



# 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 44, Number 11

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## The General and Commissioner Cox spur Central onward!

*General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox inspired more than 5,800 Salvationists during a four-city tour of the Midwest this fall. Their solid biblical message and vision for the Army resonated with people, with altars lined time and again, and 118 individuals making a public declaration for officership. People also were drawn to their down-to-earth personas, sense of humor and genuineness. Often throngs lined up with their Bibles and Army flags to be signed and cameras to take the ever-present selfie with the General and Commissioner Cox. It was as if they belonged here and were coming home. Well, after all, we are one big family.*



### There's a Welcome Here

**T**he Cadets' Welcome and Soldiers' Rally not only introduced the 22 "Messengers of Light" session, it gave a taste of the rich talent and cultures of the Metropolitan Division, such as the Chicago Mayfair Community Church, Ill., Corps Songsters and the Des Plaines, Ill., Corps Hispanic Sacred Dance Team, and featured the territory's own Chicago Staff Band.

Introduced by Territorial Commander Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, the General and Commissioner Cox saluted the congregation, especially Rockford, Ill., soldier Stella Lennox, 106, who was in attendance.

After a moving presentation of the session flag to session flagbearer Cadet Ross Anderson by Major Cherri Hobbins, training principal, Commissioner Cox gave a wisdom-filled charge to the cadets,



Cadets Aaron and Sarah-anne Kruse from Fargo, N.D., salute General André Cox.

reminding them the development of their spiritual life must be their priority as they enter training.



The General and Commissioner Cox with Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps soldier Stella Lennox, who is 106 years old!

"If ever there was a need for The Salvation Army in our world, it's now," the General proclaimed. He then charged Salvationists to live out their faith with a sense of urgency, knowing God's Word and being witnesses in both speech and action. Upon his urging, the audience gathered in groups of five to six to seek God's blessing.

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Photos by Andy Grey

## Serving our nation's heroes

Kansas and Western Missouri Division's programs fight hard for veterans

**T**he Salvation Army has a long history of supporting those serving in the military. Many of us learned this from talking to our grandparents and great-grandparents who served in WWI and WWII.

The Salvation Army also has provided services to homeless veterans for decades through a multitude of national programs and services. The Kansas and Western Missouri's (KWM) Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) programs are stellar examples of The Salvation Army's ministry and dedication to those who have served our country.

Introduced in 2011 SSVF is part of a comprehensive plan by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to prevent and end homelessness among veterans. With new strategies

and funding streams, SSVF provides services and temporary financial assistance to intervene early to prevent homelessness or to quickly rehouse homeless veterans.

The Kansas and Western Missouri Division program was one of the first awarded SSVF funding in 2011 to serve Kansas. The program was so successful it was recognized by the Kansas State Legislature that year and in 2012 received another award to serve 10 counties in Northwestern Missouri, including Kansas City.

The programs help people like Aaron who served in the military for 18 years. Upon leaving, he moved to Wichita, Kan., to be with family and quickly found a job but within two years was downsized. Though he tried again and again, there were no prospects and his family faced evic-

tion from their apartment. But that's when "God stepped in," said Aaron. At a job fair, he learned about SSVF and soon received financial and medical assistance, counseling and even found he qualified for VA disability.

Without this program, Aaron and his family faced homelessness and he might have continued to struggle to find adequate employment. Through the partnership and grant with the VA, The Salvation Army was able to provide a "hand up." Ultimately, Aaron came to work as a veteran peer mentor for the very program that had assisted him. Now he spends his weekdays—and the occasional weekend—helping other veter-



ans and their families achieve housing stability.

"I've found where I belong, helping veterans like myself who've fallen on hard times and just needed someone or an organization to care about what we as veterans have done for our country and what they can do to help us vets," he said. "Without the assistance of the VA

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# Saving for the future or investing in it?

by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler  
Territorial Commander

The principle of "Invest Intentionally" in *Creating a Shared Future* is challenging because it is linked to conscious decisions about the value of the future in contrast to the value of the past or present. It is linked to stewardship of our resources for the future of the work God appoints us to do.

One bank's marketing says: *Do you have the right balance between saving and investing? Savings accounts, money market funds and CDs may feel safe, but you're just keeping your money on the sidelines. Let us help put your money to work.*

Sounds a lot like Matthew 25:14-30—the parable of the talents—to me. Focus on the servants. Two multiplied the impact of the resources given to them. One buried the resource so it could be handed back

safely to the wealthy man. Without valuing stewardship for the resources given, the third servant lost the opportunity. If those were bags of rice rather than money, the first two individuals would have fed more people in the future. The third individual didn't get any value for the rice as it likely would have decayed.

Investing intentionally is about putting resources to work as good stewards of what God has given us. This is not utilitarian; it is scriptural. It is also common sense. Investing intentionally happens on many levels, and by naming this as a principle I'm praying we



aren't surprised when there are results. It's investing in people and relationships. It's giving time and effort for life-changing steps out of poverty. It's taking time with youth to teach and guide them at our camps and in our character-building programs. It's a local officer identifying and mentoring a potential local officer. It's starting to save for the kids' college fund or your retirement when you have an income, not a few years before it happens.

The difference between saving and investing in the financial arena is the degree of risk for growth or loss. There are checks and balances to make good decisions, but there is still an element of risk with investing. Investing also requires saying no to what is not aligned with values and purpose (the territory has strong

socially conscious values in our portfolio investments) and understanding that being greedy becomes a handicap rather than an investment.

Just putting money, time and personnel into the same safe approach seems to me to be like using a savings account at less than 1 percent interest because the effort of stopping something and intentionally investing in a different direction might have risk. Even worse, of course, is keeping everything in a checking account so it's "ready to use" but not earning any interest.

When we consider investment of the Army's resources of time, funds and people as honoring God's trust in us, we are compelled **not** to be the third servant. We are compelled **not** to be random in our approaches. We are compelled **not** to just hold on and bury what we have.

We are compelled to be intentional about investing in God's mission through The Salvation Army that will result in more souls saved, spiritual maturity and growth, and service to people resulting in meaningful outcomes.

## Serving our nation's heroes

Continued from page 1

and Salvation Army, I don't know where I would be."

In the past year these programs were chosen to be mentors to six new SSVF awardee programs. Earlier this year the KWM Division also was awarded two new grants targeting urban areas with higher concentrations of extremely low-income homeless and at-risk veterans and veteran families for three years with a surge of funding. The two new grants will serve Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan., and Jackson County/Kansas City, Mo.

KWM's SSVF program is designed to target very low and extremely low income veterans and veterans with

family members who are at-risk of losing permanent housing or who are homeless. Case management is the primary vehicle of intervening in the veteran's housing crisis, and temporary financial assistance is used to obtain and promote housing stability and sustainability.

Veteran peer mentors are utilized to assist with identification of potential participants, assist veterans in navigating community resources, and to provide vet-to-vet support. The two new grants also will provide much needed employment coaching and supports.

"We have found that it is not unusual for veterans to experience difficulty re-entering the workforce for many reasons. One of those reasons is due to employers' lack of understanding of veterans' transferrable skills compared to a formal degree program of study," said Debra Fester, KWM divisional veterans and recovery services coordinator.

She continued, "In fact, we have also struggled with understanding how to write a job description to be inclusive of veterans, inasmuch as possible. But we are learning how



to make legitimate adjustments based on knowledge, skills and competency and not just a degree when possible. It helps level the playing field, and we can hire more veterans to work in our veteran serving programs. In order to attract veterans to work for the program and to provide vet-to-vet support to veterans enrolled in the SSVF program, we created a veteran peer mentor position that does not require a degree."

The SSVF program is a fast-paced and demanding environment that requires a high performing team. Case managers are required to "hit" production numbers, including a specified number of intakes per month depending on the annual target number to be served.

According to Debra, "This is possible due to the fact that the SSVF program is designed to be a shorter-term program, averaging three to four months, and due to the leadership of Divisional Social Services Director Joyce Schau, program managers Rachel Pederson and Sophia Stachofsky, and an excellent SSVF team. It has been a wonderful opportunity for all of us to learn more about how to best serve our veterans."



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Officer Candidates' website  
Mission: Literacy webpage  
Love in Action webpage  
Canadian Staff Band website  
International Congress website  
Youth department website  
Rotation Sunday school curriculum website

### Media

Flint Citadel Band playing on YouTube  
Cadets' Welcome/Soldiers' Rally with the General

### Web exclusives

Mission: Literacy newsletter  
More on the first Salvation Army Thanksgiving band concert  
Overseas personnel contact information for Christmas greeting  
Excerpt from 2014 Advent Resources

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# Chicago Kroc Center in league for change

by Major Darlene Harvey

**D**uring a time this year when our country was experiencing racial tension, the Jackie Robinson West (JRW) Little League team brought together not only the City of Chicago but the nation as we cheered them on in the Little League World Series. They were the Cinderella team from Chicago who showed the world how champions play and live. While Chicago has become known for gun violence, the pride of the far South Side shone brightly through these 11- to 13-year-old boys who played baseball with dignity, hard work, dedication, sportsmanship, talent, character and hope.

The league is named after Jackie

Robinson, the first African-American baseball player to break the color barrier in professional baseball. However, on Major League Baseball's opening day this year African-American players made up only 8.3 percent of players, down from 18.7 percent in 1981 according to the Society for American Baseball Research. JRW and the Chicago Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center could be helping to change the numbers in the big leagues and remake history, just like their namesake Jackie Robinson did 67 years ago.

During the Little League World Series, the Chicago Kroc Center was privileged to host three watch parties so the City of Chicago could unite in

supporting JRW. Attendance grew each game from 700 to 1,200 to 1,600! The parties, planned and sponsored by the City of Chicago and the Chicago White Sox, were attended by parents, community members, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Illinois Governor Patrick Quinn. The energy and enthusiasm were electrifying and not only brought publicity for the team but exposure for The Salvation Army's Chicago Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. Though JRW lost to South Korea in the World Series, their national championship has been a uniting and inspiring factor for the community and city and, during a time of decline in African-Americans playing baseball, has inspired young people to learn the game.

Under the leadership of Bill Haley, JRW families were among the first in the community to offer ideas for the Chicago Kroc Center. Now, the Chicago White Sox brings youth to the Kroc Center for baseball camps, and the Kroc Center hosts the White Sox Ace program, a group of inner-city travel baseball teams so they can reach the big leagues. Last year the Kroc Center offered ACT prep classes for several players so they could improve their ACT scores for college.



Major Darlene Harvey with Annie Haley, Chicago Kroc Center member and president of the JRW league which her late husband founded.

Thirteen young people were able to accept full scholarships to NCAA Division One universities because of their skills and grades and already are being scouted by pro teams.

"Mrs. Kroc had a vision of giving boys and girls Olympic opportunities so that it could change their futures," said Major David Harvey, senior Kroc officer. "The Kroc Center gives opportunities in sports and arts that take youth from beginner to elite status like the youth from JRW. The Salvation Army links the gospel to these opportunities in order that they have an opportunity to excel here on earth, while following Jesus to experience the ultimate prize in heaven."



## good soil initiative

### GSI growing strong

by Major Angela Wandling  
Assistant Territorial Youth Secretary

**T**he Good Soil Initiative (GSI) is growing—in awareness, numbers, locations and influence! This summer six new GSI youth development coordinators (YDC) were added to the program, including Joanna Skonburg in Canton, Ill., Shawn Sutter in Topeka, Kan., Audrey Hickman in Chicago La Villita, Ill., Rebekah Langham in North Platte, Neb., Rob Leach in Holland, Mich., and Angelo Morales in Michigan City, Ind. We have three more individuals in progress to bring the total to 14 YDCs.

They have joined a program started in 2012 to deploy YDCs in select corps in the territory to help youth grow in their faith and character by using youth development principles and practice, as well to increase corps ministry to young people in their community. It also is hoped that by helping corps officers and youth leaders move from an intuitive

to an intentional approach, a decline in traditional Salvation Army youth programs will be reversed.

Central Bible Leadership Institute (CBLI) 2014 marked the second year for a Good Soil Initiative track. In addition to 12 YDCs, three corps officers joined the training sessions as a pilot for including other youth leaders in GSI training events. It was a good fit, and we plan to open this track to youth leaders next year at CBLI.

Mindy Willenborg is the first YDC to begin her third year with GSI at the Mattoon, Ill., Corps which has seen a transformation in its youth outreach and ministry in the corps and community. Programs and community support have grown, and many young lives have found a place to grow! We are seeing similar results in other locations.

Currently, 20 corps across the territory are involved with GSI. Some are active sites seeing growth, while others are approved locations actively recruiting a YDC. The next big push for adding new sites and staff will be January 2015. Please send inquiries to USC\_Youth@usc.salvationarmy.org

Your corps could be next!



## Sunday school... surprise!

**W**hen Daniel and Jared Donaldson arrived at their first Sunday school class last year their eyes grew wide. Chef hats donned and aprons tied, with monster grins they asked if they really got to cook, and, even better, eat during Sunday school!

To their delight, the answer was yes. It's part of the Port Huron, Mich., Corps' "rotation Sunday school" led by Majors Mark and Sandra Turner and is a thematic approach to learning the Bible with rotating classes.

Instead of studying one Bible story each week, there is one story or theme per month with four different types of classes to impart the topic. In Port Huron they have a Bible class, movie room, cooking class and craft. Three of the four classes are conducted each week. The following Sunday the classes rotate. By the end of the month, children have studied the topic in four different ways and memorized a corresponding Bible verse.

"In addition to building enthusiasm



Daniel and Jared Donaldson are ready to cook!



Craft class with teacher Denise Ledbetter and Jonah Reeves

in youth, it's a great way to reach children through different learning styles. Some learn better by using their hands, others by listening to a story; this way we can reach them all. Plus they love the variety," said Major Sandra.

Not only does this method prove successful for the kids, but for the teachers and Corps Youth Directors

Matt and Angelle Pickett as well because it's more flexible, appeals to different talents and isn't as demanding. "Teachers have one week off a month and only commit to a three-month teaching period. This way we can switch up the types of classes and the talents of the teachers," said the major.

The main goal is to make things exciting for the kids. Major Sandra notes when the youth who've come in from other activities are excited about coming to Sunday school, it often follows their parents are, too.

## Teachable hearts

by Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren  
Territorial Ambassador for Holiness

The ministry of the Holy Spirit, provided we walk in fellowship with Him, has a tremendous effect on our life. One of the greatest results is that we can be taught the things of God.

In the upper room Jesus told His disciples that the Spirit would teach His own. "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth; He will not speak on his own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak, and He will disclose to you what is to come. He shall glorify Me, for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you. (John 16:13-14, NAS)

In leading holiness seminars in the territory, my wife and I have found God is the master teacher who can and will lead us into understanding



the truth. He opens our eyes because we are teachable. We are sensitive and listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we can be taught even those things which cannot be known by man naturally. How wonderful this is.

The world can't understand these things because their minds are carnal; they have not been regenerated. However, as God's people we can think differently as the Holy Spirit enables us to understand God's Word and be transformed into His image. It is possible for each of us to walk in holiness and to be all God wants us to be. The question is, do you have a teachable heart?

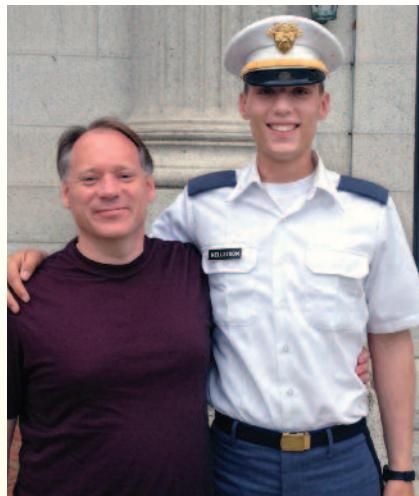
## Three points to West Point

Fred Van Vleet had the basketball at half court. He made a move to get around his defender and drove into the lane. He passed the ball. David Hellstrom caught and shot in rhythm from behind the three-point line. "Money!" cried Fred as the ball went through the net.

With that one shot, David was on track to be recruited to play for a Division 1 college basketball team: the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

The third son of Majors Randy and Kathy Hellstrom, David grew up in a home of strong faith and lots of activities, especially basketball. "We're a basketball family," said David. He watched countless games with his dad and siblings; his two brothers both played in school. "I've been playing basketball since I can remember," he said.

As children of officers, David and his siblings—Nathan, 26, Josh, 23, and Moriah, 18—moved a lot growing up, and faith remained the constant. "I was 14 when I made my faith my own," David said. "From there I've continued to grow, living



my life so God comes first in everything I do."

Living first for God proves true for him even in basketball. "Basketball is a very secular culture," said Major Randy. "There is bad language, parties and girls, but David has always remained true to his faith and has been a witness through his actions and integrity."

At 17 David joined an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball team called Prymetyme in hopes of getting recruited to play college ball. During his first season he found himself in Minnesota playing in the "Pump and Run" tournament.

It should have been a good time, but David was discouraged. There were some very good

## Building faith through prayer

Prayer has become a priority among the people of the Council Bluffs, Iowa, Corps this past year thanks to a colorful prayer wall that has also served as a powerful faith builder, reports Major Judy Tekautz, corps officer. Located in the chapel, the wall not only prominently displays prayer requests but the answers provided by God to those prayers.

Corps soldiers Nancy Smith, an avid scrapbooker, and her husband, Dennis, designed the prayer wall, which the couple maintains along with all other informational boards throughout the corps.

Visitors to the prayer wall are invited to write their prayer requests on colorful, balloon-shaped pieces of paper which may then be posted on the board in the chapel. The balloon shape was selected to symbolize the act of faith in sending a prayer up to God. Then when answers to prayer are received, they're written on bright red heart shapes that symbolize God's love and are posted in place of the balloon on the board.

These simple visual representations of God's power and love have been the catalyst for changed lives and deepened relationships at the corps, according to the major. When it's hard to speak adequately about a concern in the busyness of corps life or if an individual is shy, sharing



Angie Smith, a long-time Council Bluffs Corps soldier, posts a prayer request.

prayer requests with fellow believers in this manner fosters relationships as well as builds faith; seeing the increasing numbers of red hearts encourages everyone.

The prayer wall also has benefited many in the corps during times of grief, such as when a young man recently passed away.

Angie Smith, a long-time soldier, said, "I appreciate our prayer board very much. All it takes is a balloon with a name on it and everyone [starts to] pray. No matter the need, the prayers are there. I've felt the power of the prayers, and whether or not the answer received is what we wanted, we put up a heart so all can see prayers were heard. Love and support through prayer is so important when you're part of God's Army, and our prayer board shows His love at work."



players on this team, and he was relatively new. Star player Fred Van Vleet, who now plays for Wichita State University, dominated most of the games, and David was getting only a few shots. He was ready to leave the tournament until his dad talked him out of it.

"You've always got to work your hardest and do your best. If it's God's will, He will open the door," Randy said. Praying together, Randy asked God for the opportunity David needed.

In the next game David made that three-point shot. He didn't know that Coach Omar Mance, a recruiter from West Point, was watching. He had

not intended to be there, but an unexpected opening in his schedule led him to the game.

That weekend at a youth group cookout, David received a call from Coach Mance. He had been impressed with David's play, especially that three-point shot. God had answered Randy's prayer in "one shot," and the process of being recruited to a Division 1 team had begun.

David is now in his sophomore year as a West Point cadet studying computer science. He plays for the Black Knights and loves every minute. And he continues to be an example to those around him.



Pictured (l to r) Nathan, Josh, Moriah, David, Majors Randy and Kathy

# STEPs, a great collaboration in Indiana Division

by Major Barbara MacLean and Samantha Hyde



**S**TEPs has become a great collaboration between individual corps and the Indiana Divisional Headquarters (DHQ). By working together through the process, DHQ is actively helping the corps leverage their strengths, address their weaknesses and discover new opportunities to grow and

engage their communities. We discovered early on that corps officers wanted to focus on two core elements: worship quality and fundraising needs.

One of the key ways we addressed the goal of improved worship quality was to provide better equipment for use during services and programs. We have been able to help a number of corps acquire guitars, keyboards and percussion equipment for praise bands and have offered guitar lessons. The corps are now equipped with TVs, computers and equipment to help enhance worship with live music and other media.

In 2014 DHQ worked closely with six struggling corps and one outpost, using the STEPs process to achieve significant successes by focusing on each location's unique fundraising needs. Officers at the Columbus and Anderson Corps recruited new advisory board members and forged new



partnerships with major employers and community funders. The Marion Corps held its first-ever radiothon, forging new partnerships and netting twice its goal. In Shelbyville, the advisory board secured \$12,000 for Pathway of Hope through a Community Foundation grant. Duke Haddad, Indiana divisional executive director of development, has worked tirelessly on this goal. As a result of the STEPs process, all corps officers are now more proactive in their communities and are engaging more with their major donors.

STEPS also has inspired new efforts that have shown great promise, like the Terre Haute Corps' summer outreach and evangelism program. Low-income children enjoyed lunch, games and Bible lessons three times a week throughout the summer. Terre Haute Corps Officer Auxiliary Captain Gordon Hoag explained,

"One of our STEPs goals this year was to have our soldiers be more involved in the social service aspect of the Army's ministry. We had soldiers and congregants help make sandwiches, prepare lessons, teach and help with the final day carnival. The highlight of the summer was the morning that five children accepted Jesus as their Savior."

We are pleased that corps officers are able to use STEPs effectively to evaluate themselves and work together as a congregation to meet the needs of their community and corps. Instead of a cookie cutter review, STEPs is truly a tool to gauge the potential of each corps. Our STEPs teams bring together divisional staff, officers and employees to gain better insight into the Indiana Division, its strengths and needs so we can do the most good for the people of our state.



## True partners in ministry

**A** special relationship has grown over the last few years between the congregation of the Kansas City Northland, Mo., Corps and the beneficiaries of the Kansas City Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC), according to Majors Richard and Barbara Carroll, corps officers. It's become even more symbiotic over the past year with the intentional engagement of ARC men in several areas of corps ministry. Some former beneficiaries have made the corps their church home and become soldiers; one even entered the College for Officer Training with his wife this past fall!

"Thanks to the willingness of Majors John and Rachel Klammer, ARC chaplains, to provide transportation, the men not only regularly attend our Sunday worship after chapel at the center, they also participate in year-round community outreach and evangelism events, Bible studies and discipleship classes," said Major Barbara. "And, if ARC transportation isn't available, men come to the corps by bus! They're truly part of our spiritual family."

The Carrolls believe the relationship between the corps and ARC, led by Major Troy and Captain Linda



Barker, works because everyone is doing their part to reach out and connect with each other. Beneficiaries not only willingly participate in the many ministry opportunities at the corps, they've been intrinsic to the successes of the corps' quarterly community outreaches, which utilize *Just Walk Across the Room* evangelistic training. These events have included a corps picnic followed by an ice-cream giveaway in a public park and a garage sale.

The men also participate in the corps' "Discipleship 101" series of classes as well as Sunday evening Bible studies and prayer meeting. "On Easter 10 beneficiaries were

able to join our men's chorus for a wonderful job ministering through music," said Major Barbara. "And, when we have potlucks, the men desire total participation by bringing a dish to share!"

Everyone also works together to prepare the building for Christmas.

"The men help us move the decorations from our storage unit to the building and assist with decorating. They also come to help during our three-day Christmas distribution," the major continued. "They even registered to participate in our 5K Kettle Run last year!"

## Tending His flocks

**M**ajors Richard and Barbara Carroll have been the Kansas City Northland, Mo., corps officers for the past six of their 25 years of officership.

"I haven't worked a day in 25 years. If you love what you do, it's never work!" said Major Rick, a fifth-generation Salvationist and child of officers. Major Barbara is a fourth-generation Salvationist with officer grandparents who ministered in adult rehabilitation centers.

"As most children of officers would say, 'The last thing I'd ever do is become an officer,'" said Major Rick. "But, God had something different in mind!"

During college he toured with music group *Second Destiny*, which is how he initially met Barbara in Kansas. After earning a bachelor's degree in music education from Bradley University in 1971, he reconnected with her on a visit to his parents, who were leading the Kansas and Western Missouri Division. By then Barbara was working at divisional headquarters.

The two continued their long-distance relationship as Rick taught school in Michigan and soldiered at the Flint Citadel Corps. He continued teaching after moving to Kansas City and marrying Barbara in 1976.

A decade later, Rick was working



as camp administrator for the Eastern Michigan Division when God called him to officership. Barbara had been called as a teenager and even started her response in 1975 but didn't follow through knowing Rick didn't share her calling. The Carrolls were commissioned in 1989 with the "Ambassadors for Christ" session.

Major Barbara concluded, "You grow through each appointment building on the skills you've learned, then rely on God for direction and wisdom. Each new flock brings fresh awareness of God's amazing grace. It's His flock; you're just there to partner with Him in helping them flourish."



# The General and Commissioner Cox

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Photos by Craig Dirkes

## Celebrating Salvationism

by Craig Dirkes

**D**uring an exhilarating "Celebration of Salvationism" in the Northern Division, the General pulled no punches with the 26 new soldiers he enrolled in front of a packed house at Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie, Minn.: "You're joining the Army now. There are no comfortable seats.

"You will be active in God's work," he continued. "You'll be out there, doing spiritual warfare, spreading the gospel, serving the needy."

Among the soldiers was Shyla Taylor, 13, of the St. Cloud, Minn., Corps. Before the ceremony Shyla said she felt honored to have General Cox enroll her as a senior soldier. "It's like a step toward growing up, changing to more of a mature adult," said Shyla, who had been a junior soldier.

The General reminded her and the crowd about the importance of staying true to the Bible, especially in these troubling times.

"We live in a society where we're almost encouraged to write our own version of the gospel to suit our own lifestyle," he said. "But the Word of God remains unchanged. And that is

your goal—you need to read it, you need to study it, and affirm your belief in the Bible as the Word of God."

During the rally soldiers contributed in many ways including multilingual prayers which represented the wonderfully diverse Army in the Northern Division.

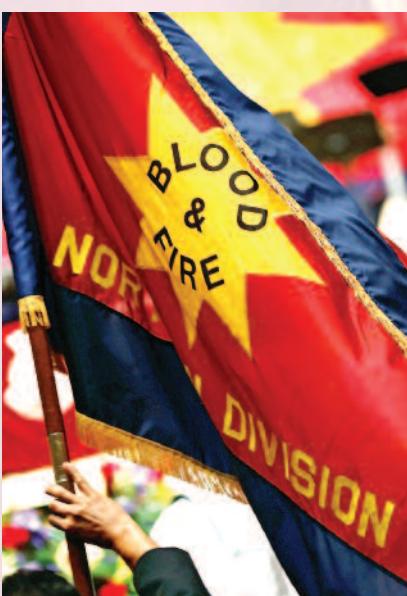
That evening Commissioner Silvia Cox brought the message saying Jesus is the way, the truth and life and the reason for celebration.

Earlier in the day the General reached thousands of others during a 45-minute radio interview on the Twin Cities' premier Christian radio station, with topics ranging from The Salvation Army's role in disasters to donor stewardship.

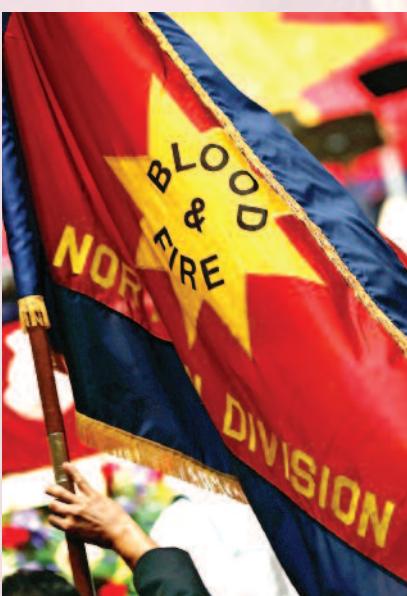
When the host mentioned red kettles, General Cox was quick to point out bell ringing is performed almost exclusively in America. "We don't quite do it the same [elsewhere in the world]," the General said, citing Switzerland where the Christmas tradition is for music groups to perform in public.



Casey Becker, 17, helps Shyla Taylor, 13, get ready for her enrollment.



Junior soldiers are introduced for enrollment.



Captain Michael Cho, Northern divisional youth secretary, leads worship.



Photos by Derek Giovig

## On to the City of Fountains

by Amanda Waters

**O**n a crisp, sunny Saturday the General and Commissioner Cox arrived in Kansas City, Mo., where the first order of business was a luncheon with the Kansas City Metro Advisory Board. The General shared a bit of his background and the Army's work around the world and then expressed appreciation.

"I just want to acknowledge everything that you do...I realize that you do this over and above—you don't have to do it—but because you are motivated also to making a difference," he said.

The General then led a soldiers' rally, "Spirit Filled, Battle Ready," at the historic Music Hall in downtown Kansas City. Highlights included a clever welcome by children dressed as a cowboy, baseball player, President Truman and Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz; a tri-divisional band



The General meets members of the Kansas City Metro Advisory Board. Major Charles Smith, then Kansas and Western Missouri divisional commander, on right.



(Kansas/Western Missouri, Western and Midland), a tri-divisional massed singing company of 100 children; a video featuring stunning images from the Gateway Arch in St. Louis to the World War I Memorial in Kansas City to Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, and three moving stories of people who found the Lord through The Salvation Army. One of them was former drug addict Tony Taylor, who while in prison accepted Jesus during a visit from a Salvation Army officer. Today, Tony shares that same message of hope as a correctional chaplain for The Salvation Army.

General Cox delivered an uplifting message on how to stay Spirit filled and battle ready during times of trial and tribulation. He said, "He wants us to live a life that is secure—not because we're not in danger of losing our house, not because we're not in danger of losing our material wealth, but secure because we know our lives are in His hands, because He is in control and He will have the final victory."



# spur Central onward!



Photos by Christina Holman

## Dreams realized in Detroit

by Abby Johnson

The Dream Congress in the Eastern Michigan Division turned out the biggest crowds and reenergized Salvationists to continue the Army's important work in Metro Detroit. The event's theme not only had historic allusions to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech at Cobo Hall in 1963 preceding his famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial but referenced General André Cox's "I Dream" statements for the Army shortly after his election. It also spoke to the Army's continuing commitment to Detroit.

With the focus "A Righteous Dream," the holiness meeting captured the Army's heart. Commissioner Silvia Cox shared a brief testimony about God's dreams and plans for her life. Saying "I have no regret for following God's plan," she urged those in attendance, "Whatever He's calling you to do today, please answer!"

An undoubtedly highlight of the meeting was the enrollment of 24 senior soldiers by the General, as was the enrollment of 15 junior sol-

diers in the afternoon. The General encouraged Salvationists to make God-given dreams a reality by living right and making sure their actions match their uniforms.

After the meeting, a massed band—90 strong—held a concert at Hart Plaza. Five exceptional bandmen—each with a music legacy spanning more than 60 years—were recognized including Angus MacKenzie, Bill Dobney, Peggy Payton, Ray Everett and Max Wood.

The afternoon Festival of Praise, "A Dream Realized," incorporated dreams that have come to fruition including the renowned William Booth Legal Aid Clinic, and the Bed & Bread Club® ministry to Detroit's hungry and homeless with the Dick Purtan annual radiothon raising nearly \$30 million for it in 27 years. Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center soldier Lynne Williams powerfully testified to overcoming addiction with God's help through the Army, and character-building troop members who earned higher awards in the past year were recognized and got to shake the General's hand! Colonels Dennis and Sharon Strissel, Eastern Michigan divisional leaders, also were honored and received their retirement certificates from the General.



The General listens as Angus MacKenzie leads a divisional massed band, 90 strong, in concert at Hart Plaza in Detroit.



Dick Purtan shares the history of the annual radiothon.



General André Cox congratulates Alexandria Eddy on becoming a junior soldier.



Photos by David Moore

Central Territorial Commander Commissioner Paul R. Seiler and the General and Commissioner Cox enjoy a lighthearted moment at the College for Officer Training.



Training Principal Major Cherri Hobbins welcomes the General and Commissioner Cox to the College for Officer Training. Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander, also pictured.

## A charge to cadets

by Cadet Brandon Lewis

Cadets, officers and staff cheered and clapped as the General and Commissioner Cox entered the College for Officer Training campus. As Army flags waved and a brass ensemble played "God's Children," the international leaders were greeted by Principal Major Cherri Hobbins.

General Cox explained his three-fold mission for our Army: to grasp transparent accountability in all levels of our organization, to embrace and cultivate the youth in our system, and to acutely and passionately read the Word of God.

Commissioner Cox emphasized the need for all leaders to be genuine in mission and in love. In her testimony she shared how she has been blessed to see the outreach of The Salvation Army across every continent and in dozens of countries. "When you put everyone all together," Commissioner Cox explained, "we have a wonderful picture of who God is."

Following this, the General reported on the international status of The Salvation Army, saying the Army needs good leadership and good management. "The Salvation Army does not belong to you," he said. "It belongs to God alone."

The fruit of the Spirit was the final topic on which General Cox spoke—and the Spirit truly moved through him. "Our spiritual nature cannot just evolve into something good," he preached. "It will not get better on its own. We need a radical revolution, a spiritual transformation."

The meeting ended with praise and a farewell from the territorial commander. As the General and Commissioner Silvia Cox departed, his final salvo was "You've got a paper and a pen, and you've even got a Bible! What more do you need to preach the Gospel? Get out there and win the world for Jesus!"



Cadets were thrilled to take selfies with the General and Commissioner Cox during their visit to the College for Officer Training.



Cadet Blake Fewell enjoys the opportunity of a lifetime not only to meet the General but to have his Bible signed.



## Actions speak louder



**D**id you know for \$15 you can purchase mosquito nets for five people to help prevent the spread of Malaria? Or the extra \$25 leftover in your budget from last month can feed a child for a month? Imagine having the avenue to purchase supplies for people in need overseas and know that every cent you spend will go toward their specific, immediate needs.

It's possible through the Love in Action sponsorship program. Your one-time gift can fulfill immediate needs like school uniforms, mobility products, food, mosquito nets, farm animals, maternal health needs or HIV/AIDS.

"This program takes a different approach to sponsorship," said Viki Payton, sponsorship and mission support coordinator.

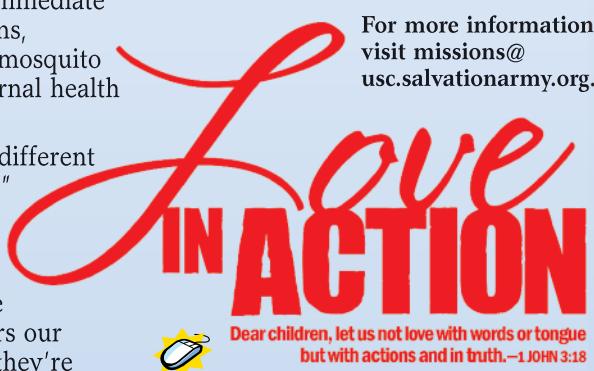
"Not only is it a one-time commitment, it empowers our donors to pick a project they're

passionate about."

Retired officers Majors Murry and Julie Herron have seen great need worldwide and faithfully help people through Love in Action. They give food because it's needed to survive, mobility assistance (wheelchairs, for example) because they know many countries have few options for people with disabilities, and school uniforms because they value education.

"It's good to know we're helping in some way," said Major Julie.

For more information visit [missions@usc.salvationarmy.org](http://missions@usc.salvationarmy.org).



## Edmonds retire but remain ambassadors

**M**ajors Robert and Kathy Edmonds entered the ranks of retired Salvation Army officers earlier this year and were recognized for 50 years of combined faithful ministry with an open house. During that time a brief service was conducted in which Major Thomas Bowers presented the Edmonds with their retirement certificates along with a challenge.

In 1987 as single cadets they entered the School For Officers Training as part of the "Ambassadors For Christ" session, were commis-

sioned in June 1989 and served separately in their first appointments until they were married on January 20, 1990. Their appointments together included corps in Lansing, Muskegon, Mt. Clemens and Alma, Mich.; Minot N.D.; Waukesha, Racine and Madison, Wis.; and the Chicago Northside Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC). Major Robert was placed on medical leave in February 2014, and in June 2014 Major Kathy was appointed to special services at the Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Divisional Headquarters. This past June, the Edmonds received their long service award.

The Edmonds have one son, Curtis. Since retiring to Kentwood, Mich., they have become faithful soldiers of the Grand Rapids Fulton Heights, Mich., Corps. In retirement they have been volunteering as chaplains at the Grand Rapids ARC.



Majors Robert and Kathy Edmonds flanked by Majors Thomas and Jacalyn Bowers

## Around the world and back

**V**iki Payton is a fifth generation Salvationist who has lived in four countries on three continents, is fluent in two languages and has recently returned from working at an international Christian school in Germany. With such an expansive worldview, she's a fantastic fit for the world missions department as the new territorial sponsorship and mission support coordinator.

Viki grew up in Mexico with officer parents, and she remembers praying to receive Christ with her mom after a junior soldier class. A testing point came during her freshman year of high school when her family was moved to Jamaica.

"It was a very difficult transition," Viki recalled. "I realized either I could be bitter and resentful or I could trust God to help me through it; I did the latter. He gave me joy when circumstances did not. I can clearly see how God used this time in my life for good."

In her new role she's the liaison



Viki (r) interned in Argentina with Elyse Dobney.

between sponsors in the Central Territory and Salvation Army children's homes overseas. She also manages mission projects, including Love in Action, Share Your Christmas Joy and Project: F.A.S.T. (formerly Project 24/29). She'll be at many functions to promote Salvation Army sponsorship.

"It's important to me to help others have a greater understanding of what's going on in the world, and to open their eyes to being part of it," said Viki.

Although the position has changed considerably, this will be Viki's second time working as sponsorship coordinator. "Coming back is exciting," Viki said. "It's easy and comfortable, but in the best sense of the words in that it fits my passion, skills, abilities and experiences."



Viki with her parents, then—Majors Yvonne and Frank Payton, and her grandmother, Mrs. Brigadier Elsie Payton

## Send season's greetings year-round!

*It's easier than ever to send Christmas greetings to Centralites serving internationally! Brighten their day by sending a card or emailing an encouraging word, not only at Christmas but throughout the year!*

**Majors Robert and Rae Doliber**  
Serving in Haiti

**Captain Dr. Felix and Major Violet Ezech**  
Serving in Trinidad

**Majors Philip and Sheila Davisson**  
Serving in Canada

**Major Wes Green**  
Serving at IHQ

**Captains Sergii and Tanya Kachanov**  
Serving in Canada

**Captain Christopher Marques**  
Serving in Japan

**Majors Deon and Michelle Oliver**  
Serving in Australia

**Commissioners William A. and Nancy L. Roberts**  
Serving at International Headquarters

**Major Cynthia Shellenberger**  
Serving in Australia

**Captains Andrew and Melissa Shiels**  
Serving in Latvia

Visit our "Get Connected" website for email and postal addresses.  
[www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected](http://www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected)



# Mission: Literacy—one for the books!

**M**ission: Literacy, a Bible-based reading curriculum, is now in all 10 divisions and the Adult Rehabilitation Centers Command with 657 trained tutors. It's a territorial initiative led by retired officer Major Jan Hendrickson and supported by Territorial Assistant Secretary for Program Major Richard Herivel and Territorial Youth Secretary Major Monty Wandling.

The curriculum, a tutor manual, road map and phonics book, developed by the American Bible Society in conjunction with the Bank Street College of Education, is now compiled in ready-to-teach prepared lessons, crafts, games, phonics and a spiritual and academic goal.



Some centers use Mission: Literacy in ongoing, year-round curriculum, but it's easily adaptable to shorter timelines and different programs.

Captains RC and Miranda Duskin, Norfolk, Neb., corps officers were innovative in partnering with an area church. During a reading festival Captain RC connected with another local pastor, who he trained on how to teach Mission: Literacy. The church ran it as part of their summer day camp program and 46 children from the corps and community were tutored receiving some of the best test scores on

"Any corps or Kroc Center can set their own timeline for the 16 sessions," said Major Jan. "All of the materials are now available free-of-charge online and can be copied down in volume format." A registration form will need to be sent to Major Jan for units to receive the readers and Bibles.

record with Major Jan.

"We don't have a lot of adult personnel at our corps, so this allowed us an opportunity to teach more kids," said Captain RC. "It was also another way to make connections in the community."

In Quincy, Ill., it's been incorporated into their day camp. Jessie Hickey and Lacie McClellame are the literacy day camp teachers at the Quincy Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. "It's great to see our kids grow in reading and comprehension," said Lacie. "We're even able to build on what they've learned in the past years."

For the last three summers they have helped approximately 45 children a day learn to read and comprehend. One girl who started coming to camp three years ago used to lack confidence. Now she is a comfortable reader and even helps read books with the teachers and other children.



sure and extra boost of vital knowledge for our children," said Brenda. "Not only that but it's so easy to use. I oversee some people who don't have a background in education, and anyone can use it."

Retired engineer Chuck Evans volunteers every day teaching two brothers how to read at the St. Paul Corps. When they came to the corps they were illiterate and could not get past question two of their pre-evaluation. At the end of the 45 lesson session, the boys were able to make it to question 17 out of 30.

"It's one of the highest gains I've ever seen here!" Brenda exclaimed.



Brenda Line, St. Paul Citadel, Minn., director of child development and the afterschool program, uses the Mission: Literacy materials year-round. It's offered once a week as part of the afterschool program and taught five days a week during summer day camp.

"It's a wonderful tool, mea-

## Easy as 1.2..3..

Ready to start Mission: Literacy at your corps?  
It's simple:

1. Visit [www.salvationarmynj.org/missionliteracy](http://www.salvationarmynj.org/missionliteracy).
2. Click on "lesson plans" under the Mission: Literacy headline, download and print Volume 1 materials.
3. Have your students complete the "pre-evaluation," following the steps on page iii of Volume 1 materials, and send results and registration to Major Jan Hendrickson:  
[Jan\\_Hendrickson@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Jan_Hendrickson@usc.salvationarmy.org).



# anticipate

2014 Advent Resources:

## Anticipate...a Song

Enrich your corps' worship during this Holy season with ready-to-use, quality worship resources during Advent.

Experience the songs of Christmas—anticipate Christ's coming!

See your corps officer for more information.

An Advent Experience



# A Thanksgiving cornucopia of praise

The proud musical heritage of the Central Territory is displayed in many ways, including some spectacular corps Thanksgiving concerts that span nearly a century.

## Dearborn Heights, Mich.

Not only has the Dearborn Heights Citadel Corps Band performed a Thanksgiving concert every year since 1920, they were the first Salvation Army band to play a Thanksgiving concert in the United States! Bandmaster Emeritus Dick Herivel, who had led the band for 37 years, pioneered the idea.

Years ago he was quoted as saying, "In my younger days with a slimmer waistline, I had what some might call a brainwave. I began to think there must be something else to do besides lazing around on Thanksgiving night. The idea for a festival gradually formed in my mind. This, I thought, would finish off a perfect day."

This year the Dearborn Heights Citadel Band performs its 94th Thanksgiving Concert at the corps with special guests Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler, territorial leaders, presenting the devotional message and prayer, and the band playing a repertoire of hymn tunes, Christmas music and traditional brass band selections.

This concert has garnered a good response from the community, bringing in upward of 200 people from advisory board members to friends



Dearborn Heights Citadel Band, then Bandmaster Tom Hanton

who serve with the corps, as well as community members who enjoy brass music.

"Our band has been a vital part of this corps for generations," said Captain Caleb Senn, corps officer and band member. "It adds a level of stability and fellowship to the culture of our corps; it's a place for our people to use their God-given skills to advance the Army's mission to the glory of God."

**Join them on November 23, 6:00 p.m., at the Dearborn Heights Citadel Corps.**

## Flint Citadel, Mich.

The Flint Citadel Band has held Thanksgiving concerts for the last 82 of its 108 years.

The Army came to Flint 13 years earlier in 1893. Called the "Vehicle City" even back then for its manufacture of horse-drawn carriages, Flint's first car plant actually sparked the beginnings of a corps band when four Canadian Salvationists sought work there. Soon other Salvationist bandsmen began arriving from Scotland, England and Ireland to work at the plant.

Held at the corps in its early years, the Thanksgiving concerts moved to progressively larger venues until a permanent home was found in 1973 at the Whiting Auditorium near the University of Michigan—Flint campus. Guest performers have included Larnelle Harris, Ken Medema, Sandy Rios, Jude Gotrich and the Canadian Staff Band.

From the start, the concerts have had a three-fold purpose: to praise God, share the gift of His music and provide opportunities for the Holy Spirit to affect listeners. Ministry continues with the distribution of free CDs containing the band's music and the gospel message. For more than 50 years the band also has presented spring and advent concerts at the corps and in larger churches.

The 42-member band is currently led by Bandmaster Matthew Rowland. Of the nearly two dozen previous bandmasters, the longest serving with 26 years was Richard Holman, now serving as the Flint Citadel Band League coordinator. League members and endowments support the band's ministry expenses, instrument purchases and repairs,

recordings and music camp scholarships. Majors Jon and Kris Augenstein are the current corps officers.

**Join them on November 21, 7:00 p.m., call corps (810-232-2199) for venue.**

## Royal Oak, Mich.

The Royal Oak Citadel Band's Thanksgiving concerts for 50 years have not only cemented the Army's reputation in the community as a place of worship, they've fostered close, cooperative relationships with other churches equally committed to evangelism.

Former bandmaster Dale Johnson said the concerts' early years featured Army tunes with sacred chorales from the songsters but began to change in 1988 when a younger generation of musicians took the lead.

"We wanted to blow the lid off by adding contemporary Christian music to our repertoire," Dale recalled. And, blow it off they did. The concerts drew crowds almost double the 350-seat capacity of the corps' chapel.

For the next 14 years the concerts were held at larger churches to accommodate the crowds while the band and songsters continued to experiment by introducing secular music, thematic concerts (a Disney-oriented one was particularly popular with children!) and guests such as Richard Phillips, Carol Jaude and Bill Flynn and his family, as well as local choral and church musical groups.

In 2002 the band brought the con-

**THE CHICAGO STAFF BAND**  
William Himes, conductor

*in Concert*  
with THE CANADIAN STAFF BAND  
John Lam, conductor

**Saturday, November 29, 2014 – 7:00 pm**  
**Edman Chapel – Wheaton, Illinois**

(Not a function of Wheaton College)

The Canadian and Chicago Staff Bands will be joining forces to present an evening of inspiring and exciting music for brass, percussion and voice—15 years since their last concert collaboration. Throughout their respective histories, both of these premier Salvation Army bands have toured the world, sharing their music ministry in performances from palaces to prisons.

Sounds of the Seasons 2014 also marks the 37th and final season of William Himes as conductor of the Chicago Staff Band. Well known for his compositions and arrangements, he has over 170 instrumental and choral publications and his music is frequently featured on international broadcasts and recordings. In 2000 he received The Salvation Army's highest honor, the Order of the Founder.

For FREE tickets contact The Salvation Army, Music Dept.  
10 W. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016  
online: [www.chicagostaffband.org](http://www.chicagostaffband.org)



Flint Citadel Band, Bandmaster Matthew Rowland



Royal Oak Citadel Band, Bandmaster Greg Payton

cert back to the corps, hoping attendees might choose the Army as their church home. Reinforcing this corps-growth effort is a pie and coffee reception after each concert.

Under the direction of Bandmaster Greg Payton, the band still makes

guest appearances at area churches throughout the year to promote the Army and the Thanksgiving concert. Captains Peter and Catherine Mount are the Royal Oak corps officers.

*Join them on November 22, 7:00 p.m., at the Royal Oak Corps.*



Rockford Temple Band, Bandmaster Steve Sjogren

### **Rockford Temple, Ill.**

**O**n the Sunday afternoon prior to Thanksgiving, the 36-member Rockford Temple Band entertains more than 1,000 people with its seasonal concert. According to Rockford Temple Bandmaster Steve Sjogren, the concerts are a wonderful way to thank the community and to share the gospel, "the reason for the band's existence."

Held by necessity for the last decade at large churches in town, the concerts also provide a launch for kettle season, raising awareness of the Army's work in the community and promoting opportunities for involvement, reported Major Steve Merritt, Rockford Temple corps officer.

The Thanksgiving concerts have been held for more than 35 years and usually start with a congregational song before the band launches into its repertoire of traditional Army music plus classical and seasonal selections. Also participating in the concerts over the last 25 years have been Army and local guest artists, such as Mark Ridenour, Kevin Metcalf and the Joel Ross Trio.

Another concert tradition is sowing gospel seeds through a devotional message given by the corps officer

before the band performs its final musical number. Information on the corps and the Army's ministry in the community is included in the printed concert program. Bandmaster Steve has been gratified to see familiar faces from the Thanksgiving concerts on Sunday nights at the corps.

"A special treat over the last several years has been Chicago Staff Bandmaster William Himes serving as concert emcee," Major Steve concluded!

*Join them on November 23, 4:00 p.m., at the Rockford First Church.*



### **--Mustard Seeds--**



The Salvation Army

# **PRAYER CENTRAL**

USA Central Territory

## *December Prayer Calendar*

<i>My Prayer List</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Bible Reading</i>	<i>Pray for The Salvation Army</i>
	<b>1 Monday</b>	Acts 19-20	Colonels Merle and Dawn Heatwole (National Headquarters)
	<b>2 Tuesday</b>	1 John 3-4	Kansas City Westport Temple, Mo., Corps
	<b>3 Wednesday</b>	Deuteronomy 13-15	DeKalb, Ill., Corps
	<b>4 Thursday</b>	Nehemiah 5-9	Jefferson City, Mo., Corps
	<b>5 Friday</b>	Psalms 140-142	Jamestown, N.D., Corps
	<b>6 Saturday</b>	Song of Songs 1-2	"I'll Fight" Day
	<b>7 Sunday</b>	Revelation 1-6	Marshalltown, Iowa, Corps
	<b>8 Monday</b>	Acts 21-22	Lansing Citadel, Mich., Corps
	<b>9 Tuesday</b>	1 John 5	Marinette, Wis., Corps
	<b>10 Wednesday</b>	Deuteronomy 16-18	Omaha, Neb., ARC*
	<b>11 Thursday</b>	Nehemiah 10-13	Midland, Mich., Corps
	<b>12 Friday</b>	Psalms 143-145	Keokuk, Iowa, Corps
	<b>13 Saturday</b>	Song of Songs 3-4	Kokomo, Ind., Corps
	<b>14 Sunday</b>	Revelation 7-11	Midland DHQ**
	<b>15 Monday</b>	Acts 23-24	Lawrence, Kan., Corps
	<b>16 Tuesday</b>	2 John	Des Plaines, Ill., Corps
	<b>17 Wednesday</b>	Deuteronomy 19-21	Joplin, Mo., Corps
	<b>18 Thursday</b>	Esther 1-5	Kenya East Territory PIM
	<b>19 Friday</b>	Psalms 146-148	Lakewood Temple, Minn., Corps
	<b>20 Saturday</b>	Song of Songs 5-6	Mason City, Iowa, Corps
	<b>21 Sunday</b>	Revelation 12-17	Lansing South, Mich., Corps
	<b>22 Monday</b>	Acts 25-26	Marquette, Mich., Corps
	<b>23 Tuesday</b>	3 John	Chicago, Ill., Kroc Center Corps
	<b>24 Wednesday</b>	Deuteronomy 22-24	Rockford, Ill., ARC*
	<b>25 Thursday</b>	Esther 6-10	Anticipate Immanuel—God with us!
	<b>26 Friday</b>	Psalms 149-150	Monroe, Mich., Corps
	<b>27 Saturday</b>	Song of Songs 7-8	Macomb, Ill., Corps
	<b>28 Sunday</b>	Revelation 18-20	Lafayette, Ind., Corps
	<b>29 Monday</b>	Acts 27-28	Leavenworth, Kan., Corps
	<b>30 Tuesday</b>	Jude	East Chicago, Ind., Corps
	<b>31 Wednesday</b>	Revelation 21-22	Kirksville, Mo., Corps

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!

\* = Adult Rehabilitation Center

\*\* = Divisional Headquarters

PIM = Partners in Mission





# BOUNDLESS

*the whole world redeeming*

## Film Festival seeks submissions

Next year's Boundless 2015 International Congress in London will include everything you would expect at such an event: God-pleasing worship, passionate preaching, inspiring music and a cast of thousands of Salvationists and friends. It also will include some unexpected and innovative programming, including a Boundless Film Festival, celebrating Salvation Army film-making from around the world. Anyone can take part in the festival. All you need is a video camera, a vision and the willingness to turn your idea into something that can inform and inspire.

The Salvation Army has been involved in film-making since its inception, and the Boundless Film Festival will recognize the gifts and talents of today's Salvation Army film-makers. Submissions should be based around the congress theme: *Boundless—The Whole World Redeeming*.

After that, the rest is up to participants. Whether it's a gripping drama, cutting-edge animation or riveting documentary, the International Congress office wants to see the best

examples of innovative, high-quality film-making.

A panel of judges will review all submissions before choosing a group of films that best represent the theme, with entries being broken into two age categories: 25 and under, and 26 and over. Excitingly, the best films will be shown on the big screen at The O2's Cineworld Cinema, where three screens—the largest of which seats 750 people—have been set aside for the congress. The new films will be shown alongside a selection of archive footage and professionally made documentaries.

Creativity and originality are strongly encouraged, with films demonstrating imagination the most likely to be showcased. Films must be no longer than 15 minutes, and all entries must be submitted by April 30, 2015. If it's not in English, the film must be subtitled.

**Full details, guidelines and rules, including information about how to submit your film, are on the Boundless Film Festival webpage: [www.boundless2015.org/boundless/film\\_festival](http://www.boundless2015.org/boundless/film_festival)**

## Ameren energizes volunteerism

Ameren, a provider of electricity and natural gas for over 100 years, is a tremendous advocate and champion for The Salvation Army in St. Louis, Mo., and received the 2014 Territorial Organization Volunteer of the Year Award.

The company is unique in that its communities are also its customers. According to President and CEO of Ameren Illinois Richard Mark, Ameren always has been committed to providing more than just electric and natural gas to communities. "When I think of The Salvation Army, I think of it as an organization here to help people in need no matter what, and that's one of the reasons I want to help the Army—so they can continue to do great work," he said.



Army, Ameren employees volunteer at Christmas and even took a lead role in strengthening the Angel Tree program at their offices last Christmas by formulating a strategy to better communicate what gifts were needed and initiating an Angel

Tree kick-off event. If that wasn't enough, employees always jump at the chance to ring bells at kettles. Last season they rang a combined total of 106 hours.

"It's gratifying to see the response of my coworkers to the Angel Tree program," said Steve Kidwell, Ameren vice president, regulatory and legislative affairs, and five-year Salvation Army advisory board member. "Our employees seem to enjoy the long tradition of supporting The Salvation Army, but more than that there are several who have been touched by the Army personally in some way."

Ameren also engages with The Salvation Army to support veterans, the Summer Hunger campaign and the Red Shield Gala.



Midland Divisional Commander Major Lonneal Richardson and Ameren Vice President, Regulatory and Legislative Affairs and five-year Salvation Army Board Member Steve Kidwell illustrate the long-standing relationship between The Salvation Army and Ameren.

## A heartfelt tribute

Major Linda Jones entered a well-earned retirement after 32 years of faithful service. A Saturday-evening celebration was held at the Mitchell, S.D., Corps, where she'd most recently served as corps officer.

Conducting the retirement ceremony was Major Mary Hammerly. Citing Mary and Martha in her remarks, she said Major Linda could've been their "middle sister" embodying the best traits of both women: Martha's hard work, attention to detail and striving for excellence plus Mary's willingness to take the time to sit at Jesus' feet. She added Major Linda's compassion for people is her most outstanding trait.

Salutes also came from friends, family, community members and Major Paul Fleeman, Western divisional commander and Major Linda's brigade officer while she was a cadet! She, in turn, asked several former cadets for whom she served as a brigade officer to participate in her retirement service.

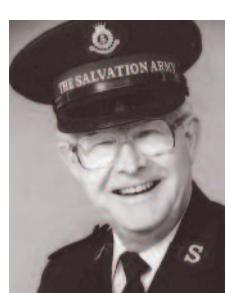


Major Linda Jones (l) and Major Mary Hammerly

## Promoted to Glory

### Major Paul Fuqua

Major Paul Fuqua was promoted to Glory on July 24, 2014. He was 89.



Paul was born to Archibald and Cora on April 28, 1925, in Dalton City, Ill. His family started attending The Salvation Army when they moved to Decatur, Ill., and Paul was saved at age 14.

In 1943 he joined the U.S. Navy and proudly served during World War II aboard the US LST 601, Mediterranean Theater of War. After honorable discharge in 1946, he married Viola Cassidy. Their marriage was blessed with three children.

The Fuquas entered training in September of 1946. They were dedicated corps officers and served at corps across the territory from Faribault, Minn., to Wichita Citadel, Kan., and over to Gary, Ind. They retired from Bloomington, Ill., in 1990.

The Fuquas spent many years of retirement in sunny Clearwater, Fla., and then relocated back to Illinois in the last year.

Paul is survived by his wife, Viola, his children, David, Michael (Kristie) and Heidi Fuqua; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

## Territorial Social Services Conference

April 28-30, 2015

Indianapolis, Ind.

Online registration coming in January 2015.