

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

September 2012

From HART BEAT – 2 September 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped this morning with the good folks at **Cornerstone, Endicott** where Bill Turner and Greg Johnson have been co-pastors since August 2011 when Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church and Beautiful Plane merged and became Cornerstone.

In the afternoon, we visited Pastor Bill Turner, who is hospitalized with some heart health issues. Let's continue to lift up Pastor Bill, and his wife Rita, in prayer.

- Apparently I had a senior moment last week and did not include the humor at the end of the newsletter. I have been careful to include a humorous story this week.
- **Good News, Waverly** marked their three year anniversary as a church this past Thursday with a baptismal service (in an outdoor swimming pool) and the beginning of a mid-week 3 PM Thursday afternoon Bible Study. They have also recently remodeled the pulpit area, lowering the stage and adding some accent laminate flooring. John Talada is Pastor.
- **Agape, Norwich** had VBS August 20-24 with 22 enrolled. They averaged 15 in attendance and 22 attended the Friday night bar-b-que and helium balloon launch. On Sunday morning, August 26, they baptized 5, with 30 in attendance. Three churches were represented in attendance at their monthly Praise and Worship Service on the last Sunday in August. September's Praise and Worship Service will feature John & Doty Martin in concert, and will be held September 23rd at 6 PM. Harold Lefler is pastor.
- **Cornerstone, Endicott** will hold Revival services September 23-26 with different speakers each service. They will be celebrating the one year anniversary of the church on September 30th. The Youth Ministry is scheduled to restart in October. Through the Women's Ministry, aerobics class continues. The Missions Ministry has started an outreach project to a local low income housing establishment with bag lunches once a month. Bill Turner and Greg Johnson are Pastors.
- **Note from Rick Martin - Our Missionary to Peru in Waiting**

Prayer Warrior,

By now some of you have heard the Martin family has moved to Virginia. We want to assure you that our hearts and plans are still set on serving the Lord in Peru and we remain in partnership with you.

We moved to establish residency so our son, Micah, could receive a lower cost for his tuition at Virginia Tech. So now we are Virginians. I could not help but put words to the first three letters of my new license plate: **World Wide Proclamation**. It was encouraging to us when Donna came up with **World Wide Preaching** for her plate without communication between us.

We are planning a missions trip to Peru this November. If you want to help share the gospel to those who have never heard and encourage some who have, then pray about coming being a part of this missions team. The cost should be about \$1500.00 and last a week and a half.

You may pray for us. It is a new challenge to make a move without having secured paying jobs and/or ministries first. We moved in order to fulfill a timing requirement to receive lower tuition. We feel like nomads standing before the Red Sea waiting for God to part the waters. We feel this way because we are to some real degree. We are tried! Yet, God is good and faithful to accomplish His plans through us. Charles Spurgeon said if we do not have faith during the hard times then we do not have faith at all. We are experiencing afresh that genuine faith has constancy to its character.

Some of you have had opportunity to express concern for us at this time. One option you have is to turn your concern into a prayer for God's glory and our deliverance. And please remember the people of Peru who have never heard a clear presentation of the gospel of Christ. What a deliverance they need: from sin, Satan's dominion, and God's wrath into the freedom of the children of God! I leave you with this scripture portion: "Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you (2 Thessalonians 3:1)."

FYI...Elizabeth just tried out for the varsity volleyball team and made it!

All His Best!

Rick

- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one
Our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

We had built our dream house some years ago, and furnished it with quality pieces as we could afford them. Now the delivery truck carrying the last purchase, a new bedroom suite, was pulling into the driveway.

"Finally!" I exclaimed, flinging open the front door as the driver walked up to the house. "I've been waiting twelve years for this!"

"Don't blame me, lady," he said. "I just got the order this morning."

From HART BEAT – 9 September 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped this morning with the good folks at **North Fenton BC**, where I preached in the absence of Pastor Clint Potter, who is attending a family reunion back in Illinois.
- To my amazement, I have discovered that several folks I thought were getting this newsletter were not. I've tried to go through the list to be sure everybody is on the list that is supposed to be on the list. If you know of someone who is not getting the weekly newsletter who should be, please let me know.
- **Clyde BC** hosted a mission team from Virginia recently who helped them conduct VBS. They enrolled 18 and averaged 14 in attendance. There were two baptisms and 4 additions to the church. Roger Knapton is Pastor
- **Christ is King, Syracuse** held their first VBS this summer - a shortened three day version, and had about ten kids in attendance. Pastor Jon Speed was excited about the participation and excitement they had from the church folks. He says, "We are seeing this group of believers begin serving together as a church." Average attendance through the summer months has been about 25. They have started a baptism class for those who are interested. Currently they have six in

the class with two more showing interest. At the end of the month they will have their first baptism at their sponsoring church – **Lakeshore, Cicero**. In the coming months they are going to begin a Bible study on church membership using "Life in the Father's House" by Wayne Mack and Dave Swavely as an outline.

- **Emory Chapel, Barton** met today at a pavilion at Round Top Park for their morning worship service. Of course, they had a fellowship luncheon following the service. Too bad I was preaching elsewhere. They recently hosted a mission team from East Texas who installed vinyl siding on two sides of the building. They hired local help to side the third side after the team left. They had sided the back side themselves last year. So now the building (built in 1833) has new vinyl siding all around. It looks great! Gary Culver is Pastor.
- **Freedom Fellowship, Binghamton** has started an outreach Bible Study in the North Shore Towers (which is a block away). This is a housing building for people who are handicapped in some way. Two of their members live there and have asked that they get the Gospel into their building. Pastor Bill Deckert says, "Please pray for our outreaches: the food pantry, the weekly hot meal, the street preaching, and the Bible study in North Shore Towers.

- **Report:**

NEW ORLEANS - Southern Baptist Disaster Relief feeding operations are now in high gear in nine Louisiana and Mississippi venues, with 83,500 hot meals already prepared and delivered (as of last week) to Hurricane Isaac victims in the two hard-hit Gulf Coast states.

- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word!

Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,
As Thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
Thy holy Word the truth that saveth me;
Give me to eat and live with Thee above;
Teach me to love Thy truth, for Thou art love.

O send Thy Spirit, Lord, now unto me,
That He may touch my eyes, and make me see:
Show me the truth concealed within Thy Word,
And in Thy Book revealed I see the Lord.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Smith goes to see his supervisor in the front office.

"Boss," he says, "we're doing some heavy house-cleaning at home tomorrow, and my wife needs me to help with the attic and the garage, moving and hauling stuff."

"We're short-handed, Smith," the boss replies. "I can't give you the day off."

"Thanks, boss," says Smith, "I knew I could count on you!"

From HART BEAT – 16 September 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped with the good folks at our home church – **Living Water, Owego** - this morning where I preached in the absence of Pastor Wayne Sibrava, who is visiting relatives and friends in California. 49 years ago yesterday I preached for the first time at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Beebe, Arkansas. Lyn is already planning a party to celebrate my 50th anniversary in the ministry next year on Saturday, September 14th - probably at Living Water, Owego.
- This afternoon we left on a trip to Severn, MD where we will attend a Directors of Missions meeting sponsored by the National Association of Baptist Associations and hosted by the Arundel Baptist Association. At this writing, we have stopped in York, PA for the night. We should be back at home late Wednesday night.
- On Friday past I enjoyed a time of fun and fellowship at the annual golf outing of **Central, Syracuse** where I played in a threesome with Pastor Milt Kornegay and former CNYBA moderator, David Pope. I forgot to bring my insulin, so I left before the meal, but Lyn learned on Facebook that our threesome tied for second place.
- I'm happy to report that the roof is on the pole barn – at least the side where the 5th wheel will be stored for the winter. I doubt I'll get much more done on the barn this year, since it will soon be time to turn attention toward being sure we have enough wood stored up for winter heating.

- The August CNYBA Treasurer's Report is finished and distributed to me and our pastors by our very competent treasurer, Billie Winskie. It reveals several things.
 - Even with the \$5000 increase in the 2012 budget authorized at the recent Executive Board Meeting, our YTD Income is over \$3500 above projected YTD income.
 - Seven affiliated churches have not made a financial contribution to CNYBA so far this year.
 - Our Reserve Fund stands at \$9575.17 and our New Work Fund stands at \$2766.17.

- **Three Pines, Doraville** (Mike Brown, Pastor) baptized 11 this summer (2 kids, 9 adults), and then two more adults a couple weeks ago. They have given away their pews and purchased interlocking chairs, increasing seating capacity by 30%.

They have a new outreach shooting ministry for shotguns, rifles, and pistols. They shoot skeet, trap, targets, and sometimes frozen water jugs and old watermelons. They also include long range shooting (+300 yards).

They have started a breakfast club that puts on a free breakfast for the community one Saturday a month. They travel to different locations each month with the primary goal of building relationships with the unsaved and planting the seeds of the gospel.

The women have started a quilting ministry, a sewing circle, a craft night, a new ladies Bible study. and a new Kidz Klub (for kids under 13). These are all continuing ministries that meet either weekly or monthly.

They also do once a year outreaches like the annual community day at the park, (where they provide free food, games, fun, music, balloons, face painting, etc.), VBS every summer, and the fall community hay ride and bon-fire.

They celebrated the 14th anniversary as a church today. On September 29th they are having a community hayride (farm tractors and hay wagons) followed by a church fellowship and bonfire at a members home.

- **Lighthouse, Syracuse** is losing their meeting place after 6 years. Let's be in prayer for them as they look for another place. James Pannafino is pastor.
- **Northside, Liverpool** will begin their 15th year of Awana September 12 at 4:15 PM. Awana is a children's & teen ministry (Ages 2 thru 12th grade) whose goal is to reach boys & girls with the Gospel of Christ and train them to serve

Him. If you have any questions about Awana please feel free to contact Pastor Jeff O'Brien@ 315-652-3160. Bruce Aubrey is Pastor.

- **Maryland BC** will host a benefit dinner on Sept 29 for a 4 yr. old girl that has TSC (Tuberous Sclerosis Complex). The dinner starts at 4:30 PM. Calvin Stedge is Pastor.
- **Central, Syracuse** News: Milt Kornegay Pastor
 - Central Baptist Ladies are leaving Wednesday night (9/19/12) for the Nancy Lee DeMoss Ladies' Conference in Indianapolis, IN. They will be returning Sunday (9/23/12).
 - Central Baptist just started its Fall Semester of the Central Baptist Bible Institute. Courses being taught on Monday night (The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit) (7:00 - 7:55 p.m.) and Old Testament Survey (Ezra - Job) (8:30 - 9:25 p.m.). Registration is \$25.00 and \$10.00 for class notes. Books for the classes run around \$40.00 - but one book covers the entire Old Testament Survey. Saturday Classes (selected Saturdays) cover Old Testament Analysis (a more in depth look at the Old Testament). This semester we're teaching Joel - Obadiah. (The same book for Old Testament Survey is used in this class).
 - Central Baptist will be having its annual "Fall Tune-Up" (10/3 - 7/12). Pastor Victor Clay an excellent expositor from Kansas City, KS will be the guest speaker. You may call the church for details at 315-475-5012.
 - Central Baptist will be having a Couple's Retreat at the church (10/19-20/12). Pastor Larry K. Payne of Oxon Hill, MD will be leading the workshops. The cost is \$35.00 which includes a catered meal on Saturday.
- **Eternal Life, Auburn** reports that their July VBS enrollment was 59 with attendance ranging from 19 to 45 each night. There were 10 professions of faith. Their monthly "Movie Night" will begin again in October. Pastor David Kreydatus asks prayer for this outreach since most of the folks who attend are unchurched.
- **Clyde Baptist Church** recently hosted a mission team from First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia. Among other things, the mission team remodeled their 40x40 north area with a new floor to be made into a community center for youth activities. They also had the grand opening of the Clyde Clothes Closet recently. Last week they ministered to 15 different families through this new outreach and two of those families were in church on Sunday. One lady from Texas was saved and will be baptized soon
- **Grace, Rome** held VBS on August 6-10 with an enrollment of 43 and an average attendance of 35. There were 4 decisions. Their VBS offering went to a

mission project in Alaska. Ozie Bodner was VBS Director and Dan Goewey is Pastor.

- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Bring Them In

Hark! 'tis the Shepherd's voice I hear
Out in the desert dark and drear,
Calling the sheep who've gone astray
Far from the Shepherd's fold away.

Who'll go and help this Shepherd kind,
Help Him the wand'ring ones to find?
Who'll bring the lost ones to the fold,
Where they'll be sheltered from the cold?

Out in the desert hear their cry,
Out on the mountains wild and high;
Hark! 'tis the Master speaks to thee,
"Go find My sheep where'er they be."

Refrain

Bring them in, bring them in,
Bring them in from the fields of sin;
Bring them in, bring them in,
Bring the wand'ring ones to Jesus.

- **Have You Heard This One?**

Sister Mary Ann worked for a home health agency. While out making her rounds one day, she ran out of gas.

The attendant at the gas station, just a block away, told her that their only gas can was loaned out, so she returned to the car to see if there was any container she could use to get enough gas to at least make it to the station.

In the backseat she spotted a bedpan she was taking to a patient. She returned to the station, filled the bedpan with gas, and carefully carried it back to the car.

As she was pouring the bedpan contents into the tank, two atheists slowly drove by, watching. One turned to the other and said, "If that car starts, I'm turning Catholic!"

From HART BEAT – 23 September 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped this morning with the good folks at **Transformation, Syracuse**, where I preached in the absence of Pastor Pedro Abreau and wife Ada, who were away at a conference AND celebrating their wedding anniversary. Praise God for a translator!

This afternoon we traveled to the Word of Life Conference Center in Schroon Lake, NY in order to attend the Annual Meeting of the Baptist Convention of New York, which started tonight and will end on Tuesday about noon. The opening session was very good, with messages from Bill Barker, Director of Appalachian Regional Ministries and Carlos Rodrigues, Executive Director of the Puerto Rico & Virgin Islands Baptist Association.

This past week (Sunday afternoon through Wednesday) Lyn and I attended a Directors' of Missions Conference in Severn, MD sponsored by the Network of Baptist Associations. Traveling and wall-to-wall sessions made for a tiring trip, but we did enjoy the inspiration, meeting of new friends and fellowshipping with old friends, and some new information, which I hope will be helpful to CNYBA in the future.

- Don't forget that the Annual Meeting of Central New York Baptist Association is scheduled for October 20 at Newark Bible Fellowship Church. We normally begin these meetings at 9:00 AM, but because this meeting will be on the outer perimeter of the CNYBA territory, our Leadership Team will be discussing whether to adjust the starting time. Stay tuned – but save the date so you can participate.
- **Stamford BC** has announced a Christian Camp Ministry Week at the Emmanuel Campground in Maryland, NY for August 4-9, 2013. Waylen Bray is Pastor.
- **Summit, Cazenovia** held a Disciple Making Conference yesterday led by evangelist, church planter, disciple-maker **Johan Gous of Hope Builders Ministry**. **They also plan a Family & Youth Concert** Saturday September 29th from 7:00 - 9:00 PM featuring "Full Armor" Christian band. Dan Schallmo is Pastor.
- **RiverEdge, Baldwinsville** will hold an informal informational meeting (called NEXT) on September 30 where the vision and direction of the church will be shared. Another Worship Gathering is planned for October 7 at 6:00 PM, which will include a missionary report from Andrew and Angie Sutton, who are serving in Hatti. Allan Covington is Pastor.

- **Grace, Rome** invites all CNYBA men to a Men's one day retreat at Delta Lake Bible Conference Center from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM on Saturday, October 27, 2012. The cost is \$20 per person, which includes light breakfast and lunch. RSVP by 24 October to gbcyny@verizon.net. Dan Goewey is Pastor.
- **Nepali, Syracuse** averaged 130 in worship this past month and now has 6 small groups meeting weekly. Bhim Biswa is Pastor.
- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Bringing In The Sheaves

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;
Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;
By and by the harvest, and the labor ended,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;
When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain

Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves,
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves,

- **Have You Heard This One?**

A minister was planning a wedding at the close of the Sunday morning service.

After the benediction he had planned to call the couple down to be married in a brief ceremony before the congregation.

For the life of him, he couldn't think of the names of those who were to be married.

"Will those wanting to get married please come to the front?" he requested.

Immediately, nine single ladies, three widows, four widowers, and six single men stepped to the front.

From HART BEAT – 30 September 2012

- Lyn and I worshipped today with the good folks at **Gethsemane, Syracuse**, where I preached at the invitation of Pastor James Young. For the second time, I had a flat tire on the way to preach. Thanks to the help of Pastor Jon Speed, who came over to the motel and took me to Gethsemane, I got there in plenty of time. Lyn followed after the emergency roadside guy changed the tire.

Yesterday we had a great Pastors' Breakfast in the Syracuse Cluster Group. Ten of us gathered for a time of fellowship, sharing, and breakfast.

- Earlier this past week, Lyn and I attended the BCNY Annual Conference at Word of Life in Schroon Lake, NY. The messengers adopted the report of the Listening Task Force and voted to name an Implementation Team. Here is some statistical information about the past 12 months that I gleaned from one of the reports.
 - CNYBA churches gave \$154,449.76 to world-wide missions through the SBC Cooperative Program
 - CNYBA churches gave \$83,176.52 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions
 - CNYBA churches gave \$29,776.15 to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions
 - CNYBA churches gave 7,375.98 to the James Mission Offering for State Missions
 - There were 4 CNYBA churches in the top 25 churches giving to CP
 - There was 1 CNYBA church in the top 25 churches giving to Lottie Moon
 - There were 3 CNYBA churches in the top 25 churches giving to Annie Armstrong
 - There were 5 CNYBA churches in the top 25 churches giving to the James Mission Offering
 - In 3 out of the 4 categories above, the number one church was from CNYBA.
- CNYBA representation on BCNY Boards and Committees include:
 - Executive Board
 - Andy Smith (Emmanuel, Cortland) – term ending 2013
 - Karl Novak (Lakeshore, Cicero) – term ending 2014
 - Harold Lefler (Agape, Norwich) – term ending 2014
 - Wayne Sibrava (Living Water, Owego) – term ending 2015
 - Jim Hundley (Emanuel, Cortland) – term ending 2015

- BCNY Foundation Trustees
 - Roger Knapton (Clyde BC) – term ending 2013
 - Michael Brown (Three Pines, Doraville) – term ending 2014
 - Elton Winskie (Living Water, Owego) – term ending 2013
- Committee to Nominate Executive Board Members
 - Bill Lower (West Hill, Ithaca) – term ending 2013
- Order of Business Committee
 - Pam Hundley (Emmanuel, Cortland) – term ending 2014
 - Jim Hundley (Emmanuel, Cortland) – term ending 2015
- Some of you have heard that at the BCNY Annual Meeting I was elected to serve as president for the coming year. I am both humbled and honored. Please remember to lift me up in prayer throughout this year.

Our own Pastor Sam Macri (Crosspointe, Whitesboro) was elected to bring the annual sermon next year at the BCNY Annual Conference in Amherst.

- Mary Knapton (pastor's wife @ Clyde BC) is in the hospital in Geneva with some sort of heart issue. Jon Speed (pastor @ Christ Is King, Syracuse) mother and mother-in-law have major health issues. Let's lift these folks up in prayer.
- Don't forget that our CNYBA Annual Meeting is coming up on October 20 at Newark Bible Fellowship Church. I hope you'll put it on your calendar and attend. Part of the agenda will be to hear from the BCNY Listening Task Force regarding their report that was adopted at last week's annual BCNY meeting.
- **Christ Is King, Syracuse** has moved Sunday worship to a larger meeting space – the sanctuary at Onondaga Valley Presbyterian Church. They had to change the worship time to 6PM in order to do so. Pastor Jon Speed says, "I think this will be helpful in many ways as it opens the possibility of Sunday School classes and now we can begin advertising throughout our community"

They held two all-night prayer meetings (August & September) and have seen specific answers to prayer as a result. They have 3 small groups meeting and are praying for contacts within the nearby Onondaga Indian Nation. Today, they baptized 5 at their sponsoring church, **Lakeshore, Cicero**. They are averaging 25 in Sunday worship.

Please be praying for Pastor Jon and his wife Kim. Kim's mother has stage 4 cancer and lives in PA. Kim has been traveling there a couple of times a week to visit her mother and to help her get her affairs in order. Of course, Jon and Kim have also been trying to prepare their children for their grandmother's passing. Jon's mother also has some health issue, but Jon is unable to visit right now because of this other situation. As you might expect, this is putting a lot of

pressure on this family. Please join me in prayer for them – now and continually in the days ahead.

- **Grace, Rome** invites all CNYBA men to a one day Men's retreat at Delta Lake Bible Conference Center from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM on Saturday, October 27, 2012. The cost is \$20 per person, which includes light breakfast and lunch. Please RSVP, by 24 October, to gbcorny@verizon.net. Dan Goewey is Pastor.
- **Lighthouse, Syracuse** is moving from current location to a location near the Syracuse University campus. Their focus will shift from ministering to inner city residence to a strong ministry to college students and other residents in the neighborhood. Their first big event will be a Thanksgiving meal. James Pannafino is Pastor.
- **Outpouring, Oswego** pastor Zach Nyhard will be trying to raise funding, which will allow him to give more time to the ministry on the campus of SUNY Oswego.
- **Summit, Cazenovia** continues with its Monday night community meal outreach. They are praying about a new location. Dan Schallmo is Pastor.

- **Truths from the Old Hymns**

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;
Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;
By and by the harvest, and the labor ended,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;
When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves

- **Have You Heard This One?**

A company offered tours through the historic district, led by guides dressed in Colonial clothing. While leading a group, one of the guides, tripped and fell, breaking his wrist.

He went to the hospital, and as he sat waiting in the emergency room, a policeman walked by.

Doing a double take at him in his 18th-century garb he asked, "Just how long have you been waiting?"