



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)

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Seminar gets to the heart of worship

by Robyn Winters

Have you ever experienced the power of a congregation singing together in worship led by a praise team or brass band? In those moments you can be lifted into God's presence or have your heart rended as the Holy Spirit breathes through the Body of Christ.

Since live music not only can be edifying for the individual but is integral to corps' health and growth, in 2011 the Central Territory set a goal of Live Music in Worship in Every Corps by 2020 (LM2020). After working collaboratively toward this goal for six years, the territory finds

itself squarely in the countdown. With an intensified focus, the territorial music and gospel arts department hosted the Countdown Live Music 2020 Worship Arts Seminar.

Territorial headquarters became a retreat center in January for encour-

aging 176 musicians and artists from all over the Midwest in leading and supporting worship in their corps. The weekend proved to be a time for developing gifts and equipping lay leadership.

Corporate worship sessions featured the Rev. Dr. Constance Cherry, author and professor of Christian worship and pastoral ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University, who explored themes of crafting an

engaging, God-centered worship service.

"The seminar has tremendously benefited me in opening an eye to a fresh new perspective on worship," said Peter Kim, music director at the Chicago, Ill., Mayfair Community Church (Corps). "Dr. Cherry has stirred the yearning to seek the true meaning of worship."

Continued on page 2



Photos by Scott Thomas

Certificate in Kroc Center Leadership

by Lt. Colonel James Nauta

The Central Territory, working in partnership with the School of Continuing Studies at Booth University College in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, has developed the "Certificate in Kroc Center Leadership" designed for officers and key leadership staff across

the country, including those already serving at Kroc centers or those interested in future opportunities in Kroc ministry. The program includes two five-day intensive courses, along with online courses, covering specific content on human resources and financial management. A capstone project and practicum experience are included.

The program was launched in January with the first week-long intensive "Leadership & Strategies for Kroc Centers" course designed to introduce students to the distinctive culture, purposes and practices of Kroc centers, helping students develop the necessary skills



Lt. Colonel James Nauta

environment. Students explored teamwork principles, communication skills, group dynamic concepts, conflict management strategies, effective strategic planning and the importance of personal care/growth.

The first cohort of 29 officers and key management staff from all four U.S. territories assembled at the



required to provide leadership in this

Chicago Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center to begin participation in the eight-month initiative. A team of six guest instructors joined lead instructor, Major Marc Johnson, in conducting sessions focused on these important outcomes. Lt. Colonel (Dr.) Susan van Duinen, dean of the School of Continuing Studies, provided oversight and support during the launch.

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Photos by Bradley Baker

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Bridging the divide

by Lt. Colonel Renea Smith
Assistant Territorial Secretary for Personnel

In his book *Love Beyond Reason* John Ortberg retells a parable from the Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard of a king who loved a peasant girl. She was a simple girl with no royal pedigree, no education and no position in the court. She dressed in rags and lived in a humble cottage. For reasons no one could quite understand, the king loved her, and he couldn't stop loving her. The king wanted to reveal his love, but he wasn't sure how. How could he bridge the chasm of station and position that separated them? His advisers would say: just command her to be queen. Elevate her to your position and shower her with gifts.

As a man of immense power who commanded great respect, the king knew he could force the girl to be present in his palace, but he could never force love to be present in her heart. If he showered her with all he possessed, how would he—or for that matter how would she—know if she loved him for himself or for all that he gave her? And how would she know he loved her and would love her still even if she remained a humble peasant?

The king longed for intimacy of heart and oneness of spirit with the girl. However, all the power in the world cannot unlock the human heart; it must be opened from the



inside. So, the king determined there was only one thing to do. He left his throne, removed his crown, relinquished his scepter and laid aside his royal robes. He took upon himself the life of a peasant. He dressed in rags and scratched out a living in the dirt. He did not just take on the outward appearance of a servant; it became his actual life, his very nature.

Jesus did this. He gave up everything, His power, prestige, throne, life—everything—because He loved us. He chose to die on the cross so

we might be saved. "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16, NLT)

Jesus bridged the divide that separated God and man so we could have *intimacy of heart and oneness of spirit* with God. During this time of Lent, let us focus our minds and hearts on Jesus, our Redeemer. "Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross." (Philippians 2:6-8, NLT)

Worship seminar

Continued from page 1

Lt. Sarah Eddy, Canton, Ill., corps officer, said, "It was a great experience for me. I was part of the worship planning breakout sessions with Dr. Cherry. She had really great insight about what worship should be. Not only was she challenging, she affirmed a few things in my ministry...One question she raised, 'What would you be willing to change within your church/ministry because it was the right thing to do even if it means it could make people mad or even leave?' was a good reminder that worship isn't about pleasing people most but about pleasing God."

Guests from across the country shared how God has allowed them to bring their gifts and talents into authentic worship. Delegates participated in training sessions specific to their artistic interests with presenters who not only are experts in their field but passionate about using their gifts in worship.

Sessions included praise team leadership with Randy Bonifield and other instrumentalists, drama with Carol Jaudes and Becki Phillips, dance with Katie Luse and Erin Morgan, adult and youth vocal with Dr. Beatrice Holz and Priscilla Burgmayer, adult and youth instrumental with Dr. Jonathan Corry and Dr. Harold Burgmayer, keyboard with Jesse Fry, and media and sound with Josh Cowing and Bernie Dake.



"Something that struck me is in true worship, Jesus is here worshipping His Father through the Holy Spirit and invites us to worship God the Father with Him," said Shirley Lawson-Carr, St. Louis Gateway, Mo., corps sergeant-major. "That says it all for me. I pray that in whatever means of worship I'm in, I will remember Jesus is there with me."

Perhaps an excerpt from Bob Kauflin's book, *Worship Matters*, best expresses the aim of the worship leaders who attended:

*A faithful worship leader
Magnifies the greatness of God in Jesus Christ
Through the power of the Holy Spirit
By skillfully combining God's Word with music,
Thereby motivating the gathered church
To proclaim the gospel,
To cherish God's presence,
And to live for God's glory.*

May this ring true as we strive to worship God in our corps, hearts and lives.

Central Connection 

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Resources/Links

Books on worship by Dr. Constance Cherry

Congress registration

World Missions 20 New Corps website

Registration for Men's Ministries Conference

Pathway of Hope website

Central Youth Network website

The Singing Company website

Right Now Media

Trade Central website

Media

YouTube video of The Singing Company

Men's retreat promises life change

"Refiner's Fire," the 2017 territorial men's conference based on Job 23:10, promises to be a life-changing experience as attendees examine the choices that can change a person's heart and future. Teaching for the March 30 to April 2 weekend will be based on guest Phil Tuttle's *Crucible* lecture series on the often-tumultuous life of King David with the final Sunday morning message coming from Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander.



Guest Phil Tuttle



More than 1,000 men are expected to attend the conference held at the amenity-packed Lake Williamson Camp and Conference Center in Carlinville, Ill.



Phil Tuttle, president and CEO of Walk Thru the Bible, will delve into the moments of decision that have lifelong impact. King David faced critical choices in the same areas men face today, and much can be learned from how he handled them.

"God will use the choices we make to transform us into people after His own heart and shape our lives forever," said Phil, who will be presenting five sessions exploring the life of David as he battled issues including image versus character, fear versus faith, circumstances versus truth, deception versus integrity, arrogance

versus humility, and disappointment versus expectancy. Each session also will feature a testimony from a man who has struggled with choices like these.

Throughout the weekend a prayer room overseen by Major Edward Tuteweiler will be staffed so men can come alongside each other to approach God's throne with supplication and praise or to answer questions and receive personal counseling.

During the conference's traditional Saturday-afternoon free time, delegates can enjoy a wealth of indoor and outdoor activities, including basketball, volleyball, racquetball, billiards, table tennis, soccer, softball, tennis, miniature and disc golf, horseshoes, an obstacle course, a

fitness center, board games and much more.

For nominal fees, delegates also can fish, do a high-ropes course or participate in a golf tournament. A ride by The Salvation Army Motorcycle Ministry also is in the works.

Registration includes food and lodging (200 RV sites with full hook-ups also are available). The camp and conference center is handicapped accessible.

"My hope is that men will leave the conference not only spiritually changed but with firm realizations of why they're glad they came—to be poured from red-hot crucibles for molding into the kinds of Christian men God wants them to be," said Major Bob Gauthier, territorial men's ministries secretary.

The conference also will post live social media updates throughout the weekend.

Register at centralusa.salvationarmy.org by clicking on "About Us" then "Men's Ministries" or see your corps officer.



Everyday hero

Lt. A.J. Zimmerman was featured this winter on The Steve Harvey Show, where he received the "Harvey's Heroes" award from the show's host. The lieutenant was honored for his work with young men and boys during his appointment at the East St. Louis, Ill., Corps from his commissioning in 2013 to June 2016. Lt. A.J. worked with 50 boys after school and on weekends, often filling the gap for missing fathers. One mother of five boys who benefitted from the lieutenant's dedication and sacrifice appeared on the show to publicly thank him for the difference he made in her sons' lives.

Lt. A.J. himself found The Salvation Army through an after-school program when he was just 8. As a child growing up in Detroit, Mich., A.J. needed a place to belong, and the Brightmoor Corps provided it. He was introduced to Christ through devotions at the afterschool program and gradually got involved



Honored by Steve Harvey

at the corps. He calls Julie Dorony, who led the program, his hero. "She was always there," he said. "She would call me out. She encouraged and reminded me I could be more."

A.J. knew he wanted to help people like Julie helped him and his family. In time, God called A.J. to fulltime ministry as an officer. Since his commissioning, he has been working to make a difference in the lives of others.

The lieutenant says he loves his work as an officer. "Every day is different," he said. "I have the chance to be a part of people's lives. I love getting to be the cheerleader for others, and I'm thankful for the opportunity to do it."

Lt. A.J. is currently stationed at the Chicago Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, where he serves as the officer for congregational life and youth development.



Lt. A.J. counsels a young man.



orange

What's Orange got to do with Sunday School?

EVERYTHING!

To get a glimpse of the new Sunday School curriculum starting June 2017:

Go to www.centralyouthnetwork.com

Click on Christian Education

Scroll down to Sunday School

...and watch future editions of Central Connection!

Expressions of authentic worship

It's hard to believe it's been 10 years since The Singing Company's first album, *The Redbook Sessions*, was recorded. Still in its infancy, the band serenaded us with familiar lyrics from the song book set to both familiar and original tunes. Since then, the band has grown and developed, recording five more albums along the way.



Kirsten Janson and Eric Himes lead worship.

Eric Himes, the band's leader, lead singer and acoustic guitarist, says the band has changed in exciting ways since its inception. In the beginning, there was one song writer and two worship leaders. Now, there are five song writers and four worship leaders. The members have changed, too, as people have moved on and new individuals have joined. Most recent-



Allen Park, the band's most recent addition, plays saxophone.

ly, the group added saxophonist Allen Park, who hails from Chicago's Mayfair Community Church (Corps).

In 2011 The Singing Company was commissioned as the territorial praise band by Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander. New opportunities for ministry have flowed ever since. In the past five years, the band has worked toward encouraging creativity and authentic worship throughout the territory. Though The Singing Company is a praise band, their ministry isn't just about what they do on stage. It's about meeting new people, making connections and encouraging others to use their creative talents for the glory of God.

"Whatever the expression," Eric said, "we want to encourage it." Whether someone is passionate about singing, playing an instrument, dancing or another art form, the band members hope to inspire them to do it as an expression of worship.

The group rehearses once a week and spends one weekend a month ministering at divisional and corps events. They also teach workshops on leading worship and mentor aspir-



The Singing Company, 2008



The Singing Company today (l to r): Nate Irvine, Kirsten Janson, Sam Arias, Caleb Allan, Eric Himes, David Mantel, Allen Park

ing worship leaders and song writers. For Eric, realizing the band members are role models and leaders by virtue of their commission is humbling. "It's a beautiful burden," he said.

The Singing Company is working on its seventh album, *EP III*. For this album, the band will be taking a slightly different approach. They are focusing on writing and recording six original songs and will be honing in on the theme of God's sovereignty. Other selections include "This is my Father's world" with an additional, original verse. The final lyrics are a victorious proclamation: "Though the earth seems cold, this truth we hold, the grave is conquered still."

All of The Singing Company's recordings, chord charts, lead sheets and instrumental tracks can be downloaded for free at thesingingcompany.com.



Sam Arias leads on keyboard.



Commissioner Paul R. Seiler commissions The Singing Company as the territorial praise band in June 2011.

All the right resources

Officers, lay leaders and employees across the Central Territory are finding resources for programs and activities by utilizing the territory's subscription to RightNow media.

RightNow media features Bible study series led by some of the biggest names in Christian teaching today, including Francis Chan, Bill Hybels and Lisa Harper. Topical videos are available for use in worship services, and there is a children's section packed with our favorite Christian programs from *Adventures in Odyssey to Veggie Tales*. In addition to videos, the site also provides supplemental materials like handouts to accompany some of the lessons.

Still not sure? Here are some examples of how RightNow is being used.

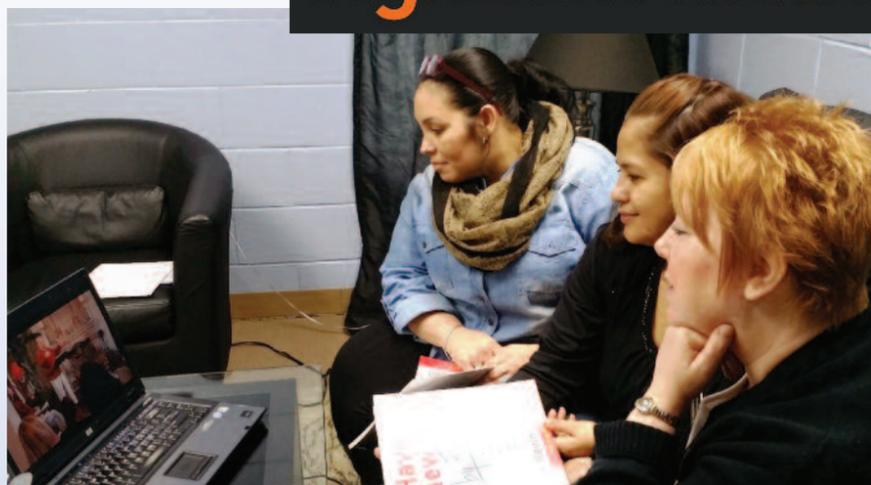
Envoys DeShawn and Christal Johnson use the resources they find on RightNow for Bible studies and children's ministry at the Sterling, Ill., Corps, where they serve as corps

administrators. In January, the envoys also kicked off their first marriage enrichment group using materials from RightNow. Envoy Christal says the resource saves time and money. Instead of traveling an hour to the nearest Christian book store and purchasing materials, she can browse the catalogs on RightNow, preview the videos, and utilize them for classes and activities—all for free!

At the Norridge, Ill., Corps, Community Ministries Director Pamela Church-Pryor uses the materials she finds on RightNow Media to teach parenting classes. An average of 14-16 women gather weekly to learn, fellowship and talk through parenting issues.

"They call it a support group," said Pamela. "It's a place where they feel free to talk about their parenting struggles without fear of judgment." So far, Pamela has completed four series from RightNow with her class.

In addition to finding resources for programs at her corps in Branson,



Pamela Church-Pryor uses RightNow media with parenting class participants.

Mo., Lt. Aubrey DeBaar uses RightNow for personal Bible study and as a safe media source for her young children. She enjoys the ease of being able to access it from almost any device—from tablets and phones to a ROKU device attached to her television set or even Apple TV. "The library is almost unlimited," she said.

"I especially love the kids' section!"

To join, simply visit www.RightNow.org/Account/Invite/TSA_Central_Territory and create an account. All Central Territory Salvationists are encouraged to enjoy free access.



THE SALVATION ARMY
USA CENTRAL TERRITORY



FORWARD TOGETHER

"Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven...
fighting together for the faith..."
—PHILIPPIANS 1:27

CONGRESS LED BY
GENERAL ANDRÉ AND
COMMISSIONER SILVIA COX



SUPPORTED BY
COMMISSIONERS PAUL R.
AND CAROL SEILER



COMMISSIONING
AND ORDINATION OF THE
JOYFUL INTERCESSORS

SEARS CENTRE • HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL

JUNE 9-11
2017

What you want—and need—to know about Congress

Congresses aren't everyday occurrences, but we hear this one will be unique. Here's the lowdown of what to expect from Territorial Program Secretary Lt. Colonel Paul Smith.

What is different this year? What's not to be missed?

Well the weekend will be packed with opportunities—some of which we're able to incorporate this year because of the new venue, the Sears Centre, and its surroundings that offer a unique setting like the Village Green for picnics and concerts. Also, being so close to Territorial Headquarters (THQ), delegates can shop from the full offerings of Trade, etc..... Of course, with this new setting comes a fresh level of energy.

Salvationists will certainly want to say farewell to Commissioners Paul and Carol Seiler who've served in the Central for the last 11 years, first as chief secretary and territorial secretary for women's ministries and then as territorial leaders.

Another difference is both the Commissioning/Ordination and the Service of Appointments will take place on Sunday morning with a short break in between the meetings, so delegates will get on the road to home sooner.

And then, of course, the big draw is that this will be the first full Congress in the Central led by General André and Commissioner Silvia Cox.

With that in mind, what opportunities will we have to hear the General speak—or even to meet him and his wife?

Plenty! The General and Commissioner Silvia Cox will be featured in nearly every main event throughout the weekend. On Saturday afternoon on the Village Green, delegates will have the chance to meet and greet both the Coxes and the Seilers. However, with our General's proclivity for "usies" [think group selfie], I would not be surprised if after some united sessions there's also opportunity to meet him and perhaps snap a photo.

How much is registration and what will it cover? We hear it's almost all inclusive. True? Are there incentives or help available?

Registration will be \$60 until May 12. After that it's \$75. While not all inclusive, registration will include all meetings and both lunch and dinner on Saturday.

However, the *big news* is registration will be free to all first-time Congress or commissioning weekend delegates age 14 or older! We're serious about encouraging people to come and experience a Congress for themselves.

We hear tell of a territorial youth councils. What activities will this involve and for what ages?

The Youth Councils will basically consist of three events that are really focused for teens and young adults: a Friday night afterglow at Main Event, an entertainment complex with activities like laser tag, gravity ropes, karaoke, bocce ball and bowling, and glow-in-the-dark mini golf—less than a quarter mile from the Sears Centre;



Working on plans for the Congress are (l to r) Lt. Colonel Paul Smith, David Andrews, Major Carol Wurtz and Danielle Smalec

a Saturday afternoon youth rally with the General and Commissioner Silvia Cox and featuring Charlie Green; and a concert after the Saturday night united meeting.

Will there be shuttle service to/from select hotels to the Sears Centre or to/from the Sears Centre to Territorial Headquarters (THQ) to visit Trade Central, the Territorial Historical Museum and other exhibits?

While no transportation is being provided from hotels, we are looking at what's possible in terms of transportation between the Sears Centre and THQ for those who are mobility-challenged. However, most people will be able to walk the short distance between the two—just a walk in the park, so to speak.

Will translation be available? If so, in what languages and for what events?

Yes, translation into Spanish will occur in all united meetings. Headsets will be provided to those who indicate this need on their registrations.

Will childcare be provided? If so, during which meetings?

Childcare and programming will be available for children ages 12 and under during united meetings. We plan on using Corporate Kids again with our staff augmenting their fun and educational sessions with a spiritual component. Delegates need to sign up for childcare on their registration form which will also list cost.

In your opinion, what's the main value of Congress? Why do we hold these things anyway?

There's so much to say on this one, where do I start? Worshipping with thousands of fellow believers, hearing God's Word from our international leaders, seeing the Army on a larger scale than any one corps allows, being caught up in the excitement of how God is blessing the ministry of the Army, praising Him for it and praying together it will continue... All of these play such an important part in a Congress. People should come ready to be encouraged and inspired and then go home ready to serve.

For more information or to register for Congress, visit centralcommissioning.org

Friday, June 9

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

Saturday, June 10

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. | 5K Run/Walk for the World |
| 9:30 a.m. | United Session and Retirement of Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler |
| Noon | Picnic/Concerts on the Green Territorial and International Leaders "Meet and Greet" |
| Noon-7:00 p.m. | Trade Central and exhibits open |
| 2:00 p.m. | Territorial Youth Councils with the General and Commissioner Cox |
| 4:30 p.m. | Fellowship of the Silver Star and Cadet Recognition Dinner + |
| 7:30 p.m. | United Session |
| 9:30 p.m. | Afterglow Concert |

Sunday, June 11

| | |
|------------|---|
| 9:00 a.m. | Holiness Meeting Commissioning/Ordination of the Joyful Intercessors |
| 11:30 a.m. | Service of Appointments |

+ By invitation only

Visit centralcommissioning.org for latest information.





PATHWAY OF

Building a better life

Amanda came to The Salvation Army in Vincennes, Ind., feeling isolated and helpless. "I had just left an unstable relationship after five years. I had three kids, no job and no driver's license. I had no friends and no one to communicate with. I felt very alone and afraid that I would not be able to provide appropriately for my children," Amanda recalled. She remembers having no support network and very limited resources.

Pathway of Hope (POH) provided an opportunity. As soon as Kelly Britt, POH case manager, and Captain Laura Lunnam, corps officer, met Amanda they began the process of building her up and linking her to resources. They worked together to identify housing and transportation goals. Amanda proved to have an incredible amount of motivation and worked tirelessly to improve her situation. It took time, however, for her to realize there were people in her life who cared about her.

"When she missed an appointment and we went looking for her, she knew we truly cared. It was not like her to miss an appointment so we were quite worried," said Captain Laura, who leads the Vincennes



Kelly Britt, Amanda and Captain Laura Lunnam



Corps with her husband, Lt. Curtis Lunnam.

This was a turning point in Amanda's life. Armed with this unconditional care and support, she courageously began tackling her obstacles. Additionally, she joined the corps' women's ministries and began developing a supportive and healthy social network.

Using resources and information provided by Kelly, she was able to obtain affordable housing as well as address several obstacles preventing her from maintaining independent transportation. Having achieved these goals, she didn't stop. Amanda was able to obtain reliable childcare for her

youngest son which, in turn, enabled her to gain stable employment. She thrived as an employee and was quickly promoted to a management position.

"I have been given hope...I have gained employment and am a manager at my job. I have secured reliable transportation and housing for my children. I have been taught how to build healthy relationships and trust people," Amanda said with a glowing countenance. "Most importantly, I have been able to see how God works in my life and that of others. I am very grateful The Salvation Army has given me a place to call home."

Hard work pays off

by Craig Dirkes

The Salvation Army in Virginia, Minn., is known for filling day-to-day needs such as food, shelter and clothing. But they also provide a service that is equally critical: long-term, one-on-one support for local families yearning for lasting success.

Phyllis, 31, is a great example. When she came to the corps for help two years ago, she had a history of homelessness, was in debt and didn't have a driver's license. She rarely had enough money to feed her three children despite working two jobs.

Jean Cheney, at the time the corps' caseworker, introduced Phyllis to Pathway of Hope (POH), and they began meeting weekly to set goals and track progress.

"I had a support system I didn't have before," Phyllis said.

Phyllis completed POH in June 2015. She said she feels like a new person. She is happy, motivated and successfully paying off debt. She

moved into a stable home from Habitat for Humanity and went back to school. She also got her driver's license and is now able to drive herself and her kids to school, doctor visits and the like.

Currently, Phyllis has a good job as a kitchen manager in a local restaurant and attends Sunday worship at the corps whenever her schedule allows. She also volunteers in the corps' youth programs her youngest child attends during the week and enjoys helping to serve meals. Her two teenage daughters also volunteer at the corps.

Thankfully, her success does not appear to be slowing down.

"Phyllis is a very driven person. She pursues whatever she sets her mind on and keeps at it until doors open," said Lt. Christina Wise, then Virginia corps officer.

Phyllis is thankful for The Salvation Army. "They have become my family," she said. "I still have the goal book Jean gave me. Hard work pays off."



HOPE

A second chance

by Craig Dirkes

Leslie is a new person thanks to Pathway of Hope (POH). Several years ago before North Dakota's oil downturn, she moved from Wisconsin to Williston, N.D., in search of work and a better life for her son, Jade, now 7. She found employment and housing immediately. "Things were going really good," said Leslie, 27. "I had two jobs. I bought a car. I was taking my son to school."

Then things started going *not* so good. "I was making bad choices," Leslie said. The bad choices were drug-related. Police altercations ensued. Eventually she landed in jail, and her son was placed into foster care.

"I kind of just lost it after that," Leslie said. "I didn't trust people. It was their fault [my son was gone]. I lost motivation. It took me a long time to get out of it."

Leslie spent a year playing the blame game and refusing to be accountable. Thankfully, she had an epiphany. "It all pointed back to me," she said. "It sunk in that I can't do it by myself."

After she was released from jail, she discovered The Salvation Army and sought help. She received groceries along with financial assistance that allowed her to move into affordable housing. She also received a pamphlet about Pathway of Hope—just what she needed.

Leslie enrolled and began meeting two to four times each month with the Williston Corps' caseworker at that time. At first, Leslie felt overwhelmed. "I had a big to-do list, and I didn't know where to get started," she said. The caseworker encouraged her to draw an elephant, listing her biggest goals at the top and the smallest near the bottom and tackle them one at a time.

Leslie began accomplishing goals left and right. She got a fulltime job, stable housing and—most importantly—custody of her son. Leslie also developed a strong faith in Jesus Christ and began attending church and Bible study regularly. Leslie's

next goals included getting her driver's license back and attending college. She contacted local schools about speaking to students about the dangers of drugs.

Leslie has now moved back to Wisconsin to be closer to her family and is doing well as she continues to put into practice the valuable coaching she learned through Pathway of Hope in Williston.

"I'm making the right decisions," she said. "There's nothing that can mess me up now. It feels good. I'm on a pathway to hope."



USA Central Territory
The Salvation Army

"...there is no reward equal to that of doing the most good to the most people in the most need." —Evangeline Booth

Dear friends and colleagues:

The Salvation Army began as a Movement of people of faith who believed God cared about the spiritual, physical, social and emotional...the practical aspects of our entire lives. Jesus fed people, assisted at a wedding, helped the lame to walk and the blind to see...He engaged in the practical aspects of life. Historically, we have walked with people in despair, in cycles of challenging circumstances, even in brokenness that seems insurmountable. Praise God, we have seen stories of restoration, transformation and new direction in these lives and in our own.

However, it can be a seduction over time for the Army to become comfortable "working with poverty" and almost immune to the soul-damaging chronic challenges of being vulnerable in this world. We had been hearing at divisional visits a concern from social service staff and officers that the Army was primarily putting on "band-aids"; communities were closing up and hopeless situations existed for many individuals and families.

Added to that, at the 2010 National Advisory Board meeting, speaker Tom Tierney congratulated The Salvation Army on "serving 17 million people across America" but then said, "Good for you, Salvation Army, now when are you going to start *solving*, not just *servicing*?" The words burned into my spirit (Commissioner Paul's) and returning home I put before the Cabinet the idea of beginning to change the method from an "ATM approach," (where funds or goods were handed out) to doing something that would make a bigger, lasting impact—moving into the solving category.

In the summer of 2011 after groundwork with the Territorial Executive Council (TEC), the Bridgespan Group as consultants and with a steering committee and much prayer, we had the formation of an approach that was tested and later became known as the bold initiative of Pathway of Hope. This was the effort to stop recurring crisis and vulnerability in the lives of those we served, opening the door for more intentional time to be spent with families ready to set to goals and stabilize.

The word hope symbolized the intensely spiritual aspect of God's hand and purpose in our lives and the opportunity for people of faith, our corps members, to be part of Christian community with these families. All corps in the territory have been trained and are in varying degrees of implementation since funds for caseworkers and the will to change patterns and time allocation of existing staff and officers is part of the approach.

The Central Territory took a risk and invested time and money and incredible effort on the frontlines so our history would include a deeply missional response to intergenerational poverty. Sometimes pushed and sometimes pulled, the roots of change began to be seen, and the transforming stories of years ago became some of the transforming stories of today. Over 6,000 children in the past few years have the opportunity for a different future because someone in the emergency assistance office basically asked, "Would you like some people to come alongside you and help you change these circumstances?"

In the training and work of development, all North American territories (including Canada and Bermuda) have been involved in beginning Pathway of Hope, many reporting re-energizing of the practitioners and the funding community in their locations. Sessions have been shared internationally, and the Army around the world has identified with the mission outcomes and implementation. We regret those situations where the foundational work of Pathway of Hope, coming alongside those who are already coming into our buildings and responding holistically, has been met with opposition or apathy, for they are missing out on the renewed sense of mission that is happening. We have seen soldiers enrolled from POH, and soldiers engaged in POH. This is the Army as a Movement.

Officers, soldiers and staff have prayed with, worked with, laughed with, cried with and celebrated with families engaged in Pathway of Hope as they would with a neighbor, a friend or a family member. This territory has led the way in changing the expectation that we will be content to simply *serve* millions of people across the U.S. Now we could say to Mr. Tierney, "Here's how we go about also *solving*..." This is The Salvation Army from the earliest days of our history to today.

It has been our honor and privilege to be on this journey as part of the Central Territory over the last several years.

Sincerely,

Paul and Carol Seiler, Commissioners



Centralites get creative for 20 New Corps

Corps and adult rehabilitation centers throughout the territory have been giving sacrificially and creatively fundraising to support the 20 New Corps initiative, the Central Territory's commitment to build or renovate 20 corps across the world. Here's a taste of their cleverness and success.



Uping the ante

When it comes to fundraising for the initiative, even the promise of a pie in the face won't stop leaders at the Pekin, Ill., Corps. They challenged the six children at vacation Bible school to raise \$200. To up the ante, as each mini-goal was reached a different leader would get a pie in the face, but Major Kim Ray, corps officer, was confident she would be safe at the top of the tier.

Impassioned by a visit from Lt. Sarah Eddy, who shared about her summer mission team experience, the kids began rustling up money by asking friends and relatives for donations. Leaders razzed each other through the corps' Facebook page, bringing in even more funds. In the end, all leaders received a pie in the face, including Major Kim and her husband, Major Rick. The corps raised more than \$200 with the help of just six kids and a few well-aimed pies.



ARC scores!

Ever since the Northwest Indiana Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) opened a family store near Notre Dame University in the late 1990s, the center has raised funds through the sale of game-day parking spaces in the store's 110-car lot located just blocks from the football stadium. This past fall Captains Jason and Ilona Schaal, center administrators, designated the proceeds from two of the six home games (a total of \$3,500) to 20 New Corps.

"Our ARC beneficiaries volunteer to park cars for the day," said Captain Jason. "We charge between \$20 and \$30 per game depending on demand. The family store stays open, and staff monitor the lot to ensure no tailgating or alcohol consumption takes place."

He concluded, "Learning opportunities like this show beneficiaries what they're capable of, particularly when they see intoxicated people at a tailgate party in another lot. It reminds them where they came from and why they don't want to go back."

A hairy idea

Lt. Jeffrey Olson, Manitowoc, Wis., corps officer, went cave man in his attempts to raise funds. For six weeks, the lieutenant grew his beard as donations were placed in two buckets, one labeled "save the beard," the other "shave the beard."

Collection buckets were displayed during breakfast every Sunday morning before the worship service, passed around after the weekly offering, and even showed up at the monthly advisory board meeting. All the while, people learned about World Services/Self-Denial.

When the money was counted, a greater portion of the \$300 raised was found in the "shave the beard" bucket. Lt. Jeff may have lost his facial hair, but his hairy thinking paid off.

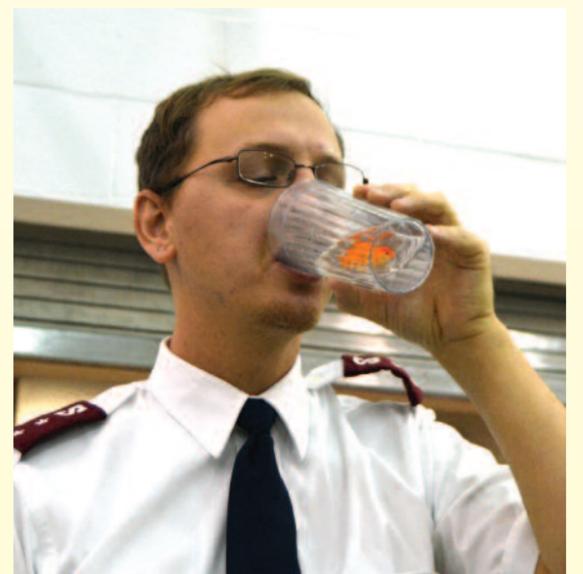


Connecting across continents

For Lt. Matthew Beatty, Grand Forks, N.D., corps officer, raising money for World Services/Self-Denial is about more than reaching a financial goal. "It's important for people to connect," he said.

To help their soldiers connect with the division's partner, Kenya West, Lt. Matthew and his wife, Lt. Rona, arranged a Skype call with Major Nathan Asigo, a corps officer in Kenya, during a Sunday meeting. They also engaged soldiers in a "here or there" activity identifying if a fact was about the Central Territory or Kenya West.

In response to these efforts, one soldier created an ongoing display highlighting 20 New Corps for the kettle at the thrift store, which is projected to bring in \$2,000. Others took on janitorial work at the University of North Dakota, which pays around \$500. More projects, including an international food festival, are in the making.



Model fundraising

Looking for a way for both adults and children to get involved in raising funds, Captain Brianne Bowers of the North Platte, Neb., Corps hit on the World Missions website idea of using Legos to build a church. "We modified it to sell each Lego for a dollar and set our goal for \$1,500 since that is the amount of Legos it's going to take to build our church model," she said.

Corps members have whole-heartedly supported the project from buying Legos from youth before meetings to women's ministries selling enchilada meals. The opportunity to participate also was extended through the office and family store.

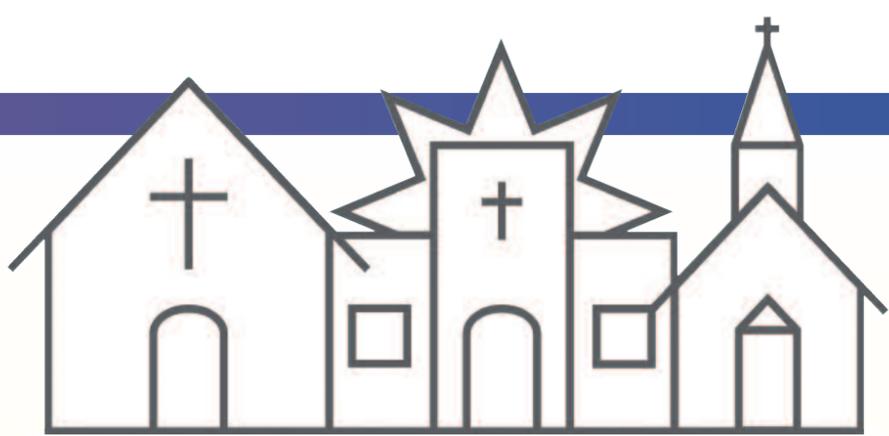
Benchmarks have been set where Captains Tony and Brianne Bowers, obviously good sports, get a pie in the face, swallow a live goldfish, and perform interpretative dance.



Caring for Kenya

A record turnout by corps members, neighbors and Army friends for a Care for Kenya benefit at the Royal Oak, Mich., Corps raised more than \$10,000 in one night! Nearly 300 people enjoyed the evening consisting of a silent and live auction, meal and a presentation from Commissioners William A. and Nancy L. Roberts, who were the first territorial leaders of the Kenya West Territory which was created in 2008.

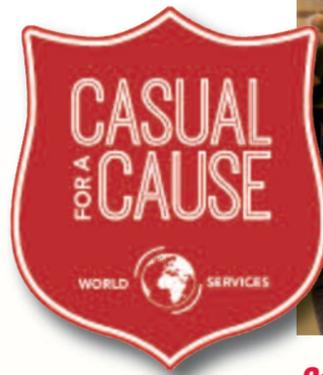
The corps' world mission committee divided and conquered logistics to make this event successful from soliciting food establishments to collecting auction items. Twenty-five corps members each hosted a table, providing a centerpiece, inviting people to fill their table and making them feel welcomed. Tickets, flyers and social media played a big part in the success. Proceeds went toward building a corps in Eastleigh, Kenya East Territory.



TWENTY NEW CORPS

AROUND THE WORLD IN 2017

A CENTRAL TERRITORY INITIATIVE



Casual for a cause

The Grand Rapids, Mich., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center is going Casual for a Cause. Every Friday employees can donate \$2 to wear jeans to work. Previously a fundraiser for local use, since September the money has been reserved for 20 New Corps. More than \$1,000 has been raised!

The idea to expand the Kroc Center's once-monthly casual Friday was sparked by Program Director Bram Roberts, who saw an opportunity to involve employees in the Army's larger mission. Lt. Taylor Brutto, Kroc Center mission integration officer, and Dan Leisher, ministries coordinator, ran with the idea. Every week Kroc staff receive an email showing their progress toward the \$5,000 goal, as well as interesting facts about the division's partner, Tanzania.



It takes the cake

Some people send flowers, which are lovely and smell great; But someone thinks you're extra special and thought they'd send a cake! A dozen fortunate people were greeted with this little ditty upon answering their doors to Captains David and Shannon Martinez, Des Plaines, Ill., corps officers.

The Cake-O-Gram was in response to a challenge by Lt. Colonel Sharon Smith, Metropolitan divisional director of women's ministries, who provided 20 glass platters to each corps in the division and urged them to raise \$200 by December. With the platters as inspiration, the Martinezes developed the idea of delivering Cake-O-Grams for a \$20 donation, using the platters and fresh donated cakes from a popular local bakery.

Besides raising nearly \$250 with no overhead, the Cake-O-Grams were an excellent opportunity for the corps officers to visit new contacts. Participants from the corps ordered cake deliveries for their neighbors, friends and even their children's elementary school office staff! The captains personally delivered each cake, sometimes with their family in tow. Captain Shannon said the project, sponsored by corps women's ministries, was a lot of fun and a huge success!



Pies for a purpose

"What I love most about the 20 New Corps initiative is the 'all hands on deck' attitude it brings out in our corps people," said Lt. Melissa Sivels, Watertown, S.D., corps officer, "Each group is really striving to participate and give back."

The corps has focused on three main projects. In Sunday school a competition ensued between boys and girls to raise funds with the corps officer of the losing gender team getting a pie in the face. "We wanted to do something fun and a bit silly to keep their interest," said Lt. Melissa. "The outwardly-focused projects used baking skills of our corps people. Our women's ministry group put together a variety of baked goods to sell during the Christmas thrift store sale. Additionally, a variety of pies were sold during the holidays."

Music to their ears

To raise funds, a pre-concert meal was introduced in conjunction with a Southern Gospel Concert series at the Council Bluffs, Iowa, Corps which packs the house each month from February through November. At only \$5 a plate, the dinners have been a big hit for the 70 or more gospel music fans who attend.

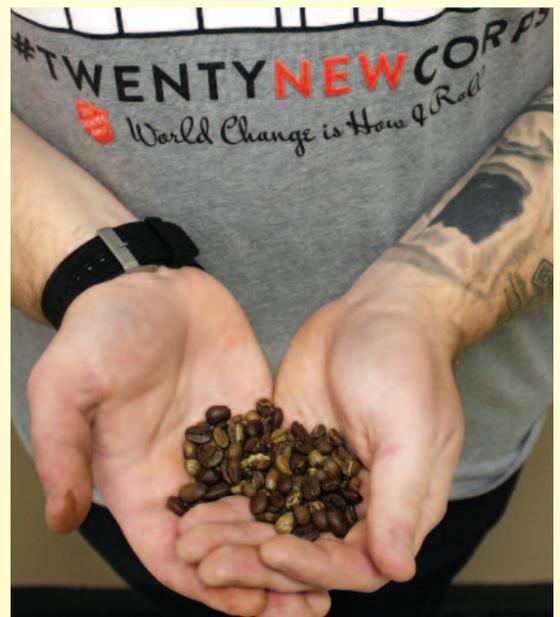
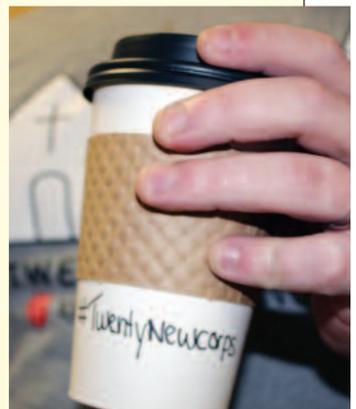
"The event has turned into something much larger than we could have ever imagined," said Major Donna Miller, corps officer. "In September we invited concert attendees to help us build a new Salvation Army corps to minister to the folks in Kingston, Jamaica, and they immediately got on board." In the first two months the corps raised nearly \$700 toward their goal which was charted on the bulletin board by a Jamaican flag and rows of bricks added to form a church.



Something's brewing!

Leave it to a coffee connoisseur who home-roasts his own coffee beans to develop a blend called "20 New Corps" for sale to fellow coffee enthusiasts! Lt. Vinal Lee, Madison, Ind., corps officer, reported sales from his initial roasting of the blend generated a profit of more than \$200. Thanks to social media, requests for the one-pound bags have come from as far away as South Dakota!

Meanwhile, Lt. Brenna Lee assembled a board covered with cards numbered from \$1 to \$50 to enable everyone at the corps, from moonbeams to advisory board members, to be involved. All of the cards were claimed for a minimum of \$1,275 when the final donations are tallied!



Love conquers all

To survive living in tough, high-crime areas, many people out of necessity learn how to develop barriers of defensiveness behind which they can crouch, observed Envoys Michael and Kris Fuqua, until recently corps administrators of the St. Paul Eastside, Minn., Corps.

But within the corps' walls, people have allowed their defensive barriers to drop as they've learned instead to cling to Jesus for their salvation and daily needs and depend on each other for mutual support and unconditional love.

"Whether they're coming into the corps to attend a prayer or worship service or to receive a hot meal and devotional, community people find consistency and a loving, accepting atmosphere within these walls," said Envoy Kris.

And, the corps is growing. Sunday morning attendance now averages 30, soldiers were enrolled last spring and the corps' recently formed songster brigade already has 13 members! Envoy Kris said several people on the corps' "wonderful volunteer force" were once recipients of the Army's help; they're now employed and off the streets. Other volunteers, she continued, have decided to make the corps their home for worship and service.

The corps' multicultural membership includes people of African-American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Hmong, Native American and other ethnicities. The envoys attribute the natural formation of



this close community of faith to intentional teaching from scripture along with an emphasis on prayer and worship.

Corps members also have developed a heart for World Services/Self-Denial. The Fuquas observed that people will give to what they understand. When they first arrived at the corps in 2014, the envoys were excited when \$1,000 was raised for World Services.

For the 2017 ingathering, corps members set their own sacrificial goal of \$4,000 when they learned about the need for helping their Salvationist brothers and sisters overseas through the 20 New Corps initiative. By the end of 2016, \$3,000 already had been raised!

"With many corps members living on fixed incomes, this was true self-denial giving," concluded Envoy Kris.

The corps is now led by Envoy Donald LaMar.



730... AND BEYOND



1,333 days and counting

by Lt. Kenyon Sivels

I arrived in my new appointment and served for a month by myself before getting married. After the wedding and honeymoon, my wife, Melissa, and I returned to this appointment together with our first day back slated for Wednesday. But on Tuesday night around 11:30, I received a call from the office manager saying The Salvation Army was needed at a disaster.

With our emergency disaster services team, we responded to the scene of a senior living complex engulfed in flames—the largest residential fire in our town's history! We prepared coffee and granola bars for the residents and bottles of water and Gatorade, along with fruit and granola bars, for first responders.

Even though it was summer, someone suggested we grab a few blankets, socks and sweatshirts just in case they were needed. This proved fortuitous as a gentleman named Charlie was looking for something to keep him warm, and I had a sweatshirt to give him. The next day our corps helped to provide or find hous-



ing for 10 residents who had no family nearby; Charlie was one of them. This ministry created an opportunity for us to get to know him better.

Eventually Charlie found housing in a town a few miles away. We were pleased but missed our new friend. Perhaps a month later a handwritten note and monetary donation from Charlie arrived, letting us know he was doing well and was eternally grateful for our service. We were humbled and encouraged that our ministry had made a difference and amazed that something as simple as a sweatshirt could matter so much.

Kroc certification

Continued from page 1

At the conclusion participants were enabled to:

- Understand the distinctive purpose, design and culture of a Kroc center and how it aligns with the integrated mission of The Salvation Army
- Comprehend the components of a strategic plan in order to communicate a vision for the future and guide others in changing circumstances
- Understand teamwork principles and group dynamic concepts in order to build effective teams
- Implement strategies to identify, develop and empower leaders in order to effectively administer a Kroc Center through leadership/management staff
- Demonstrate good inter-

personal communication skills and conflict management strategies in order to attain and maintain a high functioning workplace environment



Major Marc Johnson

- Value the place of personal care and growth for Kroc leaders in order to foster healthy personal and professional relationships.

Without exception participants were positive about their first intensive courses. Their sentiments seemed to be summed up by Major Monty Wandling, South Bend, Ind., senior Kroc center officer, who said, "The Kroc leadership intensive training has proved to not just give some ideas and practices but to teach solid principles and practical tools that can help improve the culture and effectiveness of my daily work."



Lt. Colonel Susan van Duinen



New Members

October - December 2016

70 Senior Soldiers
21 Adherents
56 Junior Soldiers

Cubs score home run at center

The Chicago Cubs won not only the World Series but the hearts of more than 250 homeless men, women and children at a dinner prepared and served by players and managers at the Freedom Center in Chicago, Ill.

Cubs Manager Joe Maddon and his wife, Jaye, sponsored the "Thanksmas Dinner" in early January to highlight the plight of the homeless. Dinner guests came from the center's homeless services program and its intake/intensive unit, as well as from the Evangeline Booth Lodge (with the Cubs providing two buses for round-trip transportation), and a local domestic violence shelter.

Servers for the buffet line—which featured spaghetti with secret-recipe



"Maddon Meatballs" as well as secret-recipe pierogis—included Anthony Rizzo and six other Cubs players, the Maddons and Cubs owner Tom Ricketts, all of whom easily interacted with the thrilled diners and posed for selfies.

Joe and Jaye Maddon visited with people at each table and distributed Cubs hats and gloves. Children's activities included crafts, puzzles, coloring books and meeting the Cubs mascot, "Clark the Cub!" Each child also received a bag of school supplies for their second semesters.

Major Nancy Powers, program development officer at the Freedom Center, said some guests were so excited they were overcome to the point of tears while others declared this was beyond their bucket list.

"It was truly heartwarming to see how the people from the Cubs organization were so interactive with the guests," said the major, who added the Maddons are interested in making this an annual event.

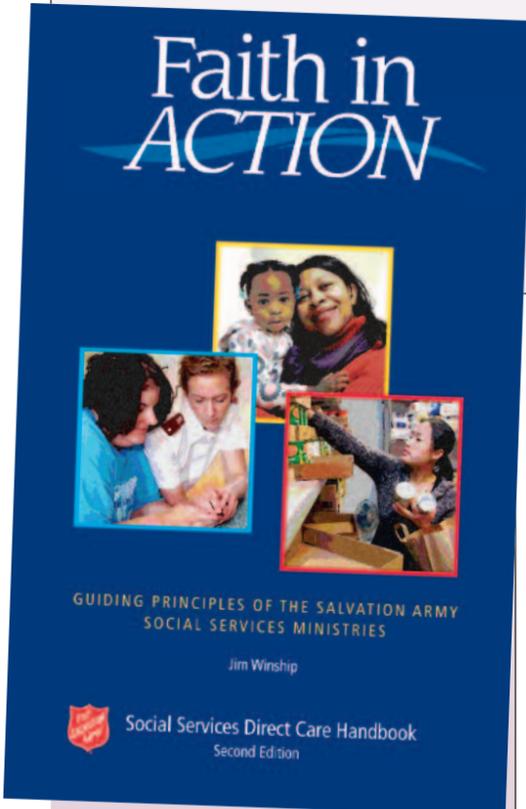


Faith in Action

Complimentary copies of the second edition of *Faith in Action: Guiding Principles of The Salvation Army Social Services Ministries* have been sent to all corps and social service programs in the Central Territory.

This paperback direct care handbook was revised with resources to equip those meeting the material, spiritual and emotional needs of those who come through our doors, and those who supervise programs, with the knowledge to serve compassionately, professionally and ethically in all we do.

If your Salvation Army unit would like additional printed copies of *Faith in Action*, contact Trade Central (1-800-937-8896 or saratradecentral.org). An e-book will be released in the near future.



PRAYER CENTRAL

The Salvation Army USA Central Territory

April Prayer Calendar

| My Prayer List | Day | Bible Reading | Pray for The Salvation Army |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------|--|
| | 1 Saturday | 1 Corinthians 9-10 | Springfield, Ill., ARC* |
| | 2 Sunday | Exodus 1-4 | Saginaw, Mich., Corps |
| | 3 Monday | 1 Samuel 16-20 | Sterling-Rock Falls, Ill., Corps |
| | 4 Tuesday | Psalms 39-41 | National Social Services Conference, Philadelphia, Pa. |
| | 5 Wednesday | Job 27-28 | Wisconsin & Upper Michigan DHQ** |
| | 6 Thursday | Jeremiah 7-11 | Princeton, Ind., Corps |
| | 7 Friday | Mark 7-8 | The Forward Together Congress in June |
| | 8 Saturday | 1 Corinthians 11-12 | Wichita Citadel, Kan., Corps |
| | 9 Sunday | Exodus 5-8 | Youth councils being held this month |
| | 10 Monday | 1 Samuel 21-25 | Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps |
| | 11 Tuesday | Psalms 42-44 | St. Louis Maplewood, Mo., Corps |
| | 12 Wednesday | Job 29-30 | Candidates for the College for Officer Training |
| | 13 Thursday | Jeremiah 12-16 | St. Cloud, Minn., Corps |
| | 14 Friday | Mark 9-10 | Petoskey, Mich., Corps |
| | 15 Saturday | 1 Corinthians 13-14 | Sheboygan, Wis., Corps |
| | 16 Sunday | Exodus 9-12 | Proclaim the hope of the risen Savior! |
| | 17 Monday | 1 Samuel 26-31 | Waukegan, Ill., ARC* |
| | 18 Tuesday | Psalms 45-47 | Global Mission Team to Mexico |
| | 19 Wednesday | Job 31-32 | Warren, Mich., Corps |
| | 20 Thursday | Jeremiah 17-21 | Lt. Colonel Evie Diaz (IHQ)*** |
| | 21 Friday | Mark 11-12 | Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Iowa, Corps |
| | 22 Saturday | 1 Corinthians 15-16 | Chicago Staff Band ministry in Quincy, Ill. |
| | 23 Sunday | Exodus 13-16 | Richmond, Ind., Corps |
| | 24 Monday | 2 Samuel 1-4 | Wichita West Orchard, Kan., Corps |
| | 25 Tuesday | Psalms 48-50 | Rockford Tabernacle, Ill., Corps |
| | 26 Wednesday | Job 33-34 | Switzerland, Austria & Hungary Territory ^{PM} |
| | 27 Thursday | Jeremiah 22-26 | St. Louis Temple, Mo., Corps |
| | 28 Friday | Mark 13-14 | St. Paul Citadel, Minn., Corps |
| | 29 Saturday | 2 Corinthians 1-3 | Rapid City, S.D., Corps |
| | 30 Sunday | Exodus 17-20 | Porter County, Ind., Corps |

* = Adult Rehabilitation Center
 ** = Divisional Headquarters
 *** = International Headquarters
 PIM = Partners in Mission

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

--Mustard Seeds--



On the lookout

Ken "Hawkeye" Locke, the community ministries coordinator for Kosciusko County at the Warsaw, Ind., Corps for the last 20 years, is more than worthy of his nickname for the many ministry opportunities he has spotted, swooped down on and seized for the Army and the people it serves. (The root of the native Iowan's distinctive nickname, however, is that Ken is an avid Hawkeyes fan!)

When Ken accepted the position to expand social services, he instituted and coordinated a number of outreach programs for rent, utility and food assistance; coats-for-kids, shoes-for-work and back-to-school drives; budgeting classes and Angel Tree among others. In recent years Ken has become a big supporter of the Pathway of Hope (POH) initiative, which he now also oversees. POH has been completed by 15 families at the corps with a current roster of four families enrolled.

Raised in the Methodist church, Ken first met the Army in Marshalltown, Iowa, in 1974. "A friend invited me to their youth program that featured volleyball, food and girls. My interest was not necessarily in that order," said Ken. "Those Salvationists talked about Jesus like He was in the room. I was challenged to be a follower of Christ and was attracted to Christianity with its sleeves rolled up. I've had many ups and downs in life, but Christ has



Ken and Sina Locke

always been there. He never fails."

A graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University, Ken eventually moved to Warsaw in 1988 where he and his wife, Sina, attend the Warsaw Community Church. They have seven children in a blended family and now enjoy 10 grandchildren!

After moving to Warsaw Ken joined the Rotary Club, which last fall honored him for his service to the community and demonstrating the club's ideals of "service above self." Ken was selected to carry a gold torch making its way through Indiana to mark the state's 200th anniversary!

Since 1965, the Warsaw Rotary Club has raised more than \$1 million for the Army. For the club's 50th annual Salvation Army Day in 2015, more than \$42,000 was raised to support the Army's outreach efforts in Kosciusko County. A two-time past president of the Warsaw Rotary Club, Ken also serves as director of the Greater Warsaw Ministerial Association and volunteers for the Boy Scouts of America as an Eagle Scout himself!



Accepting a check from the Warsaw Rotary Club are Ken Locke (left of banner), Major Bill Welch (right of banner), Major Trish Welch and Commissioner Ken Baillie (in front of Ken).

Promoted to Glory

Major Richard McDonald

Major Richard McDonald was promoted to Glory from his retirement home in Branson, Mo., on December 19, 2016. He was 70 years old.

Born on November 22, 1946, Richard established a career as an art restoration expert and museum display-case builder as a younger man but spiraled into alcoholism after a series of personal difficulties. Not long after accepting Christ, he entered the Chicago, Ill., Harbor Light, where he achieved stability, became a soldier and then the harbor light's corps sergeant-major. Richard returned to the art restoration field and volunteered at the Tom Seay Service Center. Called to fulltime ministry, he became an envoy and resident manager at the center in



1992. A year later, he was promoted to assistant administrator and made an auxiliary captain.

Richard led corps or served as an associate corps officer in Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, South Dakota and Wisconsin from 1994 to 2010; he was promoted to captain in 2004. A year after he began serving as social services coordinator at the St. Louis, Mo., Booth Manor, he was promoted to major in 2011, and retired as the Booth Manor chaplain in late 2012.

A music enthusiast who used his talents on piano, guitar, autoharp and euphonium throughout his ministry, Richard was excited about his move to Branson. Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele, who first met Richard when he was the harbor light corps sergeant-major, said he was a very fine musician and had a real connection and great ministry with the people at the harbor light because of his own struggles with addiction.

Coming full circle

The Salvation Army of the Black Hills is committed not only to breaking the cycle of poverty but "bringing people full circle to giving back to their community," said Major Nathan Johnson, Black Hills area coordinator in Rapid City, S.D. One way of accomplishing this is by starting young, he continued.

A year-round elementary school incentive program in which the Army is involved with other community organizations, uses \$5 and \$10 McDonald's gift cards donated by the Army to reward good attendance by students. This simple approach has been successful in motivating other students to achieve good attendance throughout the year in underperforming schools. As levels of self-directed initiative rise in students, another set of incentives is used to reward good grades and classroom behavior. The ultimate goal of these two incentive programs, dubbed "Fall Back" and "Spring Forward," is to have students graduate on time.

Major Nathan is pleased with the incentive programs because they put faith into action with tangible rewards youth enjoy. The major also joins with other local pastors to pray over the underperforming schools and the rest of the district. In addition,



tion, the Army works with educators to identify students in particular need and achievers who are most likely to break the poverty cycle with extra encouragement and support offered by the Army to their parents.

In addition to food and other assistance, clothing for students also is available year-round through the Army's Coats for Kids and its Shop with a Cop program in which Native American children are each taken out by a tribal policeman to buy a new outfit for school.

"The end game of this community-wide 'prosperity initiative' is for area children to grow up and not need social services," concluded the major citing a current Salvation Army advisory board member as a prime example of someone who came to the Army as a single mother in need who, with the Army's help, became successful and is now giving back to her community.

Returning the favor

Tamara Flores was a single mom raising two children on her own. It was 1996, and times were tough. Tammy was working fulltime at a bank but struggled to make ends meet. She didn't qualify for assistance yet needed help to feed her family.

Tammy was scared but found it difficult to request help. When she finally reached out to The Salvation Army in Watertown, S.D., they provided her with enough food to hold her family over. She only went one time to the Army for assistance. "My pride kept me from asking," said Tammy. But a month later she came home to find a box of food on her doorstep.

"I just stood there and cried," she said. "The kindness of The Salvation Army left a mark on my heart, and I will be forever grateful."

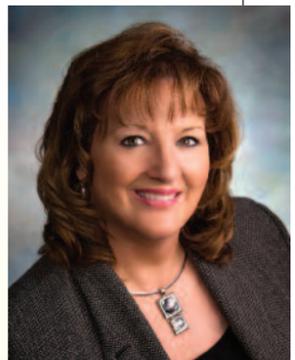
Tammy continued to work hard and was promoted to administrator

in the bank's trust department. She attended classes to increase her knowledge of retirement plan administration and trust and estate planning. Today Tammy is a wealth advisor for Great Western Bank in Rapid City, S.D., where she also runs the department.

When Major Nathan Johnson, Black Hills area coordinator, asked Tammy to consider being on the advisory board, she was excited at the prospect. It was a way for her to give back to the organization that was so kind to her years earlier.

"I've been on the advisory board for about a year now with responsibilities for reviewing and reporting on updated financial statements to the board," said Tammy of her duties that blend her talents in finance with her passion to help others.

Major Nate said, "Tammy is such a blessing to have on the board; she uses her skills to assist us in our mission and ministry to the community."



Tammy and her husband, Anthony, surrounded by their children and grandchildren