



# The Signal

A publication to share information of interest to the people of the  
Conception Bay South Corps and Community

Volume 6. Issue 3

Pastoral Letter from our Corps Officers

September 2010



## 331 CBS Highway

### PERSPECTIVE

The hazy, lazy days of summer have come to an end. Young people have returned to school with mixed feelings. Parents have their fears and concerns for their children and rightfully so.

Printed outside in large bold letters, near the entrance to St. Anthony Elementary School, I read these amazing words a few weeks ago, "All thy children shall be taught of the Lord and great shall be the peace of thy children".

What a standard to set for the precious young lives placed in our care. Good Bible teaching; respect for one another and those in authority would no doubt produce a sense of peace and contentment in the hearts of our children.

Time to get back to basics? Would it not make a difference if every child were "taught of the Lord"? Oh, yes, the wise words are taken from Isaiah 54:13.

Major Cora Dodge



Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ:

The brisk morning air, the crops being offered for sale along the roadside, the changing colour of the leaves announce the end of Summer and the arrival of Fall. In the Corps we are beginning all the programs, looking for leadership and asking God to help us lead His Church for another year. It's a time of Starting Over, A New Beginning, a season of looking forward with hope and anticipation.

In recent days I have been humbled and blessed by a verse in **Isaiah 43:18 "I will make a way through the wilderness for my people to come home. I will create waters for them in the desert."** (NCV) This verse makes me think about you, you who have not been to Church for years and in your heart you have a longing to be there. I have prayed for you. Let the verse of Isaiah bring you confidence, that the God who made a way through the wilderness for His people to come home, He will make a way for you to come to His House to worship. Look again at the verse, this was not to be some rough journey, no way. God promised that even while they were in the desert He would create water for them. In other words He was not going to leave them, nor forsake them. The doors of your Church are wide open and a warm welcome awaits you. Will you make a bold attempt this Sunday, put aside all the excuses and reasons for staying home and come worship the Lord.

The CBS Corps is a busy, vibrant place. We have Home League, Men's Fellowship, Seniors Group, Pioneer's, Junior Soldiers, Senior & Beginners' Band, Worship Team, Community Care Ministries, Junior Action and other programs to help in Spiritual Development.

Major Rosemary Green & I are very pleased to serve among you. The support for the ministry has been tremendous and we take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' to every one. We understand that we are not the Church, we are just a part of it and we need each other.

God Bless you dear reader. Remember the verse from Isaiah; **I will make a way through the wilderness for my people to come home.** God loves you. In a world with storms like Igor, and disappointments and personal wounds, there is a God who cares.

Yours in Christ,

Majors Wayne & Rosemary Green

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## Being a Christian—Easy or Not?



During the celebrations of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the CBS Corps in Long Pond, Gerry Mercer was one of the young people enrolled as a Senior Soldier.

Gerry has just begun his last year of studies at Holy Spirit High School in Manuels. On Sundays, you will see him smartly dressed in his Salvation Army uniform and with his Bible in hand, he joins in worship with the growing congregation.

Even though he is still a teenager, Gerry has faced some serious struggles and difficulties and will admit that being a Christian is not always easy, but it is very fulfilling. Through it all, he claims God's strength and power in his life.

Before his conversion, Gerry was involved in drinking and tried to separate himself from family and friends. He had reached a very low point in his life; feeling that he just could not go on. He simply wanted to give up on life.

Around the same time his grandmother, Mrs. Olive Mercer invited him to come with her and her husband to attend a Sunday night church meeting, and he accepted. Each time he went thereafter, he felt a sense of peace and serenity, but wanted to remain unnoticed. However, some words from a Bible message really impacted his life. He realized that God didn't care about his background or his past mistakes, but he heard that God loved him just the way he was.

As Gerry listened, he was moved to go to the altar. As he knelt, he wept and prayed. He remembered the difficult times and the trials he had endured in his young life, but he gave it all to Jesus. At that very moment, he accepted Jesus as his personal Friend and Saviour.

From that moment, there was a desire in his heart to learn more about being a Christian and how he could serve God. He began to prove God's power and grace in his life. He testifies today to the fact that even during the tough times, God is with him. It's not easy being a Christian, as a teenage high school student, but it is well worth the effort.

He was particularly challenged by another Bible message delivered at a summer Open-Air Service. The speaker talked about his ministry to young people. Gerry felt God speaking to him again. He began to realize that he too could encourage other young people.

Just recently, Gerry attended a Men's Fellowship Camp at Camp Starrigan, near Musgravetown. Along with over 200 other men, Gerry enjoyed the Christian fellowship, the vibrant worship times, the personal testimonies of older men and especially the challenging messages from God's word. It proved to be a turning point in his life. Empowered by God's enabling grace, Gerry stood during one of the services and shared his own spiritual journey with these men.

He declared that he would give his whole life to God and he would be open and ready for God's direction. Gerry has been a great inspiration to all the congregation. In a recent Sunday evening service, Gerry was overjoyed to see two of his friends, whom he had brought to the meeting, kneel with him at the altar and claim salvation.

In his spare time, Gerry is a member of the Canadian Naval Reserves which is based at HMCS Cabot in St. John's.

Daily he thanks God for blessing his life and he very much appreciates the support and encouragement from his grandparents and members of the CBS Corps. He is determined to be a good soldier of Jesus Christ.



## LET GOD'S ARMY GROW!

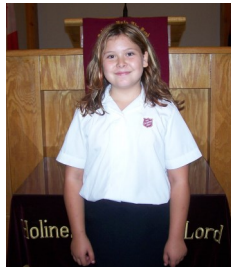
The town of Conception Bay South is one of the fastest growing communities in Newfoundland and Labrador. According to a 2006 statistic, the town boasts a population of almost 22,000 and experienced a growth rate of 11% between 2001 and 2006. Currently, CBS is the third largest population centre in our great Province.

The Salvation Army in CBS has been favorably affected by this expansion. In recent years, over 40 families have been welcomed to the Corps fellowship. In fact, according to a recent survey, CBS Corps ranked number 6, in the highest average attendance for Sunday morning worship in the whole Province. This has resulted in a 15% increase in personal financial giving.

During the past year, replacement windows on our Church property and extensive repairs to the parking lot have now been completed. Collapsible chairs have been purchased for the fellowship hall and very shortly, sanctuary chairs will also be replaced.

In striving to meet the varied needs of our growing congregation, Majors Wayne and Rosemary Green and the Corps Ministry Team seek to provide suitable programs for all ages. Women's Ministries, Men's Fellowship and Bible Studies have already commenced for another year. Children's Ministries continue on Sunday mornings and it is expected that over 60 young people will register for the successful Pioneer program. God's Army is growing. There is no age limit. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to come and share. CBS Corps is pleased that so many of the newcomers are Soldiers (official members) and proudly wear their Salvation Army uniform. Representative of the many families recently welcomed to our Corps are the following:

(L to R) Ethan Denny, Kendra Greenslade, Adam Harris, Marjorie Wade, and Arch Penney.



**Happy 58th Wedding Anniversary**  
**Walter and Maizie Bishop**  
**September 15th 2010.**



**Victor and Evelyn Howlett**  
**September 12th 1950-2010**

## Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to Victor and Evelyn on their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married at Corpus Christi Church. An open house was held in their honor. They were blessed with 10 children. Their children, 14 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren along with their families joined in the celebration. The CBS Corps family wish them many more years of health and happiness. God bless you both.



## Rally Day 2010



## Jungle Adventure



## Women's Ministries



The Home League welcomed all ladies to a Pot Luck dinner recently. "Sisters" was the theme. There was an opportunity to reveal their "Secret Sister" for the first time. They have an interesting program of events lined up for the coming year. All ladies are more than welcome to join them. (Wed. 8:00 pm)

## 50-Plus Group

The 50-Plus Group began the year with a visit to the historical Museum in Cupids (including a visit to the archeological dig site) and then enjoyed lunch at Cupids Haven. (Seen below) This is a unique Bed and Breakfast and Tea Room and was formerly the Anglican Church in that community. Quite a transformation!



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