Mission minded about literacy

Mission: Literacy, a highly successful Bible-based curriculum used with children to teach them to read or to raise their reading scores, this year will have the exciting addition of a version for adults. The introduction of this new material only expands the possibilities for a “hidden gem” of a ministry tool, according to Major Carol Wurtz, territorial corps mission and ministry secretary. At this juncture, oversight of the program for the territory is being transferred to territorial headquarters after years of exceptional care and promotion even in retirement by Major Jan Hendrickson. David Tooley, territorial discipleship resources and leadership development consultant, will now be the program’s point person.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Continued on page 2

Introducing the new anti-trafficking program at a press conference

Introducing the new anti-trafficking program at a press conference
Rational or irrational, fear is individual and depends on many factors.
Conditioning was a big factor for me. I had been conditioned by my parents to enjoy the bridge crossing, and to this day I tell people how wonderful it is.

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

All of us are crossing a bridge from 2016 to 2017. This year will hold new challenges. Some may be scary, others welcomed and exciting. We will have many opportunities to influence people for Christ: to witness, disciple, encourage, serve, pray for and invite people to join us in the mission. Will we trust God to empower us? Will we listen when He says, “Do not fear?” Will we step out in faith to seize the opportunities He presents?

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

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

T he Kaleidoscope Institute’s new Pathway to Hope www.kalnet.org 
 Mission: Literacy (cont’d)

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

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

In the last year in the Central Territory, Mission: Literacy touched the lives of 1,501 students. We altogether completed 16,682 lessons taught by 87 tutors and 95 volunteers, giving nearly 7,200 hours, to make a difference in the lives of at-risk children. And 199 youth accepted Christ!

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

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

Get Connected!
Check out our complementary material on the web: 
salarmycentral.org

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Refuel and Regeneration registrations
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Pathway of Hope website
Mission: Literacy website
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The Kaleidoscope Institute website
Others program websites
Music and Gospel Arts Department website
Trade Central website
Media
Spanish Bible and Discipleship Training Seminar

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List of Bible and Discipleship Training presentations available in Spanish
More on Madagascar
Launching the Crystal Lake Corps

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Honored at Wall

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

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

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

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

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

Singing Company Festival

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

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

“We hope the Singing Company Festival not only will build excitement for the congress and ensure an excellent united group but will maximize, improve and sustain the quality and participation of singing companies in corps in support of Live Music in Worship in Every Corps by 2020,” said Meghan Pierson, territorial music education, ministry and curriculum specialist.

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

The following festivals are scheduled:

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

For more information visit samusiccentral.org or contact your divisional music director.

Preparation Underway!

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

Saturday, June 10
7:00 a.m. SK Run/Walk for the World
9:30 a.m. United Session and Retirement of Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler
Noon Picnic/Concerts on the Green
Territorial and International Leaders “Meet and Greet”
Noon-7:00 p.m. Trade Central and exhibits open
2:00 p.m. Territorial Youth Councils with the General and Commissioner Cox
4:30 p.m. Fellowship of the Silver Star and Cadet Recognition Dinner +
7:30 p.m. United Session
9:30 p.m. Afterglow Concert

Sunday, June 11
9:00 a.m. Holiness Meeting
Commissioning/Ordination of the Joyful Intercessors
11:30 a.m. Service of Appointments
* By invitation only

Schedule subject to change, please visit centralcommissioning.org for latest information.

HONORED AT WALL

"Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven...facing together for the faith." ~Philippians 2:14

COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION OF THE JOYFUL INTERCESSORS

JUNE 9-11 2017

SINGING COMPANY FESTIVAL

Preparation underway!

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Unreserved service saluted

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

Words of recognition were given by Commissioner Nancy Roberts and Major Mark Martsolf who each spoke of their friendship over the years with the Rowlands. Major Mark shared that he met the Lord because of a basketball program run by the Rowlands several years ago and now he serves as a corps officer himself. Another officer present, who had been brought to the Lord and fulltime service by Major Mark, drove home the message of salvation and service being passed on. The Rowlands’ sons, Brian, Jeff and Jeremy, surprised their parents on ceremony conducted by Commissioner William A. Roberts, as he conducted the retirement ceremony under the American and Salvation Army flags held by Major Doug’s broth-
ers, Major Edward Rowland and Mr. Alan Rowland.

“This has been service character-
ized by faithfulness as these two have made themselves available to God and The Salvation Army, unre-
servedly, to serve,” said the commis-
sioner. “They have been persons of consistency. In a day when consist-
sity may be considered passé, even less than desirable, choosing instead to go with the flow, when some see it as an obstacle to realiz-
ing personal fulfillment. Here are two who have demonstrated that consistency of character and values is still a virtue and that bow one feels is not nearly so important as what one is. Here are two who have shown for all to see that fulfillment and joy are not isolated from lives of commitment and character.”

Majors Doug and Janet Rowland offered their gratitude in appreciation of the love and support they have received from friends and family who were faithful in prayer during Janet’s illness, saying the many messages and cards were a great encouragement. Less than a week before the ceremony, Janet took to her hospital bed for two days before the ceremo-
ny, as she was discharged from the hospital.

Vignettes of Victory

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

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

What began as a two-year commit-
ment turned into 28 years chron-
icling Salvation Army lore. Although the major has been published many times, these vignettes represent his most important work, passing along the stories of the Army’s early pioneers.

To purchase, visit satradecen-
tral.org or call 1-800-937-8896
by Dr. Jonathan Corry

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

A warm welcome greeted Dr. Harold Burgmayer and the CSB as they took to the stage to perform the festival prelude Raise the Song by Simon Morton. This new and exciting work features Henry Alford’s hymn tune “Come, ye thankful people, come” and was performed with excitement and energy, setting the tone for an evening of quality music-making. CSB Executive Officer Colonel Jeffrey Smith welcomed the audience, sharing a prayer at the concert’s commencement. Throughout the evening, he provided informative insights and presented a devotional thought to challenge the audience.

The fourth movement of Felix Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 5 is a paraphrase of Luther’s Reformation Hymn, “A mighty fortress is our God.” This well-known hymn tune has been adopted by many composers, including J.S. Bach, Stokowski, Glassunov, Vaughan-Williams, Telemann and, in this case, Mendelssohn. This well-scored arrangement commenced with the lone cornet sound of Beth Cooper and through developing many great sounds and use of color led us to a thrilling climax. Guest artists the Boston Brass demonstrated virtuosity in a wide range of musical styles and captivated the audience with their sheer brilliance and artistic excellence. Of special interest was lead trumpet player, Jose Sibaja, playing technically demanding solo lines within the quintet, as well as an exuberant performance of Al Hirt’s The Green Hornet. The Boston Brass collaborated with the CSB on five items, including some holiday numbers, creating an almost “concerto grosso” effect in Dr. Burgmayer’s arrangement of Astor Piazzolla’s Desde Argentina con Amor.

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

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

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

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

Boston Brass joins CSB to wow audience!
**Territorial Headquarters**
- Construct new corps building for Matamoros Corps

**Latin America North**
1. **Kansas and Western Missouri Division**
   - Open a new corps plant, purchase quarters in Costa Rica
2. **Metropolitan Division**
   - Open a new corps plant, purchase quarters for Choloma Corps, Honduras and Caracas Corps, Venezuela.

**Caribbean**
1. **Kansas and Western Missouri Division**
   - Open a new corps plant, purchase quarters for Choloma Corps, Honduras and Caracas Corps, Venezuela.
2. **Midland Division**
   - Construct building for Limbe Corps, Haiti (former outpost)
   - Construct new hall/community center for Turks and Caicos Corps
3. **Western Division**
   - Corps project in Jamaica

**Switzerland/Austria/Hungary**
- Purchase/renovate building to house Miskolc Corps, Hungary

**Western Michigan and Northern Indiana Division**
1. Buy land, build corps/quarters for Kemondo Corps (former outpost); build chapel for Training College
2. Buy land, build new corps and quarters for Uyole Corps and Lwanzali Corps

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

**Tanzania**
- Construct new corps building for Matamoros Corps
Photos represent ministry in territories and regions. For resources visit centralmissions.org
Corps abuzz with youth

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

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

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

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

One of the newest initiatives for youth is the corps' partnership with Circus Juventas, the largest performing arts circus school in North America. On Wednesday nights, Circus Juventas offers several workshops to youth free of charge. Currently six to eight youth participate weekly and learn new skills such as acrobatics and tumbling. Circus Juventas is committed to striving for new levels of excellence in artistry, athleticism, mental acuity and creativity and fosters the concepts of breaking boundaries and overcoming obstacles to their futures.

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

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

Growing saints as well as a corps

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

"The turnaround at the corps is all due to God; it had little to do with us," said Major Kathleen Pinkston, corps officer with her husband, Charles. Yet it was the Pinkstons' utilization of a simple Bible study and discipleship method to meet one of the corps' STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) vital few goals that has made the difference. They learned the method, developed by the Kaleidoscope Institute, at a seminar offered by the Midland Division. The approach is structured so participants can gain a thorough understanding of a scripture passage through just a few questions discussed in small groups.

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

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

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

¡Estudiar la Biblia es muy bueno!

(Studying the Bible is very good!)

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

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

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

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

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

RE:fuel

A GATHERING FOR YOUTH LEADERS

GOD'S STORY

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

Dr. Christopher Yuan
Megan Marshman
Reggie Joiner
MARIO & MARVIN
Serving on the last frontier

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

Sitka

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

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

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

The Sitka team

The Salvation Army was warmly welcomed by Majors Turnie and Evadne Wright, Sitka corps officers, along with soldiers, volunteers and the community.

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

Numerous times when the majors were out with the team, they were stopped by people requesting prayer. The team saw how the majors lived out their faith every day, showing Christ’s love in all they did, which led to the community embracing the Army. When the team’s mission concluded, they were touched when Major Evadne said, “We’re family now. So it’s not goodbye; it’s see you later.”

Kake

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

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

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

The Kake team with corps officers, Lts. Taurean and Yohani Ortiz

Utah Citadel, Kan., Corps.

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

Promoting hope through others

by Brett Tolcher

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

Recently at Central Territorial Headquarters, North American and international representatives gathered to strategize future concepts for the OTHERS program which aims to transform lives and alleviate poverty by promoting and utilizing the concept of fair trade. When you purchase handmade OTHERS products, you help contribute to the creation of fairly compensated work for people who may have limited opportunities.

Production units are in many cases, linked with The Salvation Army’s community development programs, where producers receive necessary counseling and support.

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

To support this life-changing work, visit usa.tradeforhope.com

Madagascar

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

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

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

The Salvation Army’s new Madagascar team with territorial leaders and the Chief of the Staff and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle [center]

Information from International News Releases
From cowboy to corps

by Shannon Cabrera

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

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

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

After all, without the passion and desire to serve God, the Wichita Citadel Corps wouldn’t be celebrating 150 years!

Great Lakes, great corps

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

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

Saturday afternoon the CSB held a music school for the 25 children who participate in the corps’ youth music program, culminating in a mini-concert attended by their families. That evening a dinner recognized former corps officers and Mrs. Lt. Colonel Ruth Hasney, the corps’ most senior soldier for her legacy of service and continued attendance and support.

The day concluded with a concert by the CSB which drew more than 250 people from the community and also featured the corps’ youth. Sunday morning the CSB conducted two worship services at the Village Church of Gurnee for more than 1,200 people who also enjoyed a sermon by the territorial commander.

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

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

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

International College for Officers

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

Session 232
January 11 to February 20, 2017

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

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

God’s perfect timing

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

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

Advisory Board Member Robert Blazier, who’d been crucial to the corps from its start, and the corps’ founding officers, Majors John and Julie Aren, were recognized.

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

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

Since the captain’s mid-2014 arrival, community services at the corps and for McHenry County have expanded (such as an afterschool program, Golden Diners and service extension work in seven locations) and Sunday attendance has steadily grown to an average of 40.

The captain credited God and her great team of highly committed staff, advisory board members and many volunteers for the corps’ financial stability and growth.
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Brass & Choral Arts Coordinator

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

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

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

---mustard seeds---

PRAYER CENTRAL

February Prayer Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My Prayer List</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Bible Reading</th>
<th>Pray for The Salvation Army</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Wednesday</td>
<td>Job 8:10</td>
<td>Norfolk, Neb., Corps</td>
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<td>2 Thursday</td>
<td>Isaiah 29:28</td>
<td>Milwaukee Cold Spring, Wisc., Corps</td>
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<td>3 Friday</td>
<td>Matthew 11:13</td>
<td>Northwest Indiana ARC*</td>
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<td>4 Saturday</td>
<td>Romans 9:10</td>
<td>Plymouth, Mich., Corps</td>
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<td>5 Sunday</td>
<td>Genesis 20:23</td>
<td>Candidates for Office and Corps Cadets</td>
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<td>6 Monday</td>
<td>Judges 1:6</td>
<td>Ottawa, Ill., Corps</td>
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<td>7 Tuesday</td>
<td>Psalms 15:17</td>
<td>Marion, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>8 Wednesday</td>
<td>Job 11:12</td>
<td>Western Chi**</td>
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<td>9 Thursday</td>
<td>Isaiah 29:30</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, Kan., Corps</td>
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<td>10 Friday</td>
<td>Matthew 14:16</td>
<td>Gary-Merrilville, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>11 Saturday</td>
<td>Romans 11:12</td>
<td>Major Wes Green (England)</td>
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<td>12 Sunday</td>
<td>Genesis 24:27</td>
<td>Quincy Kroc Center, Ill., Corps</td>
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<td>13 Monday</td>
<td>Judges 7:11</td>
<td>Minneapolis Temple, Minn., Corps</td>
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<td>14 Tuesday</td>
<td>Psalms 18:20</td>
<td>North Platte, Neb., Corps</td>
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<td>15 Wednesday</td>
<td>Job 13:14</td>
<td>Michigan City, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>16 Thursday</td>
<td>Isaiah 34:26</td>
<td>Milwaukee West, Wisc., Corps</td>
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<td>17 Friday</td>
<td>Matthew 17:19</td>
<td>Regeneration Young Adult Conference</td>
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<td>18 Saturday</td>
<td>Romans 13:14</td>
<td>Mid Region*</td>
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<td>19 Sunday</td>
<td>Genesis 28:31</td>
<td>Pontiac, Mich., Corps</td>
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<td>20 Monday</td>
<td>Judges 12:15</td>
<td>Omaha Kroc Center, Nebraska, Corps</td>
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<td>21 Tuesday</td>
<td>Psalms 21:23</td>
<td>Chicago Staff Band music ministry</td>
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<td>22 Wednesday</td>
<td>Job 15:16</td>
<td>Pekin, Ill., Corps</td>
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<td>23 Thursday</td>
<td>Isaiah 40:44</td>
<td>Monroe, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>24 Friday</td>
<td>Matthew 20:23</td>
<td>Sahtka, Kan., Corps</td>
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<td>25 Saturday</td>
<td>Romans 15:16</td>
<td>Hammond-Munster, Ind., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Sunday</td>
<td>Genesis 32:35</td>
<td>Men’s Ministries Sunday</td>
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<td>27 Monday</td>
<td>Judges 17:21</td>
<td>St. Charles, Mo., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Tuesday</td>
<td>Psalms 24:26</td>
<td>Menot, 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 during the year, you will have read through the Bible!
Celebrating the Cooks

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

Since 1983 the Cooks and their two daughters, Kristina and Wendy, were involved at the Lincoln, Neb. Corps. Ron had worked at an adult rehabilitation center for nearly 14 years, and Carol was running a child development center full time out of their home when they felt God call them to “give all of themselves and go serve in a bigger way.”

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

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

Honk n Holler enriches lives

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

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

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

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

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

Nurses from a local hospital and various church groups have gone out with the canteens to offer services or goods. And, pet owners who’ve been homeless for a year or more. But, the ARC crew has become particularly effective in encouraging people to get off the streets. One night an intoxicated man was so belligerent, we had to ask him to leave. Less than a month later, he was an ARC beneficiary and eventually began serving on its canteen crew to “give back.”

Lt. Colonel William Kish

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

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

Bill and Frances Kish were commissioned in 1940 as members of the “Hold Fast” session. They faithfully served in corps in Michigan and Wisconsin and at divisional head-quarters appointments in five divisions. In the decade before his 1980 retirement, the colonel served as divisional commander of the [then] Minnesota and Kansas/Western Missouri divisions.

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

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