Omaha Kroc Center: three years and growing strong

by Jennifer Bull

three years since the Omaha, Neb., Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center opened, it’s become an inspiring focal point for thousands of residents. The Omaha Kroc Center is living proof God still transforms lives. Our purpose statement says it best: At The Salvation Army Kroc Center, people are inspired to discover their God-given talents and develop their potential through artistic, educational, physical and spiritual experiences.

The Omaha Kroc Center was well received the first year with soccer programs, men’s basketball and Zumba® gaining immediate popularity, and it was host to dozens of rental clients each month, many of whom continue to return each year. One of the first challenges was to inspire our community to discover new opportu-

ities.

The aquatics area was one of the most requested and anticipated by the community and what needs to capacity. Throughout the three years the center has been operational, it has been finding its identity, who we are in the community and what needs we serve. Community partners have been key. At the very start the Omaha Kroc Center had partners like ConAgra, Omaha Public Schools, Metro Community College, the University of Nebraska and HyVee, which saw the benefits and value of the center and offered support.

As more organizations have come to understand the Kroc Center’s mission, support has been exchanged, such as our partnership with the Omaha Conservatory of Music (OCM). The partnership with OCM has resulted in

free or low cost music lessons to children, ages 3-12, and performances at community concerts to maximum capacity audiences. The Kroc Center provides the rooms and students, while OCM provides the teachers and instruction in brass, keyboard, percussion, violin and cello. Although students are asked to provide their own instruments, those who cannot afford them have been able to participate with loaned instruments which have been gener-

ously donated.

Another solid partnership has been with the Children’s Hospital & Medical Center HEROES program. The program addresses childhood obesity through Healthy Eating with Resources, Options and Everyday Strategies (HEROES), a medical-directed, multidisciplinary program. The HEROES program uses the Kroc Center for meetings and classes and works in tandem with our Healthy Home Program which focuses on the entire family together eating bet-
ter and exercising to improve health and happiness.

Due to the success of these and other partnerships, the Omaha Kroc Center has begun to develop a sustain-
able plan for accommodating community partners’ requests and creating unique opportunities for members and guests. We are continuously looking for new ways to provide access to high quality programs and a world-class community center that fulfills both Joan Kroc’s vision and William Booth’s mission.

The Omaha Kroc Center is currently led by Majors Todd and Catherine Thielke and Lt. John and Judith Petzer.

Cadet summer assignments

Members of the “Disciples of the Cross” session will serve in the following locations this summer.

Corps

Sioux Falls, S.D.
Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind.
Quincy Kroc Center, Ill.
Pekin, Ill.
Janesville, Wis.
Flinn Citadel, Mich.
To be announced
Grand Haven, Mich.
Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Iowa
Dearborn Heights Citadel, Mich.
Decatur, Ill.

Cadets

Shannon Forney
Megan Hartley
Amanda Keene
Cristian & Brooke Lopez
Curtis Lunnam
Michael & Erin Metzler
Rachel Moe
Samantha Nolan
Crystal Sherack
Jonathan Tamayo
John & Faith Woodward
Investing in the future or preparing for irrelevance?

by Lt. Colonel Paul D. Smith
Territorial Secretary for Program

I was struck by a stark and rather disquieting realization during the Biblical Education Tour to Turkey earlier this year. Those of us participating learned the percentage of Christians in Turkey is around one percent. This figure seemed illogical as Turkey is home to many of the churches founded by or influenced by Paul and is the location of all seven churches of Revelation. My feelings of disquiet came from the fact that the churches we visited were either in ruins or are now museums.

Many Christian leaders have suggested the Church is always one generation from extinction. This statement flows from the reality that faith in Christ begins as a personal commitment. Individuals in each successive generation must hear and respond to the invitation to accept Christ as Savior. While I thankfully acknowledge it is the presence and empowering of the Holy Spirit that continually removes the Body of Christ, there are two roles each follower of Christ must fill in keeping our part of the universal Christian Church, The Salvation Army, alive.

First, each of us has the responsibility to live our faith out loud so people will see Christ’s love reflected in us and will be drawn to Him. The second function we should fulfill in the ongoing life of The Salvation Army is to actively involve others in our mission. The Invest Intentionally section of “Creating a Shared Future” begins: “The placement of quality people with the skills needed for mission outcomes is critical.” Quality, skilled, mission-focused people don’t normally just show up at our doors asking to be put to work. They are developed as we intentionally invest ourselves in the lives of others. Before people can be placed, they have to be developed.

The parallel concept in secular leadership is mentoring. Mentoring is the model we see in Jesus calling the 12 to be with Him (Mark 3:13) before He sent them out to minister. A similar theme is seen in Paul’s instructions to Timothy to entrust what he learned from Paul “to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others” (2 Timothy 2:2 NIV).

Mentors come from both genders and all ethnic groups. The color of your epaulettes doesn’t matter, or whether you wear a uniform at all. The common denominator is a willingness to build a relationship with another with the goal of helping him or her to develop their God-given potential.

The bottom line: we need quality, skilled, mission-focused people committed to Christ and actively advancing the Army’s mission. This is how we keep our corps overflowing with vital, life-transforming ministries.

Sunday school success!

The January issue of Central Connection showcased the top 10 growing Sunday schools. Learn more about three of these corps and what makes their success possible.

**Owosso Citadel, Mich., Corps**

Lts. Sean and Cassandra Grey of the Owosso Citadel, Mich., Corps attribute the growth of the corps’ Sunday school classes to showing God’s love and increasing responsibilities for soldiers one step at a time.

In the children’s Sunday school, new teacher Jan Godrich wants kids to know how much they’re worth to her, one another and God. Every time the kids walk into the classroom she reminds them they’re loved, not just in words but in her actions by taking time to give each child individual attention.

“One of the newer children, Ed, just recently said to my husband, ‘I’m here because Jesus loves me,’” said Cassandra.

The adult classes have gained popularity in increments. The previous officers paved the way by holding soldier classes early on Sunday morning. After the enrollment Cassandra and Sean started holding Sunday school classes at that time.

Every few months Cassandra increases responsibilities and challenges their leaders.

**Farmington Hills, Mich., Corps**

“We started holding a Sunday morning breakfast,” said Major Marilyn Anderson, Farmington Hills, Mich., corps officer. “That was a good way to kick off our attendance, but the biggest reason we’re growing is our people have been inspired to get out and invite others.”

From the bread line to social services, Sunday school participants have been invited from many aspects of the corps’ ministry.

One of the newest attendees Cornelia Matthews, has decided she wants to become a soldier. She was invited by her sister, who had been invited by someone else. Now, not only does Cornelia attend Sunday school, holiness meetings and other activities, she volunteers at the front desk.

“Sunday school is fantastic,” Cornelia said. “We have different speakers, and they go in-depth about the Word.”

**Chicago Midwest, Ill., Corps**

Lts. LeOtis and LaTonya Brooks arrived at the Chicago Midwest, Ill., Corps just over a year ago. Since then attendance has almost doubled. LeOtis believes the increase is due to good leadership and folks taking ownership.

“I see the members wanting to be more involved. They’re asking to become Sunday school leaders,” said LeOtis. “Not only that, but our teens are looking for ways to be involved. They are leading discussions and asking to learn more from a biblical standpoint.”

The teens also recently choreographed a praise dance, which they performed one Sunday morning. People aren’t just attending Sunday school; they’re interested in soldiership, too. Two such individuals are Alberta Brinkley, who recently enrolled as a senior soldier and led a friend to Christ, and Debra Williams, who is preparing to become a soldier.

The Owosso kids’ Sunday school class

Loving Sunday school at the Chicago Midwest, Ill., Corps
I was raised in a Salvationist home and attended the Omaha Citadel in Nebraska. Corps while growing up. I was saved at age 4 in a small, Tuesday-night youth meeting, but it wasn’t until I was 9 that my eyes were opened by the Lord to His love for me and the reality of His sacrifice on the cross for my sins. In the meanwhile, my parents became officers.

When I was 14, God called me to officership while attending the character-building program jambores in Coker Creek, Tennessee. While I’ve doubted my ability to fulfill my own expectations in this calling, I cling earnestly to the knowledge that God equips those whom He calls, and I am overjoyed to finally take the next step in my calling to be a Salvation Army officer.

Brandon’s corps officers are Major Less and Captain Brian Davis.

Justin Thor
Burlington, Iowa, Corps
Heartland Division

I was 6 years old and attending the Madison, Wisconsin, Corps when I first asked Jesus into my heart. I spent most of my teenage years knowing what God expected of me as a Christian, but I chose to ignore it and do what I wanted. As I became an adult and started looking at the world around me, I realized I could no longer allow the world to dictate my actions.

The decision to become a Salvation Army officer was not quick or easy, but it is what God called me to. I finally had to act upon my faith. The words that are always in my mind are James 2:17-19 (NIV): “In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, ‘You have faith; I have deeds.’ Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.”

Justin’s corps officers are Captains Jeff and DawnRussell.

Hales hailed for service

After 27 years of service, Majors Mickey and Charlene Hale retired from the Freeport, Illinois, Corps, where they served as corps officers since 2008. The Sunday afternoon service at the corps was led by Major Evie Diaz, Heartland divisional commander, while the retirement ceremony was conducted by Major David Moffitt, director of field training at the College for Officer Training.

Tributes were given from various community organizations, the corps, sessionmate Major Jo-Ann Price and family members, including Major Noradene Daniel.

The Hales were introduced to the Army as young children—Lansing, Michigan, for Mickey, Mattoon, Illinois, for Char. Years later as young adults, they were introduced to each other when Mickey’s parents were appointed to Mattoon as corps officers.

Mickey and Char married in 1978 and moved to Florida. Although each had a successful career, they felt called by God to something greater. In 1981, the Hales began ministering the Fargo, North Dakota, Corps, then a couple of Minnesota corps.

In 1984 they entered the College for Officer Training with the “Proclaimers of the Gospel” session. After their commissioning, the Hales led corps in Michigan for more than a decade. In 1997, Mickey was appointed as Black Hills Area coordinator, and together they served as the Rapid City, South Dakota, corps officers until 2001. After serving in a couple of Illinois corps, the Hales arrived in Freeport.

With Mickey’s giftedness in teaching, Bible knowledge and mentoring, and Char’s pastoral and counseling skills, both continue to minister in Rockford, Illinois, where they retired.

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For more information contact the Officer Resource Department.

Email: ordusc@usc.salvationarmy.org

Phone: (847) 294-2061
Last summer readers of Central Connection learned about the pilot phase of the new STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) tool. It was designed to replace the former corps review process. STEPs is an outgrowth of our territorial leaders’ Creating a Shared Future initiative and is designed to engage more people in the evaluating and planning process for mission impact.

Rather than focusing on the past, STEPs takes a “snapshot” of the present to help participants gain understanding of their corps’ potential. That understanding is then used to develop goals which will position a corps to “take a step up” and increase their mission effectiveness.

A review of the STEPs process and tool

The STEPs process engages people strategically thinking about how their corps can be more effective in advancing the Army’s mission. To focus the discussion of those on the team, a STEPs document comprised of 17 sections was created. Each subsection has four descriptive boxes moving from a concern level to an outstanding level.

It may be helpful to think of the STEPs process as a Cycle of Engagement (figure 1). STEPs begins by inviting key stakeholders at a corps to assess their corps’ potential by responding to the STEPs tool which was provided this year in a web-based format. Participants are asked to decide which description best fits their corps. While selecting the level, participants also are asked to identify areas of significant potential from among the subcategories as their “vital few.” Corps are encouraged to create a portfolio of pictures, programs and statistics which support particular responses.

After responses are submitted, the corps team gathers to discuss where different levels have been selected by team members and reconcile which subcategories are considered one of their vital few. At the end of the discussion, agreement is reached concerning responses and “vital few” goals.

The corps team uses the developed consensus document as a basis for planning. Starting with their vital few, participants develop SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, timely) goals with supporting 90-day action steps designed to help them move up a step in their vital few areas. The STEPs document encourages corps teams to write goals using the language in the next step up.

Then a multidisciplinary team from divisional headquarters (DHQ) meets with the corps’ STEPs team to conduct a STEPs consultation. Multidisciplinary teams help provide differing perspectives and encourage creative thinking. A significant benefit is the brainstorming and sharing of best practices which can occur.

The two teams come together at the consultation meeting to discuss the corps’ responses, goals and action plans which are being proposed. This also presents the DHQ team an opportunity to reaffirm and celebrate with the corps team where the corps is effective. Using strengths to move forward and not just focusing on weaknesses helps localize the goals. The STEPs document with supporting portfolio provides an evidence-based snapshot useful for planning and mission advancement.

The next phase of the engagement cycle is to agree on a plan to move the ministry forward. The two teams discuss the goals and action plans. Where they have questions, the DHQ team works with the corps team to clarify and, if necessary, work together to modify the goals and action plans which have been proposed.

After agreeing on a specific plan of action, the corps team is empowered to implement their goals and to engage all the people connected to the corps to advance the Army’s mission in their community. At the end of the consultation meeting, a follow-up visit is scheduled for about 90 days.

During the follow-up meetings, a condensed version of the cycle of engagement is repeated, as select members of the multidisciplinary teams meet once again with the local team to celebrate progress since the last visit. Action plans covering the next 90 days are updated to reflect progress made or in response to setbacks experienced.

New this year, a divisional STEPs document has been developed which parallels the corps model in structure. The consultation and follow-up visits of a multidisciplinary team from territorial headquarters (THQ) resembles the support corps receive from their DHQ.
We are learning several lessons. The first is about trends and patterns which emerge as the document is completed. The responses of corps or divisions can be converted into two numerical values: mission effectiveness and resource capacity. The two scores can then be plotted on a 2 X 2 matrix (figure 2). Here is an example of what a sample matrix might look like for a corps which would have rated themselves as both mission effective and resource limited.

One question which might come from this rating is: "What areas of resource limitation identified as vital few can we address which would position this corps to be even more effective in advancing the Army’s mission?" The answer naturally leads to writing a goal using the language from the next step up in their selected vital few subsection. As a unit takes a step up, they are moving toward the upper right quadrant.

Another important lesson is the ability to visualize the patterns which emerge as responses are viewed as groups. When the self-evaluations are considered from a territorial perspective, the following picture emerges (figure 3):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission Effectiveness</th>
<th>Resource Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limited</td>
<td>Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49 corps (19%)</td>
<td>4 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Limited,</td>
<td>Mission Limited,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Rich</td>
<td>Resource Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 corps (38%)</td>
<td>3 divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Effective,</td>
<td>Mission Limited,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Rich</td>
<td>Resource Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84 corps (32%)</td>
<td>28 corps (11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 divisions</td>
<td>0 divisions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Just writing good goals is not the intended outcome of the STEPs process but rather seeing meaningful mission advancement as important goals are achieved. Hopefully, corps will be energized as they see action plans completed, more people engaged in mission and lives changed. The challenge is to develop goals which are significant and yet still attainable. Territorial Commander Commissioner Paul R. Seiler has paraphrased author Jonathan Kozol saying, “The key is to write goals which are big enough to matter, but small enough to win.”

A third lesson is the benefit resulting from engaging more people in the strategic thinking process. Involving people in STEPs is having an impact on our ministry. One indicator is that through end of last year, 60 percent of 44 corps in the pilot phase had experienced an increase in attendance in their Sunday worship meeting. Reaching more people means greater mission impact.

The fourth lesson is the STEPs document is dynamic and consultation visits are further opportunities for engagement and dialogue. One aspect of this lesson arises from the nature of the STEPs document. As it is a self-evaluation, there is a possibility that some responses selected may not be supported by evidence. There may be a need during the consultation for a “reality check” if the respondents were either too hard on themselves or more generous than their documentation would support. In those cases, discussion leads to an adjustment of the response to a different level than was initially selected.

THQ remains committed to being responsive to the needs of those we serve. The THQ program section will be looking closely at the pattern, goals and which subsections have been identified as vital few to shape our resource and event planning.

We will continue to learn and to sharpen the STEPs tool and process so we can see greater mission effectiveness. We will continue to engage as many people as possible in this process of “Creating a Shared Future.”
Andrew and Sue Blyth

Andrew is the assistant territorial music director for the United Kingdom with the Republic of Ireland Territory, where he is responsible for the publication of music by The Salvation Army in the UK. A composer and arranger, he has had more than 40 of his own compositions and arrangements published in the UK and overseas. Previously he conducted the International Staff Songsters and was a member of the International Staff Band for more than 10 years. In recent years he served as Bandmaster of the Enfield Citadel Band and has been involved in Salvation Army music schools in the UK and internationally.

Sue gained a place at Chetham’s School of Music in Manchester at age 16. She continued her studies at The Royal Northern College of Music where she graduated with a degree in music and opera studies. She has appeared as a soloist in London’s Queen Elizabeth Hall, Royal Albert Hall, and the Roy Thompson Hall in Toronto, Canada, and has five recordings to her name, including solo recordings When the Time Comes and Broken Pieces as well as Let Me Fly and This is the Life with The Three Sopranos and Faithful with Celest. Sue has served as songster leader at the Sale Corps in Manchester, as well as leader of the Central North and West Scotland divisional youth choruses and as vocal instructor at the UK Territorial School of Music.

“One of the things I love about GSI is the communication and support we get on the divisional and territorial levels,” said Kelly Summit, GSI youth development coordinator in North Platte, Neb. Tara Harrington is the newest youth development coordinator and has been placed in Sturgis, Mich.

Applications to be a GSI youth development coordinator are accepted throughout the year. Persons interested must have a bachelor’s or associate’s degree with a minimum of two years experience in youth work. Learn more by visiting www.centralyouthnetwork.org.

“Growing up the daughter of officers, Kelly Summit lived all over the Central Territory. At 18 she landed at Greenville College in Illinois to obtain her bachelor of arts degree in religion.

When given the opportunity to be a GSI youth development coordinator at the North Platte, Neb., Corps, she didn’t hesitate. “The program is great, and it clearly God’s will and timing in my life!”

Under the leadership of Captains Jason and Mary Poff, Kelly’s days are comprised of working with the after school program, planning Sunday school lessons and preparing for Wednesday night Bible studies.

One of Kelly’s passions is to build authentic relationships with children who attend the corps. Her goal is to help youth develop a closer relationship with God. “I’m intentional about building healthy relationships with the youth who come into our programs,” said Kelly.

She also aims to help the children develop traits, like initiative and hard work, that they’ll need to succeed in life. For example, when Aleecia, 11, told Kelly how much she loved to dance, Kelly encouraged her to help choreograph songs for the singing company as well as for the Christmas musical. Now Aleecia is enthusiastic to start a dance troop at the corps.

“It’s a good example of how one of our kids is growing personally and how her abilities can be used to worship God,” Kelly said.

The Independence, Mo., Corps, led by Majors Harold and Lisa Frost, celebrated five new Commissioner’s Sunbeams earlier this year: Andrea Mitchell, Alexis and Alyah Meininger, Summer Dussman and Mikayla Dixon. It’s the first time in 20 years any girl has achieved this award at their corps. Each girl had a favorite subject which included: healthy body, bird study, be kind to animals, housekeeping and swimming. The hard-working and encouraging leaders who helped the girls achieve their Commissioner’s Sunbeam award are Carrie Dixon, Jessica Taylor and Corey Wheeler.

**Central Music Institute—Still the place to be!**

**August 8-18, 2013**

**Camp Wonderland**

**Special Guests**

**Andrew and Sue Blyth**

A Sunbeam Sensation!

Still the place to be!
The General has initiated a worldwide prayer meeting (WWPM). What value do you see in this?

As someone who’s been involved in The Salvation Army all my life and prayer in the Army for about 12 years now, I would say that the global nature of this Movement is one of the greatest gifts that God has given us and it’s also one of the greatest resources in prayer.

I work with lots of other churches and faith groups that do not belong to anything global, and they are doing their best in their own community, and God is using them and working through them. But we have a phrase in England where we say that something “packs a punch,” something has power behind it. Those groups will often say to me, “I just don’t know that we pack much of a punch.” And they do in that they’ve got the power of God—and that’s quite a punch! But there’s a sense when you belong to something bigger, you are drawing on the resources of a whole worldwide Movement, that we’re all heading in the same direction, and when I’m not praying then someone somewhere else in the world is, in the Army we’re a part of.

You know when God wanted to do something dramatic for His people He would do it after they’d gathered. So throughout the Old Testament you see God gathering His people. He brings them all into one place, and they worship, pray and read the scripture together. Then amazing things happen for them as a nation, and they move forward. There is something about corporate prayer, something about the gathering of God’s people which moves us forward, which God uses to roll us forward another few paces in a way that wouldn’t happen if we didn’t do that. We can’t physically gather as a worldwide Salvation Army, so the WWPM is the closest we get to being the gathering of God’s people in prayer which then allows Him to roll us forward those next few steps. And I know people who take part in it all over the world, in big meetings and on their own, and it’s significant and a very important thing we do because it’s God’s gathering point for us as a Movement, and great things will happen if we stick with it.

What’s the one idea about prayer you’d like a Salvationist to take away?

Hunger and hope! They are flip-sides of the same thing. They are both essential to prayer. If you are not hungry for anything in your own life, in your corps life, in your community, you will not pray. We don’t pray if we’re not hungry for something, even if that’s just being hungry for God. You only pray because you’re hungry. But if you do not have hope, you also won’t pray because being hungry is depressing.

So what sparks prayer in our lives is an equal measure of hunger and hope. Those are the flints that keep prayer going again and again in our lives. If you are struggling with prayer, then those are the two things to work on. Where is my hunger? What have I forgotten to be desperate for? And where is my hope? What do I believe God can do because He is God. And that way we have one hand on the problem and one hand in the hand of God.

The hunger focuses us on what is not yet done, what is not yet ok; the hope focuses us on the God who can do anything. And if you work on those two things, prayer will come to life within you because prayer is the connecting of your hunger and your hope.

The WWPM for me is probably the most important thing that has happened in the last few years because it is an intentional statement that we as an Army are moving forward together in prayer. And what I do in my local setting as a soldier at my corps in Canterbury and what you’re doing as a soldier in your corps where you live is impacted. It packs a bigger punch. The potential is increased because we’re part of a global prayer movement.

The Salvation Army

July Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Bible Reading</th>
<th>Pray for The Salvation Army</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Monday</td>
<td>Philippians 1-2</td>
<td>Bloomington, Ind., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Tuesday</td>
<td>Leviticus 10-12</td>
<td>El Dorado, Kan., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Wednesday</td>
<td>2 Kings 1-5</td>
<td>Chicago Englewood, Ill., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Thursday</td>
<td>Psalms 78-80</td>
<td>Thank God for our freedom in Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Friday</td>
<td>Proverbs 8-9</td>
<td>Belleville, Ill., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Saturday</td>
<td>Ezekiel 19-24</td>
<td>Bismarck, N.D., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Sunday</td>
<td>Luke 17-18</td>
<td>Boone, Iowa, Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Monday</td>
<td>Philippians 3-4</td>
<td>Benton Harbor, Mich., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Tuesday</td>
<td>Leviticus 13-15</td>
<td>Major Cindy Shellenberger (Australia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Wednesday</td>
<td>2 Kings 6-10</td>
<td>Escanaba, Mich., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Thursday</td>
<td>Psalms 81-83</td>
<td>Dewport River Valley, Iowa, ARC*</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Friday</td>
<td>Proverbs 10</td>
<td>Heartland OHIO*</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Saturday</td>
<td>Ezekiel 25-30</td>
<td>Bay City, Mich., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Sunday</td>
<td>Luke 19-20</td>
<td>Decisions for Christ to be made today</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Monday</td>
<td>Colossians 1-2</td>
<td>Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Tuesday</td>
<td>Leviticus 16-18</td>
<td>Brown County, Ind., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Wednesday</td>
<td>2 Kings 11-15</td>
<td>Emporia, Kan., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Thursday</td>
<td>Psalms 84-86</td>
<td>Chicago Irving Park, Ill., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Friday</td>
<td>Proverbs 11-12</td>
<td>Branson, Mo., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Saturday</td>
<td>Ezekiel 31-36</td>
<td>Brainerd Lakes, Minn., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Sunday</td>
<td>Luke 21-22</td>
<td>Council Bluffs, Iowa, Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Monday</td>
<td>Colossians 3-4</td>
<td>Big Rapids, Mich., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Tuesday</td>
<td>Leviticus 19-21</td>
<td>Fond du Lac, Wis., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Wednesday</td>
<td>2 Kings 16-20</td>
<td>Des Moines, Iowa, ARC**</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Thursday</td>
<td>Psalms 87-89</td>
<td>Des Moines Heights, Des Moines, Iowa, Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Friday</td>
<td>Proverbs 13</td>
<td>Champaign, Ill., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Saturday</td>
<td>Ezekiel 37-42</td>
<td>Central Bible Leadership Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Sunday</td>
<td>Luke 23-24</td>
<td>Columbus, Ind., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Monday</td>
<td>1 Thessalonians 1-3</td>
<td>Garden City, Kan., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Tuesday</td>
<td>Leviticus 22-24</td>
<td>Chicago LaVilla, Ill., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Wednesday</td>
<td>2 Kings 21-25</td>
<td>Cape Girardeau, Mo., Corps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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!

--Mustard Seeds--
Waukesha health outreach

Partnersing with the National Kidney Foundation, ProHealth Care Community Outreach and other health-related organizations in the area, the Waukesha, Wis., Corps opened its doors to the community for a kidney screening. More than 100 people were given full check-ups with blood pressure, glucose tests, blood work and potential consultations by two well-known nephrologists. Nursing students and instructors from the area provided assistance. In addition to hosting a screening site, the corps provided food for volunteers, bottled water for patients and childcare.

“Between volunteers, family members, clients and doctors, I’m guessing we had 400 people in our building,” said Major Carol Lemirand, corps officer with her husband, Ronald. “We had a chance to introduce our corps to many new people and hand out dozens of packets on corps programs and camp.”

Student nurses assess kidney clients.

Promoted to Glory

Mrs. Major Patricia Rowland

On March 29, 2013, Mrs. Major Patricia Rowland was promoted to Glory. She was 82.

As the daughter of Captains Erwin and Beulah Garrett, Patricia’s early life was spent in various locations in central Illinois and Wisconsin. After high school she studied business and landed a job as private secretary to the divisional commander in Chicago, Ill.

An accomplished pianist, Patricia could often be found with Albert Rowland singing and playing at the Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps. On June 8, 1951, they were married. Their marriage was blessed with three sons.

The Rowlands entered training in 1953 as members of the “Shepherds” session. After their commissioning, a 41-year ministry followed with appointments in Iowa, Michigan and at divisional and territorial headquarters. Their officership was marked by their vocal duets and piano and voice ensembles.

After retirement in 1995 the Rowlands moved to Florida, where they were active in the Clearwater Citadel, Fla., Corps. Even after Patricia’s health began to fail, she would join Albert in playing the piano and singing while in assisted living.

Patricia is survived by her loving and devoted husband, who took extraordinary care of her while she was sick, her sons Dennis [Debbie], Mark [Anne] and David, and six grandchildren.

Junior soldiers welcomed

Corps in Duluth, Minn., and Goshen, Ind., welcomed a dozen new junior soldiers into their ranks.

Majors William and Elizabeth Cox, Duluth corps officers, reported the Sunday service was packed when the congregation celebrated the enrollment of seven new junior soldiers, the corps’ new youth musical forces and its growth in youth programming over the past year. Pictured between Majors Cox are [l-r] D.J. Turcotte, Christian Ray, Zachary Halvorsen, Kaitlyn Halvorsen, Ava Buchholz, Tyler Nyquist Carlson and Jade Goodiel.

New Members

January - March 2013

177 Senior Soldiers
49 Adherents
232 Junior Soldiers

Sweet recipe for ministry

by Linda Cook

Steve Baker, food and beverage manager at The Salvation Army’s Family Service Center in Davenport, Iowa, ensures residents have healthy meals and feel good about themselves so they can take the next step toward independence. And the resourceful turkey recipe he regularly serves won national recognition.

Steve believes it’s essential to nourish residents’ physical needs so the Army can nourish their souls. Not only does he provide two hot meals daily to about 100 residents in emergency and transitional housing at the center, he oversees a meal site that provides an evening meal to anyone in the community. Many of the patrons are homeless.

The kitchen budget is tight, so Steve uses creative approaches to develop recipes that are nutritious, delicious and inexpensive. With 30 years of restaurant management and cooking expertise, he ingeniously creates gourmet-like meals.

“First, it has to look appealing,” Steve said. “You always eat with your eyes first.”

Not long ago, the Army received a large donation of turkeys. Steve longed to provide residents more than turkey and mashed potatoes, so he developed a recipe for sweet and sour turkey. “The residents love this recipe,” Steve said. “Even the children come back for seconds.” He subsequently submitted it in a national contest sponsored by TigerChef, a restaurant supply company.

The recipe was one of 10 national winners, and Steve was awarded a TigerChef apron and $50 which he spent on a potato slicer for the Army’s kitchen. Now he prepares mouth-watering French fries and sweet-potato fries!

In addition to managing the kitchen, Steve also operates a shower and laundry ministry for people in need in the community.

“I feel called to serve here,” said Steve, who has worked six years for The Salvation Army.

“Steve blesses us on a daily basis with his incredible meals and compassion for our residents,” said Major Gary Felix, Quad-Cities coordinator.