



# 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)

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Lt. Colonels Lonneal and Patty Richardson accept the award from HUD's Marion McFadden.

## Renovation wins national award

With architectural details representing the best of vintage and modern design, The Salvation Army's 3010 Apartments in St. Louis, Mo., has been honored with the 2015 National Trust/HUD Secretary's Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation.

The prestigious award recognizes efforts in advancing historic preservation goals while providing affordable housing and economic development opportunities for low-income residents. Midland divisional leaders Lt. Colonels Lonneal and Patty Richardson accepted the award in Washington, D.C., from Marion McFadden, HUD deputy assistant secretary for grant programs.

Retaining historic elements without drastically altering interiors, the \$12 million renovation produced 58 one-bedroom apartments for individuals with special needs. Not only was the building's design preserved but its

historic, continuous usage for sheltering which started in 1907 with the "News Boys' Home and Protectorate." In 1970, the building was purchased for a Salvation Army harbor light.

Gary Busiek, divisional social services director, said the building's usage came full circle when young adults exiting foster care were included as eligible residents for the 3010 Apartments, as well as individuals with physical and behavioral disabilities. Residents are supported by services from a variety of agencies that are also represented on the building's advisory council.

The building is part of a \$60 million Midtown Project to transform this underutilized area. The first phase was a \$9 million residence for military veterans, several of whom had been housed at the harbor light.

The second phase was renovating the harbor light into the 3010

Apartments, during which time the treatment center relocated to the building's annex and the corps and pastoral services moved to the new veteran's residence, said Captain Adam Moore, harbor light administrator.

Phase Three, the captain continued, is a new-construction "Wellness Center," which repositions the harbor light to maximize out-patient treatment. Phase Four will be the new corps and community center, and the final phase will be a new, market-rate residential/commercial building.

"The Midtown Project represents a bold new approach to service, community building and sustainable, quality-of-life improvement for our city's most vulnerable residents," said Lt. Colonel Lonneal Richardson. "We consider the 3010 Apartments a redeemed space for redeemed lives."



## goodsoil initiative

### Growing the next generation

In its fourth year the Good Soil Initiative (GSI) continues to grow throughout the territory. With youth development coordinators currently deployed in sixteen locations, representing six divisions, GSI has been planted in both rural and

urban contexts, multicultural ministries and even nontraditional settings. Its reach now stretches from Lincoln, Neb., to downtown Chicago, to Kalamazoo, Mich., but it's a resource many more corps could take advantage of.

"The goal continues to be the development of the next generation," said Major Angela Wandling, assistant territorial youth secretary. "The purpose is not only to build assets into them that will carry them into productive adulthood but, even more importantly, give them a solid foundation to be lifelong disciples of Christ."

Youth development coordinators work with youth, corps leaders, neighborhood organizations, parents, teachers and others to increase ministries to youth in their communities and to provide healthy and safe places with opportunities for youth to grow in their faith and character.

Coordinators are trained on-site and resourced by the territorial youth department. They receive ongoing training annually at the Refuel youth leaders conference in February and at Central Bible Leadership Institute in July. This year Barb Higgins, territorial youth specialist, also will begin mentoring them one-on-one.

GSI requires a three-year commitment, not only from the individual but from the corps and division as the funding model for the position is tiered with contributions from the corps, divisional headquarters and



Barb Higgins (l) and Major Angela Wandling

territorial headquarters.

The division taking most advantage of this opportunity is Western Michigan and Northern Indiana (WMNI). According to Major Jason Poff, WMNI divisional youth secretary, approximately one-fifth of their corps now have GSI youth development coordinators, and the division is hoping to add two to three more in the coming year. His passion for the program comes from his own experience.

"Coming to this appointment in 2013, we reviewed the status of youth work in the division and felt there needed to be an infusion of

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First GSI graduate Mindy Willenborg, Mattoon, Ill.

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## Go team, go!

by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler  
Territorial Commander



I have always believed in lifelong learning. As a captain I sent a request to the territorial education department for approval to attend a three-credit hour course at UCLA called "Coaching: Building a Winning Team." I guess my past experience playing tennis with the education secretary didn't help because a few weeks later I received a letter from him indicating physical education courses weren't on the approved continuing education list. The class actually was in the business school, I wrote back. With that further explanation (actually in the original proposal) I received approval. Sports are great examples of teams. Some of you may have heard me share a quote from a basketball player after an unexpected defeat: "We'd be a great team if we didn't play like a bunch of individuals."

Teams are even scriptural, although generally referred to with a "body" metaphor. From Romans 12:4-6 (NIV): "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us." Sounds like a team to me, notably with different abilities because the functions are needed. So what can Patrick Lencioni's book, *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team*, teach us as we work together to "Create a Shared Future"?

He identifies as the first dysfunction an absence of trust, an "unwillingness to be vulnerable" with each other. In the Christian walk, acknowledging needs, fears and joys together builds the faith community. Our corps need a team that weeps and prays together over the apparent gap

in mission when in almost 40 percent of corps no one is finding Jesus as Savior. I'm being vulnerable. This breaks my heart.

The fear of conflict is the next dysfunction and reveals itself when there is not passionate debate of ideas. Care enough to "get in the game" and be passionate about team members who need to do their part in pursuit of mission.

Lencioni notes a lack of healthy conflict leads to a lack of commitment, the third dysfunction. Without vigorous and honest debate, the buy-in is lethargic at best. Without commitment, the fourth dysfunction then is an avoidance of accountability. He writes, "Without committing to a clear plan of action, even the most focused people often hesitate to call their peers on actions that seem counterproductive to the good of the team." The fifth dysfunction, which is inattention to results, then thrives. When we don't

pay attention to results, we defend our own interests and withdraw from the team.

Wow! Imagine the "Romans 12 body" running a race not as one: legs not running strong, lungs half-hearted about breathing, hands carrying a suitcase and soda, and eyes shutting for a nap. When the body of Christ acts like a dysfunctional team, it's not just a game or marathon that is lost, but souls! The spiritual cost is high.

I pray as we work together on teams (STEPS, employee, advisory member and officer teams, etc.) we won't allow dysfunctions to flourish but instead will fit a positive profile of trusting one another, engaging in conflict around ideas, committing to plans of action, holding each other accountable for delivering on those plans, and focusing on achieving collective results for the Kingdom of God through The Salvation Army.

## Godly lessons from science

More than 278 youth, leaders and corps officers in the Heartland Division took part in a day-long event at Eagle Crest Camp called STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Awards were presented for first, second and third place based on criteria that included their understanding of the project and their participation in presenting the project at the event. The Decatur, Ill., Sunbeams' and Explorers' project earned third place, Peoria Citadel, Ill., Moonbeams took second, and the Moline Heritage Temple, Ill., Corps Sunbeams came in first.

The Moline Sunbeams' winning STEM project was titled, "Polluted to Purified." They built aquifers that showed how pollution at the surface can sink in and affect groundwater, then they experimented with building a simple water filter with cotton, gravel, sand and paper tow-

els. They discovered the filters were able to sift out the bigger debris (styrofoam, oil, paper), but the food coloring remained.

"We applied this to Philippians 4:8-9," said Lt. Holly Ehler, Moline corps officer. "What happens in the world around us has a tendency to get inside us, but we can filter some of that junk out by focusing on whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent or praiseworthy. In order to get rid of the sin that clings to us, however, we need a powerful purifier (in the water filtration world this would be a powerful detergent/chemical) to clean us, and that's the Lord."

All youth received a participation medal, and the day ended with a visit to the Caterpillar, Inc., Visitors Center and Museum near



Sunbeams experiment with a water filter for their project called "Polluted to Purified."

Heartland Divisional Headquarters in Peoria.

"For a first-time event, we were very happy with the turnout, and all of the kids did a great job," said Captain Jeremy Stouder, Heartland divisional youth secretary.



The first place winning Moline Heritage Temple, Ill., Corps Sunbeams with Juanita Belcher, Heartland divisional youth development director, Captain Jeremy Stouder, Heartland divisional youth secretary, Lt. Holly Ehler, Moline corps officer, and leader Crystal Hubbard.



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Significant Corps Anniversaries in 2015  
A look at The Salvation Army in Haiti  
Excerpt from 2016 Lenten resources  
Five facts about The Salvation Army in Japan by Captain Chris Marques  
Q & A with Milwaukee lead chaplain Pastor Alexis Twito  
Five ways to get your corps praying by Mark Bender

## Western holds shield identity event for donors

by Linda Holmes Garbina  
Western Divisional  
Director of Planned Giving

Everyone should take steps to protect themselves against identity theft, according to security professionals who spoke at the Western Division's first "Shield Your Identity" event in Omaha, Neb., attended by 150 people.

"You can't make this stuff stop, but you can lower your risk," said Russ Hyllested, senior information security consultant for Cox Communications, the presenting sponsor for the event. "I want to make sure you're not an easy target."

Hyllested was joined by experts from the FBI Cyber Task Force, University of Nebraska Omaha, Continuum Security Solutions and the president of the regional Better Business Bureau to address cyber security issues facing consumers every day. Other sponsors included Northwestern Mutual and Harrison Financial Services.

"Being a victim of identity theft can cause everything from a small inconvenience to a full-blown disaster," said Major Greg Thompson, Western divisional commander. "We wanted this event to provide our donors with some preventive tools."

Hyllested compared identity theft to a home robbery. He said burglars may pass by the house with the lights on and a barking dog inside for a home where the lights are off, window ajar and days of mail in the mailbox.

He recommended consumers use credit cards rather than debit cards for purchases; configure security patches to auto-install on computers and install both antimalware and antivirus software; use diamond cut shredders that have the ability to shred DVDs/CDs and credit cards; make sure smart phones are password protected; check credit reports for erroneous charges annually; create strong passwords with at least 12 characters with a mix of letters, numbers and symbols; change passwords every 90 days.



Russ Hyllested, senior information security consultant for Cox, answers a question from an audience member.

## Fresh starts for mother, son

by Roxanna Ruiz

Due to domestic violence, I needed to leave home with my young son, Ramon, to live in a shelter. Its staff encouraged me to ask others for help, find a church and seek counseling. Women living at the shelter told me about a terrific organization that helps those like us: The Salvation Army.

After relocating to northwest Indiana, I visited the East Chicago, Ind., Corps for help furnishing my apartment and met a wonderful woman named Rosemary. As she listened to my problems, I began to feel a sense of relief; the weight of the world was no longer on my shoulders.

Rosemary helped me resolve a problem with my mother who was being difficult about letting us reclaim our belongings. Thanks to Rosemary's persistence, we were able to pick up our possessions. Ramon got back his clothes, toys and all the other things so important to a small boy. He attended summer day camp at the corps and made many new friendships that continued into the school year.



Roxanna Ruiz and Cadet Leta Marin, who leads the East Chicago, Ind., Corps with husband Lt. Abraham Marin.

I also made many new friendships and started attending Bible studies, women's ministries and classes in nutrition, exercise and music! This never would've happened if it weren't for great people like Rosemary and Captains Daniel and Nivia Paredes (then corps officers) who devoted their time and efforts to help us.

When I first came to the Army for help, I felt like a piece of gum under somebody's shoe. Now I feel a sense of pride and accomplishment. The corps is a home for Ramon and me, a place where we're known on a first-name basis!

## Chaplaincy in Milwaukee grows

Last year the Milwaukee, Wis., Police Department enlisted The Salvation Army to organize and lead a chaplaincy program in an effort to combat violence and bring encouragement to those affected by traumatic events in the area. In less than six months, the volunteer base has grown over 25 percent. In October the division hired one of the lead chaplains, Pastor Alexis Twito, as chaplain coordinator. In this capacity she coordinates directly with the police to dispatch chaplains who live within the district and are best qualified for the crisis at hand.

She is currently working on a chaplain database which will include a list of skills and unique gifting for each chaplain. She interfaces with police, meets the captains and lieutenants in person and regularly meets with head chaplains to get to know them better. In the future she hopes to put together a tracking system for calls from the police department to determine patterns.

"My goal is to help make sure the head chaplains and chaplains have appropriate training and resources to do their jobs well and that the police have confidence in us that it's a program they can rely on," the pastor said.

Upon police request, extensively trained volunteer chaplains are available to provide emotional and spiritu-



Chaplains volunteer at a District 7 block party in northwest Milwaukee.

al care to families and community members after violent or traumatic incidents. So far police have requested assistance in a wide variety of incidents from homicides to cases of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome to house fires. In one case chaplains were called out to counsel a witness who wouldn't open up to the police. After counsel and prayer the witness agreed to talk.

"The feedback we're getting from survivors and community members is they're grateful for us being there and appreciate the assistance," said Tom Thuecks, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan divisional service extension director. "For our chaplains it's equally, if not even more important. They're feeling a sense of accomplishment for doing something for people in very difficult situations."



On Law Enforcement Sunday, chaplains gather with Captain Jackson of District 7.

### Lenten Resources 2016

## FINDING LIFE... from Eden to Gethsemane

The journey through Lent is about parallel gardens: the garden lost (Eden) and the garden restored (Gethsemane). Ultimately, Eden finds its fulfillment in Gethsemane and so shall we. This is a journey about finding life.

Enrich your corps' worship this Lenten season with the FINDING LIFE worship series, which includes Sunday worship outlines, sermons and dramatic sketches.

See your corps officer for more information.

## Newly accepted candidates

### Kenneth S. Jones

Detroit Conner Creek, Mich., Corps  
Eastern Michigan Division



I was 7 when I started attending the Detroit Brightmoor, Mich., Corps through the soup kitchen program. I didn't see it at the time, but God was beginning to fertilize the soil in which I would plant my roots. I began to get involved with

various programs at the corps, acquiring development assets every child needs growing up. I don't remember the exact day or time I gave my life to Christ; I just remember being taught stories about Christ and what He did.



Those truths were instilled in my heart as I dealt with poverty and the violence of the city.

It wasn't until the summer of 2012 when I got my call to officership. I was part of a summer mission team in Hungary when the Lord broke my heart for fulltime ministry. My desire for my life was no longer for the "American Dream" but rather for a life of simplicity and complete dedication to God's people. I now work as a ministry intern in Saginaw, Mich., where I hope to be better equipped for ministry before entering the College for Officer Training. As a future officer my passion is simple, summed up in a well-known sentiment: to preach the Gospel at all times and, when necessary, use words in order to save souls.

*Ken's corps officers are Captains Javier and Kelsie Moreno.*

### Derek and Heather Jung Chicago, Ill., Mayfair Community Church (Corps) Metropolitan Division

We feel so privileged and humbled to be called by God to serve in fulltime ministry with The Salvation Army. Heather and I were both raised in South Korea. She came to know Jesus as her Savior at a very young age, and I experienced salvation at age 13. I grew up in a Buddhist home where I became the first Christian in our family. My wife grew up in a Christian home where her father was a Presbyterian pastor.

We both served in Korean Churches for 10 years before God led us on a journey to China, the United Kingdom and the United States, serving in different ministry positions with a few different denominations.

Eventually, we met The Salvation Army in Chicago and became soldiers at the Mayfair Community Church (Corps). Since 2013 God has been leading us toward officership. We currently serve as interns at the Norridge



Corps. We are gaining great experience here. We see God's Kingdom at work in this community every day.

We have been blessed with two wonderful children who love the Lord. Anita is in her second year of college, and Matthew will graduate from high school this May.

*Derek and Heather's corps officers are Majors Ho Yoon and Kehyoung Chang.*



# 730... AND BEYOND

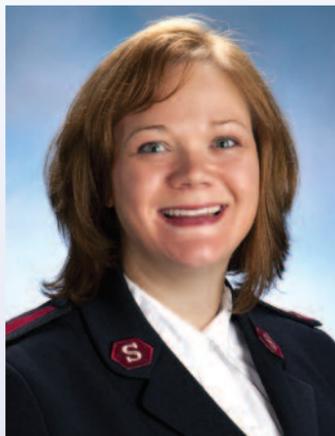


1,332 days and counting

by Lt. Judith Fetzer

Who was at your 11th birthday party? If you're over 20, you may not remember but ask any preteen and they'll tell you who attended, what they did and even what gifts they received. As I reflect on fulfilling moments of ministry in my officership, attending Leo's 11th birthday is one of my most cherished memories.

The party wasn't planned—no invitations were sent—but as I drove a van-load of kids home from Tuesday night programs, I learned it was Leo's birthday. His mom was working late at her second job, and their



family celebration was put on hold until the weekend. So, before I dropped Leo and his brother off, we stopped at Culver's for ice cream and selfies.

My preschoolers, a young adult from the corps, the birthday boy, his brother and me: that's who attended Leo's 11th birthday party. After we enjoyed ice cream, we stopped at Shopko and he chose a small gift. Then he looked me in the eye and said, "Thank you."

I have since moved from that appointment and often look back through pictures. The ice cream-covered faces and smiles from our impromptu birthday party are some of my favorites to linger over.

Officership is not easy. Some days are long, and honestly sometimes I feel I don't know what I'm doing. But I know how to buy ice cream for an 11-year-old boy on his birthday. And I know simple moments make a big difference in people's lives. I know because Leo told me so—and that's why I love being an officer.



## Precious treasures

Even though I grew up in poverty, my parents left me a very precious treasure; they taught me having Jesus in my heart was the most important possession in life," said Cadet Rona Prado Mutcha (Beatty), who grew up in the Philippines. Throughout Rona's childhood, her mother supported their family of six because Rona's father was very ill.

"I gave my heart to God at age 8 in 1988," said Rona. "Growing up, I knew God was calling me to His ministry, but I tried to ignore it. One reason was worry about my family; I became the sole breadwinner after my mother died. God was persistent, however, and I finally realized I could never run away from Him. When I fully surrendered I said, 'Okay, Lord, I'm yours. You know the reasons why I kept running—I give them all to you.'"

A second treasure entered Rona's life when she met and fell in love with Matthew Beatty, a lay missionary from the Central Territory serv-



Cadet Rona Prado Mutcha (Beatty) shares her story at the Boundless Joy weekend.

ing in the Philippines. Their relationship blossomed while serving together in corps ministry. That commitment to service continued after their marriage in April 2012. After returning to the Central

Territory, Matthew and Rona served as ministry interns at a corps before entering the College for Officer Training as members of the "Messengers of Light" session, which will be ordained and commissioned this June in Merrillville, Ind.

"Even though I am 10,000 miles away from my family, I have peace in my heart because I know the Lord is faithful with His promise that He's watching over them," Cadet Rona concluded. "I'm glad I gave my heart to God and so thankful because I found real joy and happiness by serving the Lord through His ministry."



Cadets Matthew Beatty and Rona Prado Mutcha (Beatty)

# Marques marks year five in Japan!

Captain Chris Marques, assistant to the territorial youth secretary in Japan, spent a great part of the last year helping to prepare for a large Gospel Arts Concert featuring Japan's Salvationist youth. Performances included interpretive dance routines, choirs and timbrels.

"The youth went above and beyond my expectations; they did a fantastic job!" the captain said.

The youth also performed a drama about Commissioner Gunpei Yamamuro, the first native Japanese territorial commander of Japan. The young people acted out scenes from the commissioner's life, encouraging the audience to seek repentance and live a pure life in service to God despite distractions.

In addition to his responsibilities assisting Territorial Youth Secretary Major Shinji Ishizaka, the captain is working to complete his bachelor's degree in practical ministries through Olivet Nazarene University online. He has eight courses left and will complete the degree this year.

The youth department has undergone some changes in the last year. Australian officers Captains Daniel and Melissa Templeman-Twells have moved back to the training college and corps work, respectively. Melissa still works in the youth office part-time, but to replace Daniel the department has received Captain Miwa Nakajima, who comes from three years at International Headquarters and speaks fluent English.

"She brings new experiences and a fresh viewpoint to the department and helps us to understand Japanese culture and Salvation Army culture [in Japan] more than we could on our own," said Captain Chris.

Coming up the captain looks forward to the General's visit in October to celebrate the territory's 120th anniversary. Additionally, in June the territory anticipates the arrival of Lt. Colonels Kenneth and Cheryl Maynor, who will take up responsibility as territorial leaders.

"I'm looking forward to having another pair of English speakers to learn from," Captain Chris said. 📞



Captain Chris Marques works closely with his boss, Major Shinji Ishizaka (r) and co-workers Captain Melissa Templeman-Twells (l) and Captain Miwa Nakajima.

# Dolibers stick with Haiti

The Salvation Army's Haiti Recovery and Development (HRD) office has closed

after five years of successful project management and rebuilding efforts. From the start Majors Robert and Rae Doliber were part of the international team leading the office, which opened nine months after the devastating January 2010 earthquake that rocked vast areas of Haiti, destroying or damaging much of the Port-au-Prince region.

"The Army's holistic mission was fully embraced in planning and implementing the myriad of projects that followed the initial emergency response," said Major Bob, who served as HRD team director with Major Rae as special projects manager. The Dolibers committed to serving two more years in Haiti with Major Bob as divisional secretary for business administration and Major Rae as divisional human resources manager.

Major Bob said a cornerstone to facilitating meaningful and lasting change in Haiti was the Army's



Major Rae Doliber and "SAWSO," a cow named after its donor, The Salvation Army World Service Office!

Community Capacity Development program through which more than 50 Community Action Teams (CATs) were recruited and trained to start and sustain community-led recovery projects.

"Utilizing faith-based principles to address important issues and identify most-vulnerable beneficiaries, CATs initiated microcredit programs, launched road repair and construction projects and even animal husbandry schemes, for which the Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps raised funds to buy additional cows, goats and chickens!" he added.

On a personal note, the Dolibers shared they were privileged to attend last year's Boundless International Congress in London, England, then travel and visit friends in Europe. Later that summer they attended a family reunion in the U.S. and returned in the fall for the wedding of their youngest daughter, Rachel. 📞



Major Bob visits with children at a Salvation Army primary school in Arcahaie, Haiti.

# Renewed to serve in Canada

by Major Sheila Davisson

Our officership for the last year has had a theme: renewal. In February 2015 we decided we'd like to renew for another three-year term at Booth University College, Winnipeg, Canada, in the Canada and Bermuda Territory and were approved to do so. Philip remained the associate dean for extended learning, while I moved to the Canada and Bermuda Territory's College for Officer Training (CFOT) as the new training officer.

In the last year we've managed to keep very busy. In addition to being able to venture to Newfoundland, Montreal, Ottawa-Gatineau and Toronto, Canada, Philip has had the responsibility of developing soldier-ship curriculum for the territory. The curriculum has a Bible study component and an integrated mission activity, and it will be translated into French and Spanish. Since the Booth University College renovations—three additional classrooms, eight offices and new telecom equipment—Philip has moved into a new office. He is writing a three-volume commentary series on the book of Revelation.

As the CFOT training officer, I



advise our cadets, lead chapel services and initiate and run small group meetings. Highlights from the year for me include teaching a week-long class called Spiritual Formation for Discipleship at a camp in Jackson Point, Ontario; helping to lead Sunday night meetings for Booth University students called The Gathering; and seeing our youngest daughter, Julia, graduate from Booth University College with a degree in social work.

The theme renewal doesn't just describe our officership this year. We've both been renewed in our faith as I've navigated the change of appointment and Philip has sought new friendships and fellowship opportunities.

Also exciting for us in the last year is the marriage of our daughter, Jaelyn, to Lt. Grant Holloway after his commissioning. They're now serving together as corps officers in Brainerd, Minn.



Majors Philip and Sheila Davisson and Majors Jack and Nancy Holloway at the wedding of their children, Grant and Jaelyn.

# Adult Rehabilitation Centers: lives rede

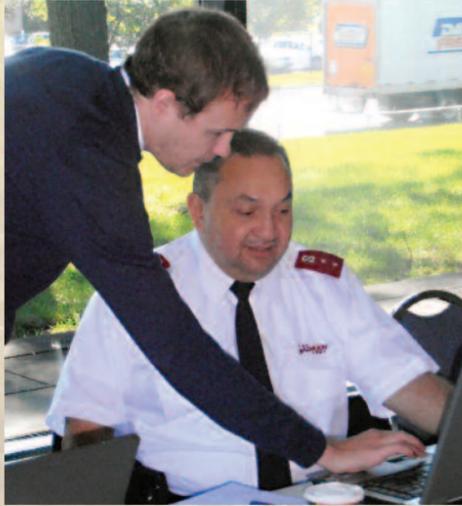
## ARCs unite

In an effort to better and more fully serve beneficiaries, the Adult Rehabilitation Centers Command (ARCC) has implemented Service Point, a data management system which will standardize beneficiary data across all 18 of the Central Territory's adult rehabilitation centers.

"Service Point will help beneficiaries in a number of ways, first by tracking their progress within the program," said Major Arnel Ruppel, ARCC secretary for program. "It will record classes and activities, work therapy experience and, based upon identified needs, can help to set goals for the beneficiaries' individual care."

Service Point also creates visibility and efficiency for all of the centers, allowing ARCC staff to track trends in population, analyze data for evaluation of services and program development, as well as to share case information across centers in case of beneficiary transfer.

Additionally, storing data through Service Point adds a level of security. "We can lock down confidential aspects of our beneficiary files now," said Neisha McNeal, ARCC beneficiary management specialist.



Ian Hunt, ARC Command information technology help desk technician, assists Captain Alex Velasquez, Davenport, Iowa, ARC administrator, with Service Point.

Service Point was first introduced to the territory as the data management system for the Pathway of Hope (POH) initiative. It's been such a success, it seemed a logical fit for the ARCC. According to Neisha it will easily allow the transfer of information between the POH initiative and ARCs programs. "It's win-win because there will be times for referrals between each," said Neisha.

## Meet Christmas

Soldier Christmas Rose Hudgens has been in adult rehabilitation centers (ARC) most of her life, but she's not a beneficiary! Her parents, Majors David and Peggy Hudgens, served their entire officership in ARCs, and although she didn't plan to, Christmas has followed in their footsteps.

For the last 10 years she has worked as the Indianapolis, Ind., ARC director of rehabilitation services. When she started, despite her background and college degree, Christmas describes herself as "totally green."

"As a result I had to rely heavily on God, and my relationship grew exponentially," she said.

In her job Christmas is responsible for overseeing the men, supervising intake and counseling staff, handling housing issues, designing the course curriculum, and the list goes on. Her favorite aspect of the job, however, is evangelism.



She said, "To spend the entire day leading people to Christ, teaching and instructing people in the Word of God; I can't even describe what a privilege it is!"

Not only that, but being on the frontlines she actually sees the fruit of her labor—lives transforming and taking off because of God's power and grace.

"She loves the Lord and is completely on board with the mission," said Major Linda Barker, Indianapolis ARC administrator with her husband, Troy. "She is an asset to this place."

## Fifteen-year drug rampage ended

by Craig Dirkes

Casey Koerner was as smart as he was athletic. He tested out of his high school's sophomore curriculum, and college scouts came to watch him play soccer, in which he'd been competing at the varsity level since eighth grade.

Then under the influence of his older classmates, Casey tried drugs. By the end of the school year, he'd dropped out and was living with his drug dealer in a trailer park. "I smoked weed 24 hours a day," said Casey, 36, who came from a good family in the Twin Cities' western suburbs.

So began his 15-year nightmare—a hazy blur of drugs, alcohol and anger—during which he enrolled in 12 treatment centers and failed every time. His 13th attempt, however, was a different story when Casey entered The Salvation Army Minneapolis, Minn., Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC). There he found the peace only God can provide, and he's been sober ever since.

Casey's nose-dive began when he entered high school from a very small Catholic school. He not only felt overwhelmed but had already learned what was being taught. With encouragement of older students, he started smoking marijuana and snorting cocaine. Eventually, he was expelled.

He was kicked out of his next school, and then by his parents who could no longer handle him.

After two years of doing drugs and working dead-end jobs, Casey had a near-death experience at 18 when a dealer friend was shot to death while they were doing a drug-money collection run.

Unfortunately, Casey didn't heed the wake-up call. He spent the rest of his teens and his 20s getting high. He found work as an irrigation installation specialist and made decent money for the next decade while dealing drugs on the side.

As he got older, Casey's use of alcohol and marijuana remained constant, but then he added methamphetamines. "I thought I was the most worthless, horrible piece of crap when I was doing meth," said Casey, who finally stopped dealing in the late 2000s when he realized people could die from the drugs he sold.



He continued to drink, however, and racked up several arrest warrants in Minnesota. He fled to South Dakota to work for his uncle and attempt sobriety. Less than a year later, his uncle kicked him out.

Casey's dad brought him back home in December 2009 with an ultimatum: go straight to the ARC or leave. Casey started cursing and blaming his parents for his problems. "They'd bailed me out so many times before but wouldn't this time," he said.

Leaving the house in a huff on a cold, snowy night, Casey began walking down the hill to his favorite bar. Halfway, he looked back toward his

parents' house and started to cry when he realized he'd have to repeat the same uphill journey he'd traveled for 15 years. He went back to his parents' home and huddled in the corner of a backyard pigeon shed. When his dad found him, Casey said, "Fine. Take me to that

stupid rehab place." It was a lesson in tough love Casey will never forget: "The best thing my parents ever did for me was refusing to help me that night."

He arrived at the ARC on December 28, 2009, and immediately felt God's presence. "I felt a weight lifted off me that I haven't felt before. I really can't explain it," he said.

Casey received counseling, spiritual support and work therapy while in the program, where he learned to trust God and give Him control. And, God didn't disappoint, especially when it came to Casey's legal problems.

"I turned myself in for the five warrants against me, two of which were felonies, and pleaded no contest. The prosecutor thought I was crazy," said Casey. But, after a Salvation Army official spoke to the judge and prosecutor, explaining the progress Casey had made, the judge reduced everything to misdemeanor disorderly conduct.

Casey tied up another loose end by finishing high school. Though scared to take the GED test, he passed it with flying colors.

He graduated from the ARC program in June 2010 and today is the center's intake coordinator, the first person met by every broken man who arrives in search of a new life.

"I shouldn't be standing here, alive or as a free person," said Casey. "Now I have an active relationship with God that starts with Him every morning and ends with Him every night."



# emed, souls saved

## Indianapolis ARC at capacity

In the last 10 years the Indianapolis, Ind., Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) has gone from a capacity of 65 to 115. Not only has it grown, but it's been an asset to the community.

"Something that makes our facility unique is the fact that it's almost always full," said Major Linda Barker, ARC administrator with her husband,



Beneficiaries' children attend Sunday school at the ARC.

Troy. "It's a reflection on the need, and I believe, a direct reflection on our staff."

According to Director of Rehabilitative Services Christmas Rose Hudgens, one of the reasons for the growth is the internship opportunities. With limited resources, hiring college students to gain experience in their field has been a win-win situation. The interns have been able to improve the intake process as well as assist with administrative work. Recently the program has expanded to include four counselor interns from Martin University.

Another reason for the program's growth is the significant improvements that have been made to the building over the last decade.

"The more comfort-



The praise team opens Sunday worship at the Indianapolis, Ind., ARC.

able people are in our building, the more people are likely to bring their loved ones, and the more likely the beneficiaries are to stay," said Christmas.

Sunday morning worship also is growing, bringing in upwards of 190 people. They've recently moved the service into another room to accommodate larger numbers of beneficiaries, alumni and family members and have begun to hold children's church for ages 2-10.

"Everything we do all week, from unloading trucks to sorting clothes and organizing the drug and alcohol pro-

gram, is all about Sunday," said Major Troy. "It's ultimately about changing lives and bringing families together."

The Barkers hope to open more thrift stores to support the growth. Recently, they've overseen the opening of a beautiful, new, 23,000-square-foot store in Noblesville, Ind. Their goal is to improve the shopping experience and the community's perception of the store.

"There is a lot of opportunity for growth here," said Christmas. "I think we've been poised for some time now, and I'm excited about where we're going!"

## Better together

"Believing we're better together" was the impetus behind a partnership struck three years ago by officers each new to their appointments in Omaha, Neb. With deep passions for evangelism and discipleship, Captains Chris and April Clarke, administrators of the Omaha Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC), and Captains Trevor and Rochelle McClintock, Omaha Citadel corps officers, decided to work hand-in-hand for the greater good of their people.

Each week after attending the ARC Sunday chapel service, about 30 men—many accompanied by their families—attend the Omaha Citadel for worship and junior church.

The deepening relationships amongst this united congregation have resulted in children and adults attending mid-week corps activities, a quarterly united Sunday worship service at the ARC and many other opportunities for joint fellowship and education, the most recent being a spiritual gifts weekend to help people identify their roles within the congregation. The next will be a holiness seminar weekend.

The officers were thrilled to have a packed house of 183 on the Sunday morning of the spiritual gifts weekend, which was conducted by Major Christine Poff from territorial headquarters. "Even the ARC staff who attended the seminar received fresh insight not only into their missional roles but job responsibilities," said Captain April.



A spiritual gifts seminar benefited both the Omaha ARC and Omaha Citadel Corps.

"Camp Sunday," held at the division's Gene Eppley Camp just before the start of fall programming at the corps, has become a greatly anticipated annual event for the united congregation.

Other events include diversity dinners held on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, Super Bowl parties, junior band concerts and graduation celebrations, among other reasons for fun and fellowship.

"This approach feeds programs at the corps for youth and other activities, including ARC men attending the men's Bible study at the corps," said Captain Trevor McClintock. "Developing lasting relationships is the goal of both our ministries at the corps and ARC."

Captain April concluded, "Research shows most people require seven exposures to a group before they feel comfortable enough to make a commitment. With all of our opportunities for connection, that's what's happening."

## Genuine humility

When General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox visited the Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) for Sunday worship late last year, it was their humility that made the greatest impact on the beneficiaries of the men's and women's campuses, according to Envoy Merle Miller, ARC administrator. The General captured many hearts when he said, "I'm not worried about protocol with 'The General' because I'm not the most important person here. YOU are!"

Women were particularly interested to hear Commissioner Silvia talk about how she came to know "a big God" personally. The General's message, "Christ, the Pearl of Great Price," was based on the parables of Matthew 13 about recognizing "true value."

"You might not do well investing in today's market, but you can invest everything you have in the Kingdom of God!" the General said as he encouraged the congregation to eval-



Commissioner Silvia Cox is introduced by Envoy Merle Miller.

uate the price they put on their eternity with Christ. "You're here because God has a purpose for your life," he continued. More than 100 men and women responded at the mercy seat.

Opportunities for spiritual awakening and growth abound on both campuses of the ARC. In addition to one-on-one counseling, Bible studies and discipleship classes, warm fellowship and a sense of community is offered by the ARC congregation. Soldiership classes also are avail-

able, as well as continued spiritual guidance and support as part of follow-up services to program graduates.

"There's also a new emphasis on visits to families to encourage them to attend our Sunday services," said Envoy Merle of the efforts being done by retired officers Majors Rudy and Jean Richards.



The General providing prayer support at the mercy seat

## Chicago Staff Band to participate in brass celebration

The Chicago Staff Band (CSB) will participate this May in a spectacular North American Brass Celebration, marking the 10th anniversary of the Western Territory Staff Band (WTSB). Originally formed in the 1920s, the WTSB disbanded in 1930 but has enjoyed a decade of musical ministry since reforming in 2006.

Along with the CSB, the New York Staff Band, Southern Territorial Band and Canadian Staff Band will join the WTSB on May 21, 2016, at the Terrace Theater in Long Beach, Calif., for a full day of individual band concerts, culminating in a gala featuring all five.

"The Chicago Staff Band is looking forward to interacting with the other four North American staff bands in this historic celebration and engaging together in some challenging new music," said Dr. Harold Burgmayer, CSB bandmaster.

The day will begin in the morning with a free performance on the terrace by the Western Territory Youth Band and other divisional youth bands from the West. The first



indoor staff/territorial band concert will start at 2:00 p.m. Each staff or territorial band will present a 30-minute concert reflecting the essence of that group and featuring music written by local composers. Bandmaster William Flinn is to be the master of ceremonies. Each band also will have a display, along with various vendors with music, instruments and CDs for sale, in the theater lobby.

In addition to some of the very best classic Salvation Army pieces, a number of new works by Salvationist composers, such as Stephen Bulla, Kevin Larsson, William Himes and James Curnow, have been commissioned by the WTSB for the event. Legendary composers such as Heaton, Ball and Steadman-Allen also will be featured. Bandmaster William Himes and Amber Sullins, a Salvationist musician who is also chief meteorologist for ABC News in Phoenix, Ariz., will host the evening.

"When these five territorial/staff bands of North America meet to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the reactivated Western Territory Staff Band, Salvationists and the general public will have an engaging time evaluating and assessing a sacred musical tradition and culture that is now 138 years old (1878-2016)," said Dr. Ronald Holz, who is writing a new book which will chronicle the history of these five North American bands in words and pictures that will be released at the celebration. He continued, "The organizers planned and projected that the event is first and foremost a vehicle for the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ and will bring praise and glory to God. These are the supreme purposes of Salvation Army music."

Tickets for each concert are available at [tsatickets.org](http://tsatickets.org)

10th Anniversary Staff Band

THE SALVATION ARMY  
USA WESTERN TERRITORY

# NORTH AMERICAN BRASS CELEBRATION

Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the  
USA WESTERN TERRITORY STAFF BAND

MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2016 TERRACE THEATER LONG BEACH, CA

SPECIAL GUESTS

CANADIAN STAFF BAND CHICAGO STAFF BAND  
NEW YORK STAFF BAND SOUTHERN TERRITORIAL BAND

Tickets available from [www.tsatickets.org](http://www.tsatickets.org) Information updates on FB or [www.usamusicwest.org](http://www.usamusicwest.org)

## New Songs of Salvation released

Adult Rehabilitation Centers (ARCs) and Harbor Light Centers now have a new and helpful worship resource: *Songs of Salvation*, a collection of 200 hymns, songs and choruses especially geared for Salvation Army clients on the road to salvation and recovery. While the new version of this songbook was specifically designed for these ministries, the changes give it great versatility for use in corps as well.

William Himes served as senior editor, initially working with a consulting committee comprised of ARC officers from all four USA territories. This proved to be a time-consuming and painstaking process involving six years of consultation, planning and production. "It took a lot more time than anyone anticipated," he observed. "But we were determined that this music resource would be relevant, useful and practical."

The first phase involved a thorough review of the contents of the previous edition, produced in 1999, to determine which songs should be

kept or removed, as well as what recent songs should be added. The outcome is a collection of 200 diverse songs including lasting classics such as "Amazing Grace," "It is well with my soul" and "The old rugged cross" to more recent songs such as "Be still, for the presence of the Lord," "In Christ alone" and "Total Praise," just to name a few. In fact, over a third of the songs are new to this compilation.

*Songs of Salvation* also marks a dramatic change in appearance and format. Although this hard-cover book is the same size as standard hymnals, it features a wire binding so it can open easily and lie flat for accompanists and song leaders. "And there are absolutely no page turns involved in any song," Himes emphasized.

Equally important, the piano accompaniments have been simplified as much as possible. Yet in spite of their simplicity, the style is convincingly pianistic. Chord symbols also are included for guitar and accordion and also are useful for keyboardists players who "play by ear."

Care was given to set the songs in a comfortable range for the average voice.

While Bandmaster Himes arranged two-thirds of the contents, he also recruited other Army arrangers from around the world who are particularly experienced writers for keyboard, including Major Howard Davies and Noel Jones (Australia), Major Len Ballantine (Canada) and Karen Krinjack (USA East).

He also recruited his longtime friend from the United Kingdom, Lt. Colonel (Dr.) Ray Steadman-Allen, O.F., to add editorial oversight. Long recognized as the dean of Army composers, the colonel added scrutiny with typical thoroughness and skill until his sudden but peaceful passing at age 92. Gratefully, his daughter, the Rev. Barbara Steadman-Allen,

added her skills to bring her father's work to completion.

Marty Thomas of the Central Territory Music and Gospel Arts Department also provided professional skills as he typeset all 200 songs for press. Andrew Dobney (ARC Command Information Technology) also was very helpful in compiling the index and

revised responsive readings.

This also was Bandmaster Himes' last publishing project prior to his retirement as territorial music and gospel arts secretary last October. "While this songbook was created to meet the specific needs of ARCs and Harbor Light Centers, given the universality of the songs included, these accessible accompaniments will be very useful in virtually all corps settings," he summed up the project with typical enthusiasm. "I believe this songbook will be a great encouragement to developing meeting pianists."



Continued from page 1

life and energy. From our previous appointment in North Platte, Neb., which participated in GSI, we knew what a blessing it was to have someone to focus specifically on youth ministry, so we've encouraged corps to use this underutilized resource. We see it as an investment."

The major attributes larger attendance at divisional events and last year's largest summer camp attendance to GSI. However, he is quick to point out that GSI not only benefits corps and youth but the young adults as well. "We have the opportunity to place mission-oriented young adults looking for fulltime ministry into meaningful positions," he concluded.

Jason Sell, GSI youth development coordinator at the Elkhart, Ind., Corps has found he loves the ability to minister to youth on the frontlines. "I really enjoy being able to use my planning and organizational skills to impact the kids," said Jason. "The kids are the best part of this job—being able to form relationships with them, find out what they enjoy doing and working in ways to show them Jesus loves them through our activities."

Since Jason began last May, he has helped organize a vacation Bible school for nearly 60 children, a



Major Jason Poff, Western Michigan and Northern Indiana divisional youth secretary, presents girl guard and ranger awards to Angelina White and Dennis Smith.

weekly gospel arts youth night for artistic expression from guitar to puppet lessons, and a young adult and teen time program.

"It's not a job to me. I love this, and it's what God has called me to do," said Mindy Willenborg, the first graduate of GSI who has been the youth development coordinator at the Mattoon, Ill., Corps. Mindy is now the fulltime youth director.

Since her arrival, children's attendance has grown to average 50 in afterschool programs daily and 70 at summer day camp. Mindy now has a staff of two and 12 volunteers daily

## Good Soil Initiative Personnel and Locations

### Heartland Division

Amy Ball                      Bloomington, Ill.  
Julie Simpson                Peoria, Ill., Family Services  
Joanna Skonburg            Canton, Ill.

### Kansas and Western Missouri Division

Amy Anderson                Wichita, Kans.  
Chris McCluer                Topeka, Kans.

### Metropolitan Division

Melissa Bledsoe              Chicago, Ill., Harbor Light  
Audrey Hickman              Chicago, Ill., La Villita  
Gerardo Cielo                 Blue Island, Ill.

### Western Division

Suzy Haslett                    Lincoln, Neb.

### Western Michigan and Northern Indiana

Rebecca Hixenbaugh        Big Rapids, Mich.  
Jason Sell                        Elkhart, Ind.  
Robert Leach                  Holland, Mich.  
Jennifer Quemada            Kalamazoo, Mich.  
Angelo Morales                Michigan City, Ind.

### Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division

BobbieJo Swanson          Wausau, Wis.  
Jacob Hamalian                Milwaukee West, Wis.

## A faith-filled journey

"It is the teaching and preaching of God's Word which has become my greatest joy," said Major David Moffitt about his 46 years of officership at the retirement service held for him and his wife, Nanci. Themed "Our Faith and His Faithfulness" the ceremony was officiated by Chief Secretary Colonel Jeffrey Smith and presided over by Major Paul Fleeman.

The service included musical selections of "He's Been Faithful" by Major Stephen Yoder at the piano and a vocal solo, "Find Us Faithful" by their daughter, Shayna Stubblefield, scripture reading and worship songs, as well as tributes by all five of their adult children and sessionmates Majors Paula Fleeman and Laurence McPherson.

David and Nanci were commissioned in 1970 and 1976, respectively, from the College for Officer Training (CFOT) in Chicago, Ill. David was appointed to The Salvation Army's International

College for Officers (ICO) in 1995. Together they have served in program and administrative roles in both large metropolitan centers and small corps throughout the Midwest.

Major David has served on the faculty of the CFOT, teaching courses in theology, public ministries and administration; additionally, he served as director of field training. Prior appointments have included roles within the adult rehabilitation centers command and as Indiana divisional secretary.

Major Nanci served on the faculty of the CFOT teaching theology and public ministry, with an additional appointment as nutrition officer. She also has served in several divisional appointments and is certified as an emergency disaster services zonal coordinator and trainer.

The Moffitts retire to their cottage in the Ozarks, where they look forward to spending more time with their 10 grandchildren.



Majors David and Nanci Moffitt with Chief Secretary Colonel Jeffrey Smith and flagbearers Captain Thom Moffitt and Jamie Curry

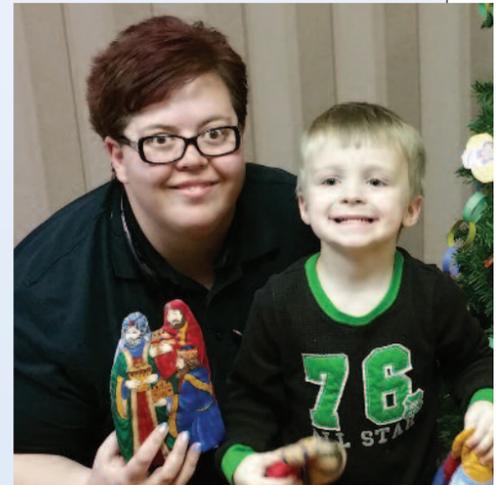
for the afterschool program. Last year a youth outreach brought 277 children to the corps, 46 of whom accepted Christ!

In the Heartland Division a pilot for GSI is starting at Peoria Family Services, where there have been many excellent services like child-care, but not a fulltime ministry position focused on families with youth.

Functioning as an additional facet of Family Services, the GSI youth development coordinator will engage entire families in their current circumstances at the shelter and make connections that hopefully can be maintained when they leave, according to Captain Rachel Stouder, Heartland divisional youth secretary.

"We recognize this great opportunity the Lord has given us, and we want to be super sensitive to His leading," said the captain.

In this unconventional setting for GSI, solid resources like character-building and the discipleship aspects of junior soldiers, as well as Mission: Literacy, will be used in creative concepts and activities to minister to youth and their families. For Julie Simpson, who will pioneer this ministry, ideas were percolating just walking through the shelter before she began her new job.



Julie Simpson with Joseph Jensen

"I just love the flexibility we'll have creating this program," said Julie. "There's so much potential here." Until recently Julie was GSI youth development coordinator in Decatur, Ill.

"She's the perfect person really, very creative and passionate about ministry," said Captain Rachel.

Interested in learning more about the Good Soil Initiative? Contact your divisional youth secretary for details. There is availability for more people to participate in developing the next generation!



Elkhart, Ind., youth development director Jason Sell (far left) with (l to r) Haleigh Bledsoe, Michele Munley and Austin Helbling.

## Alive to God

by Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren  
Territorial Ambassador for Holiness

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit." (1 Thessalonians 4:7-8, NIV)

As we get to know the Holy Spirit, we understand He was sent to make us holy, conforming us to the character of God. For when the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts, we are alive to God. He enlightens our understanding so we begin to see God's standard of holiness and to become aware of our need for it and specific areas of sin in our lives.

I have found one of Satan's most powerful weapons is making us spiritually blind. We are unable to see our sinful nature. As we grow in the Christian life, we face the increasing danger of spiritual pride. But the



Holy Spirit helps us see that even our righteousness is like filthy rags. Yes, we are poverty-stricken because of our sins.

As a young believer I thought all I had to do to live a holy life was to find in the Bible what

God wanted me to do and go do it. I had to learn I was dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit for this. We all are. As we look to Him, we will see Him working in us by revealing our sin, creating a desire for holiness and giving us the strength to respond to Him in obedience. Even though sometimes we fail, our inner beings can still delight in God's law. (Romans 7:22)

The chorus "Holy Spirit Thou art welcomed in this place," comes to my mind. The place is not a building or nature but each of our hearts. Won't you welcome Him today and become alive to God?



## This gal gets it!

One of the newest soldiers at the Racine, Wis., Corps is also possibly one of the oldest. Although she might fool you since 84-year-old Beverly Gancarz' vim and vigor fills a room and she's astoundingly active in corps activities. In fact, Beverly ended up at the corps in pursuit of a senior's exercise class! She couldn't find anyone willing to join up, so instead she started participating in community care ministries, which she now loves.

Beverly was enrolled as a soldier last Palm Sunday two months after she accepted Christ. Although she grew up very involved in the Methodist church, she fell away after high school while working in a big East Coast city. A husband, two kids and a life of traveling the world later, she came to The Salvation Army. Walking into the building, memories of the lovely hymns she used to sing in her childhood came flooding back. She knew she was in the right place.

In addition to attending Bible study, women's ministries, senior crocheting, senior lunches and Sunday school, Beverly's favorite weekly activity is nursing home visitation, where she and others sing hymns to residents.

"She loves to sing and minister to the elderly people at nursing homes," said Major Ken Nicolai, Racine corps



officer. "She has a heart for people. You can really see it. At the end of the nursing home visit, she's often the last to leave!"

Beverly recently had a special experience ministering to a woman in a wheelchair. "She was right in front of me as I sang, but she was not able to sing and you could tell she was trying so hard. I knelt down in front of her, and then she started to sing with me. It was great for her, but truly wonderful for me," Beverly recalled.

## Redeeming lives

"When we can no longer help our clients spiritually, we're just another secular social services agency," said Barbara Lamfers, manager of The Salvation Army men's transitional housing program in Waterloo, Iowa, who embraces the Army's holistic ministry.

Operated by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Corps, led by Majors Harold and Lynnetta Poff, the transitional housing program is designed to assist homeless men in achieving permanent housing and self-sufficiency through targeted, comprehensive support. Primarily HUD-funded, the program doesn't include specific religious activities, but staff take advantage of every opportunity to model and share their Christian faith. Many of them draw from personal experience. While backgrounds differ, each has his or her own story of redemption to share.

"The joy of The Salvation Army is that we create and operate in an environment that is built on the fun-

damental belief that we are fallen and in need of the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ," said Major Harold. "This allows us to truly dig to the root of issues, help clear away the choking mass of sin and plant new seeds of hope."

Since opening in 2004, the men's transitional housing program has changed many lives. Homeless men entering the program are provided the opportunity to stay for up to two years, paying modest rent, as they seek to rebuild their lives and reach stability.

Many men, including C.C., have successfully graduated from the program. "C.C. entered the program after being in prison," said Barb. A former substance abuser suffering from depression, he grew up believing he had to do everything right or God would be angry with him. "Our staff helped C.C. learn about and accept God's grace. Today he has his own apartment and is doing great!" she concluded.



Residents find support in small group meetings.

## My greatest miracle

by Barbara Lamfers

Growing up I spent every Sunday in church but never felt at peace. Even though I was a "good" girl, I was riddled with guilt. God seemed so distant.

When I headed off to college to major in social work, my severe depression and anxiety began. I was sent home and hospitalized for a month. I returned to school but started harming myself. This time I was sent to our state's mental health institution where I was told I'd most likely see a psychiatrist and take medications for the rest of my life.

I was hospitalized many times over the next decade but nothing helped. At 19 I got married, then divorced; subsequent relationships were neither healthy for me nor pleasing to God. My only bright spot was meeting and marrying Larry Lamfers, who loved me in spite of my problems. But even with his support, I still struggled.

Meanwhile, my twin sister and her family had started attending a church that stressed the Bible. They were so excited! Larry and I agreed to visit. There I heard about being born again (John 3:3) and being saved by grace



Barbara Lamfers, manager of the transitional housing program

(Ephesians 2:8-9). At the pastor's invitation, I felt convicted but couldn't go to the altar. Larry, however, responded, and for the rest of the day it was evident he'd become "a new creature in Christ."

That night I reread those verses. How could God forgive me? As I whispered, "Lord, your Word says You'll forgive anyone..." I instantly felt a warm sensation as my guilt, depression and anxiety melted away and was replaced with peace, joy and love. I had no doubt my sins were forgiven and my dark days were over.

I eventually returned to college, graduated with highest honors and became a social worker. Because of my healing I'm often invited to share my story. But the greatest miracle was the healing of my soul, a miracle God offers anyone!

# Prayer priority



In addition to evangelism, this year members of the Duluth, Minn., Corps are emphasizing prayer.

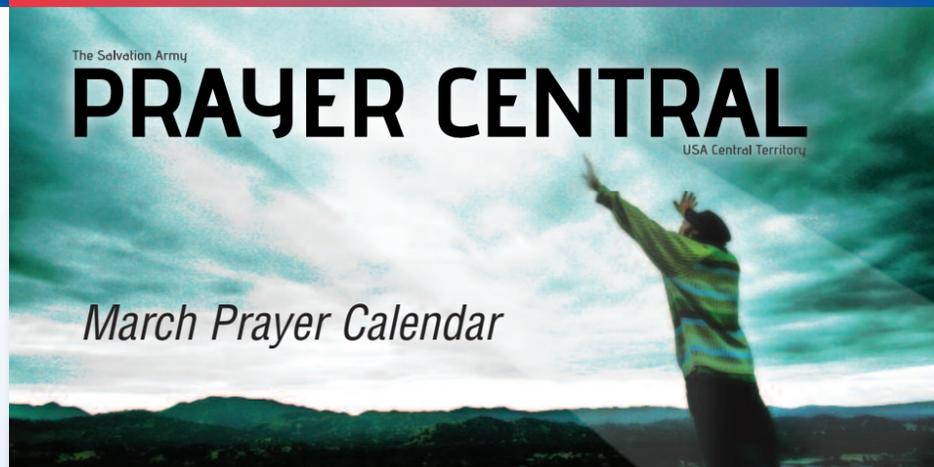
"The idea is we can't change lives by just providing services, but we need to call upon the Lord," said Major Bill Cox, corps officer with his wife, Betsy.

Major Bill gave a two-month sermon series on prayer and simultaneously offered a six-week Bible study on prayer using curriculum from *When God's People Pray* by Jim Cymbala. On Sunday mornings during worship Major Betsy leads a spontaneous prayer time, and occasionally the congregation breaks into groups for an extended time of prayer. In the evenings a group of six

people come back to the corps to pray for corps concerns and revival in the church.

"I keep a prayer journal. Since last January I've had 780 direct answers to prayer!" said Major Bill.

Out of this renewed challenge "Free Prayer" was established. Vernon Arnes, a retired pastor and corps attendee, is available to pray at the corps twice weekly during peak traffic times. Individuals who have come into the corps for social services or the weekly lunch program have found a caring heart to hear their concerns and to pray for them. Several young men in the community now make praying with Vernon a regular part of their week.



My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Tuesday	Job 17-18	Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Corps
	2 Wednesday	Isaiah 45-50	Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps
	3 Thursday	Matthew 23-25	World Day of Prayer
	4 Friday	1 Corinthians 1-2	Southeast Michigan ARC*
	5 Saturday	Genesis 36-39	Port Huron, Mich., Corps
	6 Sunday	Ruth	Peoria Citadel, Ill., Corps
	7 Monday	Psalms 27-29	Biblical Education Tour to Israel
	8 Tuesday	Job 19-20	New Albany, Ind., Corps
	9 Wednesday	Isaiah 51-55	Western Michigan & Northern Indiana DHQ**
	10 Thursday	Matthew 26-28	St. Joseph, Mo., Corps
	11 Friday	1 Corinthians 3-4	Joliet, Ill., Corps
	12 Saturday	Genesis 40-43	St. Louis Euclid Ave., Mo., Corps
	13 Sunday	1 Samuel 1-5	Junior Soldier Enrollment & Renewal Sunday
	14 Monday	Psalms 30-32	Noble Worship Center, Minn., Corps
	15 Tuesday	Job 21-22	Omaha Citadel, Neb., Corps
	16 Wednesday	Isaiah 56-61	Muskegon Citadel, Mich., Corps
	17 Thursday	Mark 1-2	Cadet Spring Campaigns
	18 Friday	1 Corinthians 5-6	Oshkosh, Wis., Corps
	19 Saturday	Genesis 44-47	Royal Oak, Mich., Corps
	20 Sunday	1 Samuel 6-10	Springfield, Ill., Corps
	21 Monday	Psalms 33-35	Peru, Ind., Corps
	22 Tuesday	Job 23-24	Topeka Citadel, Kan., Corps
	23 Wednesday	Isaiah 62-66	NorrIDGE Citadel, Ill., Corps
	24 Thursday	Mark 3-4	St. Louis Gateway Citadel, Mo., Corps
	25 Friday	1 Corinthians 7-8	Captains Andrew & Melissa Shiels (Latvia)
	26 Saturday	Genesis 48-50	Rochester, Minn., Corps
	27 Sunday	1 Samuel 11-15	Jesus is Risen—celebrate!
	28 Monday	Psalms 36-38	Omaha North Side, Neb., Corps
	29 Tuesday	Job 25-26	Niles, Mich., Corps
	30 Wednesday	Jeremiah 1-6	Quincy, Ill., Kroc Center
	31 Thursday	Mark 5-6	Racine, Wis., 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



# The gift of RightNow

## rightnow MEDIA

How would you like access to 10,000 Bible studies featuring teaching from respected leaders like Francis Chan, Joni Eareckson Tada and Max Lucado; 1,000 leadership training messages from dynamic teachers such as Priscilla Shirer and Bill Hybels; full sessions from over 20 annual Christian conferences like The Gospel Coalition; and an entire library of Christian children's videos?

Believe it or not, you already have it!

This year in the Central Territory, we have free access to a tremendous resource: RightNow Media, the virtual "Netflix" of Christian Bible-based media resources. It's an online library with content accessible from your computer, smart phone or tablet, Apple TV or Roku device. Topics include biblical principles for finance, marriage, parenting, evangelism, discipleship and more!

If you have not yet received an invitation to join, simply visit [www.RightNow.org/Account/Invite/TSA\\_Central\\_Territory](http://www.RightNow.org/Account/Invite/TSA_Central_Territory), to create an account.

"The Salvation Army Central Territory and RightNow media want to make this resource available to as many people as possible," said David Tooley, territorial discipleship

resources and leadership development consultant. "We envision officers using this for both personal and corporate development, discipleship, leadership and evangelism training. We see soldiers using it in small groups and individually. The possibilities are endless, and we want as many people to log in and investigate as possible."

David also has started building a library of Central Territory resources on the site. Eventually there will be access to corps mission, evangelism, multicultural, music and gospel arts resources and videos.



## --Mustard Seeds--

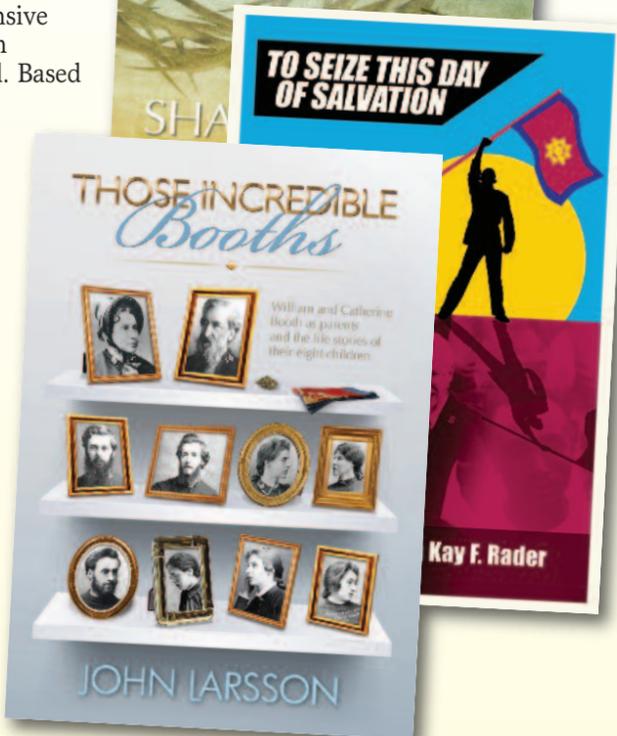
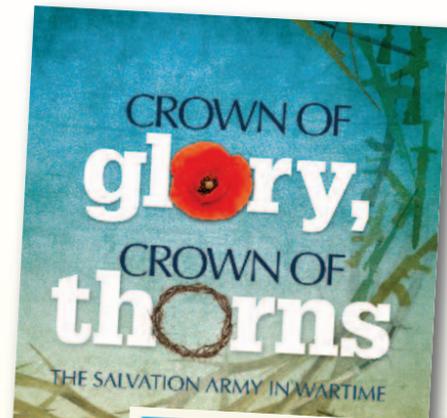


## Intriguing books by Generals

A great addition to your personal reading list for this year are three books authored by Salvation Army Generals which were launched at the 2015 *Boundless—The Whole World Redeeming* International Congress.

*Crown of Glory, Crown of Thorns—The Salvation Army in Wartime* by General Shaw Clifton (Rtd.) has been hailed as the most comprehensive analysis of the Army in wartime ever compiled. Based on General Clifton's 1988 doctoral thesis, the book provides detailed accounts of Salvationist wartime work and attitudes between 1899 and 1945. Meticulous research reveals three principles governing the Movement's Christian internationalism particularly during times of strong patriotism, which placed a perpetual strain on leadership. The book includes 16 pages of fascinating photographs.

*To Seize This Day of Salvation*, written by General Paul A. Rader (Rtd.) with Commissioner Kay F. Rader, explores vital themes that lie at the heart of the Army's vision and mission. The authors make it clear



the issues aren't only perennial; they're urgently relevant to this day. The book contains presentations that will inform and inspire action.

*Those Incredible Booths* by General John Larsson (Rtd.) takes a look at the impact made on the world by the Founder's family. The book examines William and Catherine Booth's approach to raising "a boisterous crew of eight individuals as gifted and headstrong as their parents," following the children through eight biographies woven to form one fascinating narrative.

All three titles are available from Resource Connection ([shop.salvationarmy.org](http://shop.salvationarmy.org) or 1-800-937-8896).



Commissioners William and Marilyn Francis at a book signing with General John Larsson (Rtd.)

## Celebrating God's blessings

Achieving significant anniversaries in 2016 are these Central Territory corps.

### 125 Years

Bay City, Mich., Corps  
Brainerd Lakes, Minn., Corps  
Canton, Ill., Corps  
Chicago Englewood, Ill., Corps  
Chicago Irving Park, Ill., Corps  
Fort Dodge, Iowa, Corps  
Green Bay, Wis., Corps  
Milwaukee West, Wis., Corps

### 100 Years

Kankakee, Ill., Corps  
Manitowoc, Wis., Corps  
Monroe, Mich., Corps

### 75 Years

Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps

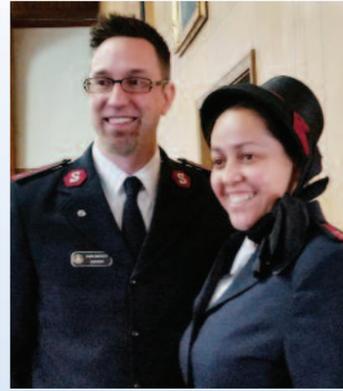
### 25 Years

Crystal Lake, Ill., Corps  
St. Paul Eastside, Minn., Corps

## Saginaw marks milestone

In celebration of its 125th anniversary, the Saginaw, Mich., Corps held a series of commemorative events throughout 2015, including a two-day "Christmas in July" red kettle fundraising effort, a band concert in the park, a family-fun day and a back-to-school fashion show, reported Captains Thom and Cassandra Moffitt, corps officers.

The corps was publicly recognized by Saginaw's mayor and council members at a city hall meeting and a proclamation was issued commend-



Captains Thom and Cassandra Moffitt on "Heritage" Sunday

ing the Army's 125 years of service to the community. The corps held a civic dinner during which community leaders, volunteers, staff and former corps officers were recognized, as well as Eastern Michigan divisional leaders, Lt. Colonels John and Theresa Turner.

During a Sunday "Heritage" service long-time corps soldiers were saluted including Vicky Clark (25 years), Julia Werner (37 years), Beverly Duranso (40 years), Barb Gipson (43 years), Paul Duranso and Jim Steiner (57 years), Hubert Werner (61 years) and Darleen Zimmerman (65 years).

## Celebrating comebacks

by Major Mikey Carter  
Newton, Iowa,  
Corps Officer

It was thought that Newton, Iowa, known by some as the former headquarters of the Maytag Corporation, might never recover from the loss of its main employer. But those who live here know it's made a comeback. Interestingly, the history of The Salvation Army in Newton mirrored similar difficulties, but has celebrated its 125th anniversary.

The Army's work began there in 1890 but closed 14 years later. Resuming in 1926, an advisory board was formed and plans developed for a permanent location. Company-founder Fred Maytag constructed a building that housed the corps until 1996.

To celebrate the corps anniversary year, advisory board members prepared and served a lunch and manned educational activity stations for guests in the corps building and thrift store. Activities ranged from stacking cans to show the amount of

food received by a household of four each month to lifting weights representing the 500 pounds of bread and fresh produce distributed by the corps each week. Guests were invited to help fill backpacks with school supplies for the 200 students.

In the thrift store guests were invited to guess prices and learn about its medical equipment lending program, while in the chapel they could view historical photographs and pray for requests received from donors, clients and program participants.



## Promoted to Glory

Major Charles Moffitt

Major Charles Moffitt was promoted to Glory on December 10, 2015.

Charles was born to Ira and Hazel Moffitt in 1934. He grew up in Beloit, Wis., and entered the College for Officer Training immediately following his graduation from high school.

In 1956 he married Florence Kuhlke, and together they served in eight corps appointments, one divisional headquarters appointment and two appointments at territorial headquarters before retirement. Charles firmly believed God used him in every appointment—no matter how different or diverse—to empower others for change.

During their 59 years of marriage, Charles and Florence were blessed

with four children, and as foster parents welcomed numerous children into their home, providing a safe place and sharing their love of Jesus.

The major was blessed with many talents, including cooking, interior decorating, ceramics and floral design, and used these to serve others.

Charles was preceded in death by his children Gail and Timothy. He is survived by his loving wife; children James (Leslie) and Major Lisa (Butch) Frost; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

