



Central Connection

The Salvation Army / USA Central Territory
News and Views from the Midwest

"We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future." Eph. 4:3,4 (NLT)

Volume 40, Number 6

June 2010

Seilers installed, call Centralites to service

We are called. We are called to be obedient, to love, to serve and to step out in faith. This was the strong and compelling message that Central Salvationists received from their new territorial leaders, Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler, at their installation last month.

The meeting, which also featured the welcome of Colonels Néstor R. and Rebecca A. Nüesch, chief secretary and secretary for women's min-



istries, spoke to the heart of what we're about as individuals and as a movement.

The positive, forward-looking tone was set with rousing selections, including "Strength to Strength," by the Chicago Staff Band (CSB) and then contemporary praise led by The Singing Company.



First giving a greeting in Spanish, Colonel Néstor Nüesch proceeded to share the moving story of his grandfather's obedience to the call to officership which alienated him from his family and eventually placed him in Argentina. Continuing with his father's and his own experience, the colonel drove home three main points—interspersed with lively, traditional choruses—regarding obedience: it's a river of grace, brings joy and yields satisfaction.

He and his wife, Rebecca, were then playfully interviewed by the Bill Booth Theater Company before the drama group presented scripture focusing on the preeminence of love as illustrated by the parable of the prodigal son and revealed in I Corinthians 13.

The call to love was addressed by Colonel Rebecca Nüesch, who thanked each of her three daughters for their sacrifice which the call of love has required of their family. She also shared a touching experience at the El Ridel Children's Home in Paraguay, part of the South America East Territory where they were most recently leaders.

"Being called to love has a price tag, but it has blessings," she concluded.

National Commander Commissioner Israel L. Gaither cited a long friendship with the Nüesches, commending them as good and godly people, before the colonels joined light-heartedly in praise on the

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Photos by Andy Grey

Green Bay Kroc to be campus of opportunity

The Salvation Army in Green Bay, Wis., broke ground recently for a new Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center which will minister to the city's most underserved area.

The building will be over 95,000-square-foot and will feature an aquatic center, double gymnasiums, classrooms, multi-purpose rooms, auditorium/chapel/performing arts center, resource center, well-

ness/fitness center, arts and crafts room, plus much more.

"Our vision is to see people of all ages, creeds and nationalities discover their natural gifts and potential through education, the arts, sports, fitness and spiritual development," said Major Karen Felton, Green Bay Kroc Center administrator. "This will be a real 'Campus of Opportunity' for people who otherwise would not have access to such programs."



Great strides have been taken to tailor the Green Bay Kroc Center to the needs of the community which will have access to the recreational, educational and spiritual programs.

"This is a very exciting time for a tremendous project for our community," said Bill Matheson, Green Bay Advisory Board chair. "We're finaliz-

ing plans that include programs to serve the needs of the people in this area. It's great to see the programs and building coming together."

Construction of the Green Bay Kroc Center is expected to take between 14-16 months with completion and dedication in summer 2011.



Rendering of future Kroc Center in Green Bay, Wis.

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To Be Holy

by Lt. Colonel James Nauta
Secretary for Personnel

In recent times we have seen situations in which Salvationists—officers and soldiers alike—have allowed themselves to fall away from their holy calling. Without a doubt, as noted in God's Word, Satan is prowling like a lion, seeking whom he may devour! Usually, we are tempted by sex, silver or selfish desires.

In his letter to Christians in Galatia, Paul noted that all who belong to Christ would experience a battle between "the flesh" (our sinful nature) and the Holy Spirit who lives within us (Galatians 5:17). We face this conflict every day, but we can

overcome our sinful desires and win the battle with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Paul, in writing to the Philippians (Chapter 2:15, NLT) says, "Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people." In verse 16 his admonishment is especially important for Christians today: "Hold firmly to the word of life; then, on the day of Christ's return, I will be proud that I did not run the race in vain and that my work was not useless." We are called to be blameless and harmless

and to shine as lights in the world.

As Salvationists we must be more aggressive in reaching out with the gospel, warning people about the terrible consequences of the self-indulgence that dominates our culture, calling them to repentance and faith in Christ as their only Savior. Our message, however, must be demonstrated in our own personal holy living!

We must exhibit a different way of living. As Salvationists we are called to a life of holiness. Our tenth doctrine affirms:

We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Holiness is the moral quality of character and conduct displayed by those who, through the indwelling Spirit, share Christ's nature and consent to be ruled by Him.

Be prepared. You will be tempted by sex, silver or selfish desires, but remember the straight and narrow way is God's way. We are called with a holy calling. We are called to be holy just as God is holy.



Seilers installed

Continued from page 1



maracas with the CSB on "Él Es El Señor."

Commissioner Carol Seiler then spoke passionately about the call to service. Her mission-minded ideology of touching people's lives with God's grace, espe-

cially through social services, flowed freely and genuinely and swept Salvationists along on a current of possibility.

"Our strength is for service—not status," she declared, purposefully repeating this hallmark of her life.

Citing the account of Gideon going into battle in Judges, Commissioner Paul Seiler, spoke about being called to step out in faith—facing reality, depending on God, and using the right tool for the task.



"I commit to you to lead as a fellow Christian on the journey..." the new territorial commander said with humble resolve. "As we step forward in faith, I intend to keep asking for dialogue and input, to value individuals and respect one another's dignity, to make hard decisions when needed, to work, weep and rejoice together as a territory in the years ahead, and to depend on the Lord for strength and guidance."

In a sacred ceremony, Commissioner Gaither installed the Seilers as territorial leaders, reading a letter from the General calling on Midwestern Salvationists to respond to their leadership with bold faith, which they did, lining the altars and aisles beseeching God's blessing for this new day.

New Promises



Miranda Feltes, Quentin Trapp and Desiree Dade recently were enrolled as junior soldiers at the Quincy, Ill., Corps, led by Majors Alan and Carol Wurtz. On the same exciting day 11 new senior soldiers were enrolled, as well as two adherents. Exciting things are happening in this city which last year broke ground for a Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. To God be the glory!



Central Connection

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WYC on the internet

Organizers of the World Youth Convention (WYC), Stockholm, Sweden, July 15-18, are praying youth around the world will view the convention online. While the convention will host 1,200 delegates from most parts of the world, live streaming of events via the internet will allow anyone with access to be involved.

The convention will feature musicians, actors and dancers from many countries and world-class speakers, including General Shaw and

Commissioner Helen Clifton.
Convention coordinator Colonel Birgitte Brekke urges youth to gather with friends to watch the live sessions. "In this way there could be mini-youth conventions right around the world!" she said.

To find out more go to www.raisedup.org

Get Connected!

Check out our complementary material on the web.
www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected

Resources/Links

Green Bay Salvation Army
RaisedUp World Youth Convention (WYC) site
Prayer Central website
Officer Candidate website
Seiler installation meeting posting

Web exclusives

Excerpt from Covenant Marriage Bible study
Central WYC delegate profiles
The value of a program review
Heather Friedrich's weight loss journey
Weight loss health facts



Newest accepted candidates



Kevin and Mary Robbins

Clinton, Iowa, Corps
Heartland Division

Kevin and Mary Robbins of the Clinton, Iowa, Corps have known for some time that they were to be officers. However, it wasn't until they attended the commissioning and ordination of their daughter, Lt. Aubrey Robbins, last June that they decided they needed to follow through with the calling. It has been a long road for both of them with roadblocks throughout life. However, they testify to a God who is faithful and who has carried them through the difficult times to bring them to a point of total obedience. Kevin and Mary will attend the CFOT with their three children, Celeste, 15, Noah, 13, and Marguerite, 1. Their corps officers are Captains Martin and Shannon Thies.



Tim and Pam Jones

Grand Haven, Mich., Corps
Western Michigan and
Northern Indiana Division

Tim and Pam Jones of the Grand Haven, Mich., Corps have been soldiers for a number of years. Both are active in the corps' music ministry. While each of them acknowledged a call from God to be officers

as young people, they both ran from that calling. In June 2009 they were attending a marriage enrichment weekend and again felt God leading them to be officers. They have attended the National Seminar on Evangelism and believe God has called them to preach the Word to everyone they come in contact with. Tim and Pam will attend the College for Officer Training (CFOT) with their two sons, Jean-Luc, 17, and Zackary, 15. Their corps officers are Captains Dean and Pat Towne.

Bryan and Teri Ellison

Mason City, Iowa, Corps
Western Division

Bryan and Teri Ellison of the Mason City, Iowa, Corps are new to The Salvation Army. They came to the Army in January 2009 through the Ministry Discovery Program. Through the program they have discovered what The Salvation Army is and how they can fit into its ministry. An avid reader, Bryan has read over 20 books about Salvation Army history, ministry and teaching. He and Teri believe that God called them in to the Ministry Discovery



Program to become officers. Bryan was a youth director in another denomination prior to coming to the Army. They have had the opportunity to serve with two different sets of officers in the 18 months they have been in the program and have seen how God can use people of different skill sets and talents. Bryan and Teri will attend the CFOT with their daughters, Esther, 9, and Lily, 7.

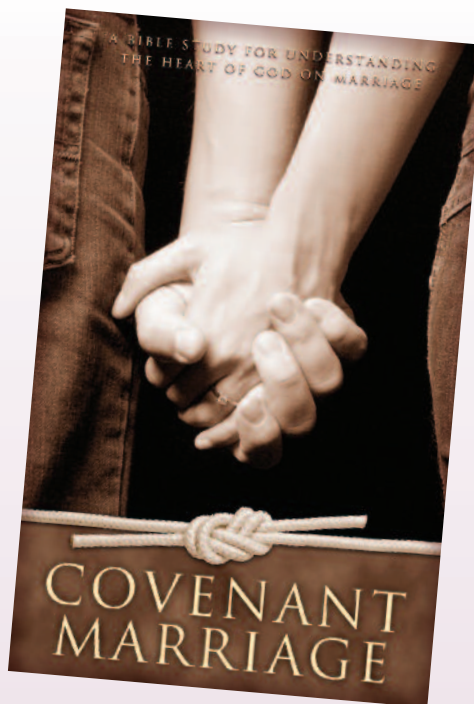


A lasting covenant

This spring the territorial corps missions and adult ministries department introduced a new six-lesson Bible study called *Covenant Marriage*. Written by Linda Himes, territorial stewardship and Bible ministries consultant, it explores how the principles of covenant relate to marriage and targets those who seek to be married or would like a better understanding of their marriage covenant.

"It's surprising and disappointing to see how many Christian marriages fail and that the divorce rate among Christians is almost identical to unbelievers," said Linda. "To change that statistic we need to better understand God's design for marriage."

Major Joe Wheeler, territorial corps mission and adult ministries secretary, dedicated the *Covenant Marriage* study during a chapel service at territorial headquarters. Also



available in Spanish, he believes it is a crucial resource and wanted God's blessing on it.

"Our territory will benefit greatly from this study," he said. "Our desire is for our community to be blessed and to set an example for others through their godly marriages."

Mike Himes and his fiancée, Lara, studied *Covenant Marriage* in preparation for their wedding. "This study sparked many important conversations about our marriage," Lara said. "We are grateful to have had such an exceptional tool to guide us as we take the next step in our lives."

God put this topic on Linda's heart years ago, and she is thrilled to be able to see it to fruition. "I'm hoping this will be the best thing I've done in my career," Linda said. "If it results in even one saved marriage, I will know I've done my job."



Health awareness on the rise at THQ

Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, then chief secretary, encouraged everyone at Central Territorial Headquarters (THQ) this spring to lose 10 pounds in 10 weeks through a contest dubbed the Chief's Challenge—10 in 10 for 2010!

A determined group of 74 employees and officers signed up.

Health awareness at headquarters has been on the rise since the addition of a fitness center in 2009, but even before construction began, legal department employee Heather Friedrich began her fitness journey by joining Weight Watchers® and walking the track during work breaks and lunch.

With the support of her husband and friends and motivation from her mother's double bypass heart surgery in 2006, Heather lost 100 pounds by Christmas of 2007. The Chief's Challenge was just the motivation Heather needed to meet her goal weight loss of 190 pounds.

Others found that the friendly competition at headquarters was timed perfectly to help them follow through on their New Year's resolution. "I'm determined to get in better shape, and the Chief's Challenge

Heather Friedrich has dropped 18 sizes since 2007!



couldn't have come at a better time to do it," said Captain Tom McComb, information technology specialist.

Many have been encouraged to see how employees and officers at headquarters are becoming more health conscious in general. Karen Young, multicultural ministries specialist, is another program participant.

"It's exciting that so many other people have participated in the challenge," she said. "Health awareness is clearly becoming a priority at THQ whether it's walking the track outside, going to the fitness center or participating in a contest like 10 in 10 for 2010."



It's my Army now!



The witness of compassion

by Major Morag Yoder

Providing for a family of nine is a challenge even in the best of times, so for Luz and Paul Ciupeiu discovering the Norridge Citadel Corps food pantry was a helpful resource. Trips to the pantry gave Luz her first glimpse of her local Salvation Army.

In autumn 2008, Luz accepted an invitation to attend a home league Thanksgiving program. Paul and the children spent the evening at the library before returning to pick up Luz. Nearing home they were met with tragedy—their house was engulfed in flames.

Although their home and possessions were lost, their personal safety proved God's hand of protection had been upon the family.

Word of the tragedy spread quickly and corps members rallied around the Ciupeiu family, offering practical assistance, friendship and spiritual support.

Paul and Luz brought their family to a Sunday worship service as a demonstration of gratitude. That day Luz stood during testimony time and spoke powerfully of God's faithfulness. This was the start of regular Sunday attendance and participation in other

corps programs.

A year ago Luz joined the soldiership recruits class and, after completing the course, made the decision to be enrolled as a soldier. Luz believes wearing the uniform connects her to Jesus.

She said, "When I wear it, I feel others expect me to do as Jesus would do. I see it as a uniform of compassion, grace and mercy."

Paul says the authentic way members of the congregation live out their faith made a direct impact on him, and so he, too, decided to learn more about the Army. Paul and son, Jonathan, participated in the recruits course and were enrolled last November.



Drawn to community

Catie Park, a freshman at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., came to Mayfair Community Church, in Chicago, Ill., with her mother from the Catholic church.

"We wanted a shift in focus," Catie said. "More emphasis on the Word of God, and we both had an interest in social justice as well."

Catie grew up in church but never found a personal connection with God.

"God almost felt like Santa Claus to me," she said. "I was walking by the structure of religion, not true faith."

At Mayfair, however, Catie discovered Christian community. She was drawn toward the believers at Mayfair; they encouraged and inspired her to grow as a Christian. It wasn't long before she was a firm believer.

Community wasn't the only thing that attracted Catie to The Salvation Army; her passion for social justice and yearning to help the less fortunate lined up with the Army's mission. It sparked a desire in her to become a soldier.

"I wanted to be more commit-



ted," Catie said. "Especially after looking to what the Army does worldwide and the inspiration I found from the soldiers around me."

Since soldiership God has continued to ignite the fire in Catie's heart to care for others. She's asked God to break her heart for what breaks His. "It's no longer what God is doing for me; it's what I can do for others because of Him," she said.

Catie is pursuing this passion as a pre-med and psychology double major. She hopes to use her medical gifts to serve Christ after college.

Finding love and acceptance

Tim Walters remembers yearning for love and acceptance from his abusive father but never measuring up. By age 12 he was living on the streets of Chicago, clinging to the sense of belonging that he found in living the biker lifestyle.

Drugs, alcohol and criminal activities sent him to jail several times. Upon one release, Tim worked to obtain things that had been missing in his life: a job, a wife, a family, a home... Success equaled money and power. He went after both, only to realize that he still felt empty inside.

In prison for the fourth time, Tim read in the Alcoholics Anonymous *Big Book* about "a God of our understanding." In an effort to understand this God, Tim began to study and seek out different religions.

"The more I sought them out, the more I was drawn to Christianity," said Tim.

Upon that release from prison, Tim was instructed by drug court to go through the rehabilitation program at The Salvation Army. Not long after his arrival at the Des Moines, Iowa, Adult Rehabilitation Center, a doctrine class was offered for anyone want-



ing to learn about Salvation Army membership.

"Something was drawing me in," he said. "Three months later I was enrolled as a soldier. Being part of The Salvation Army made me realize that all the years when I was searching for love and acceptance Jesus already loved me the whole time."

He continued, "The Salvation Army is my Army now because my heart can reach up to God, while my hands reach out to help my brother. The most exciting change that has happened in my life is: it's not all about me anymore. Because of Jesus' love, I can love Him and others."

COME JOIN OUR ARMY



A place to belong

Two couples from vastly different cultures but searching for the same thing—a place where they could feel a sense of love and belonging—found what they were looking for when they started attending the Milwaukee West, Wis., Corps two years ago. This spring, they were enrolled as soldiers on the same day!

Daris Randolph and his wife, Francis Curry, had grown up in the U.S. exposed to Christian beliefs. Somboun and Zoe Sisavangone grew up in Laos where they were Buddhists.

The journey to Salvationism for each couple started with warm invitations to attend the corps.

They received even warmer welcomes upon their first visits from

corps soldiers. To their amazements that feeling of warmth continued to increase with each visit; it seemed to radiate from people.

"Everyone is looking for a place to belong," said Captain Steve Kounthapanya, Milwaukee West corps officer.

Captains Steve and Latdavanh Kounthapanya began home visits to ascertain where each person stood in their individual relationship with God.

Daris is now an active volunteer at the corps as receptionist, referee for the youth basketball league and works with youth and older adult programs.

The Sisavangones are actively involved on corps music teams with Zoe leading worship songs!



A new focus

A simple Salvation Army sign a few blocks from the corps that read, "Service at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday," was all it took for David Donley to visit the Harvest Coon Rapids, Minn., Corps for the first time.

"I walked into the chapel with my daughter and knew immediately that this was the place for me," said David. "They have a huge cross hanging in the chapel; the room was so peaceful and serene."

David has since grown in his faith, been enrolled as a soldier and has become the social services sergeant.

The road to where he is today wasn't easy. David struggled for many years with alcohol abuse and gambling. Before coming to the Army, his journey toward healing had begun but it wasn't until he became a soldier that David gave all worldly habits up entirely.

David said, "I couldn't do it on my own; I needed outside accountability and God." So he started attending soldiership classes.

Since his enrollment David has



been happy. Corps Officer Major Rhoda Wilds said, "David has a strong hunger for the Word. He has grown in his knowledge of the Bible and in spiritual maturity."

As a retiree David volunteers a lot, and as the social services sergeant he begins his day thinking how he can serve others and lead them to Christ.

David only regrets he didn't come to the Army sooner. "I just wish I knew about The Salvation Army corps earlier. Others need to know we're here, and it's my passion to see that they do!"

A place to serve

Emigdio and Monica Ramirez were enrolled this spring at the Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo., Corps by Captains Jose and Sonia Gonzalez, corps officers. They'd arrived in Kansas City with their family three years earlier from middle-class lives in Veracruz, Mexico.

Emigdio, a warehouse worker, and Monica, a stay-at-home mom, were looking for a new church and were drawn to the corps' Spanish worship services.

"God put this church in our path," said Monica. "We visited and kept coming back because of the friendly environment and opportunities to serve the community. The captains let us explore new avenues of ministry and were very supportive. And now, here we are, enrolled as soldiers!"

Monica is chaplain for women's ministries, directs Sunday school and is a member of the praise and worship group. Emigdio directs evangelism and helps with the sound system.

They'd become believers several years earlier in Mexico. Hearing the gospel was a powerful experience in both their lives. Monica was a young woman trapped in an abusive marriage with two young daughters when her aunt invited



her to a Christian church. Several years later, Monica met Emigdio and invited him to the church and he accepted Christ. They married a year later.

Both Emigdio and Monica describe their hearts as more peaceful since becoming Christians. "We know God has the solution to every problem we face," said Monica.

She continued, "Emigdio and I decided to become soldiers because we want to serve God completely with everything we have. That's the right thing to do in The Salvation Army."

Capturing gold!

The La Crosse, Wis., Corps' emergency shelter passed the rigorous territorial social services certification review in 2009 with a gold level (90 percent plus) award!

A pre-certification review two years earlier allowed staff to turn any challenges into strengths thanks to the hard work of Cinda Todd, social services director, and Majors Curtiss and Sandy Hartley, corps officers, by using the new National Social Service Standards' self-study tool, reported Sue Spreiter, territorial social services evaluation coordinator.

"The self-study gave us the chance to thoroughly examine operations to see how well we were meeting client

needs and to streamline procedures making the best use of materials, equipment and time," said Curtiss. "It helped us focus efforts on improving every facet of how—and why—we do what we do."

Cinda added, "Preparation for the self-study was challenging, but staff felt it was well worth the time and effort."

They worked as a team on all self-study components, which united not only social services staff but the corps officers, business and development personnel, plus maintenance, custodial and food services staff. This was followed by a three-day site visit by a territorial team.

The emergency shelter accommodates 60 residents including families and single women or men. Case managers work individually with clients in meeting their immediate needs and short-term goals (medical, counseling, schools for children, treatment programs) and by helping them set and achieve (through accountability action



Majors Curtiss and Sandy Hartley regularly visit with shelter residents.

steps) intermediate goals (employment, life skills). Longer-term goals include total self-sufficiency and sustained, independent living in their own or shared housing.

The Hartleys regularly visit the shelter to build relationships with residents, who are invited to corps worship, Bible studies, Sunday school and social events. Corps members also take initiatives to build bridges.

The evaluation team was pleased to find clearly communicated policies and procedures along with regular staff/management team meetings and supervision.

Staff job descriptions were revised with employee input; a new intake receptionist position improved work flow and security, and staff training was assessed. Annual salary reviews were introduced along with written plans to boost morale and team unity.

"We appreciated the caring tone set by the evalua-

tion team," Cinda concluded. "Their objective was to not only assist in needed program changes but to offer support in the process. As a result, staff felt a sense of pride, accomplishment and empowerment in our abilities to provide quality programming."



Nora Smith (r), intake receptionist, helps a client.



Cinda Todd, director of social services, meets with Tina Sheehan, case manager, and Corinne Johnson, shelter manager, to discuss client progress plans (l-r).

Fingertip access

Available at the fingertips of officers and employees working in corps and social service programs throughout the Central Territory is a newly revised and improved evaluation resource database.

The database makes available a wide variety of practical resources for programs, as well as materials to help staff prepare for program reviews.

Made available last month, the database is a one-stop shop for those involved in providing and administering social service ministries (residential and non-residential programs, case management,

counseling, child care services and programs for seniors, to name a few).

For easy access, resources are organized by topic area, evaluation standard number and alphabetically.

Users may even rate the usefulness of the materials provided and submit new resources for review by the database committee.

The database is located on the Lotus Notes system (USC Social Service Evaluation/Resource under SocSer folder).

For general information contact your divisional social services department.



Sue Spreiter, territorial social services evaluation coordinator, demonstrates the new database resource to staff member Bryant Erickson.

Rewarding excellence

Congratulations to the 11 programs that achieved territorial social service certification and/or external accreditation in 2009.

Gold (90 percent compliance)

La Crosse, Wis., Housing Program

Mason City, Iowa, Adult Day Care *

Metropolitan Divisional Correctional Services *

Omaha, Neb., Durham Booth Manor

Omaha, Neb., Lied Renaissance Center *

Rockford, Ill., Women's Restorative Justice Program

Waukesha, Wis., Housing Program

Silver (80 percent compliance)

Bloomington, Ind., Child Care

Champaign, Ill., Housing Programs

Madison, Wis., Social Service Programs

Bronze (70 percent compliance)

Olathe, Kan., Housing Programs

** External accreditation achieved by these programs.*

Always remember

Dr. Linda Burkle, Western divisional social services director, was one of 22 applicants selected from hundreds of global submissions to attend the International School for Holocaust Studies in Jerusalem for its first Christian leadership seminar this spring.



Dr. Linda Burkle (r) with Holocaust survivors.

Held during the week Israel marks Holocaust Remembrance Day at Yad Vashem, the nation's foremost Holocaust memorial, the seminar was designed to educate Christian leaders so the Holocaust will never happen again.

Linda reported the seminar was intense in every way: she felt the power of the Holy Spirit; enjoyed the outstanding teaching by world-renowned history, theology and political professors, and was humbled by the incredible honor of being a guest at a nationally televised ceremony commemorating the Holocaust where she met the president, prime minister and survivors.

Susanna Kokkonen, director of Christian Friends of Yad Vashem,

said it's important for Christians to understand the past in order to shape the future. Nearly seven decades later, anti-Semitism is on the rise; some worry another Holocaust is within the realm of possibility.

Linda was interviewed for a news story on the seminar by Christian Broadcasting Network, which has a satellite audience of more than 300 million. Addressing anti-Semitism, Linda said, "This isn't a time for cowardliness. It's not a time for apathy or to be ill-informed. People will be held accountable. I really believe that. We'll not be able to just sit back and be bystanders."

Firefighters battle hunger



by Craig Dirkes

Nineteen fire stations, 400 firefighters, one mission: extinguish hunger.

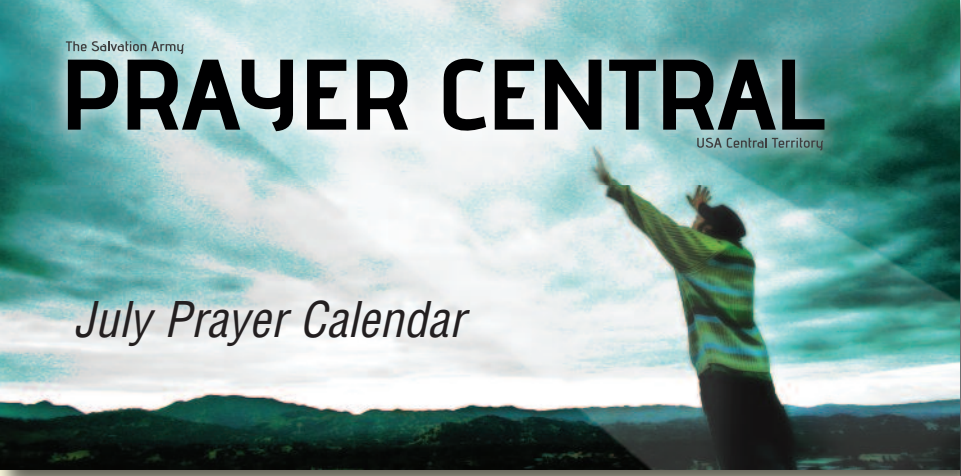
Minneapolis firefighters held a friendly food drive competition in March to see which of the department's four districts could raise the most food for The Salvation Army. The result? 1,240 pounds of food!

"This food drive is an opportunity for our firefighters to respond to a public need without a 911 call, red lights and sirens," said Minneapolis Fire Chief Alex Jackson.

Their effort came at a time when use of the Salvation Army's food pantries in the Twin Cities has risen more than 100 percent, going from 30,000 people served in 2008 to 67,000 people in 2009.

"The Salvation Army appreciates this unexpected and generous effort by Minneapolis firefighters," said Major Darryl Leedom, Twin Cities

commander. "Through their help and the charitable spirit of the Twin Cities community, we will feed countless families during these hard economic times."



My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Thursday	Philippians 1-2	Bloomington, Ind., Corps
	2 Friday	Leviticus 10-12	El Dorado, Kan., Corps
	3 Saturday	2 Kings 1-5	Chicago (Englewood), Ill., Corps
	4 Sunday	Psalms 78-80	Belleville, Ill., Corps
	5 Monday	Proverbs 8-9	Bismarck, N.D., Corps
	6 Tuesday	Ezekiel 19-24	Boone, Iowa, Corps
	7 Wednesday	Luke 17-18	Benton Harbor, Mich., Corps
	8 Thursday	Philippians 3-4	Major Cindy Shellenberger (Australia)
	9 Friday	Leviticus 13-15	Escanaba, Mich., Corps
	10 Saturday	2 Kings 6-10	Heartland DHQ**
	11 Sunday	Psalms 81-83	Davenport (River Valley), Iowa, ARC*
	12 Monday	Proverbs 10	Bay City, Mich., Corps
	13 Tuesday	Ezekiel 25-30	Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Corps
	14 Wednesday	Luke 19-20	Brown County, Ind., Corps
	15 Thursday	Colossians 1-2	World Youth Convention (Sweden)
	16 Friday	Leviticus 16-18	Emporia, Kan., Corps
	17 Saturday	2 Kings 11-15	Chicago (Irving Park), Ill., Corps
	18 Sunday	Psalms 84-86	Branson, Mo., Corps
	19 Monday	Proverbs 11-12	Brainerd (Lakes), Minn., Corps
	20 Tuesday	Ezekiel 31-36	Cpts. William & Cassandra DeJesus (Argentina)
	21 Wednesday	Luke 21-22	Council Bluffs, Iowa, Corps
	22 Thursday	Colossians 3-4	Big Rapids, Mich., Corps
	23 Friday	Leviticus 22-24	Fond du Lac, Wis., Corps
	24 Saturday	2 Kings 21-25	Des Moines, Iowa, ARC
	25 Sunday	Psalms 87-89	Dearborn Heights (Citadel), Mich., Corps
	26 Monday	Proverbs 13	Champaign, Ill., Corps
	27 Tuesday	Ezekiel 37-42	Columbus, Ind., Corps
	28 Wednesday	Luke 23-24	Garden City, Kan., Corps
	29 Thursday	1 Thessalonians 1-3	Chicago (LaVillita), Ill., Corps
	30 Friday	Leviticus 22-24	Cape Girardeau, Mo., Corps
	31 Saturday	2 Kings 21-25	Central Bible & Leadership Institute

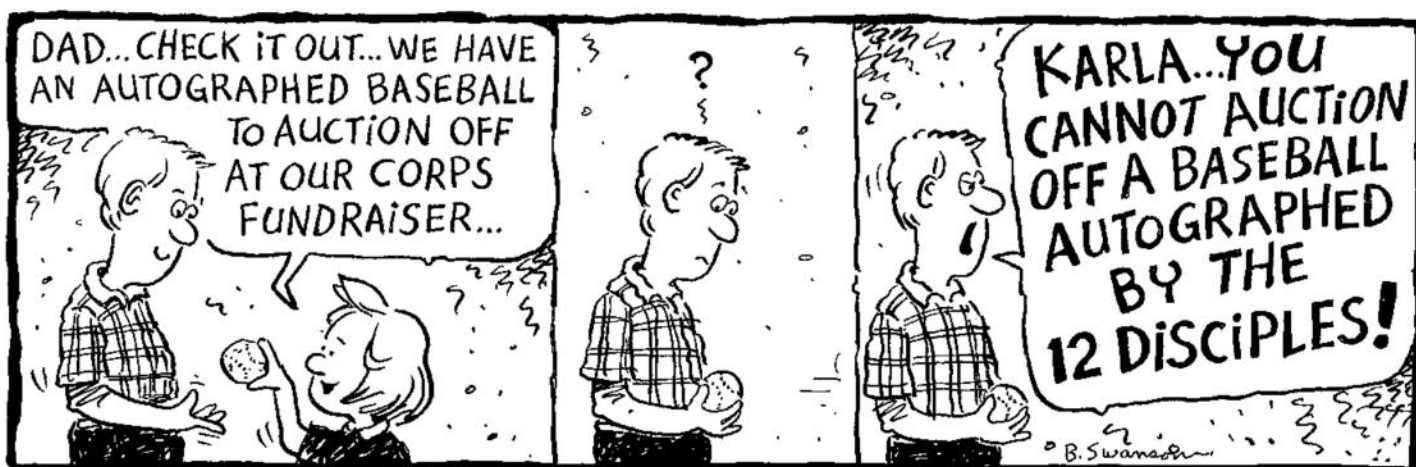
Go to www.prayercentralusa.org for prayer updates.

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

* = Adult Rehabilitation Center
** = Divisional Headquarters



--Mustard Seeds--



Biggs: gone fishing

I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. II Timothy 1:12,b (KJV)

by Major Linda Meyer

With this verse as the focal point, a celebration of God's goodness and faithfulness was conducted for Majors David and Jeannette Biggs upon their retirement. Major Gerald Smelser presided, while Majors Richard and Vicki Amick conducted the official retirement ceremony. Family and many of the friends they'd made along the way attended.

Major Edward Tutewiler spoke, using their last name as an acrostic of their lives: B (blessings), I (integrity), G (genuine), G (gone fishing for men, fish and fellowship), S (servants).

David and Jeannette each entered officer training in 1963 as single cadets. Upon commissioning David

was appointed to assist in Fort Wayne, Ind., and Jeannette to assist in Marinette, Wis., followed by Union City, Ind.

They were married in 1966 and then served together as corps officers in New Castle, Bloomington, Evansville, Warsaw and Kokomo, Ind.; Beloit and Manitowoc, Wis.; and Midland, Mich. They also held four adult rehabilitation center appointments in Chicago Northside, Ill., Fort Wayne, Ind., and Des Moines, Iowa. In 2005 they were appointed to territorial headquarters where David served as assistant territorial property secretary and territorial correctional services director and Jeannette as officer services director. In 2008 they requested to return to corps work. Madison, Ind., was their last appointment.



They enter honorable retirement after almost 92 years of combined service.

In retirement the Biggs will reside in Attica, Ind., on the banks of the

Wabash River. When they are not helping out at the corps in Lafayette, more often than not you will find they have gone fishing.

Alive with energy

The junior soldiers' brigade at the Grand Forks, N.D., Corps is thriving. Having enrolled 12 children in 2009 and five more this spring, their corps is alive with young energy.

Major Dee Wilson, corps officer, attributes much of this growth to excellent leadership. When they arrived a few years ago, the former children's program director, Darlene Stansbury, had worked diligently to build up junior soldiers and character-building programs at their corps.

Don Schaffer, Darlene's replace-

ment, continued building the programs, and the Lord brought in Lynette Cruetz, a former school teacher, as well. "Lynette was an answer to prayer," said Dee. "She came into the office one day, and I jokingly asked if she would help out. She switched churches to do so!"

According to Dee, the most rewarding part about junior soldiers is seeing children come into a personal relationship with Christ.

"Even if I had only one or two kids, if they dedicated their lives to Christ, it would be worth it," she said.



The growing junior soldiers' program at the Grand Forks, N.D., Corps has reached out to Hispanic and Native American children in the community.

Minneapolis hosts NAB



Commissioner Israel L. Gaither, national commander, speaks with Cargill CEO Greg Page during the National Advisory Board meeting in Minneapolis, Minn., this spring. Prominent business people and officers from across the country met to discuss the Army's accomplishments and opportunities for improvement. Board members and their spouses enjoyed a host of activities, including tours of the Twin Cities, lunch at Gov. Tim Pawlenty's mansion and a special program at The Salvation Army Harbor Light Center.

Promoted to Glory

Mrs. Colonel Mary June Miller

Mrs. Colonel Mary Miller was promoted to Glory on March 18, 2010. Her beloved husband, Ernest, tended to her until the end.



Mary was born in 1928 to officers, James and Ethel Klaus, in Baltimore, Md., which destined her to grow up in a sequence of southeastern states. From a young age she was known for her award-winning voice.

Her musical ability paved the way for a scholarship to college and an opportunity to sing at Oklahoma City University where she met her future husband, Ernest Miller, another talented musician. A little over a year later they were married.

Together they entered training in Chicago, Ill., and were commissioned in 1950. They served in many corps appointments in the Central Territory before an appointment in Washington, D.C., where their musical ministry caught celebrity attention. They made appearances at many government events.

After retirement a physical disability Mary had battled since a 1956 polio attack became all-encompassing. Nevertheless, Mary kept up with friends and relatives by mail and through poetry.

She is survived by her husband, one brother, James, and one sister, Evelyn. She will be greatly missed by a host of other friends and relatives, too.

Major Grace Stephison

Surrounded by friends, Major Grace Stephison was promoted to Glory on April 4, 2010.



Grace was born in Jackson, Mich., to Alfred and Winnie on September 9, 1926. She was saved at age 14 when an acquaintance offered to drive a few local young people into town for Sunday night evangelistic meetings.

Introduced shortly thereafter to The Salvation Army through a friend who brought her to girl

guards, Grace soon realized the Army was where she belonged. At 17 she moved to Kearney, Neb., to assist corps officers. From there she went to training and was commissioned in 1947.

After a corps appointment in Alliance, Neb., Grace ministered for five years in women's social services across the Central Territory. She also served at Northern Divisional Headquarters and at Central Territorial Headquarters, from which she retired in 1986. Grace was a gifted administrator.

In 1972 she received the long service award and then the long service star in 1982.

She is survived by one grand niece, Terry Wintzel, one grand nephew, Barry Hodge, and two special "adopted" nieces, Cookie Norton and Noreen Risko.

Major George Watt

Major George Watt was promoted to Glory on April 4, 2010. He was 92 years old.



Born to Salvation Army officers in Woodhull, Ill., George naturally became involved in Army activities at a young age. He accepted Christ as a teenager and felt a call to officership shortly thereafter.

George was commissioned in 1940 and as a single officer served at the Minneapolis Men's Social Center in Battle Creek, Mich., followed by a corps appointment. In 1942, George married Lieutenant Helen Larson, who he had met during one of his parents' appointments in Minnesota.

Together the Watts served in corps appointments in Michigan, Illinois and Iowa. They left fulltime service in 1964 but remained active soldiers and were reaccepted in 1975 as majors and appointed to the Milwaukee, Wis., Men's Social Service Center. In 1977 they were appointed to the Booth Manor residence in Minneapolis, Minn. The Watts retired in 1982.

Sincere and having a pleasant spirit, George will be remembered as a prayer warrior and encourager.

Major Watt was preceded in death by his beloved wife and parents. He is survived by one son, Richard, and many friends.