



Snowflakes? No, it was rain drops falling during the Annual Debert Tree Lighting this year. Everyone posed for a quick photo and then moved inside the Debert Baptist Church for a sing-song and hot chocolate. (Harrington Photo)



Beth Murray, Cara Murray, Erma Sitser, Prisciall Jennings, Sheila Hughes and Pastor Bill Martin enjoy a carol sing following the Debert Tree Lighting on Dec. 7th. (Harrington Photo)



Lauren Stevenson (left) and Nicole Geldart enjoy a snack following the Debert Tree Lighting. Everyone watched the tree lighting and then the event moved inside on account of rain. (Harrington Photo)

Wentworth Celebrates the Spirit of Christmas

By Hope Bridgewater

The Wentworth United Church bulletin announced “Wednesday, December 14, 2011, 11 am, School Children’s Christmas Service, Rev. DeLong and Pastor Dykens, Visitors Welcome.” One of the best ways to celebrate the Spirit of Christmas was to attend this service. Staff at the Wentworth Consolidated Elementary School arranged for the staff and students to walk from the school to the near-by United Church, perform their part of the service and have Wentworth United Church minister, Rev. Brian DeLong, and the Wentworth Baptist minister, Pastor Darryl Dykens, perform another part of the service.

The presentation was done in the church sanctuary which was beautifully decorated with a Christmas tree, a wall hanging of the nativity scene and many other colourful decorations, all enhanced by the stained glass windows.

Parson Dykens introduced the service, said a prayer, and asked all to sing “O Come All Ye Faithful.” Students joined in the singing of the hymns against the background of organ music played by Betty Curry. Jessica Palmer, Grade five and Jayden Darragh,

Grade six, read Biblical scripture about the birth of the Christ child.

Rev. DeLong emphasized the inclusion of children at Advent and talked of the importance of health as our bodies are our temples. Rev. DeLong demonstrated four exercises and had the students do them with him: Jumping Jack, Jumping in Place, Stretch-ups, and One Side to the Camera and the Other Side to the Camera.

For participation, Rev DeLong asked the students what they most liked to do, and they gave interesting answers. He pointed to the “white gifts” under the Christmas tree. They were gifts from the congregation for families in need. Downstairs was a large box for donation to a food bank. A prayer was said and “Silent Night” sung before the Christmas service ended.

Previously, the school staff and students had invited the quilters of the Wentworth United Church Women, the church organist, and the two ministers, Rev. DeLong and Pastor Dykens, to a turkey dinner at the school. In 2005, the United Church Women had given quilting lessons to the students at the school in order to show them a tradi-



Wentworth Consolidated Elementary students Jessica Palmer, Jayden Darragh, and Madison Allen enjoy a turkey dinner recently held in the school gymnasium. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

tional craft.

The two quilts made by the students are wall hangings in the school. Students wanted to thank the quilters again. The turkey dinner was served by Westchester Firefighters, Justin Rushton, Ed Jones, Harvie Montrose, and Wentworth Firefighters, Bill Baker, Norman Gower and Pastor Darryl Dykens (who is also a Wentworth Firefighter). Dessert was a choice of apple pie and pumpkin pie.

Quilters present were Betty Duizer, Florence Harnish, Ella Patriquin, Eleanor Sprague, Martha Wilson, Marie Duranceau, and Twila McMaster. Bus drivers Dale Patriquin and Clarence Short were invited.

In the school kitchen, parents of the students preparing the food included: Roseann

Hansen, Nicole Allen, Carol Lynk, Amanda Patriquin, Julie Porteous, and Barb Palmer. Mrs. Palmer added: “My husband, Jim, made the dressing.”

Betty Duizer presented the students with a gift as a “thank you” from the United Church Women.

This Christmas presentation, initiated by staff and students of the Wentworth Consolidated Elementary School, added significantly to the Spirit of Christmas in Wentworth. Other similar events included: Cumberland Singers, United Church Women’s Christmas Party, Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Wentworth Pioneer Club’s potluck supper with entertainment and the Wentworth Volunteer Fire Department’s potluck supper.

Long range weather forecast

AccuWeather, State College, PA on December 7th reported while there were not many changes to the initial release of the 2011-2012 Winter Forecast for Canada, a few changes are anticipated that may send thousands running out to buy winter driving

kits for their cars and others prepping their snowmobiles.

The slight changes are a result of a weaker La Niña expected and less confidence in a blocking pattern setting up, according to Expert Senior Meteorologist Brett Anderson.

Atlantic Canada: Tame vs. Stormy

While it is still expected to be a generally mild winter for Atlantic Canada, less widespread warmth is expected to grip northern parts of Atlantic Canada than previously thought. Anderson still described the winter expected for northern parts of Atlantic Canada as “tame” with

below-normal snowfall.

Farther south, the winter will start out as tame for the Maritime provinces, then turn more stormy. “A secondary storm track up near Nova Scotia for the second half of the winter may lead to more snow over the interior Maritimes with more of snow, rain and a wintry mix toward the coast,” Anderson said.

Clear Bags for Garbage

Changing the colour of the bag today...
Means a cleaner tomorrow for all of us!

Program Details

- Since September 1st, 2011, many residents, businesses, institutions and apartments have made the transition to using transparent clear bags for garbage disposal. A big thank you to those who have done such a great job!
- Please note that the transitional phase of this program has ended and as of January 1st, 2012, enforcement of this program has begun. Each residential unit is entitled to one privacy bag per collection. Businesses and institutions must use transparent, non-coloured clear bags only for their garbage.
- The number of garbage bags at the curb once every two weeks remains limited to six bags. One non-see through (privacy) bag is allowed, along with up to five transparent, non-coloured clear bags per collection day. Remember...all material must be at the curb by 7:00 am on your collection day!
- Blue bags can continue to be used for recyclables and organics are to be placed in the green cart. Please DO NOT place garbage in blue bags for collection, as collectors are not permitted to pick these up.
- Why Clear Bags? Provincial regulations state that recyclables and organics are banned from disposal in the landfill. Municipalities that have switched to clear bags for garbage have seen, on average, a thirty percent reduction in the amount of garbage when these banned items are removed from the bags. This helps save valuable landfill space!

Looking for Help?

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