Policy changes underway for married women officers

by Lt. Colonel Renea Smith

The Central Territory is moving forward, answering the appeal to recognize and promote the work of married women officers. Territorial leadership recently identified four recommendations proposed by the Married Women in Leadership Ad Hoc Committee which will be pursued in the coming months.

1. Territorial leadership will continue efforts to bring about change in the allowance structure, whereby married women would receive an allowance in their own name.

Receiving an allowance is just one way an individual’s work is validated. Many territories around the world already have set this example by providing an individual allowance for married women officers. This recommendation includes a presentation to the Territorial Executive Council as well as continued discussion at the Commissioners’ Conference.

2. Appointments will be designed and structured to include flexibility for assigning gifted individuals regardless of gender or marital status.

This recommendation requires attention to how appointments are defined and assigned. At times unintentional linking of appointments occurs when placing married couples, particularly in specialized appointments. By expanding the scope of appointments, as well as considering how these may be addressed in a more flexible manner, we open the door for officers to be assigned individually to areas of giftedness and skill. One step which will be taken to specifically address this recommendation is to intentionally assign married officers to specialized ministries in nearby, but separate, commands.

A Roles and Responsibilities Chart soon will be designed for those serving in corps appointments. Sometimes assumptions are made that one or the other officer is filling a particular role based on their gender or age. The Roles and Responsibilities Chart will provide the opportunity to identify specific responsibilities, expediting interaction with the responsible officer.

Continued on page 9
Making the best possible investment

by Colonel Merle Heatwole
Chief Secretary

usually when we talk about investing, we think in terms of money. We look to invest in companies which will pay us the greatest rate of return or pay the highest dividends. Unfortunately, many people are so eager to make money they fall for “get rich quick” schemes which only make the scammer rich, not the investor. Therefore, it is important we are always careful to make the best possible investments of our resources. Ecclesiastes 11:1 (The Message) tells us, “Be generous: Invest in acts of charity. Charity yields high returns.” So in our process of “Creating a Shared Future” we might ask ourselves, “How can we ‘invest intentionally’ in acts of charity?”

As we think about “investing intentionally,” we shouldn’t limit our selves only to financial investments. We also need to consider investing in people, particularly children. Proverbs 22:6 (NKJV) states, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Investing in the lives of children is the best possible investment we can make. For when we invest in children, our investment has a double impact because it produces results both for now and into the future.

From the Search Institute® website, we learn the following, “Across the past two decades, Search Institute® and others have shown that the number and intensity of high quality relationships in young people’s lives is linked to a broad range of positive outcomes, including increased student engagement, improved academic motivation, higher aspirations for the future, civic engagement, more frequent participation in college-preparatory classes and activities, and a variety of other individual outcomes. We also know that high-quality relationships are characterized as caring, supportive, meaningful, reciprocal, and resulting in young people’s sense of agency, belonging, and competence.’

From a Christian perspective, we know that in addition to these ben efits, high-quality Christian relationships also can have an eternal impact as children learn about God’s love and are given the opportunity to accept Christ as their Savior. A survey by the International Bible Society found 83 percent of Christians made their commitment to Christ between ages 4-14. In addition, Barna Research Group found that children presented with the gospel between ages 5-13 had a 32 percent probability of accepting Christ compared to a 4-6 percent probability for those 14 and over.

As we begin this new year, I chal lenge each of us to invest in the life of at least one child. Whether we are teaching a Sunday school class, leading a youth group or mentoring a grandchild, there is no better investment we can make.
Typhoon Haiyan elicits world, local response

More than four million survivors were displaced in late November by Typhoon Haiyan which savaged the central Philippines and killed more than 5,200 people. In the hardest hit Leyte and Antique provinces and the Visayas Islands region, hundreds of thousands were left without homes, clean water, food or power.

Colonel Wayne Maxwell, Philippines territorial commander, said Salvationists were on the ground in many affected areas providing whatever assistance they could immediately after the storm. Prepared for disasters, the territory had seven tons of food warehoused and ready for distribution along with a standing commitment from the Philippine Air Force to transport food, water, medical personnel and supplies in emergency situations. But, the magnitude of this event was unprecedented.

Salvationist Nunita Salvador lost her home.

“Despite all our planning, one of our major needs was for professional emergency response experts,” said Colonel Maxwell, who requested immediate assistance from International Emergency Services. International relief worker Damaris Frick assessed the situation region by region and worked with other agencies to ensure coordinated responses.

“This [storm] was worse than those suffered [here] in recent years with major logistical issues in getting relief items to where they were most needed,” said Damaris. “Worst-hit areas were impossible to reach by road, and many communities had no means of making contact with the rest of the country.”

More than 54 tons of food, water, medical supplies and other essentials comprised the first airlifted shipments to Tacloban, Leyte’s largest city, in spite of damaged runways and no power at its airport. Helicopters from the U.S. military and commercial ships also delivered much-needed supplies to remote areas.

Response teams within affected regions used The Salvation Army’s extensive connections to organize road transport for food, water and other essentials. Beyond meeting survivors’ physical needs, response teams also focused on emotional and spiritual care. Aid was also provided to scores of evacuees in Cebu and Manila.

“Now we’re preparing for the long term and looking for opportunities to help survivors return to some semblance of normality,” Damaris added.

General André Cox issued an international call for prayer and financial support, to which many territories replied with an infusion of urgently needed funds.

The Central Territory gave an initial $105,000 in support of relief efforts and sent Matthew Beatty, corps assistant at the Kansas City Northland, Mo., Corps and former lay-missionary in the Philippines, to serve as a member of the International Emergency Services team. He’s a trained emergency disaster services worker and commercial pilot who speaks the Filipino language, holds a commercial pilot’s license and owns communications equipment already programmed to operate on Philippines government private frequencies.

The Eastern Michigan Division (EMI) launched a fundraising effort spearheaded by Major Romeo Alip, divisional Filipino ministry director and formerly divisional commander for the Visayas Islands in The Philippines Territory. Colonel Dennis Strisiel, EMI divisional commander, and the major met with 50 members of the Filipino American Community Council to ask them to donate to the Philippines relief efforts through The Salvation Army. Impressed with how the Army was meeting the country’s needs, all groups pledged support.

A major offers emotional support.

Salvationists sing and make music in Rockford

by Lt. Colonel Marlene Chase

A spirit of joyful celebration marked the biennial Scandinavian Jubilee hosted by the Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps. The event highlights the history, faith and continuing contributions of Scandinavian Salvationists in the Central Territory. The celebration drew friends from many parts of the country and world and featured Colonels Jan Peder and Birgit Fosen, chief secretary and territorial secretary for women’s ministries for the Norway, Iceland and Faeroes Territory.

The theme from Ephesians 5:19, “Sing and Make Music in Your Heart to the Lord,” was expressed throughstimulating music by many talented singing and instrumental groups, including the Rockford Temple and Northern Divisional brass bands, the Rockford Temple String Band, Northern Divisional Praise Band, soloist Jude Gotrich, and pianist Bam Rader.

Video clips of distinguished Scandinavian musicians Kaleb Nelson, Anna Redmond and Birgit Preston provided comical skits.

Inspiring testimonies and challenging messages kept steadfast faith in Christ central to the Jubilee. Colonel Jan Peder Fosen’s heart-warming messages included a challenge to “Come and See” and affirmed the Army doctrines of transformation and holiness.

Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler, Central territorial leaders, were present for the concluding holiness meeting on Sunday that drew a capacity crowd.

Jubilee delegates took advantage of a Central Territory Historical Museum display, a Resource Connection store, and a music room featuring history and contributions of Scandinavian artists. Swedish pancake breakfasts and a grand smörgåsbord at nearby Stockholm Inn were served, and colorful Scandinavian flags and costumes abounded.

The 24-member committee for planning and preparation was headed by Rockford Temple Corps Officers Majors Steve and Christine Merritt and chairman Milton E. Nelson.

Sophia Rodriguez welcomes guests from Sweden.

Byline:

Major Romeo Alip gives a media interview.
CSB concert creates community

by Lt. Colonel Jeffrey Smith

Arriving at Wheaton College’s Edman Chapel for the Chicago Staff Band (CSB) Sounds of the Seasons concert, it was obvious the crowd was going to be exceptional. I couldn’t find a parking spot; I wasn’t surprised. Pairing vocalist and songwriter Sara Groves with the CSB is a recipe for one great concert. On that, more than 2,100 of us agreed.

The music started right on time. The opener Round-Up, in the style of every western theme you’ve ever heard, featured the familiar chorus “I will call upon the Lord.” From the start, there was a sense of oneness as we whispered the words and called upon the Lord. God was using music to create a community out of a room full of friends and strangers alike.

Bandmaster William Himes noted this would be Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele’s final Sounds of the Seasons concert as the band’s executive officer, and the band stood in gratitude for his years of involvement and commitment to the band’s ministry.

Introducing the concert as a bridge between the Thanksgiving holiday and Christmas celebrations, Himes then set the themes: thanksgiving and praise. Each band selection drew new community closer together. We marveled at the contrasting solos by Ben Kinzie, a swing style on trumpet, and Paul Bowyer, a classical style on Eb tuba. We were lifted by joyful sounds in Mission Force and Nicely Saved which drove home that the CSB is a brass band.

Sara Groves performed two sets. Christmas carols set to original tunes characterized the first. Performed with the CSB, the set’s final song, “Why it matters,” was a ballad describing a Bosnian cellist’s “protest of beauty” in response to the tragedy of war. It spoke of hope in a difficult world—the very message of Christmas.

The first half concluded with Eric Ball’s epic tone poem, Song of Courage, which Himes dedicated to Janey Hult, his long-time administrative assistant and friend who is battling cancer. The music called us to “Stand like the brave with our face to the foe.”

The second half featured more solos. Major Tim Meyer on flagel and Shaun Thomas on euphonium, which pulled us together again. Sara Groves sang another set, “Angels we have heard on high” and “Toy Packaging,” a lighthearted original piece decrying the challenge of getting a toy out of the packaging on Christmas. She concluded with her song, “He’s always been faithful,” accompanied by the band. This was the spiritual center of the evening. In the devotional which followed Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander, reminded us thankfulness is a matter of perspective and called us to embrace the message of the song.

Following the band’s exciting finale, Exultate Deo, the congregation joined Sara Groves and the CSB to sing, “O come all ye faithful.” In prayer, Colonel Vander Weele summed up the evening. “We came expecting a concert, but we are leaving having worshipped together.”

God’s timing and provision proved perfect again on a recent Chicago Staff Band (CSB) trip.

Saving the Army hundreds of dollars in freight, retired Territorial Headquarters (THQ) employee Bob Herbert volunteered to drive the band’s instruments and equipment to Omaha, Neb., to meet up with the musicians the next day when they arrived by plane. But only a few hours into the trip, the truck broke down just outside of Davenport, Iowa.

A stream of urgent calls circled between Bob, Marty Kuhlin in the THQ property department, band secretary Ron Shoults and Bandmaster Bill Himes. “Give me a few minutes,” said Bill. “I have an idea.” He dialed the Davenport Adult Rehabilitation Center and asked for the administrator. “Just a minute, he’s walking right by,” came the response. Captain Alex Velasquez listened to the plight—could a few of his men help Bob, 75, by moving the instruments from the THQ truck to a rental?

“Bob Herbert?” asked the captain. “I know him. We were in rehab together!” He went further. No need to rent a truck, they’d get Bob and the THQ truck and move the equipment to one of theirs which they’d loan him to take to Omaha. They’d fix the THQ truck and have it ready on Bob’s way back. The band’s ministry was still on.

“That’s awfully nice of you,” remarked Bill.

“Well,” said the captain. “We’re all one Army.”

One Army, indeed!

A professional CD recording featuring the CSB and Sara Groves is available for $15 each, plus $5 shipping and handling for orders of any quantity to the same address. Specify quantity, address and payment information (Visa and MasterCard accepted) to: Chicago Staff Band, The Salvation Army; 10 W. Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016. If paying by credit card, order online at www.chicagostaffband.org, or by phone: 847-294-2133 or fax: 847-227-5033.
Women's Ministries Leadership Conference guests

Women from around our territory won’t want to miss the Territorial Women’s Ministries Leadership Conference, October 16-19, 2014, with its diverse and interesting line-up of guests.

Mindy Caliguire

Mindy Caliguire is the founder of Soul Care, a spiritual formation ministry that exists to increase “soul health” in the body of Christ. She is the Executive Director for Engage International and previously served for the Willow Creek Association. Mindy contributes to Leadership and Conversations journals and has authored numerous books on spiritual formation. Mindy will lead us in exploring simple yet profound ways to tend our souls, essential to being who God created us to be and to having a transformational effect on our world.

Commissioner Carol Seiler

It’s especially fitting that Commissioner Carol Seiler joins us for this conference—not only because she helps lead our territory as president of women’s ministries but because she’s a huge proponent of women in leadership. She values higher education and hard work and has a practical approach to ministry, intent on making her days count for God’s Kingdom. She has been instrumental in introducing exciting initiatives, like STEPs and Pathway of Hope to the territory. During the Sunday morning worship service, you’ll find her speaking marked by passion and straight talk.

Hālau Hula Ka Lei o ka Haku

Meaning “the lei of the Lord” this Hawaiian and Pacific Islands divisional group was initiated to share God’s love and to worship Him through the art of hula. Led by Dasia Rodriguez, these 12 ladies represent corps from Oahu, Maui and the big island of Hawaii. They have performed at Army events throughout the United States.

Bill Booth Theater Company

For over 10 years our territory’s own Bill Booth Theater Company has brought a varied repertoire of drama, music and comedy to concerts, conferences, services and retreats throughout North America. This October they’re sure to delight with another original production.
The Water of Life

This year our territory is focusing on the ways The Salvation Army is answering the need of the world for pure water, both physically and spiritually. Get acquainted with the issue through this feature and learn more by viewing the Into the World video series to be released in February and visiting centralmissions.org. Then, pray about what you might give and how you can get involved.

Access to Clean Water

“The water is not good in this pond. We collect it because we have no alternative. All the animals drink from the pond as well as the community. Because of the water we are getting different diseases.”
—Zenebech Jemel, Chobare Meno, Ethiopia

- 783 million people do not have access to safe, clean drinking water.
- This represents 2.5 times the population of the United States!
- Additionally, 2.5 billion people live without proper sanitation.

Water Collection

Around the world the responsibility for collecting water is held by:

Women 64%
Men 24%
Girls 8%
Boys 4%

In Kenya, 25% of the population spends more than 30 minutes on a water collection trip. Water collectors often travel alone carrying 40 pounds of water, leaving them vulnerable to injury or attack.

Community Water Tanks

Kenya East Territory

Many of the 700 corps and outposts in the Kenya East Territory are located in arid and semi-arid environments which experience chronic water supply problems. By harvesting and storing rainwater when it is available, corps and community members have convenient access to a cheap, clean source of water. The water tanks lessen some of the burdens of daily life and reduce the incidence of ill health from consuming unclean water. Also, in locations where the water tanks are in place there has been an increase in attendance at corps programs.
“To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.”
Revelation 21:6

**Water Crisis Impact on Children**

“The conditions are terrible. There is sewage everywhere. It pollutes our water. Most people use buckets and plastic bags for toilets. Our children suffer all the time from diarrhea and other diseases because it is so filthy.”
—Mary Akinyi, Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya

Across the globe nearly 4,000 children die each day from unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation facilities.

**Educational Impact of Water Tanks**

“Of course I wish I were in school, I want to learn to read and write... But how can I? My mother needs me to get water.” —Yeni Bazan, age 10, El Alto, Bolivia

Time spent collecting water is time children miss out on educational opportunities. When clean water initiatives are in place, children, especially girls, are more likely to attend school and learn to read and write.

**Washing Clothes**

Rizal, Philippines

The Joyville Children’s Home is a residential safe home for children, ages 7-18, who have previously lived on the streets or have experienced physical abuse. The home provides its residents with accommodations, nutritious food, health care, education, spiritual guidance, counseling, love and pure water for drinking, cooking and washing laundry by hand.
Chicago Staff Band concert kicked off a year-long celebration of the Decatur, Ill., Corps’ 125th anniversary celebrations. On Sunday morning at the corps, the CSB continued its musical ministry. Bandmaster William Himes delivered the message: “We’ve been left with a living legacy… and it’s up to us to continue [it] for the next generation and generations to come,” he said.

Other highlights of the morning included Major Evie Diaz, Heartland divisional commander, presenting a commemorative 125th anniversary flag to the corps and lively performances by the corps’ dance team, “Steppin’ for His Glory,” and its singing company. Many former corps members and corps officers were in attendance.

According to Captains Wesley and Susan Dalberg, corps officers, there will be many more anniversary events to come during the corps’ 125th year. “This weekend set the tone for all of the celebrations to follow!” said Captain Wes.

The first Salvation Army meetings in Decatur were held in a second-story hall over a dry goods store near the town’s center in October 1888. “In the years since, the corps moved from place to place and innovative programs and services were begun and adapted over the years to meet the community’s changing needs. A long progression of officers, lay leaders and soldiers worked tirelessly to win the lost and build the Kingdom in Decatur,” Captain Wes continued.

“Today the corps continues to serve its community. A building and service expansion has benefited residents of its 30-bed men’s shelter, which expands its sleeping arrangements to 55 or more men during cold weather months. Women’s ministries regularly attracts 80-100 women each week and 40-50 youth attend character-building programs. And, the corps recently hired a youth development coordinator as part of the territorial Good Soil initiative.

The territory’s Mission and Purpose weekend was so powerful it will live in the hearts of Salvationists and have a lasting effect on their ministry. Delegates from across the territory gathered at the beautiful Grand Rapids, Mich., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center to “Explore the Possibilities’ of ministry in The Salvation Army.

Roles of delegates varied from soldiers and volunteers to adult rehabilitation center residents and employees. Each chose from a plethora of workshops to help them see how they might fit in the endless opportunities for service in the Army. Workshops included the Pathway of Hope approach, the Stop-It initiative against human trafficking, social media, social justice, mission in a changing world, mission in the Word, mission around the world and the Church.

“I have received clarity on being a Salvationist and what God wants us to do,” said Jeffrey Macon, who with his wife Tiffany, is a relatively new attendee at the Bloomington, Ind., Corps. “We are to become soldiers, and if that leads to being officers, so be it!”

During plenary sessions delegates were led in worship by The Singing Company and challenged by Bible messages. Guest Dr. Soong-Chan Rah, professor at North Park Theological Seminary, was especially moving as he spoke from Haggai about God’s presence in the rubble of our lives.

“We worshipped, sang praises to our Holy God, prayed together and left the conference with a renewed sense of purpose,” concluded Major Carol Wurtz, territorial corps missions and adult ministries secretary.

Dr. Soong-Chan Rah

Tiffany and Jeffrey Macon

International College for Officers

Major Catherine Thielke
Session 220
January 15 - February 24

Colonel Dawn Heatwole
Session 221
April 16 - May 26

Major Timothy Meyer
Session 222
July 16 - August 25

Captain Alex Lim
Session 223
October 15 - November 24

FAITH & DOUBT

REGENERATION 2014

FEBRUARY 14 – 16 – CAMP WONDERLAND
THE TERRITORY’S CONFERENCE FOR YOUNG ADULTS, AGES 18-29
THIS YEAR FEATURING PASTOR EUGENE CHO, MAJOR DANIELLE STRICKLAND AND PROPAGANDA
WWW.SAREGENERATION.COM
Golden Diners volunteers also report me as purchasing low-quality food to almost 9 million seniors so they skip meals. With my corps officers, I had to learn that God will guide me and give me what I need, not always what I want. I had to learn to trust God even though I can’t see the outcome.

Shawn’s corps officers are Majors James and Valerie McDowell.

I was the corps that almost wasn’t—until Phil and Gail Barrett came along. The Brown County, Ind., Corps had opened in the picturesque tourist town of Nashville, Ind., in 2006. Two years later, it was about to be turned into a service extension unit; only a handful of people had been attending worship.

Today this non-traditional corps, under the Barretts’ leadership, as corps administrators, has a vibrant and growing congregation of 120 people, all new to the Army. After they’ve been exposed to the Army’s mission and ministry, many regular attendees request enrollment as soldiers or adherents. This past fall 14 more senior soldiers and 10 adherents were enrolled.

Although the Barretts don’t pressure people to be enrolled or emphasize the wearing of uniforms, interest in uniforms began to increase after 30 corps people attended last June’s Family Congress weekend to see the commissioning of the Barretts’ daughter and son-in-law, now Lts. Tim and Julie Perkins.

The sight of thousands of soldiers wearing uniforms captivated the group. Realizing the corps is connected to a larger whole, they wanted uniforms, too. The ball really got rolling the following Sunday when one lady wore a uniform blouse to church and caused a sensation! “It took on a life of its own,” said Phil of the uniform-ordering phenomenon. Interest in The Salvation Army in Brown County as a church has grown each year. “As a church we had little to offer at the start. I told our little congregation, ‘I’ll preach the Word, and you be friendly!”’ said Phil. “It was important the town understand we’re a church first and foremost; many people regarded going to the Army as a stigma for needing help.”

Now more than one-eighth of Nashville’s population attends the corps. Its people are encouraged to not only know who they are in Christ but what they can do as ministers of Christ, community outreach in particular. A county survey showed the Army is now the most referred-to assistance source by other agencies, organizations and churches.

In addition to usual seasonal outreach opportunities, corps people each year have a 30-foot long Army information booth at the Brown County Fair and host an annual block party at which more than 1,000 people enjoy entertainment, refreshments, pony rides and a petting zoo. And, this past fall the corps introduced “Fallapalooza!”

Although the corps has grown, a real sense of family remains, said Phil. Small groups have begun to sprout and, on Thursday nights, up to 60 youth (grades 6-12) come for a meal, group worship and recreation. Equipment and activities are often shared with youth groups of other churches, as was vacation Bible school for the first time last summer; it attracted 125 children!
He sounds of bouncing basketballs, tennis balls and volleyballs outside the Midland, Mich., court. Corps have been welcome additions to its neighborhood this past year. At the dedication of the multi-use sports court, made possible by the Dow Chemical Company, Captain Brian Goodwill, corps officer, said, “We want this space to be available for our community as a safe and fun place for kids and adults to be healthy and active. We also want to reach out and make investments in each of these people’s lives and souls. That’s what our real mission is all about.”

The sports court proved to be a big draw for community kids and adults. Over the fall, corps continued to play on the outside court, which attracted neighborhood kids who joined in.

Before Captains Brian and Katrina Goodwill arrived at the corps in 2012, their predecessors, Captains Matthew and Malinda O’Neil, initiated plans for the sports court. Dow Chemical awarded a grant to build the court, along with a commitment to provide more than 100 employee volunteers to engineer, obtain permits, procure materials and build the court, complete with lighting, lights and motion sensors. The volunteers also took care of a few smaller projects around the courts, like landscaping and painting.

On Saturday, Oct. 10, the court was dedicated. County Sheriff Scott Stephenson sinks a shot after the court’s dedication!

Joyful worship contagious in Detroit
by Lynne Williams

Sunday morning at the Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) in the heart of Detroit starts bright and early. Program participants from both the men’s and women’s campuses attend Bible study at 8:00 a.m. While they are receiving this teaching, something else just as wonderful is happening. The chapel is beginning to fill with attendees from around the city.

Worship here has become contagious! In fact, this ARC has the largest Sunday morning worship service attendance in the territory, averaging nearly 700 each week. One may suspect the large attendance is from participation of beneficiaries, but they only make up about 50 percent. The other half is attracted to the service because they find something special—the Holy Spirit. “Our ARC program participants have been instrumental in helping us to grow the church. Still, we recognize that there are a great many attending that do not have drug or alcohol addictions,” said Envoy Merle Miller, Southeast Michigan ARC administrator. “We see ourselves as a church in recovery from sin. And we have all sinned.”

Services begin with lively praise led by the ARC Singers who encourage everyone to participate fully—and they do! People express their love for the Lord boldly. “It’s our [the congregation’s] enthusiasm and God’s presence—and the fact that we can bring hope through the Army’s consistent message—that keeps us coming back,” said Elsie Webb. Elsie initially came to the ARC worship service to support someone in the program and later became a senior soldier.

People come for a variety of other reasons. Some, who’ve received help from The Salvation Army, want to serve here in return. New Salvation Army employees hear about the service and come to check it out. Still others in treatment at other facilities come to be fed spiritually on Sundays. Whatever the reason, they’re all welcome.

Sylvia Penn spent a year listening to her friend’s coaxing to experience the ARC’s worship service. “I used to tell her, ‘I’m not in recovery!’” Finally, she gave it a try. “I couldn’t have received a stronger confirmation if Jesus had told me Himself that this was where He wanted me to be,” she said. Now, she never misses.

The service has doubled in size since 2002. Then the chapel only could accommodate 300. When the ARC was renovated in 2006, chapel space was expanded. Now, it’s near capacity again. Ushers gratefully add chairs around the sanctuary, and sometimes worshipers even praise God from the foyer.

The ARC attributes the growth to the joy people experience. “The Lord is truly present in our service and those who come here really feel and know His touch,” said Mary Latta, soldier and prayer warrior. “They then go out and share this experience with friends and loved ones who, in turn, want to experience His same touch—they want the Lord to do the same things in them that they see Him doing in us. So they come. And they keep coming.” And the worship service keeps growing.

Starting promptly at 9:00 a.m., the service lasts until about 11:30 a.m. Soldiers contribute in many ways like the call to worship, responsive reading and prayer. After the meeting, everyone is invited to the dining room to enjoy a wonderful hot meal and fellowship.

I John 1:7 (NIV) says, “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.” No doubt, the Southeast Michigan ARC is drawing those seeking Christ, walking in the light and spreading the good news of the gospel. As the growth shows, they just can’t keep it to themselves!

Holiness in the temple, our body
by Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren

As I travel the territory for ministry it has become more obvious to me that I need to have control over my physical body and appetite. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 9:27 (NIV1984): “No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”

In order to pursue holiness, I must recognize my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and I am to glorify God with it. Our physical bodies and natural desires were created by God and are not sinful in themselves. However, I find that left uncontrolled they are at war with my soul. I want, as Paul says, for my body to be my slave, not my master.

Each one of us has the privilege of presenting our bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, and to not be conformed to the world. (Romans 12:1-2) Perhaps we all should examine ourselves as to our bodies being the temples of the Holy Spirit.

Just recently I was describing David’s temptation with Bathsheba and said he should have “pulled the shades,” to which my wife replied, “He should have run the other way.”

It is my desire to flee any temptation and not give sin an opportunity to take hold in my life.

God expects us to assume our responsibility for keeping sinful desires of the body under control. We cannot do this in our own strength. Let’s claim Paul’s declaration, “I can do everything through Him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13, NIV 1984).
Midwest recovers from tornadoes

Salvation Army emergency disaster services teams immediately began providing food, hydration, shelter and emotional and spiritual care to thousands in the Midwest affected by severe weather in mid-November. Seven people died in Illinois when tornadoes tore through the central part of the state, along with Indiana and Kentucky. Two people lost their lives in Michigan from storm-related conditions.

In the Heartland Division, most of the damage centered on the central Illinois town of Washington where an unprecedented late-autumn F-4 tornado destroyed or damaged thousands of homes and adjoining areas of Tazewell County. Other towns suffering demolished houses, flooding and severe wind damage included Pekin, Morton and East Peoria.

In Washington, the division fed up to 3,000 people daily through five canteens and a church kitchen. Five more canteens expanded feeding into outlying areas. Officers, employees and volunteers from Iowa, Indiana and Minnesota joined the relief effort. The division set up a multi-agency resource center with other relief organizations to provide a "one-stop" assistance center.

More than 200 homes were damaged [half were destroyed] in the town of Brookport, where three of the Illinois fatalities occurred. A canteen staffed by volunteers from the Midland Division and the Kentucky/Tennessee Division (USA Southern Territory) provided relief.

In the Indiana Division, hundreds of survivors in Fountain City, Kokomo and Washington were fed by canteens from New Albany and Indianapolis. Assistance casework was provided to individuals.

In metropolitan Chicago damage was intense but not widespread. Will County received the brunt of the damage. Canteens provided nourishment and emotional and spiritual care for three days.

Prayer fights trafficking

The Muscatine, Iowa, Corps invited their community to join them in learning more about the issue of sex trafficking and praying for victims of this modern-day scourge.

During the eighth international weekend of prayer and fasting for victims of human trafficking, soldiers and visitors paused at a series of prayer stations with the themes: places inundated by sex trafficking, justice for perpetrators, a reduction in demand, and the moral case against participating in the system by paying for sex.

"We may not be able to stop sex trafficking throughout the whole world, but we can make a difference in one person's life," said Captain Kim Ray, corps officer.

February Prayer Calendar

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<td>2 Sunday</td>
<td>Isaiah 23-28</td>
<td>Milwaukee South Side Latino, Wis., Corps</td>
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<td>3 Monday</td>
<td>Matthew 11-13</td>
<td>South Bend, Ind., ARC*</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4 Tuesday</td>
<td>Romans 9-10</td>
<td>Plymouth, Mich., Corps</td>
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<td>5 Wednesday</td>
<td>Genesis 20-23</td>
<td>Ottawa, Ill., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 Thursday</td>
<td>Judges 1-6</td>
<td>Marion, Ind., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 Friday</td>
<td>Psalms 15-17</td>
<td>Western OH**</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Saturday</td>
<td>Job 11-12</td>
<td>Pittsburg, Kan., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 Sunday</td>
<td>Isaiah 29-33</td>
<td>Candidates for Officership and Corps Cadets</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10 Monday</td>
<td>Matthew 14-16</td>
<td>Gary-Merrillville, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11 Tuesday</td>
<td>Romans 11-12</td>
<td>National Headquarters, Alexandria, Va.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>12 Wednesday</td>
<td>Genesis 24-27</td>
<td>Quincy Kroc Center, Ill., Corps</td>
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<td>13 Thursday</td>
<td>Judges 7-11</td>
<td>Minneapolis Temple, Minn., Corps</td>
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<td>14 Friday</td>
<td>Psalms 18-20</td>
<td>North Platte, Neb., Corps</td>
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<td>15 Saturday</td>
<td>Job 13-14</td>
<td>Regeneration Young Adult Conference</td>
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<td>16 Sunday</td>
<td>Isaiah 34-38</td>
<td>Michigan City, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>17 Monday</td>
<td>Matthew 17-19</td>
<td>Milwaukee West, Wis., Corps</td>
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<td>18 Tuesday</td>
<td>Romans 13-14</td>
<td>Madi Region™</td>
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<td>19 Wednesday</td>
<td>Genesis 28-31</td>
<td>Pontiac, Mich., Corps</td>
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<td>20 Thursday</td>
<td>Judges 12-16</td>
<td>Omaha Kroc Center, Neb., Corps</td>
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<td>21 Friday</td>
<td>Psalms 21-23</td>
<td>Pekin, Ill., Corps</td>
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<td>22 Saturday</td>
<td>Job 15-16</td>
<td>Chicago Staff Band</td>
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<td>23 Sunday</td>
<td>Isaiah 40-44</td>
<td>Men's Ministries Sunday</td>
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<td>24 Monday</td>
<td>Matthew 20-23</td>
<td>Muncie, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>25 Tuesday</td>
<td>Romans 15-16</td>
<td>Saline, Kan., Corps</td>
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<td>26 Wednesday</td>
<td>Genesis 32-35</td>
<td>Hammond-Monster, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>27 Thursday</td>
<td>Judges 17-21</td>
<td>St. Charles, Mo., Corps</td>
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<tr>
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<td>28 Friday</td>
<td>Psalms 24-26</td>
<td>Minot, N.D., Corps</td>
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* = Adult Rehabilitation Center
** = Divisional Headquarters
PIM = Partners in Mission

Go to www.salarmycentral.org

If you follow the prayer calendar in the next year, you will have read through the Bible!
Promoted to Glory

Mrs. Brigadier Ethel (Ethel) Geer

After a long, rich life of service to her Savior, Mrs. Brigadier Ethel Geer was promoted to Glory on October 19, 2013. She was 92.

Ethel was commissioned as part of the “Crusaders” session in 1941. She and her husband, Brigadier LeClaire (Bull) Geer, were officers in the Central Territory for more than 45 years. During that time they were blessed with three children and served in 17 appointments. They retired from the Rockford Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC), where they oversaw the building of a new residence.

In retirement Ethel remained active in ministry, including serving as the home league secretary, and chaplain at the St. Petersburg, Fla., ARC.

Ethel was known as a “Crusader” from the time of her commissioning, and many lives were changed because of her devotion to the Lord.

Brigadier Ethel was preceded in death by her husband, son Paul, and granddaughter Heather Tejada. She is survived by her children Brenda (David) Flatness and Rebecca (Douglas) Sterne; daughter-in-law Marla Geer; eight grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Major Annie (Nan) Metz

On October 8, 2013, Mrs. Major Nan Metz was promoted to Glory. She was 85.

Nan was born in Detroit, Mich., to Joseph and Annie Thomson. Raised in the Reformed Church of America, Nan accepted Christ in 1941 at a young people’s convention. In 1950 she graduated from college and taught elementary school for two years in the Detroit area. During this time Nan felt called to fulltime ministry. She started attending the Detroit Temple, Mich., Corps with her younger brother. Shortly thereafter, she knew The Salvation Army was where she should serve. She was commissioned as an officer in 1953.

In 1954 Nan married Lt. Ralph Metz, and their marriage was blessed with three daughters. They served in two corps in the Eastern Michigan Division before serving in five men’s social service centers (now adult rehabilitation centers). In 1988 she was appointed territorial director of volunteers, an appointment she held until their retirement to Clearwater, Fla., in 1991.

Major Nan was preceded in death by her husband. She is survived by her daughters, Cecyl Mehlberg, Nancy Metz and Carol Metz Colestock; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Major Shirley Younts

At age 77, Major Shirley Younts was promoted to Glory on October 25, 2013.

Shirley was the sixth of 10 children born to Robert and Maudie in Ecorse, Mich. During Shirley’s childhood her father was in and out of prison, which led to a difficult home life and Shirley’s own life problems.

One Sunday night sitting at a tavern, Shirley heard a Salvation Army band playing outside. She followed it back to the corps and later attended a service. The officer noticed Shirley and shared the gospel with her. She was miraculously saved. Her sister Jan O’Dell, who was then a cadet, had been praying for her.

Shirley also became an officer, commissioned in 1964. She had a heart for children that grew with every appointment. Highlights from her officership included two divisional youth secretary appointments and being on staff in the territorial youth department.

In 1997 she retired due to health concerns. Even so, she continued to serve at her corps and territorial headquarters.

Major Shirley was preceded in death by her parents and eight siblings. Jan died just 45 minutes after Shirley. She is survived by a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, many nieces and nephews and a good friend, Major Gloria Stepke.