

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

July 2012

From HART BEAT – 1 July 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **Korean, Vestal** this morning, where I preached in the absence of Pastor Daniel Song, who is in Korea for an extended visit. As usual, we were welcomed warmly and the fellowship was great – and what fantastic music!
- With input from our CNYBA Leadership Team, the “World Changer” type project we were going to try to pull off on our own in the Binghamton area has been moved up the road to the Oneonta area. We just didn’t have the staff or time to work out details regarding food, lodging, insurance, etc. Not charging people to come made it impossible to know who and how many to plan for.

So, the associational mission project for this summer will be to assist Stamford Baptist Church in getting the Emmanuel Camp & Conference Center back in operation. The date is July 23-27.

The Camp is located up on the hill behind Maryland Baptist Church. There is a large kitchen and bunk houses to sleep and feed those who want to participate. You may also bring your RV, camper, or tent if you like. The association will provide the food. There will not be a charge to participate. Pastor Waylen Bray will direct our work that week, which will include removing and replacing a roof on the tabernacle, as well as several clean-up projects.

Acts 1:8 missions begins at home. Why not plan to spend a day or four helping one of our churches with a project. The fellowship alone will make this week worth your while, to say nothing of the potential to change lives through a camp ministry.

- **Good News, Waverly** baptized 4 last weekend in a swimming pool in Sayre with lots of friends and relatives to witness! The candidates ranged in age from 19 to 62. Pastor John Talada reports “The Lord has been blessing with visitors every week for the past six weeks.”
- **Transformation, Syracuse** baptized 5 last Sunday - 3 Adults and 2 teens. Pedro Abreau is Pastor.
- **Stamford BC** had a special missionary speaker in Sunday School this morning. Kayla Hadley will be returning to Africa in a few weeks as a teacher for missionary kids and she had a power point presentation and a report on her past year's service. The Adults - older children met in the auditorium for her presentation at 9:45 AM. Waylen Bray is Pastor

- **Bellewood, North Syracuse** will host a Community Open House on Saturday, July 21 @ 2 PM. They will have a special Thank You Celebration on Sunday, July 22 @ 2 PM and a Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 29 @ 6 PM. Matt Hallenbeck is Pastor.
- 20 members from **Korean, Vestal** will be going on a mission trip to Honduras next month. They will be helping to build additional facilities for a Christian School there. Daniel Song is Pastor.
- Rick Martin leaves on Tuesday, leading a team on a two and a half week trip to our mission project in the Andes Mountains of Southern Peru. Remember to pray for safety, wisdom, and sensitivity for Rick and his team as they share the gospel among the Quechua peoples of Peru. Pray that they will be able to find and encourage a native Peruvian to facilitate an on going Bible Study in the village of Llauta.
- **July Congratulations**
 - Bruce Aubrey – Pastor @ Northside, Liverpool since July 1993
 - Daniel Song – Pastor @ Korean, Vestal since July 2005
- **Have You Heard This One?**

Passed Note

A nearsighted minister glanced at the note that Mrs. Jones had sent to him by an usher.

The note read: "Bill Jones having gone to sea, his wife desires the prayers of the congregation for his safety."

Failing to observe the punctuation, he startled his audience by announcing:

"Bill Jones, having gone to see his wife, desires the prayers of the congregation for his safety."

From HART BEAT – 8 July 2012

- Lyn & I worshipped with the good folks at **Nueva Esperanza, Syracuse** this morning. Afterward we enjoyed fellowship with Pastor Ariel Ruiz and his son Aaron. We wondered if we would make the service in time when the used car I bought last week displayed some "issues" on the way. But thanks to our friend, Dave Richards of Newark Valley, a simple fix got us on the road in record time. I learned a new automobile lesson. Always check the battery connections first.

- This past week, after getting a new hitch installed on the scaffolding trailer, I was able to finish building the sides, tailgate and ramp. With the help of Pastor Clint Potter and Rodney Kochmanski from North Fenton BC, we got all the scaffolding loaded. I delivered the scaffolding to **Agape, Norwich**, where a mission team from Houston, TX will be painting and repairing this week. Now the scaffolding can be moved around among CNYBA churches like the tents and block party trailer. Should you need to use the scaffolding, just call or email me to reserve it. A scaffolding use schedule is posted on our web site.
- Remember that our CNYBA Associational Mission Project for 2012 will be helping Pastor Waylen Bray and Stamford Baptist Church work on their Emmanuel Camp Ground located on the hill behind Maryland Baptist Church in Maryland, NY. We will be removing and replacing the roof on the tabernacle plus several other clean-up projects. Food and Lodging will be provided. The dates are July 23-27. It would be helpful for food purchase purposes to know approximately how many might participate. If you can participate, email, call, or text me.
- Monday thru Friday of this coming week 6 members from **North Fenton BC** will join 22 members of an East Texas Mission Team to provide a VBS at Lake Sunapee Baptist Church in New Hampshire and revival services for another church in a neighboring town. Saturday the team will provide music and pass out tracts in the park area in the middle of town. This is the third time the folks from North Fenton have partnered with the team from Texas and the churches in New Hampshire. Clint Potter is Pastor @ North Fenton.
- **Summit, Cazenovia** is hosting a mission team from Houston, TX this week. The Texans will help them do VBS. Dan Schallmo is Pastor.
- **Clyde BC** is experiencing some problems with the roof of their building. They are raising money for the \$10 – 12,000 project. They lack about \$5,000 reaching the goal.

They have been hosting (housing) a family of 10 whose rental housing was condemned by the village. Fortunately, they have found a new place and will be moving out of the church building soon.

They had a mission group lined up to help them do VBS, but the group had to cancel. So they need a team of 5 or 6 to help them do VBS this year. Could you help? If so contact Pastor Roger Knapton at 315-923-3102.

- **Emory Chapel, Barton** has seen 5 professions of faith in recent weeks. Gary Culver is Pastor.
- **Lakeshore, Cicero** baptized 4 this morning. Karl Novak is Pastor.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Friends Like That

A knight and his men return to their castle after a long hard day of fighting.

"How are we faring?" asks the king.

"Sire," replies the knight, "I have been robbing and pillaging on your behalf all day, burning the towns of your enemies in the west."

"What?!" shrieks the king. "I don't have any enemies to the west

"Oh, no..." says the knight. "Well, you do now."

From HART BEAT – 15 July 2012

- Lyn & I worshipped today with the good folks at **Canastota BC**, where Jeff Scott has been pastor since May 2004. Afterward we enjoyed a time of fellowship over lunch with Pastor Jeff, Cindy, and son Tim, as well as with Assistant Pastor Bob Teachout and his wife Julie. As you know, I always enjoy fellowshiping with pastors.
- Remember to pray for Rick Martin, who is in Peru at this writing, building relationships, and laying the foundation for moving there to lead our associational mission project of planting churches among the Quechua Indians in the Andes Mountains of Southern Peru. Rick and all his current team members have been sick on this trip. Pray for healing, safety, opportunity, and wisdom during the remainder of this trip.
- It's not too early to begin planning to attend the CNYBA August Executive Board Meeting from 10 AM until noon on August 18, which will be hosted by **Summit, Cazenovia.**
- This past week a mission team from Houston, TX led VBS at **Summit, Cazenovia** AND constructed a handicap ramp, painted the entire sanctuary, and repaired and painted the ceiling and installed new light fixtures in the entry hallway at **Agape, Norwich.**

On Wednesday, I was able to visit with both halves of this team at Cazenovia and Norwich. It is always good to reconnect with team organizers with whom I visited (and sometimes took on a tour of possible projects) when they were "scouting out" a place for their team to serve. I don't always get that opportunity since I normally turn the mission team over to the project church pastor once I have gotten them together.

On Friday I was back at **Agape, Norwich** to pick up the scaffolding (now on a trailer so I don't load and unload like I used to). On Saturday I delivered the scaffolding to **Emory Chapel, Barton** where a group from East Texas will be

using it to install vinyl siding week after next. Men from Emory Chapel will repair some of the scaffolding in preparation for it's use.

We now have scaffolding, 2 tents, and a block party trailer for use by our churches – all on trailers for easy transportation among our churches during the summer. If your church can use any of these resources, just call to schedule use.

- **Grace, Rome** will be hosting a 5th Sunday Hymn Sing this month. They will have a picnic at the church beginning at 3 PM followed by singing under the tent at 5:30. Dan Goewey is Pastor
- **Stamford** BC hosted Sallie Culbreth, a Beyond Abuse Seminar presenter, this morning. She spoke to the adults and youth in a joint gathering during Sunday School. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- **Have You Heard This One?**

Three men worked in the Empire State Building on the 102nd floor.

One day the elevator was out of service, so they had to walk up to their office. To pass the time, they decided that one would sing a song, one would tell a joke, and the third would tell a sad story - each taking a turn every floor until they reached the top.

Finally, as they reached the 100th floor, one man sang his last song. As they reached the 101st floor, the second guy told his last joke. As they ascended the flight to the 102nd floor, the third man said, "I forgot the key."

From HART BEAT – 22 July 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **Bellewood, North Syracuse** this morning in their new facilities. We were also in attendance at their afternoon "Thank You" Celebration activities. Matt Hallenbeck is pastor.
- During the activities of the day I learned of a couple of prayer needs. First, the wife of Lamar Duke (BCNY State Director of Missions) took a nasty fall about a week ago and has been in the hospital with a broken ankle, a broken wrist, a large gash on her forehead, as well as some other bumps and bruises. She is currently in a rehab facility. Also, Terry Robinson (BCNY Executive Director) is dealing with some health issues and will have exploratory surgery this week. Let's remember to lift up these folks in prayer this week.
- Following the fellowship time after the celebration activities at Bellewood, I picked up one of the tent trailers from Bellewood and delivered it to **North Fenton BC**.

When we got home I finished making final preparations for going to the Emmanuel Campgrounds tomorrow to participate in this year's associational mission project – helping **Stamford BC** prepare the campground for reopening. It's still not too late for you to come work a day or two this week. Food and lodging will be provided. If you need directions, give me a call.

- Word has come from Harold Lefler, Pastor at **Agape**, Norwich, that his voice is back to normal so in our next monthly Praise and Worship Service at Agape on July 29th, he will present the Music Concert that was postponed last month. The service will be at 6PM.
- **Summit, Cazenovia** hosted a mission team from Jersey City BC in Houston Texas this past week. The team helped them do VBS. All told there were 19 decisions for Christ - 6 from the teen workers alone! They finished their VBS “trip around the world” with a stop at the Grand Canyon and a live snake show from Rattlesnake Dave. The report I got said, “It was awesome.” Dan Schallmo is Pastor.
- **Transformation, Syracuse** baptized 6 during the last month. Beyond their giving to the Cooperative Program of the SBC and the CNYBA, they are planning support of missions efforts in the Dominican Republic and Peru. Pedro Abreau is pastor.
- **Stamford BC** recently hosted a “Beyond Abuse” seminar. They hope to sponsor a follow-up seminar in November entitled “Responsible Care Training”. This seminar will be for clergy and congregational leaders who want to learn how to better facilitate healing to abuse survivors and their families. It also addresses the spiritual needs of sex offenders and how to develop policies that are both compassionate and responsible. There is also a brief examination of ensuring that a culture of safety exists to protect vulnerable members of a congregation and community. The registration fee will be \$75. It will be a one-day event on Saturday. Right now they're looking at the second Saturday in November. Waylen Bray is pastor.
- **Christ Is King, Syracuse** is planning an August VBS. They took a group of kids to the Andy Mineo concert in Auburn a couple of weeks ago. They held a seminar on witnessing to atheists and hosted an atheist debate at the central library in downtown Syracuse with about 50 in attendance, including about 30 atheists from the area. They continue to share the gospel at the local bus stops, at the Valley Field Days (in process now), and with neighbors as opportunities allow. Robert Gray (a prospective elder and possible planter) went to Scotland in June and early July and leaves for London for the Olympics next week, and will return in mid-September to continue his self-evaluation of his call to ministry. They are averaging 25 in Sunday Morning Worship. Church Planter/Pastor Jon Speed's mother and mother-in-law are struggling with major health issues. Let's remember to lift this family up in prayer.
- **Grace, Rome** will host a 5th Sunday Hymn sing at 5 PM next Sunday, July 29. They will have a picnic under the tent at 3 PM. Dan Goewey is Pastor.

- **Bellewood, North Syracuse** will host a Hymn Sing and Ice Cream Social next Sunday, July 29th, at 6 PM. Matt Hallenbeck is Pastor.
- Pastor Mitch Mullenax at **The Church at Beaver Meadow** has been starting “auxiliary” outreach Bible Studies/Preaching Points during the last few months. The first of those, Common Grounds Fellowship, celebrated today with a fellowship picnic and 5 adult baptisms from the Thursday night Bible study! They had four of their small groups represented with nearly 80 present in all. Our next fellowship event is a men’s prayer breakfast on Sat. Aug 4th at 9:00 AM. They invite any church in CNYBA to join them. For more information and/or directions call Pastor Mitch @ 315-404-1949.
- **Living Water, Owego** will host a mission team from Bay Minette, MS this week. The group will replace the roof on the sanctuary. Next week will be VBS at Living Water, and the following week a mission group from East Texas will be “camping out” at the church while they install siding at **Emory Chapel, Barton**. Wayne Sibrava is Pastor @ Living Water and Gary Culver is Pastor @ Emory Chapel.
- **Have You Heard This One?**

A man joined the priesthood. The order he joined could not speak for seven years. Then they could only say 2 words. The first seven years passed and they went into a small room. His 2 words were "too cold". The next seven years passed and they took him back into the small room and his 2 words were "bad food". The next seven years passed they took him back into the small room and his 2 words were "I quit". "Good," they said, "all you have done is complain."

From HART BEAT – 29 July 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at **Central, Syracuse** this morning where I was privileged to preach in the absence of Pastor Milt Kornegay, who was attending the retirement celebration for his father in the ministry down in the DC area. They were celebrating the 55th anniversary of the church today. We enjoyed the entire worship experience (the choir was outstanding) as well as the parking lot cook-out that followed.

After lunch we met Mary Westcott from **Lakeshore, Cicero** and picked up an airplane (VBS prop) to be used by **Living Water, Owego** this week.

In the late afternoon and evening we attended the picnic and Hymn Sing at **Grace, Rome** where Dan Goewey is Pastor. It made it a little late getting home, but we did enjoy the fellowship and the singing of the old hymns. There were at least 6 churches represented.

- We spend most of this past week on the associational mission trip to help **Stamford BC** (Waylen Bray, Pastor) work on their Emmanuel Camp up on the hill above **Maryland BC** (Calvin Stedge, Pastor). We had 4 CNYBA churches represented during the week plus 3 couples not affiliated with CNYBA churches. We were able to remove all the roofing and some of the decking from the tabernacle roof, install purlings and metal roofing on half the roof, as well as do several cleanup projects.

The week was largely uneventful except for a trip to the emergency room for a tetanus shot after I stepped on a nail and the extremely dirty experience of replacing a hydraulic hose on the back hoe.

- Common Grounds Fellowship, and outreach ministry of **The Church at Beaver Meadow**, will hold their first Men's Prayer Breakfast on August 4th. Mitch Mullenax is Pastor.
- **Vietnamese, Utica** baptized one this month. Liem Do is Pastor.
- Pastor Dan Schallmo at **Summit, Cazenovia** began a new series this morning called "Vital Faith" a study of the book of James.
- **Living Water, Owego** hosted a mission group from Bay Minette, AL this past week. The entire roof of the sanctuary was replaced. Wayne Sibrava is Pastor.
- **River of Joy, Syracuse** is still looking for left over VBS material for use in mid August. If you have any usable material from this year's SBC VBS material, let me know and I will "gather it up" for them.
- Here's a report from Dr. Rick Martin on his recent mission trip to our CNYBA project in Peru.

Prayer Warriors,

I have just returned from our two and a half week mission's journey throughout Peru. I believe your prayers of faith on our behalf have resulted in the furtherance of God's glory among the nations.

So much happened! In Ica, our team shared testimonies and the gospel to the children of the soccer camp we started. We joined Pastor Wilfredo Pardo in sharing the Word in his Peruvian "hood." One lady accepted Christ. We had the privilege of leading the Sunday School for the children and Worship for the Adults. It was so encouraging to hear Wilfredo say that he wants to support our ministry.

The team decided to visit Machu Picchu this time in the middle of trip for refreshment, witnessing, and team building. Nothing can relieve, or increase, cultural stress like a trip to Machu Picchu. Our team experienced a new understanding of closeness as we threw up together on a relentless sixteen hour rollercoaster-like bus ride while having

to face it all again on the way out. Still, I knew we were on the front lines for Christ when I overheard a young Jewish man say to one of our team members, “Jesus is buried in Jerusalem.”

Our ultimate destination was Llauta, a small village in the desert like Andes. Here, we used Bible stories in five classes to teach English. We conversed with many about Christ in the village square. We gave out Bibles and passed out approximately seventy Bible study guides, taking some natives through them. The last night we held a Bible study using these guides. A family and another adult attended from the village. Pastor Wilfredo plans to follow up.

Gonzalo, our Peruvian brother in Lima, led us to facilitate learning in the English class of his students at San Marcos, the oldest college in South America. After making new friends and sharing English, each on our team shared their testimony concerning Christ with the students.

Please pray for:

1. The gospel seeds planted to grow to salvation,
2. The people of Llauta to use their Bible study guides to understand the Bible for themselves,
3. Wisdom as we follow up,
4. A church in Llauta to be planted,
5. Corey and Ezekiel (a young Jewish man I shared Christ with in NYC on the way back) to accept Christ.

Your prayers of faith are pleasing to the Lord! Remember that we desire to pray for you also.

All His Best!
Rick

• **Have You Heard This One?**

Why We CAN'T Go Metric!

If the metric system did ever take over, we'd have to change our thinking to the following:

- * A miss is as good as 1.6 kilometers.
- * Put your best 0.3 of a meter forward.

- * Spare the 5.03 meters and spoil the child.
- * Twenty-eight grams of prevention is worth 453 grams of cure.
- * Give a man 2.5 centimeters and he'll take 1.609 kilometers.
- * Peter Piper picked 8.8 liters of pickled peppers.