Singing Company releases new EP

This spring the territorial praise band The Singing Company is releasing its second extended play (EP) called II. The album includes six original songs with themes ranging from no condemnation in Christ in “Overwhelming Victory” to children of God in “With Us” written by the newest band member, Dave Mantel. According to Eric Himes, band leader, the creation of EP II was different from EP I which was guided by very specific parameters. This year during the creative process, the band explored possibilities, wrote as many songs as possible and then whittled them down to six.

One of the goals was to write two songs: one upbeat and happy and the other more poignant. “It seems the happy songs won out: it’s a pretty upbeat album,” said Eric. Band member Sam Arias wrote “The Black Hills” inspired by Psalm 148. Based on Sam’s summer mission team experience at The Salvation Army Black Hills, S.D., Camp for Native American Lakota Nation children, it’s turned out to be an album favorite.

“I wanted to reach the kids through something I can do, and I can do music,” Sam recalled. “The [Lakota Nation] culture worships nature and the earth. I wanted to write a song that doesn’t just say nature is great, but that we worship the Creator of nature, a God who is bigger.” When Sam shared this song on acoustic guitar, it was met with enthusiasm and arranged for the entire band.

The goal is to release a new EP annually, and the band hopes to make songs available for free download from their website.

The first six-song EP was released last spring and included three original tunes tackling hard-hitting themes like repentance and perseverance. It also included three arrangements of well-known choruses. All of the songs are available for download from iTunes via The Singing Company’s website.

In addition to collecting CDs or downloads, catch The Singing Company in person during the Boundless Joy Commissioning weekend in Merrillville, Ind., June 26-27.

Celebrating the life of General Eva Burrows

General Eva Burrows (Rtd.)
The Salvation Army’s 13th international leader, was promoted to Glory on March 20, 2015.

A daughter of Salvation Army officer parents, Eva Evelyn Burrows was born on September 15, 1929, in Newcastle, Australia. She committed her life to God for service as a Salvation Army officer while studying at Queensland University. Having received her Bachelor of Arts degree in May 1950, with majors in English and history, she entered the William Booth Memorial Training College in London and was commissioned in 1951.

Her first appointment was to the Portsmouth Citadel Corps, in the Southampton and Channel Islands Division of the British Territory, as an assistant officer. She was then appointed as an officer teacher at the Howard Institute, a large mission in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe).

During 14 years at Howard Institute, Eva became particularly concerned with the training of teachers for the network of Salvation Army schools throughout Zimbabwe. During her first homeland leave she undertook a course at Sydney University for the degree of Master of Education, and presented her thesis on the training of African teachers in Zimbabwe.

Returning to Howard Institute, she became the first woman vice-principal and then became principal of the Usher Institute, a secondary boarding school for girls. Under her leadership, Usher Institute became known as an outstanding girls’ educational center.

In 1970 she was appointed to the International College for Officers in London as vice-principal and then as principal.

A significant impact on Eva Burrows’s life was her appointment as leader of the Women’s Social Services in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 1975-1977, which brought her into close touch with the effects of poverty and exploitation in Britain’s crowded cities.

Adaptation to a new culture became necessary when in January 1977 she became territorial commander for Sri Lanka. In less than three years she had made such an impression in that predominantly Buddhist country that The Ceylon Observer wrote: “People like Eva Burrows grace any country they serve in. The Salvation Army has been very pragmatic and practical about its work, and Eva Burrows is a symbol of the Army’s attitude to the poor and meek.”

In December 1979 she became leader of The Salvation Army’s work in Scotland where she undertook a further three years of inspirational leadership. Salvationists there remember her drive and devotion.

After 30 years of service, in October 1982 she was appointed to her first assignment in her homeland as territorial commander for the Australia Southern Territory. Significant and innovative initiatives characterized her leadership for the next four years. Her influence was such that she was regularly consulted by Australia’s Prime Minister for her opinion and advice on a variety of matters.

On May 2, 1986, the High Council elected Eva Burrows as the 13th General. She succeeded General Jarl Wahlström to office on July 9, 1986. She was welcomed for her energetic style of leadership, infectious enthusiasm and impatience with anything inefficient. She was the focus and symbol of unity, and her international experience eminently equipped her for the role.

The restructuring of the Army’s work in the United Kingdom was a

Continued on page 12

Continued on page 2

Continued on page 12
What it takes to Uplift Consistently

by Lt. Colonel Ralph Bukiewicz
Territorial Secretary for Personnel

How we choose to see circumstances—and each other—is one of the most powerful ways God has given us to shape our life and ministry. Perspective affects our attitudes, actions and choices. Even today, you have the choice to influence everyone you encounter, either with a positive or negative manner. “I’ve brought you today to the crossroads of Blessing and Curse.” (Deuteronomy 11:26, MSG)

Over the next several hours, you may interact with your children, spouse, neighbors, service providers, those in authority over you or those whom you lead. How will you use your words, actions and attitudes to avoid being a burden that weighs them down and, instead, become a blessing that uplifts?

Our choices aren’t that difficult. Here are a few suggestions:

• LIFT UP - Pray specifically and consistently for those you encounter. As you understand what they face, regularly talk to the Lord on their behalf. “I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.” (1 Timothy 2:1, NLT)

• FREE UP - Offer to help others so they can be freed from the burdens and restraints that keep them from serving someone else. Pay it forward and model what you would like someone else to do for you! “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2, NIV)

• GIVE UP - Give cheerfully and liberally to provide for the physical and material needs of someone else. Follow the 2 Corinthians 8 model: “They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.” (2 Corinthians 8:2, NLT)

• CLAM UP – Or, more concisely, shut up. Refuse to listen to or spread gossip about others. “Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift.” (Ephesians 4:29, MSG)

• MAKE UP - Lovingly and privately correct each other when there is sin and offer grace on issues of style and preference. “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.” (Matthew 18:15, NIV, 1984)

• SHOW UP - Recognize and affirm behaviors in others that deserve our attention. Catch them off-guard with a thoughtful comment or note. Let them know they are appreciated: “So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11, NLT)

Make an effort to uplift someone today. Try it again tomorrow. Offer a positive, encouraging, affirming reaction that will reinforce your witness and strengthen your ministry. And do it regularly. “It’s not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives. It’s what we do consistently.”—Anthony Robbins

Bundles of blessings

Indiana, Ind., companies and volunteers are bringing hope and comfort to children through Project Blessing Bags, an initiative of The Salvation Army’s Ruth Lilly Women and Children’s Center began this year.

The Ruth Lilly Women and Children’s Center is a place of refuge for mothers and their children who are homeless or fleeing domestic violence. The experience can be especially disorienting and frightening for children, who come to the shelter with little more than the clothes on their backs.

Blessing bags are designed to lessen the trauma and provide children comfort during the transition. Each bag includes a book to encourage reading and family bonding, a cuddly blanket, and items specific to the needs of their age group—from stuffed animals to puzzle books and personal care items.

Companies and volunteers are given a list of items to purchase and then assemble each bag. The goal is to fill enough totes to serve the 600-plus children who live in the shelter throughout the year.

Allison Clark and her team from Thrivent Financial sponsored the first 24 bags.

“It was a pretty fun team building for us, too,” Allison said during a radio interview. “Just to be able to talk about the little children who might be receiving them and pray for them as we’re tying these blankets.”

Allison and her colleague, Mary Beth Trotter, were able to meet some of the children in person when they followed up their company’s Blessing Bag event on a Tour of Hope, which included a visit to the shelter.

“For me it was an eye-opening experience because I had no idea about the services or the depth of need,” Mary Beth explained. “The staff was so welcoming, caring and concerned about the mothers and the children who come through the center. It really touched my heart.”

Get Connected!

Check out our complimentary material on the web: 
salarmycentral.org

Resources/Links

Boundless Joy Commissioning weekend registration
Boundless the Whole World Reading website
Biblical Education Tour website
World Missions website
Emergency Disaster Services website
Online memorials
Blessing bags webpage
Officer Candidates website

Media

EP II clip
Web exclusives
Uncovering the Past: Anyone You Know?
The Salvation Army in Suriname and Latvia
Five components of a soup fundraiser
Travel journal with photos of BET to Israel

For late breaking news, visit our website.

Log on to salarmycentral.org

What it takes to Uplift Consistently

by Lt. Colonel Ralph Bukiewicz
Territorial Secretary for Personnel

How we choose to see circumstances—and each other—is one of the most powerful ways God has given us to shape our life and ministry. Perspective affects our attitudes, actions and choices. Even today, you have the choice to influence everyone you encounter, either with a positive or negative manner. “I’ve brought you today to the crossroads of Blessing and Curse.” (Deuteronomy 11:26, MSG)

Over the next several hours, you may interact with your children, spouse, neighbors, service providers, those in authority over you or those whom you lead. How will you use your words, actions and attitudes to avoid being a burden that weighs them down and, instead, become a blessing that uplifts?

Our choices aren’t that difficult. Here are a few suggestions:

• LIFT UP - Pray specifically and consistently for those you encounter. As you understand what they face, regularly talk to the Lord on their behalf. “I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.” (1 Timothy 2:1, NLT)

• FREE UP - Offer to help others so they can be freed from the burdens and restraints that keep them from serving someone else. Pay it forward and model what you would like someone else to do for you! “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2, NIV)

• GIVE UP - Give cheerfully and liberally to provide for the physical and material needs of someone else. Follow the 2 Corinthians 8 model: “They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.” (2 Corinthians 8:2, NLT)

• CLAM UP – Or, more concisely, shut up. Refuse to listen to or spread gossip about others. “Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift.” (Ephesians 4:29, MSG)

• MAKE UP - Lovingly and privately correct each other when there is sin and offer grace on issues of style and preference. “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.” (Matthew 18:15, NIV, 1984)

• SHOW UP - Recognize and affirm behaviors in others that deserve our attention. Catch them off-guard with a thoughtful comment or note. Let them know they are appreciated: “So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11, NLT)

Make an effort to uplift someone today. Try it again tomorrow. Offer a positive, encouraging, affirming reaction that will reinforce your witness and strengthen your ministry. And do it regularly. “It’s not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives. It’s what we do consistently.”—Anthony Robbins

Bundles of blessings

Indiana, Ind., companies and volunteers are bringing hope and comfort to children through Project Blessing Bags, an initiative of The Salvation Army’s Ruth Lilly Women and Children’s Center began this year.

The Ruth Lilly Women and Children’s Center is a place of refuge for mothers and their children who are homeless or fleeing domestic violence. The experience can be especially disorienting and frightening for children, who come to the shelter with little more than the clothes on their backs.

Blessing bags are designed to lessen the trauma and provide children comfort during the transition. Each bag includes a book to encourage reading and family bonding, a cuddly blanket, and items specific to the needs of their age group—from stuffed animals to puzzle books and personal care items.

Companies and volunteers are given a list of items to purchase and then assemble each bag. The goal is to fill enough totes to serve the 600-plus children who live in the shelter throughout the year.

Allison Clark and her team from Thrivent Financial sponsored the first 24 bags.

“It was a pretty fun team building for us, too,” Allison said during a radio interview. “Just to be able to talk about the little children who might be receiving them and pray for them as we’re tying these blankets.”

Allison and her colleague, Mary Beth Trotter, were able to meet some of the children in person when they followed up their company’s Blessing Bag event on a Tour of Hope, which included a visit to the shelter.

“For me it was an eye-opening experience because I had no idea about the services or the depth of need,” Mary Beth explained. “The staff was so welcoming, caring and concerned about the mothers and the children who come through the center. It really touched my heart.”

Get Connected!

Check out our complimentary material on the web: 
salarmycentral.org

Resources/Links

Boundless Joy Commissioning weekend registration
Boundless the Whole World Reading website
Biblical Education Tour website
World Missions website
Emergency Disaster Services website
Online memorials
Blessing bags webpage
Officer Candidates website

Media

EP II clip
Web exclusives
Uncovering the Past: Anyone You Know?
The Salvation Army in Suriname and Latvia
Five components of a soup fundraiser
Travel journal with photos of BET to Israel

For late breaking news, visit our website.

Log on to salarmycentral.org
Connecting to God’s Word and each other

by Captain Valerie Carr

With the psalmist, the Heartland Division has declared, “I will study your commandments and reflect on your ways. I will delight in your decrees and not forget your word.” (Psalm 119:15-16, NLT) Last November a video challenge went out to the division from Major Kelly Collins, divisional commander, to get as many people as possible involved in the International Bible Reading Challenge. The division has 650 individuals registered to read through the New Testament with the rest of the Army world this year. Soldiers and officers are finding creative ways to keep the momentum going. Creative inclusion and encouragement have been key methods. Many corps are using the material as a form of “liturgy.”

preparing messages, Bible classes and meeting themes based on the readings of the week.

In addition to using it for Sunday mornings, corps officers and leaders are coming up with many innovative methods of reinforcing the challenge:

• Creating a calendar chart for members to use to keep track of the readings
• Posting trivia questions from the week’s readings on the corps’ Facebook pages
• Passing out notebooks to keep answers to questions and thoughts from the readings
• Hosting a daily study during lunch with employees
• Using the “Children’s Challenge” section each week during children’s programming
• One corps has a “Boundless Check Up” every Sunday offering prizes for those caught up on the readings, as well as a testimony time to share what is being learned each week.

The division is beginning to see the powerful and life-changing effect the Word has on individuals.

“IT IS excit ing not only to see the adults bring their new Bibles, but to also see our young people bring their new Bibles to church,” said one corps officer. “It made me smile when I saw one teenager and one child not only bring their Bibles to church but keep them in their boxes to protect them from getting damaged. This Whole World Reading Challenge has brought excitement back into the corps as well as the importance of reading God’s Word on a daily basis.”

A soldier testified, “The Boundless Challenge is making us accountable to our families, friends and the corps family. Corps members are connecting more than before; new people are engaged in spiritual discussions where they might have been silent before. It’s binding us together as a whole as we discuss the readings with each other.”

Browsing (seated) of the Keokuk, Iowa, Corps enjoy worshiping God together. Linda Meyer (left), Carolyn Mendenhall and Helen Breeser (seated) of the Keokuk, Iowa, Corps enjoy using the Boundless Bible challenge study guides.

Gathering in Eastern Michigan

by Abby Johnson

The Eastern Michigan Division [EMI] has held united meetings through the years so people from different corps could worship God together and connect with each other. Recently the question was asked, “How can the division continue to create unique worship experiences for the people of EMI?” Out of this question, “The Gathering” was born.

The goals of The Gathering certainly reflect the heart of the original divisional united meetings: to be strengthened spiritually, to promote Christian unity and Salvationism, and to be loved and encouraged. The format of The Gathering, however, has a new look.

More than 300 people attended the inauguration of The Gathering at Echo Grove Camp. Officers, soldiers and friends came to experience Christian community. The evening featured a concert by guitarist Jim Cole, whose gentle and warm personality is embodied in his music, creating a space for people to unplug and worship God.

Following the meeting, friends and family gathered around tables in the dining hall for food and fellowship. Laughter filled the air as people from around the division connected with each other. While some continued to fellowship in this way, others joined in games for children and families. They not only had fun, but relationships were strengthened as they enjoyed quality time with each other away from the everyday distractions of life.

As The Gathering wrapped up, it was apparent people were leaving with a sense of gratitude for a program that strengthened them spiritually, promoted unity with their brothers and sisters in the Lord, and expressed love and encouragement from their division. So, was The Gathering a success? Absolutely.
Clayton Bledsoe
Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps
Indiana Division

I was introduced to The Salvation Army four years ago. I came through the doors of the Indianapolis Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) completely broken and lost due to years of alcohol and substance abuse. While in the program, I accepted Christ into my heart, and He transformed me into a new person.

After I finished the program, God led me to work at the ARC as the intake coordinator. While there I received my calling to become an officer, but I was struggling on whether or not to accept it. One night while studying scripture, I told God for His sake I would abandon all my own desires and plans and fully surrender my will and life over to Him. I felt an overwhelming sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit. At that moment I knew my life was His. I believe the purpose of my life is to be an officer who demonstrates the love of God and proclaims the truth of the power of Christ to transform anyone into a new creation.

Clayton’s corps officers are Captains Jonathan and Christyn Cooper.

Kenneth Alip
Farmington Hills, Mich., Corps
Eastern Michigan Division

I am a Salvationist by birth; my parents are officers in the Philippines. I was brought up with the Army’s doctrines and biblical teaching and on April 12, 1992, I received God’s free gift of salvation and I became a junior soldier.

But life was not easy, and I got involved with ungodly friends and did ungodly things. However, God has His own way of reaching a person’s heart. He used books to reach me. I read my first Christian book which talked about the divine revelation of heaven and hell. It fueled my desire to seek God with all my heart. Reading several more Christian books I was prompted to read the book above all others, the Bible. After all, why not the best one? As I read Matthew, the Light that shone into the world also shined into my own heart, and I recommitted my life to my Savior, Jesus Christ.

I then got into corps ministries, and God gave me the opportunity to serve Him as the young people’s sergeant-major and to joyfully reach out and share the gospel with our community where it is much needed.

Ken’s corps officer is Major Marilyn Anderson.

Friday, June 12

Noon  Retired Officers’ Luncheon+  1:00-6:00 p.m. Registration
1:00-7:00 p.m. Resource Connection and Museum Exhibits open
5:00 p.m. Active Officers’ Recognition Dinner+  7:00 p.m. Childcare for children ages 11 and under
7:30 p.m. Celebrating the 130th Anniversary of the Central Territory*
9:30 p.m. Teen and Young Adult Afterglow

Saturday, June 13

6:30 a.m.  5K Run/Walk for the World with the Territorial Commander
9:00 a.m.  Childcare for children ages 11 and under
9:30 a.m.  Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of The Salvation Army*
11:00-6:00 p.m. Resource Connection and Museum Exhibits open
1:30 p.m.  Boundless International Congress Orientation for registered delegates
4:30 p.m.  Fellowship of the Silver Star and Cadet Recognition Dinner+  6:30 p.m. Childcare for children ages 11 and under
7:00 p.m.  Chicago Staff Band and Bill Booth Theater Company Bon Voyage Concert*
9:30 p.m.  Join the Conversation on Ministry, Calling and Officership

Sunday, June 14

9:00 a.m.  Childcare for children ages 11 and under
9:30 a.m.  Holiness Meeting and Commissioning/Ordination of the “Heralds of Grace” session
2:15 p.m.  Service of Appointments for the “Heralds of Grace” session*

+ By invitation only  *Badge required; please note there will be open seating and your delegate badge will be needed for admission to the theater each session.
We entered this place of spiritual formation not knowing what to expect. We had passed the candidate’s testing and our final paperwork had been approved, but that singular day in August marked the beginning of a 22-month journey through classroom instruction and ministry experience.

Our ministry assignments have taken us across Missouri, through Kansas, into Indiana and even up to North Dakota. We have spent weeks in hands-on ministry, loving people and preaching the Gospel with conviction. We have taken quizzes and tests, written more papers than I can count, and read scripture hundreds of times. We have stared down dreaded “finals week” and made it to other side. While our brains sometimes have felt like mush, study-buddies and massive amounts of soda have kept us going.

I can’t fully qualify our journey with words, nor can I adequately describe the people God has made us into during our time at the CFOT. Some of us feel called to bring the light of God to the inner-city, while others feel led to take the Gospel to other lands. Some would love to minister at a Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, while others hope their ministry will include a corps plant.

Regardless, we are all motivated, passionate and delight in doing Kingdom work. We are called by God’s grace to love the unlovable, befriend the friendless and make people’s salvation the priority of our lives. We are the Herald of Grace.

Led by God to become Salvation Army officers, we come from diverse backgrounds. Among my session are former business owners, professional photographers, a nurse, a licensed counselor and a published author. We hail from cities and rural areas covering Nebraska, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin and even the countries of Chile and Peru. There are Herald who praise the Lord for generations of officers in their families, and others who are the first in their families to follow this calling.

We entered this place of spiritual formation not knowing what to expect. We had passed the candidate’s testing and our final paperwork had been approved, but that singular day in August marked the beginning of a 22-month journey through classroom instruction and ministry experience. Our ministry assignments have taken us across Missouri, through Kansas, into Indiana and even up to North Dakota. We have spent weeks in hands-on ministry, loving people and preaching the Gospel with conviction.

We have taken quizzes and tests, written more papers than I can count, and read scripture hundreds of times. We have stared down dreaded “finals week” and made it to other side. While our brains sometimes have felt like mush, study-buddies and massive amounts of soda have kept us going.

I can’t fully qualify our journey with words, nor can I adequately describe the people God has made us into during our time at the CFOT. Some of us feel called to bring the light of God to the inner-city, while others feel led to take the Gospel to other lands. Some would love to minister at a Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, while others hope their ministry will include a corps plant.

Regardless, we are all motivated, passionate and delight in doing Kingdom work. We are called by God’s grace to love the unlovable, befriend the friendless and make people’s salvation the priority of our lives. We are the Herald of Grace.

Ready to proclaim

Pray for cadets of the “Herald of Grace” session as they finish their studies at the College for Officer Training and make final preparations for their ordination and commissioning as new lieutenants, Sunday, June 14.

Cadet Linda Acosta  Cadet Vinal Lee
Cadet Jessica Dahl  Cadet Brandon Lewis
Cadet Steven Dahl  Cadet Abraham Marin Hidalgo
Cadet Sarah Eddy  Cadet Jessica Martinez Regalado
Cadet Justin Hartley  Cadet Kevin Sechrest
Cadet Stephanie Hartley  Cadet Megan Sechrest
Cadet Grant Holloway  Cadet Jessica Smith
Cadet Joseph Irvine  Cadet Christina Tamayo
Cadet Rachel Irvine  Cadet Patricia Williams
Cadet Dalvius King
A group from the Central Territory, led by Lt. Colonel Susan Bukiewicz, spent nine days on a whirlwind tour of Israel, visiting sites associated with significant scriptural stories. The pilgrims stood on a hill gazing down at the Sea of Galilee and imagined Jesus teaching, then feeding a crowd of thousands. They walked the Via Dolorosa and were reminded of the pain and sorrow suffered by the Savior in His final hours. Many of them trekked up a small canyon at Ein Gedi next to a stream to see the cavernous region where David hid from King Saul.

The tour visited sites with familiar names like Masada, Nazareth, Mount of Olives and Capernaum. At each place, words of scripture were read, songs were sung and fresh Bible teaching from Linda Himes was shared. There were joyful times, reflective moments, inspiring and challenging periods. By the end of the trip, many of the pilgrims expressed a changed perspective in their understanding of the Bible.

Captain Jay Davis said he expected to learn facts and insights. “But now, you open your Bible and read, and you see pictures in your mind of the places we’ve been,” he said. “I’m a visual learner—this has been a gold mine for me. When I think of Israel, I think of end times. Things started here, and they’ll end here. I pray for those that do not yet know Him.”

For many, it will take some time to fully understand all God intended to teach. This was Lori Meyer’s second trip to Israel. She said, “There are a lot of years in between… so it’s a different experience for me.” Visiting the Dome of the Rock on top of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem helped her see God’s patience with her. “You can get angry and want to fight His battle. But He’s helping me to understand as the Divine Creator what He sees. As fully God and fully man, He could have done something different, but He didn’t. He followed His plan—for us. He suffered for me. I’m just beginning to unravel what that
in the Holy Land

means,” she said. “The lessons just start here, because you can’t take it all in.”

For Linda Himès, her years of Bible teaching made her yearn to visit the land of the Bible. “I’ve been dreaming of this for years,” she said. “Teaching is my passion, and to teach in the Holy Land… teaching in these sites took my breath away. I knew in my head it was true. Now that I’ve been here, I know it in my heart.”

Captain Telinda Wilson was challenged by a simple scene on a hillside in Israel. She said, “I saw a shepherd on a donkey weaving along the path. The sheep were all following that winding path. But the goats were just going straight up the hill—just wandering their own way. I do that so often. I’m stubborn, but I just want to follow Jesus. I don’t want to be a goat.”

Linda Whiteman summed up the group’s sentiment: “It’s made the Bible so real to us.”

Walk where Jesus walked

2016 Biblical Education Tour
March 7-17, 2016

Looking to go deeper in your faith? Want the Bible to come alive? Here’s your opportunity to walk where Jesus walked.

Experience Nazareth, Jerusalem, Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, Mount of Beatitudes, Mount of Olives, Garden Tomb and much more.

See itinerary, costs, eligibility at: www.centralusa.salvationarmy.org/usc/biblical_education_tour

For more information contact Lt. Colonel Susan Bukiewicz. Email: ordusc@usc.salvationarmy.org

Phone: (847) 294-2061
Cold Spring flourishes

The Milwaukee Cold Spring, Wix, Corps has metamorphosed from a 2004 corps plant into a maturing, growing corps thanks to the consistent nurture of its corps officers, Captains Marcelo and Monica Orbe.

Known until last year as the Milwaukee South Side Latino Corps, today more than 60 people—including 20 senior soldiers, 10 junior soldiers and 26 adherents—attend worship each Sunday. Programs and services at the corps include ministries and activities for men, women and youth; Sunday school, corps cadets and mid-week Bible studies; English, computer and budgeting classes; family assistance, counseling and seniors programs. Community outreaches include vacation Bible school, Feed the Children, Coats for Kids and Christmas assistance.

When the Orbes began their outreach efforts into Milwaukee’s Latino community in 2004, the fledgling congregation started meeting for worship at the Oak Creek Centennial Corps a few miles south of Milwaukee. During the week, home Bible studies, men’s and women’s ministries, emergency family assistance and seasonal programs were offered in the city.

To facilitate worship attendance by existing members and accommodate future growth, the congregation moved into Milwaukee two years later. Space was rented in a church for worship while corps programs and social services were held in space rented from an office building.

It wasn’t ideal but an improvement, and ministries kept expanding: English and computer classes, feeding programs, youth meetings, weekly Friday family fun nights and vacation Bible school. Finally in late 2013 a building was purchased on Cold Spring Road in Greenfield, a suburb just south of Milwaukee. The corps was aptly renamed the Milwaukee Cold Spring Corps in 2014.

“The congregation was thrilled to finally have everything in one place,” said Captain Marcelo. “We didn’t lose anyone because of the move, and new families continue to join us as a result of our outreach efforts, community ministries and our website. We’re blessed to have our own place to worship, make disciples, serve people and expand God’s Kingdom!”

Slurping to serve

In the Wyandotte, Mich., community upwards of 400 people sampled soups at the Wyandotte Downriver Corps’ 21st annual Soup Day to benefit its feeding program. This year’s event raised nearly $5,000, supplying enough funds for about five months of food.

The entry fee is $10 per person. Thanks to local sponsors The News-Herald and the Holiday Inn Southgate, as well as Salvation Army advisory board members and volunteers who staff the fundraiser, every penny paid by patrons goes to feed the hungry. About 20 restaurants and local organizations participated this year, which resulted in 40 tempting, simmering sensations from spicy chilies to traditional chicken noodle and savory lobster bisque. This year there were even two dessert soups.

After tasting to their hearts’ content, attendees vote for their favorite soup, the most unique soup and the best restaurant display. Ballots are collected by “Ballot Betty” and the winners are written up in The News-Herald. “People are very appreciative of The Salvation Army and look forward to this event each year,” said Captain Heidi Reed, corps officer with her husband, Brain. One couple donated $500 this year in their deceased daughter’s name. The couple told the captains she had loved attending soup day.

Not only does this yearly tradition result in added funds for the feeding program, but it increases awareness and positivity among locals for The Salvation Army and the work it’s doing. Often the corps gains new volunteers from the event; this could even be why the feeding program is entirely volunteer run.

Captain Heidi reports they also take the opportunity to share more about The Salvation Army by hanging signs with facts about the Army for folks to read while they’re in line for soup.

2016 National Jamboree slated

National Jamboree will be held July 10-15, 2016, for members (ages 12-17) of girl guards, adventure corps rangers, Salvation Army Boy Scout troops and their leaders. Attendance is anticipated to be 1,000 campers!

Troops will want to be preparing this summer to earn emblems that are required for attendance. Contact your divisional youth secretaries for more detailed information.

You won’t want to miss this opportunity in the great outdoors for hiking, canoeing, rafting, ziplining across the river, fishing, a national archery competition, geocaching—and lots more! If you’re a rock hound, this is a premiere site. Plus you can visit Meramac Cave, Jesse James’ notorious hideout! Registration fee is $250 per person. So start raising those funds!
Compact with impact

The Dodge City, Kan., Corps may be small, but its soldiers and corps officers, Lieutenants Enrique and Christie Coreano, are determined to grow and share the gospel.

In a predominately Hispanic area, soldiers are reaching out to people in their community and inviting them to the services and activities. A couple of soldiers even attended the National Seminar for Evangelism (NSE) in Colorado Springs, Colo.

“They [soldiers] were becoming more outward focused, and we had the contact information for new people, but no one was really comfortable actually sharing the gospel,” Lt. Christie recalled. “Our people were like, ‘What now?’ They wanted to do something more.”

As part of the corps’ 2014 STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) goal to increase the number of soldiers trained and actively involved in evangelism by 25 percent, the lieutenants invited Captains Xavier and Heather Montenegro, from the College for Officer Training, to hold a weekend evangelism seminar. The adults studied NSE curriculum from Bill Hybels’ “Just Walk Across the Room,” and even the children were taught techniques to talk about Jesus in their own backyard.

The following October the corps held a “Light the Night” Halloween alternative party. By putting the event outside, they had over 200 attend from the neighborhood. They discovered there were many young adults in the neighborhood, a segment of the population the corps hadn’t reached yet. Now, they’re starting a young adult discussion group to encourage conversations about God.

On Wednesday nights the corps holds character-building programs for children with a Bible study for their parents and a family dinner.

“This past year we’ve had people coming to the Bible study who don’t come to church, and we know it’s only through God’s grace,” said Lt. Christie. “We also have people signed up for the Boundless Bible reading challenge—and we’re unsure if they’re believers yet. But they’re reading through the Bible and coming to the discussion group.”

by Shannon Craig

Sometimes the best success stories are shared while they’re still in progress. For Darren Smith, a 30-year-old single father in St. Louis, Mo., participant in Pathway of Hope (POH), a successful ending in one area has been the beginning of life change and achievement in others.

“I reached out to the Salvation Army when my youngest child’s mother passed,” said Darren while sitting in the St. Louis Temple, Mo., Corps chapel. “She left me with all little boys to take care of, and I didn’t have any means to take care of all of them by myself.”

After calling a number of other organizations for assistance, he contacted the Salvation Army and was connected with George Whitfield, a POH case manager. From paying bills to securing Christmas gifts for Darren’s three young boys, George and The Salvation Army were there for him whenever Darren found himself in dire need. “He always tried to help me and steer me in the right direction,” said Darren.

In addition to emergency services, he and his family participated in the Choices Program at the St. Louis Temple Corps which offers life skills for youth and adults. He also received spiritual support during his time of loss and transition.

After living with relatives and friends, Darren was able to secure housing for himself and his children with guidance from his POH team. Having successfully achieved the goal of stable housing, he felt ready to exit POH, but in the months that followed Darren has realized there are more goals he wants to achieve, including securing better employment. His current night-shift schedule has created barriers for his family, so he is once again participating in POH. “I want to find some sort of employment during the daytime so I can be home at night with my children,” said Darren.

More than once Darren mentioned “raising all of us,” his young children as well as himself. He has dedicated his life to making himself available to his children and raising them on his own. Self-sufficiency, he says, is his number one goal. And he’s determined to get there.

“I have no choice but to make it. I couldn’t die today and be happy because I haven’t paved the way for my children yet,” Darren said, smiling. “The Salvation Army is what’s making it possible.”
Investing in Suriname

For the third time over the last four years, the Western Division has sent a short-term mission team to Suriname, its Partner in Mission, to work on a variety of building rehab and ministry projects. The latest team to visit this Caribbean Territory country (located on South America’s northeast coast just above Brazil) was led by Captain Jolinda Shelbourn, divisional youth secretary. Other team members were Major Cathy Thielke, Omaha Kroc Center, Neb., officer for program development; Lt. Brad and Cassandra Burkett, Kearney, Neb., corps officers; and Lt. John Fetzer, Omaha Kroc Center officer for congregational life.

Working with Suriname regional leaders Majors Vilee and Joan Thomas, team members used their skills to continue restoring a building on land donated to the Army by the government.

The first team, which included Lt. John Fetzer, had done demolition work on the building and rebuilt a large meeting room. He was excited to see the progress made by subsequent teams on the multi-purpose, regional headquarters building.

The design and décor skills of the latest team resulted in fully furnished administrative offices and a new board room. The attractive, air-conditioned meeting space now can be rented as additional income for the regional compound, which includes rental apartments and storage buildings, a thrift store, the corps and residences. (The Ramoth Children’s Home and the Thomas’ quarters are located nearby, as is another piece of land donated by the government containing a stone skeleton of a house that needs completion.)

The final weekend of the team’s 10-day visit was spent helping conduct youth councils where Captain Jolinda was guest speaker.

“Even after three team visits, there’s still so much work to be done,” said the captain. “But, as a team we were all drawn to something more than ourselves. Maybe as Americans that’s the best thing we can learn: that the world is more than us.” She developed a new appreciation for her ministry particularly after observing the many “hats” worn by Major Joan Thomas each day in performing her duties while raising a young son.

Major Cathy Thielke said her passion for missions was renewed after years of letting “life get in the way,” while Lt. Brad and Cassandra Burkett realized, “The things we take for granted or think we need are things others go without.” But it was Lt. John Fetzer who heard God’s call to overseas missions. “He spoke very clearly. Now I’ll want to see how He causes it to work out,” he concluded.

Our Intercessor

by Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren
Territorial Ambassador for Holiness

Many times in ministry I have found myself appreciative that the Holy Spirit makes intercession for us. Often, I identify with the Apostle Paul who writes in Romans 8:26, “and in like manner the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity: for we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” The Holy Spirit is represented as praying.

The Holy Spirit is so much more than an influence that comes upon us and encourages us to pray. He also prays on our behalf. This was a revelation to me. As believers in Christ, we have two divine beings praying for us. Jesus is our “advocate with the Father.” He intercedes for us. Then the Holy Spirit prays through us here on earth. This is a wonderful thought!

The Holy Spirit is just as loving, wise, tender, strong and faithful as Christ. The Spirit has been sent by God the Father to be to us what Jesus was to the disciples during His time on earth.

It is my privilege to introduce you to my friend, the Holy Spirit. He is praying for you.

Shiels update from Latvia

by Captain Melissa Shiels

I have been nine months since we left Chicago, with too many bags of luggage, and headed to Riga, Latvia, which we knew very little about. After a full day of travel and lugging all those bags up five flights of stairs, we were ready to get some rest and start a new adventure as a family. With an eight-hour time change and much to learn and see, we did our best to explore our new city. With four people, it’s a little time to get used to hand washing dishes in a small sink, doing laundry in a small washing machine and hangiing it to dry.

School started in the middle of August and that was an adjustment for all of us. Early mornings, new school, new friends, new school lunches, new teachers, new curriculum, new homework methods. Parents were very friendly at the school, and I met one mom who walked up to me and said, “My son likes your son, and Evan will come home with us tomorrow and have a play date!” Both Evan and Ellie have made great friends, and have had many sleep-overs, play dates and birthday parties to attend. They are being challenged at school, enjoying being a part of after-school activities and participating in the music program.

Andrew and I have the challenge and difficulty of leading a Latvian-speaking congregation. For now, we are still taking in all of our firsts and observing how holidays and special Sundays are observed. We had our first youth Sunday in which the young people of our corps led praise and worship, prayer time, offertory and then stationed for “messy” church. Andrew and I are putting our own spin on programs like women’s ministries, scouts and junior soldiers. Riga is the first corps in the region to host a scout-prog- ram, and we have about 10 kids who attend. We are looking to provide more discipleship and spiritual growth opportunities in our corps, along with opening up a café area.

God knew what He was doing when He sent my family to this beautiful place!
For almost 25 years Mike and Marge Duke, Salvationists and faithful volunteers, made weekly visits to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans in Michigan. Now in their 80s, Mike [a Korean War U.S. Navy veteran] and Marge continue to visit as often as possible. [health and weather permitting this past year] and assist in seasonal outreaches at the home.

“During the home’s annual summer carnival, you’d always find the Dukes—along with some of their active-service grandchildren—handing out free slices of pie and serving cups of coffee or bottles of water from The Salvation Army booth,” said Major Valerie McDowell, Grand Rapids Fultondale Citadel.

Hoping to honor the Dukes’ many years of outstanding service, Major Valerie nominated each of them for recognition as the Veterans Administration Volunteer Services (VAVS) territorial volunteer of the year! Major Valerie concluded, “Even as her veteran husband’s health continues to decline, Marge remains faithful to this ministry and makes every effort to get Mike there as often as he’s able. We applaud their selfless service with gratitude.”

National Headquarters has announced it will host a Writers’ and Historical Research Conference, May 10-15, 2016, at the Star Lake Camp and Conference Center in Bloomington, N.J., about 70 miles from New York City.

The cost will be $700 per delegate which includes registration, accommodations [double occupancy], meals and refreshments, wi-fi and round-trip shuttle service to the Newark Airport and New York City for time off.

A new historical research track will run parallel to the writers and editors track. All will join together for plenary sessions. There also will be an additional track for design and graphics.

Mark your calendars now—registration information will be available later this year.

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

---Mustard Seeds---

It’s the English class for folks attending the Congress in London...
General Eva Burrows

Continued from page 1

complex issue that had been consid-
ered a number of times over many
years, and with characteristic bold-
ness and determination General Bur-
rows acted decisively. She took the
lead and drove it through to conclu-
sion. In the authorized biography, General
of God’s Army: Colonel Henry
Gariepy recorded: “The international
press of the Army headlined it
‘Revolution,’ the term coined by its
chief architect, Colonel John Larsson.
‘With characteristic boldness,’ wrote
Larsson, ‘the General has launched
the Army’s most significant admin-
istrative change in its 125-year histo-
ry.’ The restructuring of the Army’s
International Headquarters and its
British Territory was indeed revolu-
tionary and radical.’

Under the Army’s constitution,
General Burrows was scheduled to
retire in July 1991 but, as a result of
the process whereby a General may
be extended in office if more than
two-thirds of active commissioners
agree to the proposal, she was asked
to consider extending her term by
two years. She agreed, thus enabling
her not only to preside over the early
years, and with characteristic bold-
ness and determination General
Burrows was known as “the
number one soldier” of the
Army. She never lost her passion for
people or her gift for remembering
them.

Her passion in public utterances
was to preach Christ. This came out
of her own personal experience of
him which she described: “The
focus and dynamic of my life is
Jesus Christ. I will lift up Christ
and would challenge all
Salvationists to a commitment to
Christ which makes them a power-
ful witness for Him in the world
today.” And on another occasion
she declared, “I do not preach
Christianity; I preach Christ, as a
living Saviour.”

Dr. Billy Graham, with whom
General Burrows had a warm asso-
ciation, said: “General Eva Burrows
is unquestionably one of the most
respected and influential Christian
leaders of our time. She is also
an individual of great warmth, selfless
compassion, unusual vision, and
profound spiritual commitment.
She embodies the spiritual commit-
manship and dedication that led to
the founding of The Salvation Army by
William and Catherine Booth over
100 years ago.”

General Eva Burrows retired in
July 1993 but hardly slowed down.
She maintained a busy schedule of
international travel and could be
found taking her place as a soldier
in the arduous corps in Melbourne,
Australia, not only attending
Sunday meetings but engaging with
homeless youth during the week,
leading Bible studies and being
what she had always been: a good
soldier of Jesus Christ. In addition,
she served on the board of the
International Bible Society from

In the months before her death,
Eva’s physical strength began to
wan, but her mental acuity, spiritu-
al vigor and indomitable spirit
remained unabated. To the very end
of her earthly journey, she was an
amazing role model and inspiration.

Let her official biographer, the
late Colonel Henry Gariepy, have
the final word: “General Burrows,
you transcend your generation as
one of the greatest leaders of
Salvation Army history, a leader of
vision who took the Army where it
had not dared to go before.”

*From an International News Release

Unearthing the past

Major Paul Moore is on a quest—and looking for assistance—to
honor Salvationists buried in Glen Oak Cemetery, Hillside, Ill., where Centrals
have interred their comrades and
loved ones in The Salvation Army
section since 1912.

“This Army has an interesting and
colorful history, some of
which is buried in Glen Oak.
But, that doesn’t mean it can’t be
remembered by future genera-
tions,” said the major, who
serves as the La Crosse, Wis., corps
officer with his wife, Sue.

When Major Paul needed a final
resting place in 1983 for his first
wife, Lt. Geri Miller Moore, he chose
Glen Oak because he wanted her
to always be remembered. Each May
the Central Territory conducts a
memorial service on a Sunday after-
noon near the Memorial Day week-
end, and each Salvationist grave
is marked with a freshly planted red
geranium and small Army flag.

To help fill the void after his wife’s
death, Major Paul began studying
ancient records. It became a 40-year
passion.

In his research, he found a website
(www.findagrave.com) that not only
provides information on the burial
sites of more than 116 million people
globally, but also hosts memorial pages
created by family members or inter-
ested parties for deceased individuals.
Curious to see if online memorials
existed for any of the almost 600
Salvationists buried at Glen Oak,
Major Paul was dismayed to find
only four. Utilizing his expertise in
genealogy, he began posting memor-
ial pages. It soon struck the major,
however, that “it seemed a shame to
not also post a photo of the person.”

Working with the Territorial
Historical Museum, Major Paul
found 100 photos (some dating back
to the 1890s). But, most photos
were of officers, and more than half
of those buried in the Army section
aren’t, which is why Major Paul
would greatly value input from
other Centrals.

Memorial Service

The Central Territory will hold its annual memorial
service in The Salvation Army section of Glen Oak
Cemetery this month.
Please join us in remembrance.
Sunday, May 7
3:00 p.m.
Glen Oak Cemetery
4301 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Hillside, IL 60162

Promoted to Glory

Major Michael Fletcher, III

Major Michael Fletcher, III, was
promoted to Glory on March
10, 2015. He was 66.

Michael was born to Lloyd
and Viola in
Warsaw, Ind., where he grew
up attending the Warsaw Corps. His
corps officer, Lt. Colonel Harry
Smith, brought Michael into a rela-
tionship with Christ as a teenager.
Michael met Connie Frazee through
The Salvation Army, and they were
married in 1967. They had four chil-
dren.

The Fletchers entered training and
were commissioned in 1976. They
were known for their music ministry
and served at corps and harbor light
centers across the Midwest as well as
a stint at the emergency lodge in
Chicago before Major Cornett’s pro-
motion to Glory in 1999. Major
Michael continued to serve for three
more years, including at Galveston
After retirement the major moved
back to Warsaw where he married
Carol Borders. Michael and Carol
also shared a love for music.

The major was a well-loved and
esteemed minister, mentor and
friend. He loved serving the Lord,
enjoyed travel and his family was the
joy of his life.

He was preceded in death by his
daughter, Tammy. He is survived by
his wife, Carol, and children, Sean
(Lisa), Nathan, Erin (K.C.) Martin,
Eric (Polly) and Vince, and nine
grandchildren.

Major John Arnold Miller

Major John Arnold Miller
was promoted to Glory on March
14, 2015. He was 87.

Major Miller
lived a life which
reflected The
Salvation
Army motto
“Heart to
God, Hand to Man.”
He is remembered as a man of prayer,
who believed in the transforming
power of God’s love. He was also a
loving husband and father, whose
legacy lives on with family mem-
bers who serve as far away as East
Asia.

He and his wife, Catherine, min-
tested as officers over 40 years
serving in corps before he was
appointed as Wichita City, Kan.,
Commander for nearly a decade.
Eleven years were spent in adult
rehabilitation centers in South
Bend, Ind., and Davenport, Iowa,
the appointment from which they

Throughout the Miller’s officer-
ship their love and care resonated
with young people, resulting in
over 40 becoming officers. In retire-
m ent they served in Sand Springs
and Oklahoma City, Okla.

He was preceded in death by his
daughters, Joy and Dawn. He is
survived by his wife, Catherine;
sons, Timothy (Barbara) and Steven
(Nena); 11 grandchildren and 17
great-grandchildren.