Reasons to Rejoice!

Commissioning weekend celebrates God’s goodness and calls for daring faith

It was a time of honoring the Lord with thanksgiving. Every word, song, image and dance was laid as an offering at Jesus’ feet. Every meeting celebrated His grace and goodness. Indeed, for the nearly 1,400 delegates—and several hundred others online—it was a time to rejoice.

Faith that takes risks

On Friday night the Milwaukee High Life Theatre rocked with the rhythms of the Pack Drumline whose high energy percussion and dance enthralled delegates from the meeting’s start. Throughout the evening Salvationists entered into passionate praise, led by the Kingdom United Collective, who at the program’s end were joined by the North & Central Illinois Division (NCI) Gospel Choir, which debuted to great enthusiasm.

Delegates also cheered on three corps that are beacons of God’s love in the city: Conner Creek, Mich., Fergus Falls, Minn., and Garden City, Kan. Creative drama by the Bill Booth Theater Company (BBTC), flawlessly enacted and enhanced by technology, gave familiar passages new life in this meeting and throughout the weekend.

At the evening’s apex, delegates caught a fresh vision for their faith and were affirmed by God’s work in the world as Major Nesan Kistan preached from Nehemiah. Replete with inspiring biblical examples of risk-takers and his own God-ordained adventure in Sierra Leone, the major’s dynamic sermon urged delegates to leave their comfortability and boldly step up and out in obedience and faith regardless of the personal cost or even persecution.

Calling Salvationists to be risk-takers as followers of Christ, he declared, “It costs you something to wear this uniform. It always has.”

Commissioners Lyndon and Bronwyn Buckingham visit the Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi Division, USA Southern Territory, in 2019.

Continued on page 2

Commissioner Lyndon Buckingham has been elected The Salvation Army’s 22nd General. He will be the first New Zealander to become General when he takes office on August 3, 2023. At that time, Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham will become World President of Women’s Ministries.

The announcement of the new General was made at Sunbury Court on May 27 by High Council President Commissioner Brad Bailey after days of prayerful deliberations by its 112 members.

In greeting the Army world, General-elect Buckingham said, “I want to say this afternoon how grateful I am to the Lord for His saving grace in my own life. I am grateful to the members of the High Council for listening and hearing the voice of the Lord and for their support of myself and Bronwyn as we get ready to assume these leadership responsibilities.”

He continued, “We love the mission of The Salvation Army. We believe passionately that Jesus is the hope of the world. We’re so grateful and humbled to have an opportunity to serve in this way, and we have already made a promise to the members of the High Council that we will serve whole-heartedly the mission of The Salvation Army and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

“We will do so with humility, grace and courage. And we know that we are supported by great leaders, soldiers, adherents and supporters all over the world, and together, we will carry the mission of The Salvation Army forward.”

The General-elect has served as the Chief of the Staff since August 2018. Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham has served as World Secretary for Spiritual Life Development since January 2021, having previously been World Secretary for Men’s Ministries.

Originally from the New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and Samoa Territory, the Buckinghams were commissioned in 1990. Over the course of their officership, they have served in corps appointments in New Zealand and Canada, and as Territorial Youth and Candidates Secretaries, Districtal Leaders and Territorial Program Secretaries in New Zealand. They were appointed in February 2013 to the Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar Territory as Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women’s Ministries before assuming leadership of the territory in June that year. In January 2018 Commissioner Lyndon became Territorial Commander and Commissioner Bronwyn became Territorial Leader for Leader Development for the United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland.

In an interview with United Kingdom Communications Officer Capt. Jo Moir shortly after being elected, General-elect Buckingham said what excites him most about the role of General is the privilege of being able to encourage, inspire and facilitate Salvation Army mission around the world.

To watch the interview, visit salvationarmy.org/ihq/highcouncil2023

To read a transcript, please visit our website: salvationarmycentral.org
Rock-solid faith
by Lt. Colonel Patty Richardson
Territorial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Secretary

I have always been a bit of a “rock hound,” especially as a teen. I enjoyed walking in a creek and finding stones with patterns of rich color running through them. Some had smooth textures which could be polished to further bring out the color. Others had unique shapes and angles which gave them character. No two stones were exactly the same. I found their variety and inherent beauty a satisfying reality, and they became treasured souvenirs.

Stones and rocks generally go unnoticed unless they are sought out for a specific purpose or if they become a nuisance because they are in your shoe.

When Jesus came into the city of Jerusalem, the people were lifting praises to Him. The religious leaders were quite upset by this and told Jesus to tell His followers to stop. Jesus replied that if they did even the rocks and stones would cry out in praise (Luke 19:40). Think about it. In the absence of people’s praise, an inanimate object created by God would praise the Son.

While it may seem strange for Jesus to speak of stones praising God, it is not unusual for the Bible to speak of all creation—rocks, hills, mountains, trees—declaring His glory. These verses are not just literary devices or techniques; creation recognizes the authority and majesty of the Creator.

It’s an important reminder to us as people of faith. We praise the Lord through the way we live, and how we treat and serve each other. Our responsibility is to extend a hand of genuine welcome and peace to all who come into our sphere of influence as our mission statement declares, “without discrimination.” We are to regard people as equals because we are all in the sight of God, even those who society ignores or disregards. We also must remember the potential to lift praise to God is in everyone with whom we come in contact, even those who have a hard exterior.

So, stop and pick up a stone or pebble. Take notice of its beauty and lift your praise to the Lord.

Faith that denies oneself

Saturday morning’s session was filled with enriching worship and highlighted the Army globally. The lively Latin beats of praise “A la Manera” by the Chicago Staff Band (CSB) set the tone. Later the CSB would “Make His Praise Glorious,” accompanying a crisp and impressive routine by the Santiago Central Corps Timbrel Brigade. An ethereal worship dance, led by Captain Gloria Pelayo, enchanted the audience.

With amazing presence, 11-year-old junior soldier Elin Seiler shared her witness and award-winning poem in last year’s Celebrate America Contest about four immigrant girls from Ireland, Afghanistan, Indonesia and Ukraine.

Deleges sprang to their feet in ovation as she concluded, “Although we each have different beginnings, through Christ we can share the same glorious ending.”

The roar of applause was heard again during the World Services/Self-Denial Ingathering that totaled more than $10.6 million. Thanks was given for how these funds will enable sharing the gospel and meeting needs in Christ’s name.

Commissioner Heidi Bailey dedicated in prayer officers who are taking up overseas appointments (Captains Derek and Heather Jung and Captains Abraham and Leta Marie) and Summer Mission Team members.

“Don’t forget to pack your compassion in your carry-on bag,” she said. She also encouraged them to be aware of beauty in unexpected places during this life-changing experience.

Captain Matthew Beatty, currently stationed at International Headquaters, mesmerized the audience with a miraculous first-hand account of God’s provision in getting urgently needed supplies to a corps officer in the Ukraine during the conflict with Russia.

Faith that denies oneself

Having also served after devastating natural disasters like tsunamis and typhoons, he testified, “God is always there with us.”

Commissioners Kelly and Donna Igelheart then creatively shared the story of Bartimaeus, illustrating that while people see our disabilities, color or class, God sees our possibilities. They urged Salvationists to look up, get off the sidelines and be engaged in His mission.

Continued on page 4
General Shaw Clifton promoted to Glory

General Shaw Clifton (Rtd.), The Salvation Army’s 18th General, who has served as the Army’s leader, was promoted to Glory on May 29, 2023, from Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong, China. His impact throughout the Army world was immeasurable.

During his term as General from April 2, 2006, to April 1, 2011, Shaw Clifton led the international Salvation Army through a significant period of growth, with ministry commencing in 13 countries. His passion for social justice led to the creation of the International Social Justice Commission. He advocated constantly for women in spiritual leadership, refusing to consider new Divisional Commander, Training Principal or Territorial Cabinet appointments unless women were put forward in equal measure to men. High Council membership was enlarged to ensure the just representation of women officers.

The son of officer-parents, Shaw Clifton was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on September 21, 1945, and spent his childhood in various parts of the UK. He later studied law at King’s College, University of London, gaining a Bachelor of Law (Honours) degree. With his wife Helen, whom he met at age 12 in his home corps of Temple Corps, Shaw Clifton served as an officer in the then London Divisional Training College in the Blood and Fire Session and was commissioned as an officer on July 5, 1973.

His first appointment was as a corps officer at Burnt Oak, where he served for just a few months before being appointed to International Headquarters (IHQ) where he undertook further studies, achieving a first-class honours Bachelor of Divinity degree. He also was awarded the King’s College London Relowson Prize for Biblical and Historical Studies. In July 1974, Lt. Shaw Clifton was appointed to the Literary Department, where he served for six months before receiving his first overseas appointment to Mazowe Secondary School, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) where he became vice-principal in November 1975. May 1977 saw a move to corps officership at Bulawayo Citadel, where he received the rank of captain in July.

The Cliftons returned to the United Kingdom in January 1979 to lead the Enfield Citadel Corps where they served until May 1982 when Captain Shaw Clifton was appointed to HQ as Legal and Parliamentary Secretary, a position he held for the next seven years, receiving the rank of major in May 1989. While in this appointment he gained a PhD in the History of Religion from the University of London. His thesis would eventually lead to the 2015 book Crown of Glory, Crown of Thorns – The Salvation Army in Wartime.

The Cliftons then led the Bromley Temple Corps from June 1989 to May 1992 at which time Major Shaw Clifton became Divisional Commander for the Durham and Tees Division. Further divisional leadership followed in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, USA Eastern Territory, where then Lt. Colonel Clifton served for two years before being appointed to the Pakistan Territory as Territorial Commander, with the rank of colonel. He served there for almost five years, receiving the rank of commissioner on March 30, 2000.

He also served as Territorial Commander in the New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and Samoa Territory from March 2002 until June 2004 and then the United Kingdom and Ireland Territory (UKI) until his election as the 18th General in 2006.

Shortly after retirement in April 2011, General Clifton faced considerable personal loss with the promotion to Glory on June 14, 2011, of Commissioner Helen Clifton, who battled cancer for a short but devastating period. They had shared marriage life and ministry for almost 44 years. Recalling their mere 10 weeks in retirement together in his autobiographical essays Something Better…, he writes, “Now I am alone, I devote myself round the clock to caring for Helen until the Lord took her home to Heaven. Caring for her and tending to her needs was a privilege even more sacred, more eternally significant than being the General.”

In September 2013 General Clifton married Commissioner (Ellen) Birgitte Brekke, to whom he pays tribute in the introduction to Something Better… writing, “Commissioner Birgitte Brekke has been a ready source of affectionate affiliation for passion for interest in the project has done much to revive a measure of self-confidence and a sense of motivation.

In those same essays, echoed in other written insights on marriage and family life, General Clifton extols the value and admiration for his children (Matthew, Jennifer and John) and children-in-law, and devoted prayerful interest in his eight precious grandchildren.

In addition to his undoubtedly strong leadership qualities, General Clifton will be remembered for his clear, sharp mind, undergirded by a pastoral spirit of sensitivity and compassion which was appreciated and valued by those who knew him. He was also a man of considerable literary skill and a prolific writer. Among many others, his books include Strong Doctrine, Strong Mercy, Growing Together (with Helen well into the last stage of her illness)… [a series of autobiographical essays]. Who are These Salvationists? and New Love reveal holiness teaching in the tradition of Samuel Logan Brengle as the true heart of General Clifton’s spiritual life and Salvationism. A major 30-month project in retirement was Volume Nine of The History of The Salvation Army. He continued writing until his final days, producing a nine-volume series of Twenty Talks, the last two of which await publication. His commissioning of a new Handbook of Doctrine and Song Book of The Salvation Army arose from deep conviction about the crucial place of both in Salvation Army life.

During his officerships, General Clifton served on the Salvation Army’s Doctrine Council and International Spiritual Life Commission. He was a founding member of the UKI Territory’s Moral and Social Issues Council and visiting lecturer at the International College for Officers, and also at the UK’s William Booth College.

*From a letter by the Chief of the Staff

Hill to become the Chief of the Staff

General Brian Peddle announced that, after conversation with the General-elect, he has appointed Commissioner Edward Hill to be Chief of the Staff (second-in-command) of the international Salvation Army and Commissioner Shelley Hill to be World Secretary for Women’s Ministries effective August 3, 2023.

They are currently Zonal Leaders for the Americas and Caribbean at International Headquarters.

Commissioned in June 1993 in the Western Territory, the Hills began their shared ministry as officers in Hawaii at Leeward on Oahu. Two years later they transferred to the divisional headquarters as youth leaders where they served until July 1997 when they were appointed to training college work.

They led the Pasadena Tabernacle, Calif., Corps from February 2002 until June 2008 when they became divisional leaders for the Hawaii/Pacific Division.

Subsequently, they were appointed in June 2012 to Western Territorial Headquarters with Lt. Colonel Edward as Secretary for Program and Lt. Colonel Shelley as Women’s Ministries Secretary.

In July 2016 they became Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women’s Ministries for the Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar Territory.

Further international service came in November 2016 with their appointments as Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women’s Ministries for the Canada and Bermuda Territory.

May 2021 saw the Hills promoted to commissioner and assuming responsibility as Zonal Leaders for the Americas and Caribbean. In these roles they have served in various capacities including Commissioner Edward as Director of SAI/Co (The Salvation Army International Trustee Company), as well as a member of The General’s Council and International Appointment Board, and Commissioner Shelley as a member of the International Finance Board, The General’s Council and International Appointment Board.

She also has taken the lead in the zonal department on all mission and community projects and the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Response.

Commissioner Edward holds a Master of Christian Education and a Master of Divinity, and Commissioner Shelley is a graduate of the Arrow Executive Leadership Course.

*From an International News Release

General Brian Peddle announced that, after conversation with the General-elect, he has appointed Commissioner Edward Hill to be Chief of the Staff (second-in-command) of the international Salvation Army and Commissioner Shelley Hill to be World Secretary for Women’s Ministries effective August 3, 2023.
Faith that answers the call

Sunday morning delegates rejoiced in the Lord alongside the Reflectors of Holiness session. A tone of reverence and joy filled the theater as session members were ordained and commissioned.

"The covenant that they signed this week is based on relationship," said College for Officer Training (CFOT) Principal Major John Pook. "As they are ordained and commissioned, they are publicly declaring that they are giving their ministry, "said Danielle. "We are grateful for God's faithfulness in your lives and your faithfulness to God."

The afternoon service brought the week's focus on leadership of Christ's church.

"Compassion and judgment cannot coexist," she said, quoting theologian Henri Nouwen. "If you can only be one thing in your officership, be compassionate. When you do that, you will learn to love the mission, not yourselves in the mission."

With rejoicing, new lieutenants were sent out to corps across the territory to reflect Christ.
Pray for the Reflectorsof Holiness as they mirror Christ in their lives and ministries.

**Lt. Obed Briceno**
Corps Officer
East Chicago, Ind.

**Lt. Vincent Cusack**
Corps Officer
Chicago Midway Citadel, Ill.

**Lt. Paige Heyboer**
Assistant Corps Officer
Lincoln, Neb.

**Lts. Camon and Chaslyn Landry**
Corps Officers
North Platte, Neb.

**Lts. Alexandra and Oscar Ozuna**
Corps Officers
Fremont, Neb.

**Lt. Jason and Jennifer Rysdyk**
Area Coordinator, Corps Officers
Rock County, Wis.

**Lt. Christopher Rutledge-Clarke, Jr.**
Corps Officer
Kirkville, Mo.

**Captains Jennifer and Paul Bowyer**
Administrator for Program and Administrator for Business
Rockford, Ill., Adult Rehabilitation Center

**Captain Ron Felt**
Corps Officer
Willmar, Minn.

**Captains Jennifer and Joshua Polanco**
Secretary for Program
General Secretary and Twin Cities Area Commander
Northern Division

**Captain Leonita Schweigert**
Twin Cities Chaplain
Administrator Booth Manor Residence
Northern Division
The path to becoming an officer always felt like a marathon to me. There were so many steps I needed to take in order to be “ready” to accept my calling of officership. I had to make sure I knew everything I could about the Bible, learn how to effectively evangelize and so much more. However, the more I learned, the less equipped I felt. That is until I surrendered to God who said, “Just follow Me, one step at a time.”

Each ministry moment I am privileged to have is one more step. Sharing the love of Christ through the window of a car: one step. Snuggling two sweet babies whose parents are no longer able to care for them until they recover: one step. Encouraging and affirming a soldier who feels God is wanting her to take on leadership: one step. Holding the hand of a bedridden man in his final days in hospice: one step. Rejoicing with someone who has been living out of their car and finally finds housing: one step.

Ministry as a Salvation Army officer can be overwhelming and would be too much for me to handle if I didn’t lean on God and follow Him one step at a time.

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV) says, “In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.”

Whether you have been called to be an officer or not, following God’s direction is far too much for any of us to handle if we do not lean on Him and take it one step at a time. God will direct our path and will allow us to be a part of His mission, one step at a time.

Being an officer may not have been planned in my heart, but by following the Lord step-by-step He led me to officership. And let me tell you, I cannot imagine a better life than the one I have as a follower of Jesus and a Salvation Army officer, one step at a time.
Congratulations!

Throughout nearly 40 years of ministry, Lt. Colonels Paul and Renea Smith have never lost sight of the covenant they signed upon their commissioning as officers. They have kept their sights on what matters most—their relationships with God and people. No matter the appointment or responsibility from corps to the College for Officer Training to divisional and territorial headquarters (THQ), everything has been about connecting with people and connecting them with God.

They also have helped many people find their place in the Army’s mission. Video tributes by Captains Josh and Jennifer Polanco and Don and Vicky Karl at the Smiths’ retirement luncheon this spring reinforced this aspect of their ministry. The retirement service proceeded the luncheon and took place during a THQ chapel which focused on the love of God. Territorial leaders Commissioners Brad and Heidi conducted the ceremony.

“It’s all about relationships, isn’t it?” summarized Colonel Renea at the luncheon at THQ where they have served for the last 11 years. “We are so grateful for the people God has put in our path...God has enriched my life through you,” she told the capacity crowd gathered for the occasion celebrating their rooted and fruitful ministry.

Major David Gorton, assistant secretary for personnel, cited significant, positive changes Colonel Renea has brought about as secretary for personnel—the first woman to fill this role in the Central Territory. Working with her team, she developed initiatives and policies that have given officers a greater voice. However, he suggested the hallmark of her service has been consistent love and care for others in both easy and hard times. He commended her ability to see the best in officers, placing them where they could thrive and empowering them to minister well and reach their potential.

“Employees and officers have been well served by your wisdom, compassion, empathy, sensitivity and care,” said Major David.

Both Colonels Renea and Paul were recognized for their creativity, beginning with their training college days when they were placed in the same cadet brigade. While other college drama majors’ egos surely would have clashed, they complemented each other and brought the gospel to life. Many of their programming collaborations have blessed the territory. During his six years as program secretary, Colonel Paul organized and implemented three General’s Congresses and one tour by a General—the sheer logistics for which would be daunting for even the most detailed among us.

Colonel Paul was praised for his personal investment and insights that have guided and improved programs making a significant difference in people’s lives. As program secretary, he was a champion from the beginning in the planning, scaling and implementation of Pathway of Hope (POH). Linda Brinker, assistant Pathway of Hope director, expressed gratitude on behalf of the social services team for his excellent suggestions and unwavering support leading the POH committee over the last decade. “I have a great deal of gratitude for your encouragement and firm and consistent leadership,” Linda concluded.

As assistant chief secretary, Colonel Paul helped guide the territory through the pandemic and played a key role in Project Advance which reorganized the territory to enable more effective mission.

Yet, like his wife, Colonel Paul is widely known and appreciated for his kindhearted, pastoral care and personal investment in individuals as highlighted by Courtney Smith, his former administrative assistant in the program department. In response, Colonel Paul talked about how the Army changed the trajectory of his life and the privilege it has been to share this ministry and incredible journey with his wife, who is his best friend.

...to live in win souls and make their salvation the first purpose of my life (from the Officer’s Covenant)
On Western Front

On behalf of Salvationists in Nebraska, South Dakota and Iowa, which comprise the Western Division, Heather Guthrie and Bobby Calkins are part of the pioneering work of the Territorial Soldiers’ Forum.

On the Western Front

The Salvation Army are very frequently unaware of particular, for our purposes, the Salvation Army’s stakeholders. For the Salvation Army’s ‘stakeholders.’

Approved Recommendations:

1. Corps officers provide the name and email of 1-2 soldiers/adherents who are willing to be a contact person for the Soldiers’ Forum for their corps. Ideally, this person would be the Corps Sergeant-Major (CSM), but doesn’t have to be, especially if a corps does not have a Sergeant-Major. This person would be able to receive information from the forum regarding not only what’s happening with the Soldiers’ Forum but also what is happening in their division and in the territory, as well as provide information to the Soldiers’ Forum regarding what they are experiencing at the corps level.

2. For there to be a web page featuring soldiers of the Central Territory along with social media sites that would be inclusive of, but not specific to, the Soldiers’ Forum.

3. Divisional Program Departments will be willing to specifically out to and collaborate with their Divisional Sergeant-Major and Assistant Sergeant-Major to again ensure direct connections and communication are made with corps members/attendees regarding information, events, activities, educational and enriching experiences.

4. Encourage all corps to hold regular soldiers’ meetings which would serve as an excellent means of communication with the broader population of our corps, particularly those without online access. We believe this would encourage participants to engage fully in the mission of their church home.

5. Including the younger demographic in discussion of communication would be helpful in identifying the most effective and current methods.

Training for Key Leadership Positions

Many corps struggle to have quality, committed leadership, particularly in key local officer positions. It has been felt across the territory that we do not have accessible training or training material to train our local officers to be leaders for their particular position within their corps.

Approved Recommendations:

1. The Soldiers’ Forum recommends standardized training content be made available in every division for key local officer positions as we believe corps ministries will be strengthened by having confident, invested leaders. Corps officers would benefit, as well, from knowing what is expected of their local officers.

2. Training would begin with the CSM position, and then hopefully be able to offer further trainings such as Young People’s Sergeant-Major (YPSM), and other local officer positions.

a. Sessions could be held at divisional, such as Pilgrimage, and/or offered as online modules.

b. Additional opportunities to enhance spiritual growth and development and to exchange best practices should be encouraged.

c. There should be one training course available for the whole territory for each local officer position.

d. Ideally these training courses would not only be offered regularly but would eventually be required for individuals to be able to hold those positions.

Structure for Soldier/Adherent Input

“Your Voice, Your Army,” the approved branding of the Territorial Soldiers’ Forum, is the rallying cry for its existence. This forum requests for every attendant of Salvation Army worship services and programs across the Central Territory to be free to offer their vision and speak to areas of concern about the future of their denomination.

Approved Recommendations:

1. Surveys (utilizing Microsoft Forms or another platform) be disseminated, first at the corps level, and eventually divisional and territorial. We recommend a portal be established to allow for regular surveys to be implemented.

2. Data from a survey can serve as a barometer of overall corps health, impact of internal and external mission expressions, and the engagement of our officers. This method may reveal if supporters have truly adopted the stakeholder mindset and are fully invested in Kingdom-building.

a. The Western Division Divisional Sgt.-Major (DSM) and Assistant Divisional Sgt.-Major (ADSM) have experienced measurable success with the utilization of this tool, and analysis of the results has allowed the DSM, ADSM and members of their forum to identify ministry achievements to be celebrated, red flags and areas for potential growth, and to be actionable in addressing them.

b. Soldiers, adherents and corps attendants need to understand protocols for ensuring their voices are heard, particularly if they lack confidence in sharing their ideas and feelings. The survey can provide that safe space for participants to be forthright in their responses, as they would be intentionally anonymous.
helped Bobby with milestones in his journey. “I look back at my life as a whole, and I feel like a lot of key players came from The Salvation Army,” he recalled fondly.

At the corps, Bobby attends the men’s club and teaches explorers and a drama class. Heather teaches girl guards and is part of women’s ministries.

Bobby is also assistant divisional sergeant-major for the Western Division. He and Heather Guthrie teamed up to conduct a survey soldiers in their division to take their concerns and suggestions to the Soldiers’ Forum.

“The forum has a vision that I think is pretty big—to get soldiers’ voices heard—because there are times when you just don’t feel like you are seen,” he said.

Bobby’s faith in God is large, but he likes to display it with small acts of kindness. “It’s the little things,” he explained. “Holding a door open for someone, giving someone a smile, or letting someone go ahead of you in line. There are so many little things a lot of people over-look that show your faith. It doesn’t have to be overly outspoken.”

Lt. Rachel Gantner, who along with her husband Lt. Tim Gantner leads the Des Moines Corps, said Bobby has been a great help to them as they have come to know the corps and the community.

“This is our first appointment. We are very appreciative of Bobby. He has been a great resource for us. Bobby is kind to everyone and is always working within his faith. We see that faith in so many ways,” she said.

Although Bobby does not have a set plan for his future, he knows he will follow God. “I try not to look too far ahead. I try to stay where I am and live in the present,” Bobby said. “I know my future will be with The Salvation Army. Wherever God takes me or wants me to go, that is where I will go.”

“My Prayer List

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Bible Reading</th>
<th>Pray for The Salvation Army</th>
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<td>1 Tuesday</td>
<td>Psalms 92-95</td>
<td>Montevideo, Wts., Corps</td>
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<td>2 Wednesday</td>
<td>Proverbs 14-15</td>
<td>Des Moines Temple, Iowa, Corps</td>
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<td>3 Thursday</td>
<td>Ezekiel 43-48</td>
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<td>John 1-2</td>
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<td>8 Tuesday</td>
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<td>13 Sunday</td>
<td>Numbers 1-3</td>
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<td>14 Monday</td>
<td>1 Chronicles 5-9</td>
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<td>18 Friday</td>
<td>John 5-6</td>
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<td>19 Saturday</td>
<td>1 Timothy 1-3</td>
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<td>20 Sunday</td>
<td>Numbers 4-6</td>
<td>Evanston, Ill., Corps</td>
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<td>21 Monday</td>
<td>1 Chronicles 10-14</td>
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<td>22 Tuesday</td>
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<td>Canton, Il., 360 Life Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Saturday</td>
<td>1 Timothy 4-6</td>
<td>Dekalb Terrace, Wts., Corps</td>
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</tbody>
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The September territorial prayer calendar is reflected in the weekly prayer guides sent to your corps. See your officer for a copy.

Go to www.salarmycentral.org
If you follow the prayer calendar during the year, you will have read through the Bible!
Promoted to Glory

Major Debbie Gugala

Major Debbie Gugala was promoted to Glory on May 1, 2023. Following the physical effects of having children, she decided to courageously offer herself in their faith through her testimony and example of strength and determination.

Born on September 2, 1952, to Harold and Elmina Monette of Mount Clemens, Mich., she flourished during her youth in academics and was a member of Siena Heights University and graduated summa cum laude in 1974. After graduation, Deborah taught private music lessons. She married Gary Gugala in 1982. They had three children and as a young family became members of the Royal Oak, Mich., Corps. In 1997 they entered the College for Officer Training, where she became commissioned in 1999 and served in corps throughout the Midwest for 20 years. Deborah received numerous awards during her ministry, including the Woman of Distinction in 2016 by the Pittsburgh, Kan., Area Command, and the Woman of Distinction in 2017 by the Central Illinois Division. She was named Woman of Distinction in 2016 by the Pittsburgh, Kan., Area Command, and the Woman of Distinction in 2017 by the Central Illinois Division.

In 1999, she took on her current assignment as a child, Debroah remained passionate about offering caring in their upbringing and remained a constant in the lives of her children. In 1993, she married Robert, and they have raised four children together. She was employed as a nurse practitioner at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Children’s Hospital and later became a pediatric nurse practitioner at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin.

Major Debbie Gugala was promoted to Glory on May 1, 2023.

Promoted to Glory

Major Marion Hopkins

Major Marion Hopkins was promoted to Glory on March 29, 2023. Marion’s life and ministry is best described by the Army’s motto “Hand to God, Hand to Man.” A generous person, she was committed to her calling and loved others through community care.

Marion was born on December 1, 1944, in Ludington, Mich. At age 3, her parents left her life change, and she was adopted. With her new family, she attended the Minnie, Mich., Cortez, and was active in the community and other programs as she grew up. Most importantly, she accepted Christ and as a young adult, she developed her relationship with Him. After suffering from a God’s call on her life, Marion surrendered and called officer training in 1986. She was commissioned in 1968 as a member of the “Messengers of Faith” session.

For more than 43 years, Marion served in corps, Book Memorial Hospitals, children’s homes, and in the property department at Territorial Headquarters. She retired in 2010 from Booth Manor in Chicago, Ill., where she served as chaplain for four years.

Marion is survived by four sisters, three brothers and many friends.

Major George Windham

Major George Windham was promoted to Glory on May 11, 2023. George learned to love education and people. He used his gifts of music, song, care, teaching, music and humor to minister to others throughout his life.

George was born on June 19, 1944, and raised in Wichita, Kan. With 10 siblings, he loved spending time with his large extended family. In 1973, he married women, New Mexico, and raised in Nevadah. After re- enlisting in 1991, George and his wife, Cheryl, retired to Las Vegas, where they spent the last 20 years of their lives. They retired in 2010 from Midland Division Headquarters, where George served as a territorial chaplain.

A lifelong geologist of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and passionate about the education system, George served as a member of the “Messengers of Faith” session.

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