“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

~ John 1:14

It is hard to believe that Christmas is only a few days away. For Salvationists it is always a very busy time of year. It can be quite easy to get caught up in the busyness of kettles, concerts, pageants, bazaars and such.

In the busyness of the season we hope that you would find a quiet moment to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas. Take some time to once again ponder the greatest gift ever given, the Christ Child.

A sincere thank you to each of you for the many ways that you support the corps and its various Christmas efforts. It is greatly appreciated.

Our prayer for you this Christmas is that,

You would be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child.

Merry Christmas!

Captains Jeff & Graciela
Gabriela, Joshua, Graciela & Josiah
THE ENGLISH CHRISTMAS: ORIGINS, CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

Allan Bacon

The fascinating series, “Tales of a Traveling Teacher” will be postponed for two issues to permit an historical look at the development of the celebration of Christmas in England.

Part 2

Christmas is characterized by many symbols. The star on the top of the Christmas tree refers to the star of Bethlehem, the star that guided the Wise Men, and is a sign of God's promise to the world. The tree lights and candles symbolize Christ as the light of the world. Sugar canes represent the shepherds’ crook which helps to bring back lost sheep to the fold, and are a reminder that shepherds were the first to hear the glad tidings. The angels of course announced Jesus’ birth. The Christmas wreath reminds us of the real nature of love and is circular, never ending, just as God’s love has no beginning or end. Holly represents immortality, the red berries a reminder of the blood shed on the cross.

Father Christmas (Santa Claus) appears to have originated from two traditions. One tradition begins in the 4th century with St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in modern Turkey, who died in AD 340. He had a reputation for kindness and generosity. He became the patron saint of Russia and was depicted in a red cape, a flowing white beard and wearing a bishop’s mitre. By the 12th century an official church holiday was created in his honour across Europe. The legend of St. Nicholas was kept alive in Holland, where Dutch children left their wooden shoes by the fireplace and if they had been good they were rewarded with sweets left in their shoes. Dutch colonists brought this tradition to America in the 17th century. The other tradition originates in England where Father Christmas was part of an old English midwinter festival. He was dressed in green, a sign of returning spring, and was known as Sir Christmas, Old Winter or Old Father Christmas. He did not bring gifts, but wandered house to house, knocking on doors and feasting with families before moving on to the next house. The description of our modern Santa Claus derives from an American poem written in 1822.

On Christmas Eve children believe that Santa visits with gifts. Before going to bed they leave out mince pies and brandy (or…?) for Santa and a carrot for his reindeer. Since the 1870’s children have hung up a stocking at the end of their bed, or a bag or pillow case, or a stocking along the mantelpiece above the fireplace, in which Santa can place their gifts. A tradition is that once Santa dropped some gold coins while coming down the chimney and these were caught in a stocking that was hanging up to dry, otherwise the coins would have been lost in the ash grate. Many of these traditions began in Victorian times, for example the sending of Christmas cards was added to the celebrations (1843) and Christmas crackers (with paper hats and small gifts included) (1847.)

Carol singing began in the Middle Ages when beggars, seeking food, money and drink would wander the streets singing holiday songs. The word ‘carol’ comes from the Greek ‘choros’ (dancing in a circle) or from the French ‘carole’ (a song to accompany dancing.)

An alms box was placed in every church on Christmas Day. Worshippers placed money in it for the poor of the parish. Boxing Day was the traditional day when the Christmas box in churches was opened to share the contents with the poor. In the days of sailing ships, when a ship was setting off to explore, a small box was placed on the ship by a priest. Crew members who wanted to ensure a safe return would put money in it and then it was sealed and kept for the entire voyage. On return, it was given to the priest who then opened it on Boxing Day and distributed the contents to the poor. In earlier days many poorly paid workers had to work on Christmas Day and were allowed to take the following day off to visit families. As they left, employers would often give them Christmas boxes. In the late 18th century lords and ladies of the manor would ‘box up’ their leftover food, sometimes with a gift, and distribute them the day after Christmas to tenants who lived and worked on their lands. Today it is customary to give a small gift or money to regular visiting trades people or a bonus to employees.

High Tech?

Now that Christmas Kettle money is being counted daily, counting and rolling coins is a big job. On December 3rd, alone, it was $1,195. The sorter/counter is a very effective tool but if the coin containers fall out, the coins go everywhere!
The section “Advent and the Birth of Jesus” in our Song Book lists 36 songs appropriate for singing during the Christmas season. Fourteen of these songs are new to the 2015 edition of the Song Book and as such would be relatively unknown to most of our congregation. The “older” songs, however, contain the usual classics, such as *Silent Night; Away in a Manger; O come all ye faithful*, for example; classics that have stood the test of time and are as accepted today as they were generations ago.

The carol we look at in this article, *Joy to the World the Lord is come*, song #113, is certainly one of the classic Christmas carols. It was first published in 1719 which makes it the second oldest of our carols (only *While shepherds watched their flocks by night* was published earlier).

The words of *Joy to the World* were written by legendary hymn writer Isaac Watts who is universally accepted as the father of Christian hymn singing as we know it today. Interestingly for a song that would go on to be a favourite Christmas carol, Watts did not write the hymn as a Christmas song, but simply as a lyrical adaptation of Psalm 98. Nonetheless, it became, arguably, the best-known and most frequently used Christmas carol of all time and its popularity remains to this day. One writer claims “as of the late 20th century, *Joy to the World* was the most-published Christmas hymn in North America”. In another rating of carols, “the top twenty most-published Christmas hymns”, it receives an index of 1,378 listings, compared with *Hark the Herald Angels* a distant second at 974, *While Shepherds watched* at 800 and *Silent Night* at 452.

*Joy to the World* is also one of the most recorded Christmas carols of all time, starting with a recording in 1911 by The Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge University and continuing in more recent years by recording artists such as Andy Williams, The Supremes, Bing Crosby, Ella Fitzgerald, Johnny Cash, Nat King Cole, Neil Diamond, Pat Boone, Perry Como, Bill & Gloria Gaither. The Mormon Tabernacle Choir also recorded the carol.

Perhaps the continuing popularity of the carol reflects its emphasis on the timeless message it portrays, making it suitable for singing at any time in the Christian year. Unlike most carols, it uses only the present tense of verbs: “..the Lord is come”; “..the Saviour reigns”; “He rules the world”.

The original hymn written by Watts contained four verses. One of them, with a language that would not be completely appreciated by modern audiences, no longer appears in hymnals.

Our Song Book text for the carol is as follows:

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
   Let earth receive her King,  
   Let every heart prepare Him room  
   And Heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;  
   Let men their songs employ,  
   While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
   Repeat the sounding joy.

3. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
   And makes the nations prove  
   The glories of his righteousness  
   And wonders of his love.
WORD SEARCH
Jo-Anne Droogh

Instructions: The words are found in all directions; vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forward and backward. The letters that remain will make a word or phrase.

AFRAID
ANGEL
APEARED
BABY
BETHLEHEM
BIRTH
BORN
CLOTHS
COMPANY
DAVID
FAVOUR
FIRSTBORN
GALILEE
GOOD
HEAVENLY
HOST
JOY
JUDEA
LORD
MESSIAH
NAZARETH
NEWS
PEACE
PEOPLE
PRAISING
REST
SAVIOUR
SHONE
SIGN
TODAY
TOWN
WRAPPED

What Verse is This?

This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and …

BOOK: ____________ CHAPTER: ________ VERSE: ________ (See Page 8 for Answer)

CELEBRATE WITH OUR PEOPLE

BIRTHDAYS:

DECEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

JANUARY

JANUARY

Please Note: Personal information is removed from our web site version of the Contact.
WOMEN’S MINISTRIES REPORT
(by Irene Briggs)

November 7th: Today, we honoured our Veterans. A table of honour contained photos of our loved ones, lost in either WW1 or WW11. Each relative told the story of their demise. Later, Len Goddard played a moving rendition of the Last Post and the Reveille.

November 14th: Cathy Goddard visited with us. Her music always lifts our spirits as we sing gospel songs, accompanied by her guitar playing. Cathy always shows us a video of what our donation has accomplished for her mission in Granada.

November 21st: It was the turn of the Women’s Ministries to take care of the Kettle Drive for the day. We had a good response in all five of our locations.

November 28th: Women’s Ministries members were invited to a Christmas Tea at the Bethany Hope Centre. The programme included Christmas carols, provided by two singers who were part of the Bridge Builders musical group. Shari gave a demonstration of how to make three stunning Christmas wreaths and had kits available for sale. We enjoyed not only the tea but also the warm fellowship.

December 5th: Our programme was about Helping the Homeless, and our speaker was Marilyn Box, a Board of Directors member for the Cornerstone Housing for Women. This organization helps women to build a meaningful life and eventually move out and become independent. Cornerstone has been in service for thirty years and has seen an increase in the number of homeless women in this city rocket up to 915 women per year. Cornerstone provides emergency and safe, affordable, permanent housing for approximately six hundred of them. Our Women’s Ministries was able to donate many useful items.

December 12th: It was a lovely surprise to walk into the Fellowship Room and see the beautifully decorated walls and tables in a Christmas theme. Thanks to the kitchen ladies who did this and also spent much time in creating delicious appetizers and punch. We all enjoyed the turkey and the delectable side dishes. Desserts followed: a chocolate and cream trifle and a mini-Christmas pudding with custard. Carols came next with Captain Graciela playing the piano enhanced by the bass voices of the four men who joined us for lunch. The lunch was well attended and peace and harmony presided.

All ladies are welcome to attend and participate in the Women’s Ministries meetings which take place on Wednesdays at noon. Bring your own bag lunch and tea and coffee will be provided. Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 9th, 2019.
Photos of Recent Events at Ottawa Citadel

Senior Band Ensemble in Help Santa Toy Parade – November 17th

In the Centre, the Focus of the Parade so far as the Children are Concerned - Santa Claus – Flanked on Either Side by the Band Ensemble

~ Photos, Courtesy of Bob Argent

The Window Replacement Began on November 19th in the Kitchen

The New Kitchen Window Frame Stands Ready in the Gym

The Workman Makes One Last Measurement of the Window Opening

The Window Frame is Carried to the Kitchen for Installation

A Surprise Visitor Dropped in on the Joint Festival of Carols Rehearsal on November 20th

Roger Simmons, former MP from Newfoundland and Formerly a Member of Ottawa Citadel Band Dropped in as Part of his Book Signing Tour

Roger Presents a Copy of His Book, “The Man in the Arena: From Railway Brat to Diplomat” to CSM Linda
Commissioner Susan McMillan, Territorial Commander, will address the Canada and Bermuda Territory live from territorial headquarters in Toronto on January 10, 2019. Tune in at 11 a.m. EST to learn about what happened during 2018 and the plans for the year ahead.

Livestream at Salvationist.ca/newyearaddress

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSAL**

**Christmas Pageant 2018**

**WE THREE SPIES**

Sunday, December 16th

This year’s Christmas Pageant is called, *We three Spies*. Kathy McDormand has worked hard with the young people with the help of David Nku, Ann Hardman, Brian Fisher-Smith, and Lucette. Pattie Harvey assisted with costumes and Michael Van Gulik is looking after the tech needs.

Be sure to support the young people and their leaders in prayer and by your enthusiastic attendance on Sunday, December 16th.
ATTENDANCE NUMBERS
-Courtesy – Len Goddard -

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<td>Sunday, Dec 9</td>
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DID YOU KNOW?

CONGRATULATIONS!
The chairman of our Building Advisory Committee, David Lapp, has been recognized by his peers in the engineering community by being awarded The Ontario Professional Engineers Awards (OPEA) Engineering Excellence Medal.

We extend our sincere congratulations to David on this honor and express our appreciation to him for his leadership of the BAC.

SOLUTION TO WORD SEARCH

Luke 2:12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

UPDATE on BUILDING ISSUES

The Building Advisory Committee has not met since September due to the extended absence of our chair, David Lapp, but the BAC will meet early in the new year. In the meantime, a number of issues have been addressed or are in the process of being addressed. The following will provide an overview of what has been taking place:

- **Window Replacement** – See page 6 of the Contact for pictures of the workmen preparing to install the windows over the sink in the Kitchen. This is the final step in the program to replace all the windows from the original construction that had not yet been replaced. The difference will be felt most especially in the Fellowship Room where the air was blowing through the frame and the window openers had seized up. Our thanks to CSM Linda for heading this project up.
- A related project to the first is deciding on new window coverings for the new windows. The mechanisms on the old blinds had seized up and no longer worked. On December 7th, two companies displayed the materials they have and provided estimates of the cost of the installation. David and Gwen Holland researched the alternatives available and arranged for the companies to visit the Corps. Thank you.
- **After the tornados struck Ottawa in October causing extensive power outages, we discovered that the sign at the front of the building began to flicker and then went totally black. Apparently, a power surge occurred following the restoration of electricity which burnt the connections in the sign. Thanks to a generous interpretation of the term “warranty” by Waterman Sales, new LED strips, drivers and other equipment were replaced at no cost to Ottawa Citadel and installed for a favorable price by Jestek Electric.
- Other matters still to be moved forward by the BAC include detailing the emergency exit procedures and plans for the Corps; planning and designing an upgrade to the front of the Sanctuary including new pulpit, tables and Mercy Seat; retrofitting the basement at the Officers’ quarters to provide additional living space for the family of six.

On behalf of the members of the Ottawa Citadel Building Advisory Committee, we wish the Corps Family a truly Blessed Christmas and a Wonderful 2019!

David Lapp (chair)  CSM Linda Colwell  Captain Jeff Arkell  Paula & Greg Christiansen

David Holland  Mike Michaud  Jim Ferguson
Remembrance Day Service at Ottawa Citadel

On November 11th, our worship service began at 10:45 am in order to synchronize the traditional Last Post/Reveille, Readings and Wreath Laying with the significant 11:00 signing of the treaty to end the First World War. This being the 100th anniversary of that event was even more important. Allan Bacon led the full morning’s worship service with a fully-researched historical message on the theme, “Remembrance 100 Years On – Have We Kept Faith?”
Pauline Reads Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

The Memorial Wreath in its Place

As Part of the Children's Story, Allan asks CSM Linda to Stand so the Youngsters Can See her Medals and Allan Explains the History of the Victoria Cross

Left: Allan Shows Children a Picture of a Lancaster Bomber and Tells the Moving Story about Andrew Mynarski, V.C.
Centre: Songsters Sing In Flanders Field
Right: Allan Challenges the Congregation with "Have We Kept Faith?"

Allan Wraps Up His Message

Corporal Damen with His Mom, Diane

Richard is Very Proud of His Little Gal

IN FLANDERS FIELDS POEM
The World's Most Famous WAR MEMORIAL POEM
By Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae

The poem was composed at the battlefront on May 3, 1915 during the second battle of Ypres, Belgium. It was written after McCrae's close friend and former student, Alexis Helmer was killed by a German bomb the previous day.

We are the dead: Short days ago,
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved: and now we lie
In Flanders fields!

Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

(Source, Flanders Fields Music)
Ottawa Citadel Christmas Bazaar – November 17th

This year’s annual Christmas Bazaar was a departure from bazaars of previous years in that it was set up as a Corps event rather than the sole responsibility of the ladies of the Women’s Fellowship. This had advantages for the whole Corps. After expenses, the Bazaar raised more than $2,000. Well done, CSM Linda, Jo-Anne, Joanne and the various leaders and volunteers.

THERE WAS LOTS TO SEE (and buy!) IN THE GYM

Teri had Beautiful Hand-Made Quilts for Sale

Young Volunteers were Put to Work Selling Jars of Baking Materials Complete with Instructions

Ruth had Mary Kay Cosmetics on Sale

It was Great to See Gay back in Circulation! Here, Chatting with Captain Graciela

Marthe at the Gently Used Table

Veronica is Enjoying the Bazaar

Trinette Admires Lorna’s Knitted Goods

Welcome to the Bazaar, Ladies!

Carol Looks Through the Sale Items

Ruth with Delicious Baked Goods

One Never Knows Whom You will Meet at the Bazaar!

Katie and James Among Many Young People Who Volunteered to Help at the Bazaar

Shoppers Looking Over the Goods for Sale

John and Esther Examine the Silent Auction Articles
MORE ON THE BAZAAR

Kath and Pauline Having a Good Time

Helga Looks After the Money

Left: The Ladies Serve the Lunch While on the Right: The Ladies Prepare and Serve Up the Plates in the Kitchen

Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town!

Kids, Young and ... Younger ... Enjoyed a Visit to Santa.

... and a Merry Christmas to You and Yours! God Bless
Pictures from November 18th

Some Members of the Ottawa Citadel Timbrel Brigade Rehearse with the Band to Establish Tempos in a Christmas March for Centrepoinete Theatre

Pictures of the Dedication of Lael and Danick

Capt. Jeff Introduces Gaston, Hyacinth & Family as Brian Holds the Flag

Lael Looks Very Pleased about the Whole Event

Capt. Jeff Pronounces the Charge to the Parents as Brian Looks On

Above: Dad, Gaston Holds Danick
Below: Hyacinth Looks at the Dedication Certificate as Dad and Danick Look On

Above: One Cake Each in Honour of the Dedication of Lael (Top) and Danick (Bottom)
Pictures from Sunday, November 25th

Wasn’t it Great to See Gay Well Enough to Tell the Children’s Story with the Assistance of Lamb Chop – much to the Delight of the Kids

Emma Plays a Beautiful Piano Selection for the Offertory Under Lorna’s Watchful Eye (Her Teacher)

Judith Spent Some Time with the Morning Coffee

Laura, Adriana and Fernando Get a Great Family Shot

Well, Jay, “How’s Married Life?”

Pictures from Sunday, December 2nd

The First Sunday of Advent

Rosemary, Owen and Kyra Do the Readings and Light the “HOPE” Candle

JAMES to the RESCUE!
At the end of the Meeting, the Closing Congregational Song was an Enthusiastic Singing of “The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy”. Captain Jeff got David and Melissa to do Some Spiritual Dancing but Isabelle Covered Her Ears until James Brought some Maracas into Play.
The Ottawa Citadel Band is Always Busy at Christmas!

Many People Complain about How Busy They are at Christmas with all the Shopping, Decorating and Meal Preparations that Make it so Difficult to Keep Their Schedules Working. Keep in Mind that the Members of the Ottawa Citadel Musical Groups have to Maintain those Activities as well as Special Events such as Those Pictured on This Page and a Great Deal More! For Example: November 17th – Band Ensemble in the Help Santa Toy Parade; December 2nd – The Songster Sang at the Carleton Lodge Seniors’ Home; December 9th – Joint Band & Songsters, Timbrellists and Pageant Chorus at Annual Festival of Carols at Centrepointe Theatre Afternoon and Evening; December 11th – Band and Songsters at the Glebe Seniors’ Centre; December 12th – Band Played at Kettle with American Ambassador in the Byward Market; December 19th – Band Ensemble at Royal Ottawa Place to Play for Residents plus Rehearsals for Much of the Above not to Mention Preparing Christmas Music for Sunday Morning Worship Services. Still Feel Busy?

The Legacy Brass and Legacy Chorus Get into the Act As Well

Many Members of the Legacy Brass Band are also Members of the Ottawa Citadel Band. The Legacy Brass played at the Annual Light up the Grace Event on a Bitterly Cold Evening on December 7th – Most Players Experienced Frozen Valves in this Event.

Ottawa Citadel is Grateful to Several non-Army Legacy Members Who Help Out on Parts
The 33rd Annual Festival of Carols at Centre Pointe Theatre

On December 9th Vocalists of the Barrhaven Corps, Bethany Hope and Ottawa Citadel Assisted by Several Members of the Legacy Chorus Created the Festival Chorus. The Festival Brass Band comprised of Members of the Barrhaven and Ottawa Citadel Bands Complemented by Several Members of Legacy Brass presented a Wonderfully Varied Christmas Programme for Approximately 1,600 people in Two Performances at the Centerpointe Theatre. The Children’s Festival Chorus and the Timbrel Brigade Provided Exciting Contrasts to the Former Groups. The Expertise and Sensitivity of Soprano Soloist, Melissa Simard and Trombone Soloist, Craig Lewis Spoke to Everyone’s Hearts. The Master of Ceremonies and Other Speakers Pictured Below, Rounded Out the Presentation Very Effectively.
The Creativity and Discipline of the Ottawa Citadel Timbrel Brigade (led by Capt. Graciela Arkell) Elicited Enthusiastic Applause from the Audience. The Festival Band Played the March “The Christmas Miracle”

Melissa Sings “My Grown up Christmas List” and “Somewhere in Your Silent Night” with the Festival Chorus

Isabelle Gets a Chance to Sing!

Left: Maj. Michelle Mercer Presents “A Christmas Message”

Right: The Children’s Festival Chorus Sings, “Glory” and “Hope was born this night”
Festival of Carols, 2018 (conclusion)

1. Elf, Bill Titcombe, Greets the Children’s Chorus as They are about to Exit

2&3. B/M Geoff Leads the Festival Band and Chorus in Feliz Navidad in Appropriate Garb!

~ sincere appreciation to Kim Hoy-Lapp for the Festival of Carols Photographs

On behalf of all the members of the Editorial Board and contributors to the Ottawa Citadel Contact, please accept our wishes to all our readers for a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous 2019!

Allan and Pauline Bacon  Helen Groh  Captains Jeff & Graciela Arkell
CSM Linda Colwell  Ed Wicks  Irene Briggs  Ruth Smith
Jo-Anne Droogh  Fernando Gomez  Linda Weatherall  Rosemary Parker
Jim Ferguson
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<td>Legacy Brass 7:30 PM</td>
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<td>GODDARD BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM</td>
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<td>*SPORTS NIGHT</td>
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<td>Sr. Band at Rockcliffe Park</td>
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<td>Pageant Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Legacy Chorus 7:30 PM</td>
<td>*Christmas Pageant Performance at Grace Manor *Band at Glebe Centre 7:00 PM</td>
<td>GODDARD BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM *Last Until January 24th</td>
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<td>Pageant Dress Rehearsal 10:00 to 3:00</td>
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<td>Sr. Band Ensemble at Royal Ottawa Place</td>
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<td>FAMILY SUNDAY</td>
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<td>Women's Fellowship 12:00</td>
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<td>MESSY CHURCH &amp; SPORTS NIGHT 5:00 PM</td>
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<td>CORPS PLANNING DAY Facilitator: Helen McKiernan</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Legacy Band Rehearsal</em></td>
<td><em>Music Rehearsals 6:30 – 10:00 pm</em></td>
<td><em>Women's Fellowship 12:00</em></td>
<td>GODDARD BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM</td>
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