

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

June 2012

From HART BEAT – 3 June 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at Hill City (MN) Baptist Church this morning, where Lonnie Lee is the pastor – and has been since he founded the church back in the early 1980s not long after the came to know the Lord. We haven't visited with Lonnie in several years. And wouldn't you know it, they had a fellowship lunch after church! I seem to always be at the right place at the right time when it comes to church dinners.

Pray for Pastor Lonnie. His wife, Patty, passed away about 18 months ago and he is having some health issues as well.

- This past Friday, June 1st, marked 16 years since I became an appointed Home Missionary serving as Director of Missions for the Southern Tier Baptist Association, which was dissolved when we formed the Central New York Baptist Association in 2001. My, how time flies.
- A couple of students from the Church Planting course I taught at Davis College this past semester, along with another student, are starting a church in the Johnson City area. They are looking for folding chairs. If you or your church has a few you could spare, let me know and I'll gather them up when I get home.
- Speaking of church planters, I have been communicating with a possible church planter this past week. Please join me in prayer that the Lord will raise up church planters for our CNYBA territory – from without and from within.
- Please continue to pray for us as we travel. We're camped out near Hill City, MN tonight, but will be headed for Michigan in the morning. We plan to camp a couple of nights on the shore of Lake Superior in Marquette, MI and then head south to visit cousins, a niece, and a nephew between Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo.

After that we'll head for the Detroit area where we plan to visit with a pastor friend and with some shirttail kin folk – Lyn's late brother-in-law's sister-in-law and her girls.

- **Lyons Falls Bible Fellowship Church** had a great service last Sunday. Their kids put on a full play putting the gospel message in a medieval period story. There were lots of visitors, and all were presented with the gospel by the kids and Pastor Jeff Ford.

- **Lakeshore, Cicero** went to two Sunday morning services for the first time today. Karl Novak is Pastor.
- **Bellewood, North Syracuse** has received a temporary Certificate of Occupancy and worshiped in their new facilities for the first time today! The railings for the steps and handicap ramp should be installed this week so the temporary CO can become permanent. Praise the Lord! Matt Hallenbeck is Pastor.
- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Oh that day when freed from sinning,
 I shall see Thy lovely face;
 Clothed then in blood washed linen
 How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace;
 Come, my Lord, no longer tarry,
 Take my ransomed soul away;
 Send thine angels now to carry
 Me to realms of endless day.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

The minister gave his Sunday morning service, as usual, but this particular Sunday, it was considerably longer than normal.

Later, at the door, shaking hands with parishioners as they moved out, one man said, "Your sermon, Pastor, was simply wonderful - so invigorating and inspiring and refreshing."

The minister of course, broke out in a big smile, only to hear the man say, "Why I felt like a new man when I woke up!"

From HART BEAT – 10 June 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped at the Delton (MI) Methodist Church with Dan & Pat Fales whom we are visiting. Pat is Lyn's cousin and childhood friend. She was in our wedding. And, would you believe, they had a fellowship lunch following the service!

On Monday and Tuesday night of last week we were camped in a RV park on the shore of Lake Superior just west of Marquette, MI. When we went down to the beach Tuesday evening there were a large group of amateur astronomers there with all sorts of telescopes and cameras. When we asked about what was going on, they told us that Venus was passing across the face of the sun. They offered to let us look. I thought we should because we might not be near a telescope when it happens again – in 2117. It was fascinating and we met some interesting folks in the process.

On Wednesday morning around 1 AM we learned of the death of Steve Snow, a good friend, former pastor at Maryland BC, and former moderator of CNYBA. His funeral will be held in Valdosta, GA on Monday. Please join me in lifting up his wife Esther in prayer over the next few days.

On Friday we hosted a cook-out at the RV park at Camp Michawana (a Christian family camp) where we are hold up at the moment. We enjoyed fellowship with one of Lyn's nephews and his wife, Pat & Dan Fales, and their granddaughter.

Tomorrow we plan to head for the Detroit area where we hope to visit with some other distant kin, as well as with a pastor friend and his wife. We will head for home after that.

- **North Fenton BC and Freedom Fellowship, Binghamton** had a joint afternoon picnic Memorial Day. North Fenton Pastor Clint Potter reports, "We put up the Volleyball net, and some of the more energetic ones played or threw the football around. Some of us just enjoyed the comfort of the shade under the tent while waiting for the food being prepared. We were not disappointed, The Lord Blessed us with a loaves and fishes experience once again, and the fellowship was sweet. We are looking forward to possibly working together at a bus outreach event in the future. Did I say the food was Great and plenteous?" Bill Deckert is Pastor at Freedom Fellowship.
- **The Church at Beaver Meadow** now meets on Sunday mornings at 11:00a.m. They are still running between 15 and 20. Pastor Mitch Mullenax now also holds a Sunday morning worship service 9:00a.m. in Linklaen on Chenango County Route 12 between Pitcher and DeRuyter. This service is running between 50 and 60 and meets in the Linklaen Community Church building. This opportunity came out of the Thursday night coffee house. The coffee house Bible study meets at 7:00 PM on Thursdays at The Daily Grind in South Otselic and is averaging 25-30 in attendance. Friday nights is a teen gathering from 8:00 to 11:00PM and is running between 25 and 30 in attendance. The ladies group on Saturday's (once a month) is running in the low 20s I attendance.
- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,
His child and forever I am.
Refrain

Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;

Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

One day a housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sweatshirt.

Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to his wife, "What setting do I use on the washing machine?"

"It depends," she replied. "What does it say on your shirt?"

He yelled back, "Syracuse University."

From HART BEAT – 17 June 2012

- We're baaack! Lyn and I arrived home mid-afternoon yesterday after a 5 week vacation trip. We were privileged to see many friends and family – some of whom we hadn't seen in several years. We wound up staying out a few days longer than we had planned because we decided to do something Lyn had wanted to do since childhood. We spent a day each at the Henry Ford Museum and the Greenfield Historic Village in Dearborn, MI. If you ever have opportunity to visit either of these, you will not be disappointed. However, there's no place like home.
- I'm late with the report this week. I got to watching the end of the U.S. Open Golf Tournament and forgot what time it was getting to be.
- Lyn and I worshipped this morning with the good folks at our home church, **Living Water, Owego**. Pastor Wayne Sibrava can still preach! This afternoon at 1 PM we worshipped with the good folks at **Freedom Fellowship, Binghamton**. Pastor Bill Deckert did a wonderful job preaching the Word and, by all accounts, is doing a great job leading this inner city church forward.
- Living Proof live Simulcast with Beth Moore and worship leader Travis Cottrell at the BCNY building in East Syracuse on September 15, 2012 from 10 AM til 4:15 PM. Tickets are \$5 until August 10 – after that \$10. Register at www.bcnysbc.org.
- **Missio Church, Syracuse** has a new location. They have obtained the buildings of the former First Presbyterian Church United on West Genesee Street in Syracuse NY. Jordan Stinziano is the pastor.
- **Northside Baptist, Liverpool** welcomes their new youth pastor and family, Jeff & Melody Harrison & their son Tristan. Bruce Aubrey is pastor.

- **Agape, Norwich** , held a special Praise & Worship Service tonight. Instead of their regular Praise & Worship Service, Pastor Harold Lefler presented a Musical Concert. The people from the Agape, North Fenton, and Maryland churches who have been attending these services selected the songs he sang. Pastor Harold indicates that he would consider doing this in other churches if they are interested.
- Joe Boney, former Director at our Carroll Street Ministry Center and current Director of Missions in Alaska, is seeking churches or individuals willing to help their new Korean church plant with the \$400 per month for medical insurance for the church planter for the next four years. He is bi-vocational but his job does not have benefits. If you can help in any way please contact Joe by email, phone call or txt. Cell Phone: 907.321.1300 Email: joe@tongassbaptist.org
- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Redeemed, and so happy in Jesus,
No language my rapture can tell;
I know that the light of His presence
With me doth continually dwell.

Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Memory Clinic

Two elderly couples were enjoying friendly conversation when one of the men asked the other, "Fred, how was the memory clinic you went to last month?"

"Outstanding," Fred replied. "They taught us all the latest psychological techniques: visualization, association, etc. It was great."

"That's great! And what was the name of the clinic?"

Fred went blank. He thought and thought, but couldn't remember. Then a smile broke across his face and he asked, "What do you call that flower with the long stem and thorns?"

"You mean a rose?"

"Yes, that's it!"

Fred turned to his wife.

"Rose, what was the name of that memory clinic?"

From HART BEAT – 24 June 2012

- Lyn and I were back at **Living Water, Owego** this morning to worship with the good folks at our home church. While we were on vacation one of the men in the church, Scott Watson, surrendered to preach and Pastor Wayne Sibrava asked him to preach his first sermon yesterday. He had requested that I be present for this event and, of course, I was happy to comply. He did a good job with the message from Psalm 51.
- This afternoon, we attended two high school graduation parties – both for young ladies we have known most of their lives. One is from church and one was a neighbor girl from across the street where we lived for the first 10 years we were here.
- The special Praise & Worship service at **Agape, Norwich** that I reported about last week been postponed until July 29. Tonight they had their regular monthly Praise & Worship service.
- This past Wednesday evening (June 20th) Lyn and I had intended to attend the annual **Central, Syracuse** Church Choir "Concert in the Parking Lot", but did not get there. The choir did a full concert and during an intermission Pastor Milt Kornegay shared the Gospel. It was an outreach event and the community was invited. They provided hot dogs and hamburgers for those who were hungry.

Also, Pastor David Booher is now the Youth Pastor at Lafayette Alliance Church. Central Baptist has voted to call Pastor William Matthew Payne (Kalamazoo, MI) to serve as Associate Pastor (Youth - Outreach/Discipleship). Pastor Payne will begin serving at CBC on 7-1-12.

CBC will be hosting a basketball clinic for ages 8-16 at the Faith Heritage Christian School on July 21st (1:00 - 3:30 p.m.). Bay Forrest (former NBA player) will lead the clinic. Young people from the community are invited. Please call the church if you're interested in registering your young person.

CBC Teens (Jr. and Sr. High) will be traveling to Lake Ann Baptist Camp in Michigan (July 22-28, 2012). They will travel by bus (coach). Pastor Milt says, "Our young people always return spiritually invigorated from the times of worship and devotion at the camp. They also have great times rock climbing, mud sliding, and other activities at the camp."

CBC will celebrate its 55th Anniversary on July 29th. I have been invited to preach and of course, I'm delighted.

CBC will hold its annual Golf Outing and Dinner this year on Friday, Sept. 14th from 11:30 AM - 7:00 pm. I plan to participate.

- Friday, after picking up the Block Party Trailer at the CNYBA pole barn and delivering it to **Northside, Syracuse**, Lyn and I ventured on up to Central Square, NY, where I purchased a used tandem axle trailer for the association to use to transport our scaffolding. We had voted to make this purchase at the Mid-year meeting, but I had not had time to look until after I got back from vacation. There were some adventurous moments getting it home – once with the tail gate dropping down and later the whole trailer coming off the hitch ball and swinging in the wind on the chain – all at full highway speed. But we finally made it back and the hitch is being looked at by a “trailer guy” I know. Soon the scaffolding can be moved around through the association like the tents and block party trailer. So far, at least two major projects will use the scaffolding this summer.

- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

I know there's a crown that is waiting,
In yonder bright mansion for me,
And soon, with the spirits made perfect,
At home with the Lord I shall be.

Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed,
His child and forever I am.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Simple Operation

A man was seen fleeing down the hall of the hospital just before his operation. "What's the matter?" he was asked.

He said, "I heard the nurse say, 'It's a very simple operation, don't worry, I'm sure it will be all right.'"

"She was just trying to comfort you, what's so frightening about that?"

"She wasn't talking to me. She was talking to the doctor!"