



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

“... but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint

~Isaiah 40 :31

The Ottawa Citadel Contact

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Pastoral Ponderings



“Behold, I am making all things new” (Rev. 21: 5)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



2026 gives us another opportunity to embrace God’s ongoing work in our lives, emphasizing His power to redeem brokenness, provide hope beyond current suffering, and bring ultimate restoration to creation, by contrasting the old world’s pain with the **NEW** heaven and earth.

Look at what God longs to do:

- **God’s Sovereignty** – The One on the throne is in control, declaring He is making things new, ensuring His promises are faithful and true.
- **Hope & Restoration** – God isn’t just fixing things; He’s creating a new reality where the old order of pain and death is gone, giving ultimate hope.
- **Newness** – While looking forward to the new heaven/earth, believers also experience glimpses of this newness now – healing, new joys, and fresh starts as God redeems current hurts.
- **Redemption** – God’s newness redeems brokenness, bringing strength and purpose from past suffering, rather than simply forgetting it.
- **Call to Trust** – The promise encourages faith that what seems hopeless now can be transformed, inviting us to give God right-of-way to bring change.
 - Where do you most need God to make things new in your life this New Year?
 - Ask God to step into your situation and transform it, **giving you a fresh start.**
 - Believe that God’s future promise overshadows present difficulties, offering unexpected miracles and second chances.
 - Are you embracing the “new” by taking up your cross and following Christ, or are you clinging to the “old”?

Prayer – Gracious God, Thank you for your continuous offering of refreshment and renewal, not just once a year but every moment of every day. Your never-ending love and forgiveness are my source of comfort and strength. I trust this New Year to You. Amen.

*Major Gerry Cory, Corp Officer
Corps Officer,
Ottawa Citadel*

Still More Biblical Verses About Prayer

Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

John 15:7 - If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Mark 11:24 - Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Romans 8:26 - Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Matthew 6:6 - But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Matthew 26:41 - Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Ephesians 6:18 - Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

Psalms 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

As Seen on the iBelieve website.

Recent Promotions to Glory from Ottawa Citadel



Donna Verhey

Beloved wife of the late John, Donna was Promoted to Glory on December 7th. She was the beloved mother of Shawn (Christine), Major Erin, Miriam (Jay), Brendan, Megan (Jeff), and was predeceased by daughter, Kelly. Donna also loved her sixteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren with a passion. Donna was a Songster, singing in the soprano section. Over the years, Donna loved working with children in the Corps and the community and was a good friend to many. She will be deeply missed at both Ottawa Citadel and the Barrhaven Corps. Our prayers and support of the Verhey family go out to them as we ask God to bring them comfort.

A Celebration of Life for Donna was held at Ottawa Citadel on Sunday, December 21st at which a large number of her friends and colleagues gathered to pay tribute to a dear friend, parent, grandparent or grandparent.

Madeline Elliott



Madeline Elliott was Promoted to Glory on December 12th at the age of 93 years. She was predeceased by her husband William (Bill). Madeline was the loving mother of Sheila Lurette and William Jr. (Willie) as well as grandmother to five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Madeline was proud of her Newfoundland heritage and the sense of humour that came as part and parcel of that special characteristic of so many of her comrades from the “Rock”.

At Ottawa Citadel, Madeline was part of the ladies’ group called the Home League. The editor will miss her feisty retort when I used to tease her: “Just let me get you to the Rock me son and I’ll trow you in de hocean!” Her love of life and strong values learned in Newfoundland will be greatly missed by all of us.

Please pray for the family and friends of these special people. While we rejoice in their promotion to a special place reserved for all Believers in Christ. Nonetheless, we still have to come to grips with the loss each of us feels when a person special to us is no longer with us. Corporate and personal supportive prayer helps.

WORD SEARCH

Instructions: The words are found in all directions; vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forward and backward.

H	Y	F	R	T	S	A	P	C	K	R	R	C	P	L	E	T	R	L
H	R	F	B	A	V	D	J	T	M	T	H	S	Q	L	B	H	K	X
E	T	B	L	T	X	T	T	O	L	L	N	D	N	E	R	B	A	M
R	C	Z	N	K	N	F	A	W	S	E	U	O	O	W	Q	A	T	N
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M	E	V	A	N	G	E	L	I	N	E	Y	U	N	N	Y	L	J	N

TYPES OF BOOTHS

BALLINGTON	KATE
BOOTH HOME	KISSING
BRAMWELL	LUCY
CARNIVAL	MARION
CATHERINE	PHOTO
CONFESSION	RESTAURANT
EMMA	SHIRLEY
EVANGELINE	SOUND
EXHIBITION	TELEPHONE
HERBERT	TOLL
ISOLATION	VOTING
JOHN WILKES	WILLIAM

Celebrate with Our People

BIRTHDAYS:

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

ANNIVERSARIES:

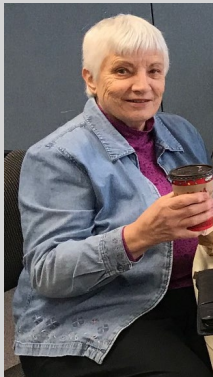
JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

(Names will be omitted for the web page issue for security and privacy reasons. If you would like to have your name included in the special events, please let Jim Ferguson know.)

Women's Virtual Fellowship News



Marlene Hope
(Leader of the
Women's
Virtual
Fellowship)

DETAILS & FACTS ABOUT THE "WVF"

We are a group of ladies who are very thankful to have this opportunity to meet and fellowship together.

This past year we contributed to the following service projects and plan to continue in 2026 :

- A. WE MET OUR ANNUAL COMMITMENT TO THE SALVATION ARMY BRIGHTER FUTURES PROJECT.
- B. WE SUPPORTED THE TERRITORIAL WOMEN'S PROJECT.
- C. WE MADE DONATIONS TO BOTH *THE OTTAWA FOOD BANK* AND *THE BOOTH CENTRE* TO SUPPORT NEEDS IN OUR CITY.
- D. FOR THE 10TH YEAR, WE SENT CHRISTMAS CARDS TO OUR CANADIAN ARMED FORCES MEMBERS SERVING OVERSEAS. THIS YEAR THERE WERE 3,000 CANADIAN TROOPS AT CHRISTMAS.

All Ladies are Welcome to Join Us – Wednesdays at Noon!

Here's How :

Call Toll Free: 1-855-703-8985

Meeting ID: 991 6312 7351

Pass Code: 1350

Deanna's Sunday Bible Study Feasts on the Word and



Left: The Bible Study group was hosted by Rey and Monika with a feast to celebrate the Christmas closure of the session. Delicious!



Left: To open the season's session of Bible Studies, a "Pot-Blessing" Dinner was held at the Corps. The theme of the studies for this term will be "*Spiritual Warfare*".

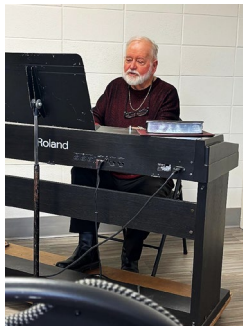
All are welcome to join in the studies. They are held at approximately 1:30 pm after the Sunday Worship Service.

Review of Some Happenings Leading Up to Christmas

The Seniors' Luncheon On November 20th

The Theme of the Seniors' Gathering was *Good 'Ole Army*.

Everyone had a good time, enjoying a delicious meal, seeing our leaders in vintage attire and lots of fun. Here some photos courtesy of Ruth and Jane:



A Few More Reflections on Our Remembrance Day Service



Additional Reviews of Pre-Christmas Events

Pictures of the Youth Christmas Program



We thank the young people and their leaders for the new look and sounds presented of the manger scene. The costumes were attractive and the singing was delightful.

Dedication Of Baby Dorothy on December 14th



The role of parents in their child's development is very special when they pledge to commit their parenting to God.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ONE DAY ON NEPTUNE IS ONLY 16 HOURS LONG, WHILE ONE DAY ON EARTH IS 24 HOURS LONG.
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRDS FLAP THEIR WINGS 200 TIMES PER SECOND.

Attendance Numbers

In-Person Attendance / U-Tube

Sunday, Nov.	2	125	/	305
Sunday, Nov.	9	130	/	232
Sunday, Nov.	16	101	/	244
Sunday, Nov.	23	124	/	189
Sunday, Nov.	30	110	/	278
Sunday, Dec.	7	105	/	151
Sunday, Dec.	7 (Concert)		/	408
Sunday, Dec.	14	121	/	187
Sunday, Dec.	14 (concert)		/	737
Sunday, Dec.	21	124	/	189
Wed., Dec.	24	135	/	152
Sunday, Dec.	28	107	/	199
Sunday, Jan.	4	105	/	132
Sunday, Jan.	11	99	/	131

UPDATE
on
BUILDING ISSUES

Your Building Advisory Committee (BAC) has not met recently but there are a number of issues that will require attention soon (Some sooner than others.). Below is a list of some of these concerns:

- Planned replacement of the remaining original HV/AC units.
- Replacement of the front sign.
- Resurfacing the parking lot.

Income Comparison 2025 vs 2024

January - December 2025		January - December 2024
General Account	242,641.00	235,872.00
YP	33,917.00	23,675.00
PIM	16,905.00	13,961.00
Total	293,463.00	273,508.00

- Good News:** 7% increase in overall giving.
- 1. Significant increase in YP income attributable to support for the paid Youth Director
 - 2. Increase in PIM allowing us to we meet our 2025 Goal

Bad News: Salaries, utilities and other expenses continue to increase and Officers Compensation will increase significantly in 2026

- Operating Position at 31 December 2025:**
- Number of days of Working Capital/ working Capital required = 90
 - Number of days of Working Capital at 31 December = 149
 - Excess Working Capital over minimum required = 59

Yet More Memories of Pre-Christmas Events

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Photos courtesy of Ruth

The Ghost of Christmas Past?

THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST?



..... and what should appear in the Gym of the Corps but a gaggle of lawn ornaments that has been known to frequent the lawn of the Linklater Home! *On Mover! On Anchor! On Extension Cord and Hydro Meter too! ...*

But I heard them exclaim ere they drove out of sight, Merry Christmas to Geoff and to all a Good Night!!

AHA! THERE IS YET MORE TO THE STORY AT THE BOTTOM OF PAGE9



Then one foggy Christmas Eve, Santa came to say, "Oh My! Did These Elves Lose the Instructions Again?" (or, something like that!) I think they were looking for a *mountain!*

Songs We Sing in The Salvation Army



Thus far in our series on our choral music in our worship services, we have focused on Salvation Army composers. In the next few articles, we will switch our attention to another major contributor to our singing repertoire. This amazing evangelist has written roughly 40 of the 1041 songs in our ‘Song Book of The Salvation Army’. Isn’t that amazing?

Many of you will already know that Charles Wesley is the person in question.

In fact, Charles Wesley wrote more than 6,000 hymns throughout his life. He was born in 1707 in Epworth, England to a family of eighteen children. Throughout his life, Charles was very close to one of his brothers, John who started his life in the Anglican Church but, in his early ministry, he carried on with worship patterns that began in university in groups that Charles joined as well. These were the roots of what is now the Methodist Church. Indeed, Charles wrote many of the hymns as accompaniment and support for John’s sermons.

Richard Stetler II in *Newstart Discipleship* made the following summation:

Charles Wesley was an incredibly prolific hymn writer for Methodism, creating over 6,500 hymns, including beloved classics like “Christ the Lord is risen Today,” “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling,” “And Can It Be,” and “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing,” all known for their deep theological content and emotional power, forming core parts of Christian worship today.

His Legacy: >Wesley’s hymns, often set to traditional tunes, emphasized personal experience, grace and the practical application of faith, significantly shaping Methodist liturgy and broader Protestant worship.

>He collaborated with his brother, John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, to produce hymns that captured the movement’s fervent spirit

Here is a list of some of Charles Wesley’s most esteemed hymns. (The five NOT in our Song Book are in a red font.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. “Arise, My Soul, Arise” | 14. “Jesus, The Name High Over All” |
| 2. “And Can It Be That I Should Gain”? | 15. “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending” |
| 3. “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” | 16. “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” |
| 4. “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” | 17. “O for a Heart to Praise My God” |
| 5. “A Charge to Keep I Have” | 18. “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” |
| 6. “I Want a Principle Within” | 19. “O Thou Who Camest from Above” |
| 7. “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies” | 20. “Rejoice, the Lord is King” |
| 8. “Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown” | 21. “Soldiers of Christ, Arise” |
| 9. “Depth of Mercy, Can It Be” | 22. “Sun of Unclouded Righteousness” |
| 10. “Father, I Stretch My Hands to Thee” | 23. “Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose” |
| 11. “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” | 24. “Ye Servants of God” |
| 12. “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” | 25. “Come Holy Spirit, Our Hearts Inspire” |
| 13. “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” | 26. “Rock of Ages” |



The People Page – meeting members of our congregation

When asked how he came to attend Ottawa Citadel, Samuel replied that he came with his family to our Corps in 2019 because they knew a few people who were attending this church. That made it easier to join in with our Corps people. Sam explained that he grew up in

America and then came to Ottawa when he was in grade 11. After spending two years at St. Patrick High School, Sam was accepted at Carleton University, majoring in Computer Engineering. He recently graduated in 2025.

Switching to his history in Banding, Sam explained that, when he was 8 years old, he picked up a cornet but his instructor told him that the cornet was not the instrument for him. Instead, the instructor switched him to Euphonium. At first, Sam didn't like the Euphonium because it was so heavy to lug around. After I played it for a while and began to adapt to it, I began to enjoy it and felt it was the best for me.

In response to a question about what he enjoyed most about Ottawa Citadel, Sam replied that he enjoyed the fellowship and the camaraderie as well as the opportunity to minister to the congregation every Sunday playing with the Band.

When asked to share a little about his faith walk, Sam responded in a manner reflecting his spiritual relationship with God. He shared that growing up, he'd always been involved in church – sometimes four times a week. He said, "I always felt connected with Christ but during Covid, it wasn't easy because I wasn't going to church. I felt I was losing my way. But, one day after church had recently opened my heart to Jesus and began to grow my faith again.

In looking to the future, Sam stated that he did have plans, but one was definitely to continue growing his faith. Another goal is to find a job to align with what he is looking for in the tech field. Finally, Sam says what he does hope is to grow as a person and to better himself in ways he hadn't yet done before.

Thank you for sharing your background, growth in Christ and plans for the future, Sam. I'm certain that you can count on the prayers and support from the folks at Ottawa Citadel.



JANUARY, 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 *FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship	29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE	1 NEW YEARS DAY	2	3
4 *WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship *BIBLE STUDY LUNCHEON	5	6	7 *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	8 *MLLB Reh. Resumes 7:00 pm PM	9	10 JAS
11 * SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship	12 <i>LEGACY BRASS 7:00 pm</i>	13 * SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	14 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 PM *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	15 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	16	17 *FAMILY FELLOWSHIP
18 *WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship	19 <i>LEGACY CHORUS 7:00 pm</i>	20 * SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	21 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 PM *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	22 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	23	24 JAS
25 *WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship	26 <i>LEGACY BRASS 7:00 pm</i>	27 *ROYAL CONSERVATORY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM * SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	28 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 PM *ROYAL CONSERVATORY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	29 *ROYAL CONSERVATORY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm	30 **ROYAL CONSERVATORY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM	31

PLEASE NOTE: There is a time of Prayer in the Fellowship Room prior to the Sunday Worship Service

FEBRUARY, 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 *WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship	2 <i>LEGACY CHORUS</i> 7:00 pm	3 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	4 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 PM *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	5 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	6	7 *JAS *WINTER WEEKEND
8 *WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship *WINTER WEEKEND	9 <i>LEGACY BRASS</i> 7:00 pm	10 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	11 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 PM *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	12 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	13	14 <i>VALENTINE'S DAY</i>
15 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 AM *Coffee & Fellowship	16 <i>LEGACY CHORUS</i> 7:00 pm	17 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	18 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 PM *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	19 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm	20	21 JAS
22 *WORSHIP SERVICE *Coffee & Fellowship	23 <i>LEGACY BRASS</i> 7:00 pm	24 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	25 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 PM *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	26 *SENIORS' LUNCHEON 12:00 PM *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm	27	28 FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

PLEASE NOTE: There is a time of Prayer in the Fellowship Room prior to the Sunday Worship Service

MARCH, 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 *WORSHIP SERVICE – 11:00 AM *Coffee & Fellowship	2 <i>LEGACY</i> <i>CHORUS</i> 7:00 PM	3 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	4 WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 NOON *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	5 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	6	7
8 *WORSHIP SERVICE – 11:00 am *CORPS	9 * <i>LEGACY</i> <i>BRASS</i> 7:00 PM	10 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	11 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 NOON *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	12 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	13	14 JAS
15 * SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE	16 * <i>LEGACY</i> <i>CHORUS</i> 7:00 PM	17 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	18 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 NOON *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	19 *SENIORS' LUNCHEON 12:00 PM *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	20	21
22 *WORSHIP SERVICE – 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship	23 * <i>LEGACY</i> <i>BRASS</i> 7:00 PM		25 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 NOON *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	26 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	27	28 JAS
29 *SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am *Coffee & Fellowship	30 * <i>LEGACY</i> <i>CHORUS</i> 7:00 PM	31 SONGSTER & BAND REHEARSALS 7:15 PM	1 *WOMEN'S VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP 12:00 NOON *ORLEANS BIBLE STUDY	2 *MLLB Reh. 7:00 pm PM	3	4

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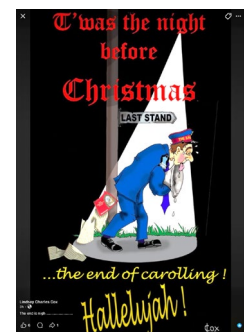
Humour of Lindsay Cox and Friends



The Little Drummer Boy ... and his friends



Christmas Carolling and the descent of Man ... er, Bandsman



For just a moment, the Bandmaster thought the trombone was in tune !

**A Brief Backward Glance
at Christmas Caroling
Past!**

ENJOY THESE VINTAGE PHOTOS!



A humorous look at the Army

Lindsay Charles Cox
2h · 🌐

Ten years ago the then Editor-in-Chief, June Koop decided to continue the brilliant penmanship of Gordon Main with the brush strokes of Lindsay Cox. The result was three booklets giving a humorous look at the Army through the silly poems by Gordon and the cartoons by Lindsay.

The same Christmas activity in Canada as in Australia has some difficulty in defining "same".