



The Signal

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

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331 CBS Highway

Perspective

A Special Gift

What would you like for Christmas? How many times have we been asked that question! Then we begin to think about all the possibilities. Clothes? Jewelry? High powered tools? A dream vacation? Cool cash? Well, we can all dream, of course.

Isn't it true though, that only hours after we open those brightly colored gifts, the things we just couldn't wait to have, we are already thinking of something else we should have gotten. We are never satisfied.

Christmas really is about a gift, a special gift; Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Have you received that gift?

Romans 6:23 reminds us "....the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." And what is wrapped up in that gift? Forgiveness, love, peace, joy, contentment and eternal life. Surely, that is the greatest gift of all. That gift is ours, simply by asking.
Cora Dodge

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Majesty in a Manger



I don't know why I remember it so vividly, but a particular memory with bursts of surround sound and in vivid Technicolor fill my mind every Christmas. It is not a particularly outstanding event for an onlooker, but it is one that triggers an avalanche of nostalgia for me.

I was but a boy attending the Salvation Army elementary school in Gambo and we were preparing for the annual Christmas concert to be held in the Young People's

Hall up on the hill. Besides our recitations, our grade four class was charged with the privilege of singing 'Away In A Manger.' Every afternoon, our teacher would gather the class into formation and we rehearsed our parts and our carol. Every time we sang it, it seemed as if my whole being would be lost in the wonder of the words and the season. With each practice, it seemed as if the transformation from ordinary time to Christmas time became more and more complete.

Now, it was not only the meaning of The Manger that captivated me. It was the thought of mummers, purity syrup, Nan's dark Christmas cake, the cutting and decorating of the tree, the endless social gatherings and the family all home playing snakes and ladders, checkers and monopoly. It was about the green garland strung from one end of the room to the other with Christmas cards draped over it.

The evening of the Christmas concert arrived and we dressed in our Sunday best and headed to the finest gala of the year. The place was packed. Not a seat left in the place as someone pulled the ropes and parted the drapes on the stage.

And there we were. The grade four class, with as much joy and pomp as if we were singing Handel's Messiah, filling our little lungs and bursting into song. 'Away in a manger, no crib for a bed....'

When the singing was over, we moved off the stage to make room for the others. And soon, we were singing Jingle Bells, progressively louder and louder 'until Santa could hear' and he came into the room jumping and yelling Merry Christmas, ringing what looked an awful lot like the same bell we used at the school every day. Every child had a gift under the tree and was called individually. Mine was a hockey stick.

And then, it was over. We made our way home.

But it was not over - not really. Not ever over for me. The hockey stick is gone now. So is the Young People's Hall for that matter. But the song is not. Every year since then, whenever I sing 'Away In A Manger' I am lost in wonder. Wonder at the memories and wonder at the majesty of the truth of God, the very God, laying down His sweet head in, of all things, a manger. A chosen manger.

'I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky

And stay by my side until morning is nigh'

Barb and I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas this year. And may the mystery of the majesty in a manger captivate your hearts.

With Love and prayers
Lorne and Barb Pritchett
Majors

CBS Mayor Ken McDonald



May Joy be your gift at Christmas and may Faith, Hope and Love be your treasures in the New Year.

On behalf of myself and my fellow Councilors, may you and your family have a joyous Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year.



Congratulations to Solomon Okhifoh who graduated with his Masters in Technology Management Degree at a recent Convocation at Memorial University. His wife Dena, Joshua and Joseph, and all his family and friends are

very proud of his accomplishments. His Mom, who was visiting from Nigeria, was very happy to share in this event. Great job Solomon!



A group hug is shared by Major Lorne Pritchett and Pioneers, during a recent Awards Sunday service, as Major Lorne concluded his devotional message. It is encouraging to note that about 80 young

people, from ages 2 to young teenagers, meet weekly for fun, fellowship and instruction in life skills, and especially Biblical teaching. Thank you to the fine committed leadership team.

Operation Christmas Child



CBS Corps has done it again! Coralie Dodge, our local Church co-ordinator for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, is very pleased to announce that this year 422 boxes were col-

lected from our congregation and friends. That is about 116 more than we collected last year. Staff members from a number of businesses got together and challenged each other to 'pack a box' (see pictures on page 4). Mr. Cecil Mercer and his family prepared 31 boxes and many other families are accepting the challenge to make the packing of a shoebox a regular part of their Christmas traditions.



(Above: the Denny family and Ron Rowsell, Major Ralph Pilgrim and Wilfred Canning)

Thank you all for making a difference in the lives of many children.



Congratulations to MUN student Jordan Fewer (grandson of Winston and Dorreen Sparkes), who recently participated in a number of (8 and 10 kilometer) championship competitions, in Antigonish and Halifax, Nova Scotia, Moncton, New Brunswick and in Newfoundland and Labrador. In three of the competitions, he placed 1st place for the Memorial Seahawks and was named athlete of the week in each competition. He also placed 1st in the NLAA competition. Jordan has been an avid runner for about 4 years and continues to improve.

WELL DONE JORDAN!



Merry Christmas!
and a
Blessed New Year

Testimony—Michelle Hynes



Michelle Hynes was recently enrolled as a senior soldier at the CBS Corps. This personal commitment was another step on her spiritual journey.

She was raised in the small town of Catalina. At the age of 5, her parents separated and eventually, along with her sister and brother, became part of a blended family which included 7 children. As a child, Michelle and her sister attended church regularly and sang in the choir. Considering the change in their family structure, this was a big commitment for two little girls.

At the age of 12, Michelle's family moved to Bonavista, which meant a big adjustment for the children. Church attendance was soon forgotten, until Michelle married and decided to have her children, Adam (now 14) and Bethany (now 12) brought to the church for their christening. That was the only contact for a number of years.

However, just a few years into her marriage, Michelle felt drawn back to God, but did not know where to begin. Her marriage was struggling and she was searching for a church where she could feel at home and find fulfilment for herself and her children. At the same time, she began attending a new church, which had just opened under the administration of a family member. She and her children really enjoyed the fellowship and Michelle realized, for the first time, that she could pray directly to God herself, anytime and anywhere. She was also challenged by the Bible principle of tithing her resources to God.

Even though she was struggling financially, she made a commitment to follow through in this act of worship, trusting God to meet her needs. Shortly after this time, she and her husband separated, and she realized she was on her own, and responsible for the welfare of her 2 children.

However, in the months that followed, God did provide. She had prayed about finding a new affordable home and a secure job, to adequately provide for her family. God answered her prayers in miraculous ways.

In 2008, at the invitation of a dear friend, Michelle attended the Sunday service at The Salvation Army in CBS. She had shared with her friend about finding a home church where she would feel comfortable and accepted. Michelle testifies "thankfully, I found what I was looking for." Since that time, Michelle has become an official member of CBS Corps. Looking very much at ease in her Salvation Army uniform, Michelle sings with the worship team, helps with the youth programs and is a member of the Human Resources Board. Whenever she is needed Michelle is available to lend a helping hand.

She testifies that her struggles have made her stronger and she says "I will continue my journey with the Lord and I know He will continue to bless me and my family."

Meet the Dawe Family



CBs Corps warmly welcomes the Dawe family into our fellowship. In the photo are Michael and Melissa Dawe, with their three children Brandon and Alex and Kaitlyn sitting with her Dad. Melissa works at Glenbrook Lodge and Michael works with a local business. Melissa is originally from Dildo, and attended The Salvation Army in that community, while Mike grew up in CBS.

They enjoy spending time with their children, especially camping and sharing a movie. Mike enjoys hunting and fishing. Melissa was recently enrolled as a Senior soldier, and enjoys attending the Home League and helping with youth activities. The boys enjoy playing the guitar and Kaitlyn plays in the brass band. We are very happy to have them in our Corps family.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



Lt. Colonel Ralph Stanley, a valued, respected member of CBS Corps, will celebrate his birthday on December 31. His timely advice and words of wisdom are always refreshing and informative. His support to CBS is very much appreciated.

Happy 80th Birthday!
May God bless you always!

Christmas living is the best kind of Christmas giving.
Van Dyke



Jackie Williams and fellow staff members from Fortis Properties.



Dr. Jon Hynes and staff from Atlantic Wellness Center



GIRL'S SPA DAY

Arriving in comfy pyjamas and slippers, 19 young girls were made to feel special as they were pampered with nail painting. Great snacks, a movie about 'bullying' and super 'loot bags' and other treats were enjoyed by all. Thanks to Dena and her helpers for a great time!



Congratulations to Women's Ministries for another successful Fall Sale. With hard work, creative sale items and a delicious lunch, proceeds amounted to just over \$6000.00. Major Barb Pritchett (Right) and HLS Lydia Penney (3rd from Right) and all of the members express thanks and appreciation to all who helped in every way.

Christmas Ministry



CBS Corps will be involved in a number of activities in the coming weeks. They will

be standing by our 4 Christmas Cheer Kettles, (Wilson Brenton in photo) until Christmas Eve, preparing toy hampers

(see right) to needy families and helping the Community Care Ministries distribute over 650

Sunshine Bags to 27 homes for seniors, as well 2 large Care facilities.



WEE GEMS

Wee Gems Play Group is a new ministry at The for ages newborn to pre-school, it operates Wednesdays (bi-weekly) Salvation Army in Conception Bay South. Geared nesdays (bi-weekly) from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. The children play, sing, listen to stories and share a snack, while parents and caregivers get to know each other and share fellowship. For more information, you may contact Youth Co-ordinator Dena Okhifoh at 699 - 9374 or Ashley Harris at 765—8026.



Community Care Ministry members recently shared a Prayer Breakfast. Following the breakfast, a number of certificates were presented to members who had completed training for "In Care and Crisis" Major Lorne Pritchett made the presentations, as Zita Butler, Community Cares Ministry leader looks on (Back row, left) The CCM is a valued ministry at CBS Corps.

Remembrance Day Service

The Salvation Army 50 Plus group met during November and shared in a Remembrance Day service led by Majors Winston and Cora Dodge. Legion members, Henry and Doreen Hart from CBS Branch # 50 were invited to share in the service and lay a wreath. Following the service, everyone enjoyed a time of fellowship and lunch.



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