



# Central Connection

The Salvation Army / USA Central Territory  
News and Views from the Midwest

"We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future."  
Eph. 4:3,4 (NLT)



Volume 47, Number 1

January 2017

## Mission minded about literacy

**M**ission: Literacy, a highly successful Bible-based curriculum used with children to teach them to read or to raise their reading scores, this year will have the exciting addition of a version for adults. The introduction of this new material only expands the possibilities for a "hidden gem" of a ministry tool, according to Major Carol Wurtz, territorial corps mission and ministry secretary.

At this juncture, oversight of the

program for the territory is being transferred to territorial headquarters after years of exceptional care and promotion even in retirement by Major Jan Hendrickson. David Tooley, territorial discipleship resources and leadership development consultant, will now be the pro-



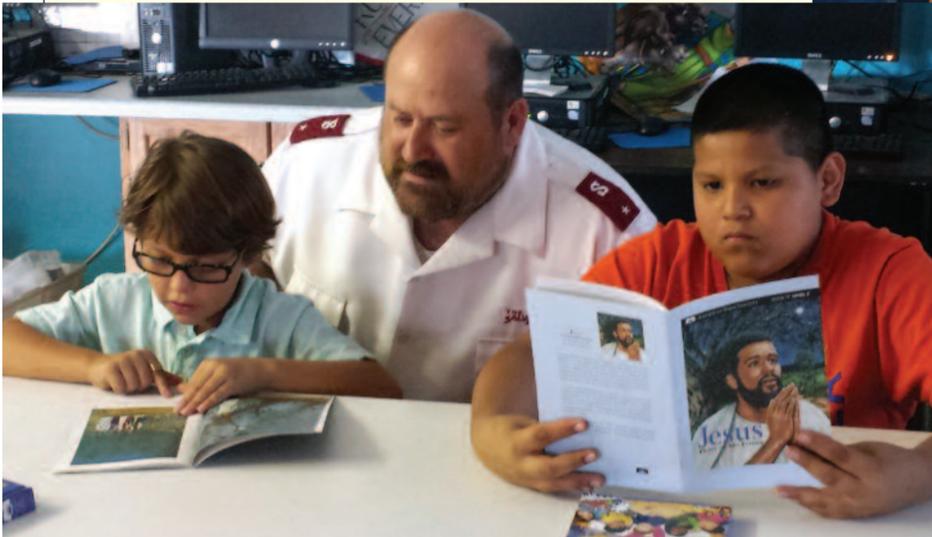
Mission: Literacy can be incorporated easily into already established programming like summer day camps or afterschool programs or can expand ministry opportunities and possibilities for partnerships with local churches and schools.

For instance, the Garden City, Kan., Corps, led by Lts. Jeff and Joyce Curran, incorporated Mission: Literacy in both the afterschool and summer day camp in 2016, reaching more than 106 children. The Currans say they are committed to Mission: Literacy because they've seen results.

"All of the children improved in their literacy skills, except one!" said Lt. Jeff. "But what the evaluations don't measure is not only did each of these kids improve overall in their performance at school but their attitudes have followed suit!"

He gives the example of Dennisse, who had trouble reading before participating in Mission: Literacy. She was struggling on spelling tests and failing most of them. Now, she is acing almost all of the tests, has accepted Jesus as her Savior, become a junior soldier and often participates in reading during holiness services.

Continued on page 2



Lt. Jeff Curran aids young readers at the Garden City, Kan., Corps.

gram's point person.

Since first being introduced in the Central Territory in the Northern Division in 2009, corps throughout the Midwest have been incorporating Mission: Literacy with tremendous results.

"Because of Mission: Literacy there are many wonderful examples of children accepting Christ as their Savior and new families coming to the corps," said Major Carol. "We really want to encourage corps to take a look at the material and see how it can be used in their ministry," she continued.

## Providing a safety net in Nebraska

**T**he Salvation Army recently launched SAFE-T (The Salvation Army's Fight to End Trafficking) program in the Western Division. It has emerged from grants from the Office of Justice Programs from the U.S. Department of Justice totaling more than \$1.5 million over three years to The Salvation Army and the Nebraska Attorney General's Office.

The award was given to support the development and enhancement of multidisciplinary human trafficking task forces that will implement victim-centered, collaborative and ongoing approaches to address trafficking across Nebraska.

The Salvation Army will serve as a bridge between victims and other social services across Nebraska, helping each person with issues such as housing, food, therapy, and medical

or legal assistance. Trafficking specialists continue to build a network of partner agencies throughout the state to supply an array of services. A new hotline also has been introduced.

The grant specifically elaborates the areas as: identifying victims of all types of human trafficking, investigating and prosecuting sex trafficking and labor trafficking cases, and addressing the needs of victims through the provision of comprehensive services.

"I have served this population for the last four years, and one consistent struggle in providing services to trafficking survivors is that they don't fit neatly in any other service system without additional support. I'm excited to be a part of a statewide, multidisciplinary initiative in creating the solution," said SAFE-T Program Manager Alicia Webber.



Introducing the new anti-trafficking program at a press conference

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## Calling for Courage

by Colonel Dorothy Smith  
Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

When I was young we vacationed in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Each year we drove over Mackinac Bridge, the white and green suspension bridge spanning five miles across the Straits of Mackinac. For a six year old it was glorious! The very best part was when we drove in the middle lanes and opened our windows; we could lean out and look down at the choppy waters 200 feet below through the

grating. It was an adventure we looked forward to each year.

It wasn't until my husband and I drove over that same bridge with our children and one of their friends that I discovered it could be scary. The friend hid under a blanket the entire time. *There's nothing to be afraid of*, I thought. This bridge has stood firm since 1957 due to modern engineering, impeccable workmanship and constant maintenance.



Rational or irrational, fear is individual and depends on many factors. Conditioning was a big factor for me. I had been conditioned by

my parents to enjoy the bridge crossing, and to this day I tell people how wonderful it is.

In contrast, this past summer my grandchildren, Ellie and Jack, and I had the chance to ride the zip line at Camp Wonderland. They climbed the tower and swooshed down with abandon, but when it was my turn I stood at the tower's edge unable to step off. Fear kept me on that tower. Everyone before and after me safely rode the line, but I felt I would surely die. Though irrational, I chose to forego a thrilling experience, and I regret it.

All of us are crossing a bridge from 2016 to 2017. This year will hold



new challenges. Some may be scary, others welcomed and exciting. We will have many opportunities to influence people for Christ: to witness, disciple, encourage, serve, pray for and invite people to join us in the mission. Will we trust God to empower us? Will we listen when He says, "Do not fear"? Will we step out in faith to

seize the opportunities He presents?

Share with family, friends and those at your corps how God has been faithful in 2016. And let's look forward to 2017 with joy and anticipation, for the Lord our God will be with us.

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9 (NIV)



## PATHWAY OF HOPE

In a little over two years, the Keokuk, Iowa, Corps has helped 12 families with a total of 25 children achieve most or all of their goals through Pathway of Hope (POH), reported Brenda Best, the corps' POH manager. She continues meeting with families for at least a year after they've completed participating in this initiative.

"Seeing a young single mom of two maintain fulltime employment, establish appropriate day care and meet her family's needs with minimal assistance, as well as deal with co-parenting and child custody issues, is a success," said Brenda of one participant. Another POH family Brenda worked with went from homelessness and unemployment with no stability in their lives to living for more than a year in an affordable apartment while maintaining steady employment.

The Keokuk Corps serves Lee

County's population of 35,000, 37 percent of which lives below the poverty level. Participants' greatest needs seem to be housing, transportation, job skills and dealing with substance abuse or relationship issues, Brenda observed. To stabilize families as soon as possible she works closely with a shelter, housing agencies, social service organizations and government offices, then connects the families with essential job-skill training and vocational rehab programs. Brenda also has developed close relationships with counseling services, churches and schools to which she can refer families for assistance.

Brenda and Keokuk Corps Officer Major Mark Litherland also provide spiritual support to POH families. "They know we're a church and have been receptive to discussions and offers to pray with them," said Brenda.

When families meet most of their POH goals, the corps celebrates their accomplishments with a recognition dinner at a restaurant. A certificate of completion is presented to each family along with grocery gift cards from the corps and the Heartland Divisional Headquarters.

Last year the Keokuk Corps was among the first five recipients of the new territorial Pathway of Hope Corps Achievement Award for which rigorous standards had to be met.



## Mission: Literacy

Continued from page 1

At the St. Paul Eastside, Minn., Corps, Envoys Mike and Kris Fuqua, along with youth director Wanda Sue Fleur, led 48 students through Mission: Literacy in their after-school program. The children who could read all 30 sentences formed a book club that has become a Bible study. After reading other books, the students asked to learn more about the Bible!

"Every child who participated in Mission: Literacy last school year became a better reader. The kids enjoyed learning about the Bible and looked forward to reading time," said Wanda. "I had one mom who came to me and expressed her gratitude for the program enabling her daughter to gain confidence in her reading. Ultimately, her daughter was able to bring her school grades up and passed every class! She now looks forward to reading and always has a book with her."

In the last year in the Central Territory, Mission: Literacy touched the lives of 1,001 students who altogether completed 16,682 lessons taught by 87 tutors and 95 volunteers, giving nearly 7,200 hours, to make a difference in the lives of at-



risk children. And 199 youth accepted Christ!

Major Jan concluded, "The important thing about statistics is what they represent: each person—a child, tutor or volunteer—whose life has been changed by this ministry."

For more information about the program, including free materials to download, contact David Tooley by calling (847) 294-2165 or emailing David\_tooley@usc.salvationarmy.org

## Central Connection

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Check out our complementary material on the web.

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### Resources/Links

Forward Together Congress registration

Refuel and Regeneration registrations

Missions Department website

Pathway of Hope website

Mission: Literacy website

Emergency Disaster Services website

The Kaleidoscope Institute website

Others program website

Music and Gospel Arts Department website

Trade Central website

### Media

Spanish Bible and Discipleship Training Seminar

### Web exclusives

List of Bible and Discipleship Training presentations available in Spanish

More on Madagascar

Launching the Crystal Lake Corps

THE SALVATION ARMY  
USA CENTRAL TERRITORY

# FORWARD TOGETHER

"Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven...  
fighting together for the faith..."  
—PHILIPPIANS 1:27

CONGRESS LED BY  
GENERAL ANDRÉ AND  
COMMISSIONER SILVIA COX



SUPPORTED BY  
COMMISSIONERS PAUL R.  
AND CAROL SEILER



COMMISSIONING  
AND ORDINATION OF THE  
JOYFUL INTERCESSORS

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JUNE 9-11  
2017

## Friday, June 9

- 8:15 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Trade Central open
- 9:15 a.m. Territorial Officers Councils +
- Noon Officers Luncheon with Active Officers' Recognition +
- 1:00-7:00 p.m. Exhibits open
- 1:00-6:00 p.m. Registration
- 7:30 p.m. Keynote Session
- 10:00 p.m. Teen and Young Adult Afterglow at "Main Event"

## Saturday, June 10

- 7:00 a.m. 5K Run/Walk for the World
- 9:30 a.m. United Session and Retirement of Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler
- Noon Picnic/Concerts on the Green  
Territorial and International Leaders "Meet and Greet"
- Noon-7:00 p.m. Trade Central and exhibits open
- 2:00 p.m. Territorial Youth Councils  
with the General and Commissioner Cox
- 4:30 p.m. Fellowship of the Silver Star and Cadet Recognition Dinner +
- 7:30 p.m. United Session
- 9:30 p.m. Afterglow Concert

## Sunday, June 11

- 9:00 a.m. Holiness Meeting  
Commissioning /Ordination of the Joyful Intercessors
- 11:30 a.m. Service of Appointments

+ By invitation only

Schedule subject to change, please visit [centralcommissioning.org](http://centralcommissioning.org) for latest information



## Honored at wall

Thousands of veterans, their families and members of the public made their way to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., for "Veterans Day at the Wall," November 11, 2016, to honor and remember those who served in the Armed Forces. Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Divisional Planned Giving Director Richard Dorsey also was honored that day by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

"It is indeed an honor to represent the men and women who have and who currently serve in the Armed Forces on Veterans Day," said Mr. Dorsey. "I was told that over 2.7 million men served in the Vietnam War. I am only the 34th Vietnam Veteran to have this honor of reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Certainly, I am undeserving of this great honor. I am humbled."

A veteran of the Vietnam War and a recipient of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star, Richard was wounded in combat west of Saigon on the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Vietnam in March 1969, while serving as a radio operator under the leadership of four-star General Barry McCaffrey (ret.).



Though he only joined the WMNI Division eight years ago, Richard has been committed to planned giving and estate planning for Christian ministries for 26 years. During this time he has helped to facilitate gifts and donations to charitable organizations in excess of \$100 million. When other charities he'd been working with since 1990 ran out of money for a deferred fundraiser, Richard was intent on continuing to make a difference for Christ and credits God for placing him at The Salvation Army.

"It has been encouraging to work for an organization that parallels my faith and ministers to people in need, biblically," said Richard. "The Lord has allowed me to see many victories through my ministry here."

## Singing Company Festival

### Preparation underway!

One of the exciting features of the *Forward Together* Congress led by General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox in June will be a United Singing Company composed of more than 200 youth from across the territory.

A Singing Company Festival is being held in each division this spring, enabling a number of groups from each division to participate in the United Singing Company. Though not a competition, guidelines have been established to help ensure fairness and that the very best group is assembled. The parameters include each company must have a minimum of four members, ages 7-16; all members must wear uniform attire determined by their corps; each group will perform two numbers, one required and one of their choice; each company will receive an evaluation of "exemplary," "accomplished" or "developing" by a three-person panel, including a representative from the territorial music and gospel arts department. Those receiving "exemplary" will be invited to be part of the United Singing Company.

"We hope the Singing Company Festival not only will build excitement for the congress and ensure an excellent united group but will maximize, improve and sustain the quality and participation of singing companies in corps in support of Live Music in Worship in Every Corps by



2020," said Meghan Pierson, territorial music education, ministry and curriculum specialist.

She continued, "Singing companies are a marvelous opportunity for bridging young people and their families into the corps, and the greater Salvation Army, and can result in increased enrollments of junior soldiers and followers of Christ."

The following festivals are scheduled:

Eastern Michigan Division	March 25
Indiana Division	March 11
Heartland Division	April 8
Kansas/Western Missouri Division	April 8
Metropolitan Division	May 13
Midland Division	April 1
Northern Division	May 13
Western Division	May 13
Western Michigan/Northern Indiana	May 6
Wisconsin/Upper Michigan Division	April 29

For more information visit [samusiccentral.org](http://samusiccentral.org) or contact your divisional music director.

## Unreserved service saluted

After a combined 88 plus years of unbroken service, Majors Doug and Janet Rowland retired with a ceremony conducted by Commissioners William A. and Nancy L. Roberts at the Kansas City Northland, Mo., Corps. The meeting was a family affair as a 14-piece Rowland family brass band provided preliminary music along with a worship band. Following a welcome from Colonel Brad Bailey, the nine Rowland grandchildren sang a selection led by the oldest granddaughter, Aubrey.

Words of recognition were given by Commissioner Nancy Roberts and Major Mark Martsolf who each spoke of their friendship over the years with the Rowlands. Major Mark shared that he met the Lord because of a basketball program run by the Rowlands several years ago and now he serves as a corps officer himself. Another officer present, who had been brought to the Lord and fulltime service by Major Mark, drove home the message of salvation and service being passed on. The Rowlands' sons, Brian, Jeff and Jeremy, surprised their parents on

tuba and euphonium with a piece written by Tom Hanton for the occasion.

Commissioner William Roberts, former Chief of the Staff, conducted the retirement ceremony under the American and Salvation Army flags held by Major Doug's brothers, Major Edward Rowland and Mr. Alan Rowland.

"This has been service characterized by faithfulness as these two have made themselves available to God and The Salvation Army, unreservedly, to serve," said the commissioner. "They have been persons of consistency. In a day when consistency may be considered passé, even less than desirable, choosing instead to go with the flow, when some see it as an obstacle to realizing personal fulfillment...here are two who have demonstrated that consistency of character and values is still a virtue and that how one feels is not nearly so important as what one is. Here are two who have shown for all to see that fulfillment and joy are not isolated from lives of commitment and character."

Majors Doug and Janet shared their gratefulness to friends and family who were faithful in prayer during Janet's illness, saying the many messages and cards were a great encouragement. Less than a week before the service, Janet told the doctors in the hospital she was going home on Thursday because she had a party to go to. And on Thursday, just two days before the ceremony, she was discharged from the hospital.



Commissioner William A. Roberts conducts retirement ceremony of Majors Doug and Janet Rowland.

# 730... AND BEYOND



1,302 days and counting

by Lt. Betsy Clark

My friend Captain Heather Montenegro gave me a mug that says: "As a baby I was dropped into a pool of awesomeness and glitter." Now, the thing about glitter is—pay attention all you glitter nay-sayers—it's like the love of Jesus. You can't escape it. You can never get rid of it. Glitter and the love of Jesus: my mug is a good reminder of the Lord's presence and my mission as an officer even during hectic weeks like this one:

Saturday I entered into a heated discussion with officer friends about the ramifications of complacent faith and how to reach millennials and future generations.

Sunday I ate dinner with my women's ministries Embrace group. We discussed conflict and confrontations that are needed to grow in our faith even though they are hard.

Monday I went with an advisory board member to ask a prominent community member for a donation of \$20,000.

Tuesday I met with volunteers to discuss the transition to electronic applications for our Angel Tree program.

Wednesday I introduced our



singing company to the Christmas musical based on *Star Wars*. Every kid wants to play Darth Vader. I don't know why.

Thursday I officiated the funeral of a teen from my first appointment who committed suicide. I pray I was able to share the hope of Christ with his friends and family in their darkest hours.

Friday I worked on my SACEP (continuing education) paper that was due at midnight. Yikes!

All in all, it was a pretty eventful week. But each encounter, whether sitting by a stinky kid on youth night or sharing stories with home league members, gives me the opportunity to share Christ and to better understand what it means to follow Him.



SEE GOD'S EXTRAORDINARY POWER AT WORK.

I love being an officer because it allows me to see how God can use an ordinary guy like me to do extraordinary things in His world.  
—Lieutenant Sean Wise

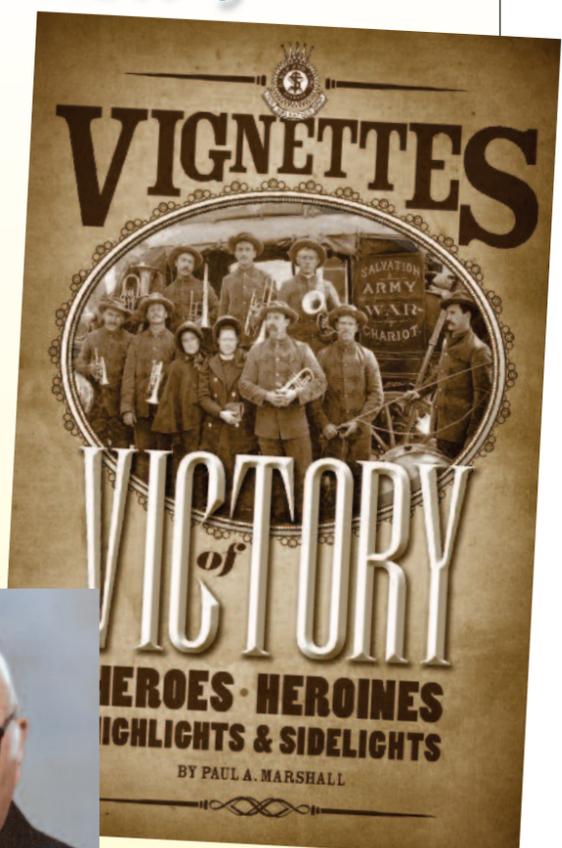
FIND OUT MORE AT [SALVATIONARMYCENTRAL.COM](http://SALVATIONARMYCENTRAL.COM)

## Vignettes of Victory

In this latest release from Crest Books, author Major Paul Marshall shows Salvationists' heroism, holiness and humor through snapshots of their lives. Hear stories of real people who were swept into the Army's joyous victory march through the years and across the globe.

Drawing from research, his expansive knowledge and experience working on National Publications staff, Major Marshall penned Salvation Army history snippets in a charming storytelling style for the back of the *Daily Walk* devotional.

What began as a two-year commitment turned into 28 years chronicling Salvation Army lore. Although the major has been published many times, to him these vignettes represent



his most important work, passing along the stories of the Army's early pioneers.

To purchase, visit [saratradecentral.org](http://saratradecentral.org) or call 1-800-937-8896

# Boston Brass joins CSB to wow audience!

by Dr. Jonathan Corry

As has become tradition, a capacity audience gathered at Edman Chapel on the campus of Wheaton College anticipating a concert combining the Chicago Staff Band (CSB) with the critically acclaimed brass ensemble Boston Brass.

A warm welcome greeted Dr. Harold Burgmayer and the CSB as they took to the stage to perform the festival prelude *Raise the Song* by Simon Morton. This new and excit-



The CSB featured *Corpus Christi*, a large-scale work by Robert

ing work features Henry Alford's hymn tune "Come, ye thankful people, come" and was performed with excitement and energy, setting the tone for an evening of quality music-making. CSB Executive Officer Colonel Jeffrey Smith welcomed the audience, sharing a prayer at the concert's commencement. Throughout the evening, he provided informative insights and presented a devotional thought to challenge the audience.

The fourth movement of Felix Mendelssohn's *Symphony No. 5* is a paraphrase of Luther's Reformation Hymn, "A mighty fortress is our God." This well-known hymn tune has been adopted by many composers, including J.S. Bach, Stokowski, Glasunov, Vaughan-Williams, Telemann and, in this case, Mendelssohn. This well-scored arrangement commenced with the lone cornet sound of Beth Cooper and through developing many great



sounds and use of color led us to a thrilling climax.

Guest artists the Boston Brass

demonstrated virtuosity in a wide range of musical styles and captivated the audience with their sheer brilliance and artistic excellence. Of special interest was lead trumpet player, Jose Sibaja, playing technically demanding solo lines within the quintet, as well as an exuberant performance of Al Hirt's *The Green Hornet*. The Boston Brass collaborated with the CSB on five items, including some holiday numbers, creating an almost "concerto grosso" effect in Dr. Burgmayer's arrangement of Astor Piazzolla's *Desde Argentina con Amor*.

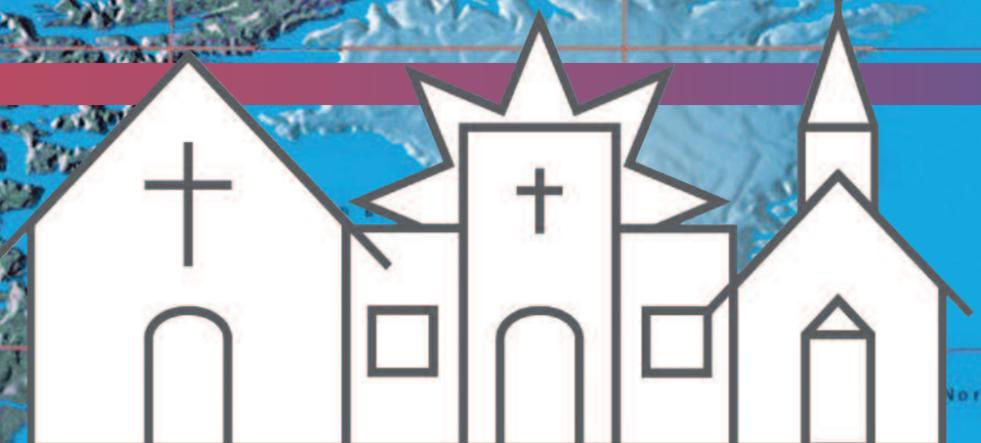
The CSB featured two contrasting choral items, the upbeat *Joshua Fit de Battle* and *A Chasing of the Wind*, both of which clearly displayed the adaptability of this fine ensemble. Concluding the first half, the CSB presented Dr. Burgmayer's arrangement of Lamm and Pankow's music from the 1960's rock group Chicago, featuring Lynda Cooper (flugelhorn) and Meghan Pierson (piano), carrying the audience into four of Chicago's top hits before building to an exciting choreographed finish.

The concert's second half commenced with a swing version of John Philip Sousa's march *The Stars and Stripes Forever* leading into a congregational song, "Come, ye thankful people, come" in a new arrangement by William Himes. The theme of thanksgiving was key in selection of many concert pieces. And it was fitting for the CSB to thank staff bandsman Ken Romin for 50 years of exemplary service through a tribute given by skilled raconteur and former bandmaster William Himes.

Redhead written in 1994, which refers to the Christian church being the "Body of Christ" in the sense of its members rather than buildings and is illustrated using various tunes. "Dem bones" is presented, becoming very fragmented and disjointed, before a horn melody is heard as an oasis of calm, playing "Bind us together, Lord," ultimately leading to the positive statement "Give thanks with a grateful heart." Special mention should be given to the tuba section for their delivery of several tricky exposed passages, as well as their contribution to creating the organ-like sound which commenced and closed this fine performance.

After a lively rendering of Martin Corder's *Júbilo, Júbilo!* by the combined CSB and Boston Brass, all that remained was the customary invitation to CSB alumni to join on stage to sing the benediction in time-honored fashion led by former bandmaster William Himes.





# TWENTY NEW CORPS AROUND THE WORLD IN 2017

A CENTRAL TERRITORY INITIATIVE

- MEXICO
- JAMAICA
- HONDURAS
- COSTA RICA
- TURKS AND CAICOS
- HAITI
- VENEZUELA
- MALI REGION

## Mexico



**TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS**  
Construct new corps building for Matamoros Corps

## Tanzania



**WESTERN MICHIGAN AND NORTHERN INDIANA DIVISION**  
1) Buy land, build corps/quarters for Kemono Corps (former outpost); build chapel for Training College  
2) Buy land, build new corps and quarters for Uyole Corps and Lwanzali Corps

## Latin America North



**KANSAS AND WESTERN MISSOURI DIVISION**  
Open a new corps plant, purchase quarters in Costa Rica

**METROPOLITAN DIVISION**  
Open a new corps plant, purchase quarters for Choloma Corps, Honduras and Caracas Corps, Venezuela.

## Caribbean



**MIDLAND DIVISION**  
1) Construct building for Limbe Corps, Haiti (former outpost)  
2) Construct new hall/community center for Turks and Caicos Corps

**WESTERN DIVISION**  
Corps project in Jamaica

## Switzerland/Austria/Hungary



**HEARTLAND DIVISION**  
Purchase/renovate building to house Miskolc Corps, Hungary

**In**

**CO**  
Buy  
pray  
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**WIS**  
**MIC**  
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**MOLDOVA**

**HUNGARY**

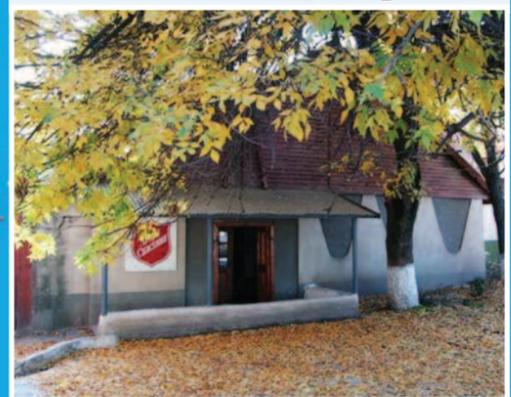
**INDIA SOUTH EASTERN**

**PHILIPPINES**

**KENYA**

**TANZANIA**

### *Eastern Europe*



**ADULT REHABILITATION CENTERS COMMAND**  
 Build meeting hall for Edinets Corps, Moldova

### *The Philippines*



**KANSAS AND WESTERN MISSOURI DIVISION**  
 Build corps/quarters for Moncada Society Corps

### *Kenya West*



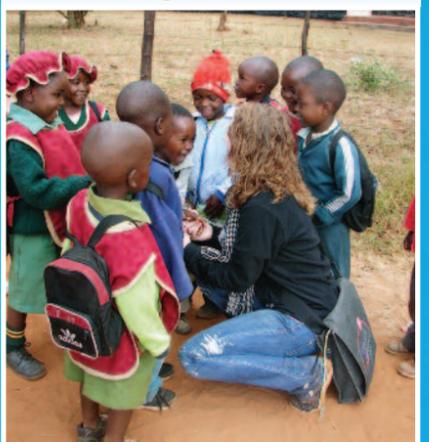
**NORTHERN DIVISION**  
 1) Finish building corps, construct new quarters for Lubao Corps  
 2) Buy land, construct new hall, quarters for Kimilili Corps

### *Mali Region*



**INDIANA DIVISION**  
 Construct new building for Sirakoro Corps in Bamako

### *Kenya East*



**EASTERN MICHIGAN DIVISION**  
 1) Construct new building for Eastleigh Corps in Nairobi  
 2) Build new halls for Rhonda Corps and Kimani Corps (new plant)

### *India South Eastern*



**COLLEGE FOR OFFICER TRAINING**  
 Buy land, build community hall, prayer hall (sanctuary), quarters, compound wall for Tanjore Corps

**WISCONSIN AND UPPER MICHIGAN DIVISION**  
 Build community hall, quarters, prayer hall, compound wall for Chendur Corps  
 Buy land, build community hall, quarters, prayer hall, compound wall for Thumbacode Corps

## Growing saints as well as a corps

In the last two and a half years the Jacksonville, Ill., Corps has grown from a congregation averaging eight in Sunday meetings to 30 with a local leadership that more than doubled from four to 10 committed individuals!

"The turnaround at the corps is all due to God; it had little to do with us," said Major Kathleen Pinkston, corps officer with her



Midland Division. The approach is structured so participants can gain a thorough understanding of a scripture passage through just a few questions discussed in small groups.

The majors introduced the method in a series of corps-wide meetings, then used the smaller group discussions to observe and identify individuals with leadership potential who were subsequently trained. The method has been used consistently in every group for adults or youth, including day camp and vacation Bible school.

The Bible study and discipleship method tied in perfectly with the corps goal of "growing saints." The plan of action was to first identify potential leaders, then nurture their faith through discipleship and Bible study and finally train them in leadership positions.

"Young people are excited to see what the Holy Spirit can do through them, and our older people are excited to realize God can still use them," said Major Kathleen. "Even on a field trip to the zoo, our women's ministries group spent most of their day discussing scripture primarily because they've become so comfortable and open with each other from studying the Bible together. The entire corps has truly become a family."



husband, Charles. Yet it was the Pinkstons' utilization of a simple Bible study and discipleship method to meet one of the corps' STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) vital few goals that has made the difference. They learned the method, developed by the Kaleidoscope Institute, at a seminar offered by the



## Corps abuzz with youth

The St. Paul Citadel, Minn., Corps is abuzz with youth all during the week. You'll find an explorers troop which averages 20, two sunbeam troops with about 25 girls and a girl guard troop of 20!

"In my opinion what makes our troops so successful is the dedication of our troop leaders, the parent support and the constant encouragement of our corps members," said Carrie Mergens, young people's sergeant-major. "Our troop members also have great relationships with each other and they tell their friends and family members about the programs."

She continued, "Each fall new boys and girls join the corps' character-building activities, and most current members have younger brothers or sisters who are eagerly awaiting their turn to be part of a troop. Our troops are constantly growing."

The excitement takes on a near fever pitch as youth earn emblems and awards. The most recent award has been earned by explorer Colton Mergens. A member of the corps' explorers for four years, he worked with leader Jennifer Davidson (now a first-year cadet) to obtain his Divisional Commander's Award which required completion of 26 specific emblems and two service projects!

One of the newest initiatives for youth is the corps' partnership with Circus Juventas, the largest performing arts circus school in North America. On Wednesday night



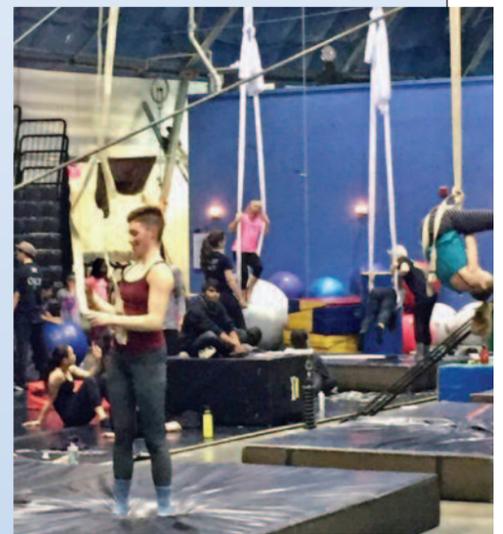
Explorer Colton Mergens

Circus Juventas offers several workshops to youth free of charge. Currently six to eight youth participate weekly and learn new skills such as acrobatics and tumbling. Circus Juventas is committed to striving for new levels of excellence in artistry, athleticism, mental acuity and creativity and fosters the concepts of breaking boundaries and overcoming

obstacles to their futures.

"The youth are gaining confidence in skills they may have never had the opportunity to develop if it had not been for Circus Juventas," said Carrie.

The St. Paul Citadel Corps is led by Captains Geffory and Leticia Crowell.



## ¡Estudiar la Biblia es muy bueno!

*(Studying the Bible is very good!)*

The latest release of the territory's Spanish-language Bible and Discipleship Training Seminar is available online for personal or group studies. "Each seminar features a Bible study and a leadership training presentation which are easily accessible through our website," said Alfredo

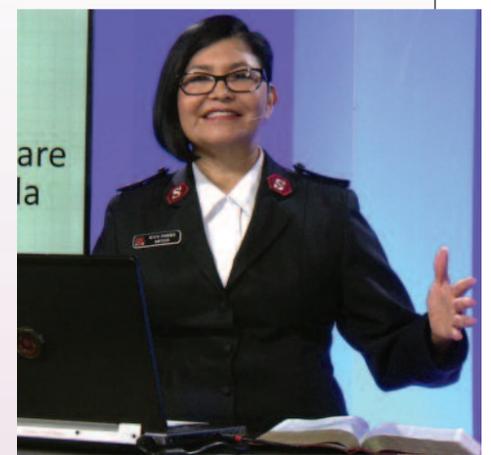
Martinez, Hispanic ministries consultant with the territorial multi-cultural ministries department.

The most recent presentations are a Bible study called "There is a Time for Everything" conducted by Captain Nivia Paredes, Waukegan, Ill., corps officer, and a leadership training session, "Walking Hand by Hand," presented by Kerman Moran, Chicago LaVillita, Ill., corps administrator.

Also available online are previous presentations in this semi-annual seminar, the Spanish version of which debuted in Spring 2014, a few years after the English-language version was introduced by the territorial corps mission and adult ministries department.

Although initially streamed live in Spanish, the seminars were found to be more expedient and useful to corps pre-recorded with online access.

Ideal for use in Sunday school classes, Bible studies and other mid-week group meetings, these presentations have been structured to be viewed with a discussion immediately following led by a facilitator (usually the corps officer or group leader).



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## GOD'S STORY

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# Serving on the last frontier

This past fall the Central Territory sent two women's ministries teams to serve in Alaska. Here's a glimpse of their experiences in Sitka and Kake.

## Sitka

After spending a week at the Sitka, Alaska, Corps, the five members of the women's ministries mission team learned that resourcefulness not only is a virtue but a necessity if you live there!

Located on an island, Sitka can be reached only by boat or plane, so corps officers must learn to be resourceful and plan ahead because they can't always go to a store to buy what they need. The team was impressed to see how local businesses, airlines and boat companies worked closely with the community to obtain necessary supplies. "Working together isn't an option; it's a way of life," said team member Marcie Priestly, Sioux Falls, S.D., Corps.

The team was led by Major Kim Ray, Pekin, Ill., corps officer, and included Captain Telinda Wilson, Fond du Lac, Wis., corps officer, Laurie Beth Thalman, Lakewood



Temple, Minn., Corps, and Chrissy Harris, Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps. They were warmly welcomed by Majors Turnie and Evadne Wright, Sitka corps officers, along with soldiers, volunteers and the community.

Throughout the week, whether painting the corps nursery, leading vacation Bible school, participating in community care ministries, assembling food baskets, cleaning and organizing two food pantries, visiting with soup kitchen patrons or shopping for supplies at the local grocery store, the women were greeted by residents of the small city.

Numerous times when the majors were out with the team, they were stopped by people requesting prayer. The team saw how the majors lived out their faith every day, showing Christ's love in all they did, which led to the community embracing the Army. When the team's mission concluded, they were touched when Major Evadne



said, "We're family now. So it's not goodbye; it's see you later." The Kake team with corps officers, Lts. Taurean and Yohani Ortiz

## Kake

No matter where you are in the world, there are aspects of Army life that never change! That was just one of the many observations by the women's ministries mission team to the small town of Kake, Alaska.

With a population of around 400 people, Kake is located on a southern Alaska island. The town people haven't had the best outcomes with outsiders (particularly churches) coming in, but they've embraced The Salvation Army which has integrated the culture of the local Keex Kwaan tribe into corps life. Team members learned they don't need to change who people are; they just need to show them God's love so they can realize He is the one and only God.

The team, led by Melanie Mowers, Royal Oak, Mich., Corps, included Major Laura Key, St. Charles, Mo., corps officer, Kelly Kumpula, Royal Oak Corps, Melanie Hall, Champaign, Ill., Corps, and Amy Anderson,



Wichita Citadel, Kan., Corps.

The women arrived in fog and rain at a tiny airport to be greeted by the bright, smiling faces of Lts. Taurean and Yohani Ortiz, Kake corps officers. The team helped with vacation Bible school, women's night and other corps ministries and painted the chapel. Lt. Yohani and the team even learned a new timbrel routine from Melanie Hall. But, most importantly, they learned even though they may have little, God can do a lot with it! He blessed them all with new friends who they might never have had the opportunity to meet!



The Sitka team

# Promoting hope through



by Brett Tolcher

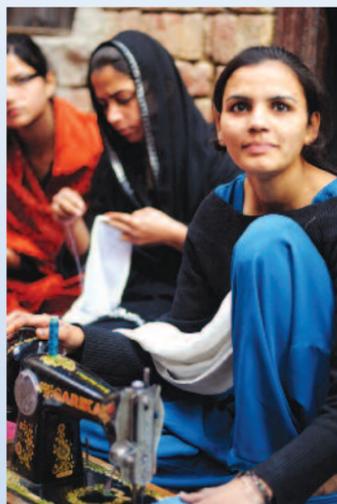
It is said William Booth once sent a telegram to officers around the world to remind them of the main focus of their work. It contained only one word, "Others."

Recently at Central Territorial Headquarters, North American and international representatives gathered to strategize future concepts for the OTHERS program which aims to transform lives and alleviate poverty by promoting and utilizing the concept of fair trade. When you purchase handmade OTHERS products, you help contribute to the creation of fairly compensated work for people who may have limited opportunities. Production units are, in many cases, linked with The Salvation Army's community development programs, where producers receive necessary counseling and support.



Large scale projects, like the new Salvation Army Christmas aprons have been made in Bangladesh. Behind each OTHERS product, there is a unique story: a story of dignity, independence and hope. OTHERS employees are often recruited through The Salvation Army's community development programs, social work and other community engagement efforts.

To support this life-changing work, visit [usa.trade4hope.com](http://usa.trade4hope.com)



# Army now in 128 countries!

Madagascar became the 128th country in which The Salvation Army is serving, as work was officially inaugurated in the African island nation on October 23, 2016. Development of the new work is being overseen by the Zimbabwe Territory, led by Commissioner Joash Malabi.

At the opening ceremony in Alkamisy the hall was filled to capacity with nearly 500 people, including local government officials, council members, leaders of other Christian denominations, Madagascar Salvationists and new recruits.

During the meeting eight senior soldiers and six junior soldiers were enrolled and a Salvation Army flag was presented to Majors Jean and Flore Kiala, officers of the Democratic Republic of Congo Territory, who have been appointed to lead the work,



assisted by Madagascar Salvationists Andriamananony and Annick Rasahoby. Andriamananomy, who brought the Army from Russia to Madagascar, gave a touching testimony in which he thanked God with joy over the realization of his dream of The Salvation Army ministering in his homeland.

Information from International News Releases



The Salvation Army's new Madagascar team with territorial leaders and the Chief of the Staff and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle (center)

## From cowboy to corps

by Shannon Cabrera



Pictured (l-r) are Jon Heaver, Lt. Colonels Ted and Nancy Dalberg, Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler and Captain Ken and Major Robin Shiels.

*On a sunny day in the year 1886, two women rode into Wichita on bicycles from Hutchinson, Kan. [A distance of more than 50 miles.] In the middle of the first block on East Douglas they proceeded to hold the city's first open-air meeting of The Salvation Army. Two converts had been enlisted—a cowboy and a military officer—and the Movement was on its way."*

This *Wichita Eagle* newspaper story from 1961 gave Captain Ken Shiels, Wichita Citadel corps officer, inspiration for the entertainment at our 130th anniversary celebration, which was comprised of a dinner and an evening service featuring territorial leaders Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler.

"Gunner and Bart," the first two converts in Wichita as portrayed by Phil Carter and Ray Poulson, opened the evening with comedy and helped set the mood for fellowship amongst the 140 guests from the corps and community. Commissioner Carol spoke at the dinner, encouraging us to help each other as we build God's Kingdom. Red kettles were then brought out to raise funds for World Services/Self-Denial.

Kansas and Western Missouri Divisional Music Director Jon



Chassidee Luce and Katie Priester



Phil Carter and Ray Poulson as Gunner and Bart, Wichita's first converts

Heaver and the corps' senior and junior bands, songsters, youth chorus and praise band blessed those at the service with their talents. Highlights included a timbrel group with 24 participants spanning three generations and a reunion of three members of the corps' female singing group.

In his message based on Matthew 13, the territorial commander reminded us that our corps and congregation should be a mixture of saved and unsaved, new and old Christians. He continued with "good churches are messy" (which we'll have to keep in mind after weeks of cleaning for this event!). We are to gather people in, not to judge them, and we all should have hearts reaching out for God.

After all, without the passion and desire to serve God, the Wichita Citadel Corps wouldn't be celebrating 130 years!

## Great Lakes, great corps

Five shots were fired. All of them missed. Though some in Waukegan, Ill., wanted to snuff out the life of the great evangelist, Joe the Turk, he survived. God preserved Joe's life and continued to use him and continued to bless the Army's work in this Midwestern city.

Currently led by Captains Daniel and Nivia Paredes, the Waukegan, Ill., Corps commemorated God's blessings for 125 years with a two-day celebration which featured the renowned Chicago Staff Band (CSB). Community members and elected officials joined Salvationists, including territorial leaders Commissioner Paul R. and Carol Seiler and Metropolitan divisional leaders Lt. Colonels Charles and Sharon Smith, for the event.

Saturday afternoon the CSB held a music school for the 25 children who participate in the corps' youth music program, culminating in a mini-concert attended by their families. That evening a dinner recognized former corps officers and Mrs. Lt. Colonel Ruth Hasney, the corps' most senior soldier for her legacy of service and continued attendance and support. The day concluded with a concert by the CSB which drew more than 250 people from the community and also featured the corps' youth. Sunday morning the CSB conducted two



worship services at the Village Church of Gurnee for more than 1,200 people who also enjoyed a sermon by the territorial commander.

A display on the corps' history by the Territorial Historical Museum educated both Salvationists and the public before the concert and worship services.

"It was a glorious weekend," said Captain Daniel. "I hope that the spirit of the celebration will stay with us and that God will be glorified in everything we do."

The Salvation Army came to Waukegan in December 1891 and appointed its first corps officer in January 1892. Given its proximity to the Great Lakes Naval Station, one of the Army's more unique ministries was running a hotel for families who would come to visit sailors in the early 1920s.

## God's perfect timing

When the Crystal Lake, Ill., Corps celebrated its 25th anniversary with a gala community concert during which individuals foundational to the corps' success received special recognition, one message remained clear throughout the evening: God always sent the right people at the right time to Crystal Lake.

Captain Carol Lewis, corps officer, invited the Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps Band and Songsters (led respectively by Peggy Thomas and Martyn Thomas) to headline the concert. The 200 people in attendance were wowed from the band's preliminary music to the vocal benediction. A trombone solo by Brett Tolcher and vocal solo by Jonathan Weller were among the highlights, as was a presentation by the Bethany Vision Dancers, a local Christian performance troupe.

Advisory Board Member Robert Blazier, who'd been crucial to the corps from its start, and the corps' founding officers, Majors John and



Julie Aren, were recognized.

Chief Secretary Colonel Jeffrey Smith gave a devotional on the Apostle Paul, and Metropolitan Divisional Commander Lt. Colonel Charles H. Smith led the prayer and congregational songs.

Captain Carol's opening remarks set the tone and purpose for the evening, themed "To Save, Assimilate and Mobilize," based on Mark 16:15 ("preach the gospel"), John 13:34 ("all men will know you're My disciples if you love each other") and James 1:27 ("care for widows and orphans").

Since the captain's mid-2014 arrival, community services at the corps and for McHenry County have expanded (such as an afterschool program, Golden Diners and service extension work in seven locations) and Sunday attendance has steadily

grown to an average of 40. The captain credited God and her great team of highly committed staff, advisory board members and many volunteers for the corps' financial stability and growth.



## International College for Officers

Please remember to pray for this officer selected to attend the International College for Officers in London, England.



Session 232

January 11 to February 20, 2017

**Major Karen Johnson**

Kroc Center Officer for Mission Integration  
Chicago, Ill., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps  
Community Center



# A can-do spirit in Canton

by Lt. Sarah Eddy

As The Salvation Army in Canton, Ill., celebrates its 125th anniversary, I think of the song, "Great is Thy faithfulness." As the current corps officer, I look at our history and see God has been faithful in both good times and bad.

the Lord protected them from injury. Despite the corps' condition, Lt. Jackson and soldiers helped the people of their town with food and clothing. It took almost two years to rebuild, but the corps was rededicated in March 1977. In April 1989, the Army was blessed to add a fellowship hall and offices.

Today, our small corps continues a full range of ministry, and I am encouraged as many of them are poised to take off. Two examples of progress include Pathway of Hope (POH) and youth programs.

Since POH was introduced in our corps in 2012, it has been our primary social services focus with families. People have been enrolled from various

connections with the corps, from soldiers who qualify and need to set goals to make progress in their lives to those who come to us from referrals from the Department of Human Services. This year 12 families have participated in POH.

I'm also very encouraged that the number of youth in our programs has grown from an average of 11 to 21! Some of the increase is attributed to a conscious effort to reach out TO the community, including approved flyers being distributed in schools.

In tandem with traditional character-building, we've introduced Kids with a Mission (KWAM), based on Matthew 22:37-39. Every Tuesday night before working toward our character-building emblems, children assemble in the chapel for a kids' worship service.

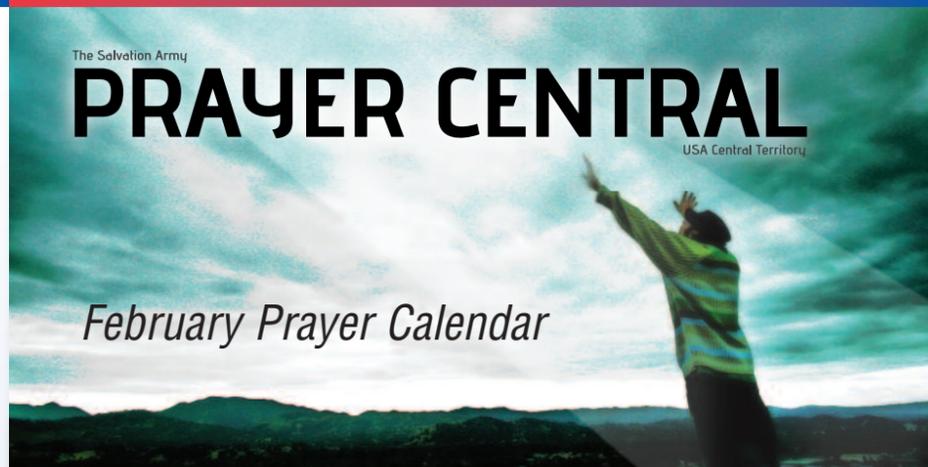


Photo courtesy of the Central Territory Historical Museum

The Army marched into town in 1883, holding its first meeting in a tent, but its official opening didn't occur until 1891. Though it closed seven years later, faithful soldiers carried on. The Army's work never fully ceased but didn't officially reopen until December 1905.

The Army has occupied eight different locations. The latest building, opened in 1965, was built in the shape of a drum, which seems appropriate since in the Army's beginnings the drum not only served as a clarion call through London's streets but the mercy seat (altar) during open-air.

In July 1975 Canton was devastated by a tornado. The corps, then led by Lt. and Mrs. Lewis Jackson, sustained severe damage. Mrs. Lt. Jackson and their daughter were in the building when the tornado hit and sought refuge in the basement. Though bricks fell all around them,



My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Wednesday	Job 9-10	Norfolk, Neb., Corps
	2 Thursday	Isaiah 23-28	Milwaukee Cold Spring, Wis., Corps
	3 Friday	Matthew 11-13	Northwest Indiana ARC*
	4 Saturday	Romans 9-10	Plymouth, Mich., Corps
	5 Sunday	Genesis 20-23	Candidates for Officership and Corps Cadets
	6 Monday	Judges 1-6	Ottawa, Ill., Corps
	7 Tuesday	Psalms 15-17	Marion, Ind., Corps
	8 Wednesday	Job 11-12	Western DHQ**
	9 Thursday	Isaiah 29-33	Pittsburg, Kan., Corps
	10 Friday	Matthew 14-16	Gary-Merrillville, Ind., Corps
	11 Saturday	Romans 11-12	Major Wes Green (England)
	12 Sunday	Genesis 24-27	Quincy Kroc Center, Ill., Corps
	13 Monday	Judges 7-11	Minneapolis Temple, Minn., Corps
	14 Tuesday	Psalms 18-20	North Platte, Neb., Corps
	15 Wednesday	Job 13-14	Michigan City, Ind., Corps
	16 Thursday	Isaiah 34-39	Milwaukee West, Wis., Corps
	17 Friday	Matthew 17-19	Regeneration Young Adult Conference
	18 Saturday	Romans 13-14	Mali Region <sup>PM</sup>
	19 Sunday	Genesis 28-31	Pontiac, Mich., Corps
	20 Monday	Judges 12-16	Omaha Kroc Center, Neb., Corps
	21 Tuesday	Psalms 21-23	Chicago Staff Band music ministry
	22 Wednesday	Job 15-16	Pekin, Ill., Corps
	23 Thursday	Isaiah 40-44	Muncie, Ind., Corps
	24 Friday	Matthew 20-22	Salina, Kan., Corps
	25 Saturday	Romans 15-16	Hammond-Munster, Ind., Corps
	26 Sunday	Genesis 32-35	Men's Ministries Sunday
	27 Monday	Judges 17-21	St. Charles, Mo., Corps
	28 Tuesday	Psalms 24-26	Minot, N. D., Corps

\* = Adult Rehabilitation Center  
 \*\* = Divisional Headquarters  
 PIM = Partners in Mission

Go to [www.salarmycentral.org](http://www.salarmycentral.org)

If you follow the prayer calendar during the year, you will have read through the Bible!



## Mobilize VIGORously



**Mobilize VIGORously is a yearlong spiritual life emphasis to mobilize for outreach during 2017. Look for monthly topics for worship, weekly family focuses and discussion starters, and other web-based resources to promote spiritual life development individually and corporately.**

See your corps officer for more information.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### Brass & Choral Arts Coordinator

The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, Phoenix South Mountain, Az.

This position will oversee, direct and instruct music education and music ministry programs at the Phoenix South Mountain Kroc Center. The applicant must possess: five years in music program leadership, a bachelor's degree in music or Christian ministries, be an active uniformed Salvationist with extensive knowledge of Salvation Army doctrine, brass and choral music.

For more information contact Major Gwyn Jones or Lt. Larry Carmichael via e-mail [Gwyn.Jones@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Gwyn.Jones@usw.salvationarmy.org) or [Larry.Carmichael@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Larry.Carmichael@usw.salvationarmy.org) or by phone (602) 425-5000

### --Mustard Seeds--



## Celebrating the Cooks

Family and friends gathered from across the Midwest in Nebraska to celebrate the retirement of Captains Ronald and Carol Cook after 14 years of officership. Majors Greg and Lee Ann Thompson, Western divisional leaders, conducted the retirement ceremony in front of nearly 50 guests.

Since 1983 the Cooks and their two daughters, Kristina and Wendy, were

involved at the Lincoln, Neb., Corps. Ron had worked at an adult rehabilitation center for nearly 14 years, and Carol was running a child development center fulltime out of their home when they felt God call them to "give all of themselves and go serve in a bigger way."

They served as envoys six months before becoming auxiliary captains and then eventually captains. They served in Grand Island, Neb., Newton, Iowa, and Fort Dodge, Iowa.

The Cooks retired to Newton where they're happy to be involved once again with the corps and have more time to visit their daughters, son-in-law and granddaughter, Grace.



Captains Ronald and Carol Cook (c) with Majors Greg and Lee Ann Thompson, Western divisional leaders

## Honk n Holler enriches lives

The "Honk n Holler" mobile feeding program not only enriches the lives of homeless people but beneficiaries of the Kansas City, Mo., Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) as they volunteer each week on the canteen operated by Metro Kansas City Emergency Disaster Services (EDS).

"With many of the men having once lived on the streets themselves, the beneficiaries bring an even deeper dimension to ministry possibilities," said Steve Leiker, Metro Kansas City EDS coordinator. Although Salvation Army feeding centers have been serving people since the 1970s, Steve said EDS took the ministry to the streets in 1984.

Today 10 crews, each composed of three to five EDS volunteers, rotate on the canteen Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and a crew from the ARC takes it out every Thursday. Targeting the chronically homeless, the canteen has regular stops in the city but sometimes goes off route to wooded areas and bridge underpasses.

The crews do all the prep work then serve an evening meal to more than 100 people. Each receives a beverage, a bowl of something hot and a plastic bag containing a spoon, napkin, cold sandwich, potato chips, a donut or other snack, personal hygiene items, toilet paper and any treats or products that



A crew prepares bags (each containing a sandwich, snacks and toiletries) for distribution with each hot meal from the canteen.

may have been donated, such as fruit cups, juice boxes or socks. Due to the extreme heat this past summer, hundreds of gallon jugs of water also were distributed.

Cold-weather items, including coats and blankets, are distributed in the winter. Ironically, the canteen sees a drop in the number of people coming to be fed because it's often too cold to leave their tents.

Nurses from a local hospital and various church groups have gone out with the canteens to offer services or goods. And, pet food is always available so people don't sacrifice their own food to feed their animals. "Whether it's a stray dog or cat they've adopted, pets make a big difference in the lives of homeless people," Steve added.

"It's easier to help people who haven't yet learned how to survive on the streets; they're in dire need and open to assistance," he continued. "It's not good for those who've been homeless for a year or more. But, the ARC crew has become particularly effective in encouraging people to get off the streets. One night an intoxicated man was so belligerent, we had to ask him to leave. Less than a month later, he was an ARC beneficiary and eventually began serving on its canteen crew to 'give back.'"



ARC crew members serve a hot meal.

# RECONCILE

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## Promoted to Glory

### Lt. Colonel William Kish

Lt. Colonel William Kish was promoted to Glory on October 11, 2016. He was 101 years old.

One of 13 children, Bill was born in Pennsylvania. As a teenager he moved to Michigan where he met and later married Frances Bosca. Bill met the Army when he needed assistance and surrendered to Jesus at a salvation meeting.

Bill and Frances Kish were commissioned in 1940 as members of the "Hold Fast" session. They faithfully served in corps in Michigan and Wisconsin and at divisional head-



quarters appointments in five divisions. In the decade before his 1980 retirement, the colonel served as divisional commander of the (then) Minnesota and Kansas/Western Missouri divisions.

An evangelist at heart, the colonel was a diligent supporter of world missions. After retiring he oversaw building projects at the training college before moving to Florida where he and his wife were faithful soldiers at the New Port Richey Corps. A devoted husband, father and grandfather, the colonel was totally committed to the Lord and the Army.

Colonel Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Frances, and son, Timothy. He is survived by his daughter, Kathy, seven grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.