes” 7:00 PM
 - **Feb 20:** Blood Drive at our building 1-6 PM
 - **Mar 11-14:** Spring Revival — with a student from SWBTS
 - **Mar 16:** Family Movie Night — “Home Beyond the Sun” 7:00 PM

- **Crosspoint, Whitesboro** has announced a free showing of the film “Courageous” at the church on February 25 at 5:30 PM. The doors open at 4:30 PM. There will be free popcorn, pizza, and drinks. Sam Macri is pastor.

- **West Hill, Ithaca** has announced a free showing of the film “Courageous” at the church on March 2 at 7:00 PM.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Laws of Computing

- When computing, whatever happens, behave as though you meant it to happen.
- When you get to the point where you really understand your computer, it's probably obsolete.
- The first place to look for information is in the section of the manual where you least expect to find it.
- When the going gets tough, upgrade.
- For every action, there is an equal and opposite malfunction.
- To err is human - To blame your computer for your mistakes is even more human
- If at first you do not succeed, blame your computer.
- A “new & improved” system that does not work is invariably found to have evolved from a simpler system that worked perfectly.
- The number one cause of computer problems? Computer solutions offered by family members.

- And if I may add - The best line I have heard when trying to explain to new computer users why something is happening that you don't understand is: "I think you have a problem with the interface between the chair and the keyboard."

From HART BEAT – 26 February 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **West Hill, Ithaca** this morning, where I preached in the absence of Pastor Bill Lower, who is vacationing with his family and enduring the 90 degree weather in Florida. Of course, they had a fellowship meal afterward! And it was great! Will I ever be able to lose weight?
- Some of you know by now, but Jim Hundley, pastor at **Emmanuel, Cortland**, was hospitalized this week with chest pains. Doctors replaced the three stints they installed last October and add one more. Jim tolerated the procedure very well and is recuperating at home.
- It's not too early to get your reservation in for use of the tents and/or block party trailer for this summer and fall. Check the list posted on our web site to see what dates are still available.
- **Summit, Cazenovia** had a corn beef & cabbage Family & Friends Dinner after church this morning. Unfortunately, I could not be there.
- **Lakeshore, Cicero** had a record high of 113 in attendance today! Praise the Lord! Karl Novak is pastor.
- **The Church at Beaver Meadow** is developing an outreach strategy called "Community – The Church Without Walls", which will target Beaver Meadow, Otselic, South Otselic, Clincinnatus, DeRuyter, East Pharsalia, Georgetown, Pitcher, North Pitcher, Plymouth, South Plymouth, and Smyrna. The goal is to begin a regular on-going Bible study in each community - in a home or some public venue. Pastor Mitch Mullenax writes, "It may take us a lifetime to reach these communities, but that's what we are aiming for." On Friday night they had 21 teens (grades 7-1) attend their new "Friday Night" Youth activity in Beaver Meadow. Yesterday they had 8 in attendance at their first "Skip Housekeeping Day" Ladies Fellowship Group.
- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
 Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
 Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
 There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled

Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Actual Letters to Pastors

- Dear Pastor, I know God loves everybody but He never met my sister.
Yours sincerely, Arnold. Age 8, Nashville.
- Dear Pastor, I'm sorry I can't leave more money in the plate, but my father didn't give me a raise in my allowance. Could you have a sermon about a raise in my allowance?
Love, Patty. Age 10, New Haven
- Dear Pastor, I think a lot more people would come to your church if you moved it to Disneyland. Loreen. Age 9. Tacoma
- Dear Pastor, Please say a prayer for our Little League team. We need God's help or a new pitcher. Thank you. Alexander. Age 10, Raleigh
- Dear Pastor, I liked your sermon on Sunday. Especially when it was finished.
Ralph, Age 11, Akron