



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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Faith in action

A look at the territory during the COVID-19 crisis

During unprecedented circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, Salvationists in the Central Territory have put their faith into action, showing care and compassion, selflessly serving their communities, trusting in God and sharing their hope in Christ.

"In the midst of these uncertain days, God is giving us the opportunity to reach out to others with a living hope," said Territorial Commander Commissioner Brad Bailey in a video message of reassurance with his wife, Commissioner Heidi Bailey, to Salvationists.

At **Territorial Headquarters** a Territorial Coronavirus Response Team, led by Lt. Colonel Paul Smith, assistant chief secretary, was established to review information, share updates and resources, and assist in the dissemination of important information and guidelines.

To help prevent spread of the disease, travel has been suspended and events have been cancelled. Units have implemented rigorous sanitation measures and social distancing protocols and have altered ways in



Captain Catherine Fitzgerald, New Albany, Ind., Corps

which work occurs, service is given and connections are maintained. For instance, officers and employees at territorial and divisional headquarters have worked remotely to support ministry except having essential skeleton staff onsite when needed.

They also have introduced new means of service like a hotline set up by the **Kansas and Western Missouri Divisional Headquarters in Kansas City, Mo.**, that sends calls to the phones of 10 trained EDS emotional and spiritual care chaplains who encourage, pray with and refer callers to Salvation Army services.

At the **College for Officer Training** staff, cadets, officers and their families have been primarily sheltering in their apartments but are not stagnant. Learning has continued via video conference and small groups for classes, while social media provides for ongoing communication and fellowship.

Earlier as concerns regarding the spread of the virus and its impact were only beginning, the **Biblical Education Tour** continued to Israel. Major Cherri Hobbins, territorial

officer resource development secretary, and Rob DeGeorge worked with the tour company, Educational Opportunities, to keep 74 officer and soldier delegates safe while maximizing their days. Though prevented from visiting Bethlehem and Jericho which were closed to non-nationals, they were able to substitute other important sites. There were tense moments at the tour's conclusion as travel arrangements were dropped by the airline.

"As we prayed in faith, Educational Opportunities worked tirelessly with the airlines to arrange new tickets so that everyone returned as anticipated to the United States," said Major Cherri. "We certainly testify to the continual presence of the Lord in our journeys."

Upon return, delegates underwent screening and then all were asked to quarantine for 14 days.

At **O'Hare International Airport** Metropolitan Division Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) for seven weeks has provided thousands of snacks and bottled water to passengers undergoing screening by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The City of Chicago designated The Salvation Army as the lead agency for mass care, including feeding and social services. The **Metropolitan Division's** comprehensive service plan includes a readiness to provide food to individuals considered among the most vulnerable in quarantine, supporting



Many locations transformed into drive-up food delivery sites (pictured Metropolitan Division).

first responders with food and bottled water, distributing food boxes from 15 food pantries, establishing an 800-number for emotional and spiritual care, and offering assistance such as funds to offset cost of rent and utilities due to lost wages.

"The health and safety of the people we serve is our top priority. We are here to provide hope and help to our neighbors in Chicagoland during this uncertain time," said Commissioner Barry Swanson, Metropolitan divisional commander.

At the **Chicago, Ill., Freedom Center** there's a new normal as they follow protocols they've practiced for just such a time. Inside the center staff and residents follow procedures set by the CDC and local health professionals, the lounge is closed, mealtimes have been staggered and visitation by guests has been suspended. Outside the center, staff and volunteers continue to assist the homeless daily with increased food service, and The Salvation Army is working with the city and others to provide sanitizers and washing stations for the homeless to access.

"We are prepared and taking precautions and acting as responsibly as possible," said Major Nancy Powers. "But this is our time to shine, to show Jesus' love to a fearful, hurting world."

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Erin Martin, one of more than 150 community call members in Peoria, Ill.

Hodders to lead U.S.

Commissioners Kenneth G. and Jolene K. Hodder, Western territorial leaders since 2017, have been appointed as National Commander and National President of Women's Ministries, respectively, as of July 1, 2020.

They bring to their new roles a wealth of experience not only in the U.S. but abroad. Commissioned in 1988, the Hodders have served in corps, at the School for Officers Training and divisional headquarters appointments in



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Discipleship at the heart of youth ministry

by Captain Michael Hanton
Territorial Youth Secretary

Youth

We seek to be a Salvation Army committed to and engaged with youth of all ages, intentionally seeking to capture their hearts, engage their passion and unlock their potential. An Army marked by open communication, genuine encouragement, mutual respect, redemptive trust and empowering opportunity.

—TERRITORIAL MISSION IMPERATIVE, YOUTH FOCUS

A year ago I was sitting in the final day-long session at the Arrow Leadership conference that focused on how to share the gospel. Challenging us to think critically about how to clearly communicate, the instructor asked, "How has the gospel affected you today?"

A classmate's response resonated with many of us: "Sharing the gospel isn't limited to a script or a process but is reflected in an overflow of our own hearts."

I paused and considered how over the course of my life God has been drawing me closer and developing me to lead others to Him.

Recently, I was part of a work group that met at territorial headquarters to discuss the youth focus of the Territorial Mission Imperative. In this strategy meeting we discussed how youth leaders and youth in the Central Territory can play a vital role in our mission of "More people, more like Jesus."

Looking at Jesus' ministry and how He recognized the different stages people were in and worked to develop them, we determined that in order to be successful in reaching the youth of our Army we must emphasize the need for intentional and relational discipleship. We must:



Invest in Youth Leadership Development

- Identify and train capable youth leaders by providing intentional training options to corps based on the needs of their leaders, corps and community.
- Identify opportunities and empower youth to take on leadership roles in their corps.
- Shift divisional and territorial roles from programming to resourcing for corps.

Empower Corps to Effectively Disciple

A disciple is a dedicated follower of Christ, and discipleship is the relationship built between two or more disciples so they grow in knowledge and faith. By clearly identifying and committing to the lifelong work of discipleship in corps ministry, our

territory will experience long-term growth, consistent leadership and transformational spiritual depth.

As disciples of Jesus we have been given the mandate to make disciples (Matthew 28:19), and we have been given the privilege of making Jesus known to our youth, families, communities and world. May we be so deeply affected by the gospel that our message is an outpouring of our hearts and our relationship with Christ.

Training youth—and their leaders

With the territory's Mission Imperative "More people, more like Jesus" at the forefront, two divisions look to the future and focus on investing in leadership training.

Engaging the next generation

"Every kid needs someone to see them like Jesus sees them."

With these words author, film maker and leadership coach Ryan Leak challenged 125 Eastern Michigan Division (EMI) youth leaders to refocus their ministry on building relationships rather than on programming in order to make the greatest difference in the lives of children and youth.

According to Ryan, it doesn't take a lot of money, a large new facility or even the most recent technology to engage in meaningful ministry. Open communication, genuine encouragement, mutual respect, redemptive trust and empowering opportunity, however, make a difference, and they all have one thing in common—they are personal.

At their recent youth leader weekend, current and prospective leaders

were energized and equipped to engage the next generation. With biblical teaching, they rediscovered the truth that programs and ministries are vehicles to present the gospel and engage young people in the process of discipleship.

"The youth focus of the Territorial Mission Imperative was clear to us," said Captain Jonathan Cooper, divisional youth and candidates' secretary. "We are excited for the future of the Army and know our best days are ahead of us if we can continue to focus on Jesus, who showed us the true nature of ministry—personal, discipling relationship."

Training youth as leaders

A track specifically designed for youth leading youth was the highlight of Indiana Division's recent youth leader training. Focused on encouraging and inspiring young leaders, the track was led by Captain AJ Zimmerman, assistant territorial youth secretary.

"This track was intentionally

planned to bring about a positive leadership experience, impact corps programming and inspire more youth to take on leadership roles," said Captain Brianne Bowers, divisional youth secretary.

Corps throughout the division are developing youth as leaders and want to equip them for success. Many of these youth are active in programs such as corps cadets, character-building and soldiership classes. The training showed them how to take what they have learned through their participation in these programs and use it to reinforce their leadership abilities.

Throughout the day youth were seen strengthening relationships, developing new skills and learning practical concepts they can put into practice in their leadership roles at their corps.

Training for adult youth leaders took a different approach, focusing on big topics that youth are facing today and how youth leaders can be prepared to talk about sexual identity, intercultural ministry, technology and mental health. These conversations opened doors to begin discovering how corps youth ministries can be more effective in each corps and community.

Hodders to lead U.S.

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the Western Territory. They have served twice in Africa, first as Chief Secretary and Territorial Leader for Women's Ministries in the Kenya Territory and later as territorial leaders of the Kenya West Territory.

The Hodders also have served at International Headquarters in London, England, where Commissioner Kenneth held dual roles as International Secretary for Personnel and as Legal and Constitutional Adviser to the General, and Commissioner Jolene served as Associate International Secretary for Personnel.

They also were seconded to Atlanta, Ga., in 1997 for three years as Coordinators for the International Millennial Congress.

Commissioner Kenneth Hodder is a graduate of Harvard College (A.B. magna cum laude, 1980) and Harvard Law School (J.D., 1983). Commissioner Jolene Hodder holds a Bachelor of Science degree from California State University, Los Angeles (1982), and a Master's of Religion from Trevecca Nazarene University (2018). They each served in their chosen professions before becoming officers.

Commissioner Jolene is the author of two books, *Walking in White* and *A Bend in the Road*.

They have one daughter, Jessica Fagerstrom, and recently experienced the privilege of becoming grandparents to their pride and joy, Everett Kenneth.



Guest Ryan Leak challenges Eastern Michigan Division's youth leaders.



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Youth Ambassadors gain ground

"Our passion is to see young people with vibrant spiritual lives who are willing to share Christ with their peers whenever they have an opportunity," said Captain Denesia Polusca, Kansas and Western Missouri (KWM) divisional candidates' and youth secretary. "Youth Ambassadors are young people who are committed to being intentional about their faith journey and consistently model Christlike behavior."

Since introducing Youth Ambassadors, a mentoring program designed to disciple, train and equip teen leaders for service in their corps and community, the Poluscas have noticed a growing sense of confidence and increased involvement among the participants. Currently 12 teens from eight corps can proclaim they are Youth Ambassadors.



Youth Ambassadors Mia Mungai, Alyssa Warren and Alexia Luce

With the recommendation of their corps officers, KWM youth, ages 13-17, are eligible to apply for entry into the program along with their chosen mentor. David Mowers, who oversees the program as the division's teen and young adult specialist, provides study materials for each ambassador and their mentor to discuss weekly for one year, at which time they may reapplly.

As they are building a leadership skill set and receiving one-on-one spiritual guidance from a mentor, participants are encouraged to use what they learn to support programs at their corps and in their communities. Becoming a youth ambassador also provides broader opportunities for service, such as helping behind the scenes of events or organizing fundraisers.

Youth

"The youth involved in this program are learning that they have a place and a purpose in their corps, the division and their communities," said Captain Norman Polusca, divisional youth and candidates' secretary. "The principles they're learning, like how to engage others



Youth Ambassador Terecita Vasquez and Lt. Chelsea Barnes study scripture together.

and adapt to changing situations, benefit them both in the corps and in other environments."

Earlier this year the ambassadors joined other youth from the division for a weekend kids' councils and corps cadet retreat with the theme "Overflow" which focused on the promises of Psalm 23: God's presence, provision, protection and promise of abundance. Along with united sessions, breakout groups were designed for ages 10-12, corps cadets and youth leaders, all with the emphasis of helping them become more like Jesus.

"Young people are not only our future, but our present," said Captain Xavier Montenegro, who led

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Captain Denesia Polusca, Kansas and Western Missouri divisional candidates' and youth secretary

Riches return to Central as program secretaries

Majors Jonathan and Barbara Rich, Area Commanders for the North Texas Area Command in Dallas/Fort Worth since 2015, have been appointed as Territorial Secretary for Program and Assistant Secretary for Program in the Central Territory, effective July 1, 2020. They will assume these responsibilities with the rank of Lt. Colonel.

Currently, the Riches oversee one of the largest U.S. commands, covering five counties including Dallas, Tarrant, Collin, Denton and Ellis Counties. Operations include 30 officers, more than 400 staff and a budget of \$41 million. The command includes 15 community centers, four homeless shelters, two apartment buildings for senior citizens, two social service centers and two Christmas assistance centers.

Commissioned in 1987, Majors Jonathan and Barbara (Cheyne) Rich are each fifth-generation Salvation Army officers. After serving for 12 years in corps, divisional and territorial appointments in the Central Territory, they accepted a calling to a congregation in a Kansas City area church for 13 years. During that time, Jonathan was the Executive Pastor and Barbara volunteered at the church while working in development for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and then as an elementary school teacher. They both felt a strong calling to return to The Salvation Army as officers in the Southern Territory. Their appointment as Area Commanders in Memphis, Tenn., began in June of 2012.



Prior to entering officer training, Barbara graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education and worked in development for The Salvation Army in Chicago. She also has pursued graduate education in the field of education and school administration. Jonathan graduated from Bucknell University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, had an internship on Wall Street and then worked as a CPA for Price Waterhouse in Chicago. He also has pursued graduate theological studies at Ashland Seminary, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and Bethel Seminary.

They have two children, a married son, Andrew, who lives in the Kansas City area with his wife, Chelsea, and their one-year-old, Sloan Charlotte. Drew works with special needs children in a middle school setting. Their daughter, Allison, lives in Michigan and works for the nonprofit Paws with a Cause.

Leadership Changes in Central Territory

This summer, effective July 1, leadership changes will occur in four divisions.



◀ Majors Marc and Karen Johnson will become Divisional Commander and Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, respectively, for the Indiana Division.

Lt. Colonels Lonneal and Patty Richardson will become Divisional Commander and Divisional Director of Women's Ministries and Officer Development Secretary, respectively, for the Metropolitan Division. ▶



◀ Majors Robert and Collette Webster will become Divisional Commander and Divisional Director of Women's Ministries and Officer Development Secretary, respectively, for the Midland Division with the rank of Lt. Colonel.

Lt. Colonels Dan and Dorene Jennings will become Divisional Commander and Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, respectively, for the Northern Division. ▶



Salvation Army connected and serving worldwide during pandemic

Flexibility and adaptation characterize how The Salvation Army is responding, meeting new-found needs while endeavoring to maintain its services to vulnerable people, often amending practices to meet stringent guidelines and legislation to curb the spread of coronavirus.

In line with prevailing World Health Organization advice and in compliance with instructions issued by national health agencies, scrupulous hygiene practices have been implemented worldwide along with extensive social distancing measures.

International Headquarters (IHQ) in London has been closed to the public and all but a small number of essential operational staff and a travel moratorium put in place, but staff continue to stay connected through technology and from their homes support the work in 131 countries.



Dutch military forces in northern Norway on Exercise Cold Response donated food to The Salvation Army in Tromsø, critical to helping it to provide supplies to vulnerable people.

Here are some of the many ways officers, soldiers, employees, volunteers and supporters are rolling up their sleeves to serve.

Europe

In Rome, **Italy**, where the city has been extensively locked down and all non-essential shops closed, The Salvation Army has been working with the municipal government to ensure food and other vital supplies can continue to be provided to the vulnerable groups it works with.

Since homeless people living on the streets of Stockholm, **Sweden**, are unable to adhere to the authorities' instructions to "stay home," The Salvation Army is stepping in to ensure those entering emergency housing can stay for a minimum of 14 days, the advised period for self-isolation.

Creativity is key to the response in **Norway, Iceland and The Færoes**. Food is being served in the streets and left on the doorsteps of vulnerable and elderly people. A new phone service for concerned and isolated people has been established. Parents with toddlers have met with corps leaders for song through the House-party app to make isolation more bearable. Officers have walked the streets singing to isolated people on their balconies and have been undertaking visitation by phone.

Due to supply chain problems, The Salvation Army in **Belgium** has asked supporters to use their sewing skills to make new facemasks with an approved design. Meanwhile, in **Estonia**, The Salvation Army's rehabilitation center has amended its soup kitchen provision to provide nutritious meals outdoors while maintaining social distancing.

In the **United Kingdom**, a new drop-in café in Falmouth, England, has opened to meet the needs of locals who are hungry, those still homeless, and those feeling isolated, concerned, anxious or fearful.

South Asia

The Salvation Army's Mirpur Clinic in **Bangladesh**, which usually focuses on treating tuberculosis and leprosy, has geared up to support patients presenting with coronavirus symptoms. The Salvation Army plans to provide awareness material and a starter hygiene pack to around 2,500 people.

Evangeline Booth Hospital in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, run by the **India Western Territory**, has had one of its wards declared by the government as an isolation ward for coronavirus-infected patients who are being referred.

South Pacific and East Asia

Johnson & Johnson has collaborated with The Salvation Army in **Korea** to distribute 20,000 face masks and 4,000 emergency relief kits to vulnerable individuals and medical professionals. Each kit includes five masks, disinfection tissues, hand sanitizer and hand cream, mouthwash and body wash.

In some parts of **Australia**, The Salvation Army has been asked to deliver food parcels to people in quarantine. Following the short-notice cancellation of the Australian Grand Prix, the Atlantic Group donated food intended for the event to feed vulnerable people in Melbourne.

Teams in **Hong Kong and Macau** have been addressing COVID-19 since the outbreak began more than two months ago. Personnel have been visiting many families and giving out hand sanitizer, surgical masks and food to the vulnerable in their communities.

Africa

The Salvation Army in **Congo (Brazzaville)** has prepared a community awareness-raising program to increase people's knowledge about COVID-19 and equip individuals with practical disease-prevention measures.

The **Liberia and Sierra Leone** Command has taken safety measures to help protect officers, employees, centers and schools and has planned an intervention strategy, including social media, for awareness, prevention and care for the victims.

Americas and Caribbean

The Salvation Army in **The Bahamas** has provided the government with 70 pallets of supplies including hand sanitizer, examination gloves, face masks, hazmat suits, pain management medications and non-medical items like hygiene kits.

At **Mexico's** busiest airport, Benito Juárez in Mexico City, emergency response teams have been distributing food and water to stranded passengers. The needs of refugees and other migrants also are being addressed with a public appeal to help ensure they aren't negatively impacted by food shortages.

In the **USA Eastern Territory** in Greater New York, one of the worst-affected areas, teams have been distributing emergency supplies from a shipment of Midwest Food Boxes and coordinating with partners and supply chain personnel regarding scaleable resource options.

In the **USA Southern Territory**, with the temporary closure



In Uruguay Salvationists go house-to-house in the Patule neighborhood to minimize social contact but reach the most families in need with food parcels donated by Burger King.



Johnson & Johnson collaborates with The Salvation Army in Korea to distribute 20,000 face masks and 4,000 emergency relief kits.

of Universal Studios in Orlando, Fla., perishable food has been donated and helped feed those in need, particularly shelter residents and drop-in clients. The Salvation Army also is serving a free community dinner every weekday and has provided fresh produce to nearly 300 older adults.

In the **USA Western Territory** there is an emphasis on home delivery to seniors in Anchorage, Alaska. In Los Angeles, The Salvation Army is working with the LA Unified School District to provide food to children so they get at least one square meal a day.

From International News Releases as of March, 26, 2020

Visit salarmycentral.org or sar.my/covid19 for updates.



In the USA Western Territory, cadets assist with emergency disaster services.



Officers distribute bags of non-perishable food and basic necessities in Argentina.



Providing meals in Denmark.

"We continue to follow closely as the circumstances change around the world and will make further adjustments as required," said Chief of the Staff Commissioner Lyndon Buckingham. "We continue to pray for all affected around the world by the coronavirus outbreak, and for The Salvation Army's ongoing response to meet human needs in these difficult times."

General Brian Peddle has released a series of encouraging video messages to Salvationists.



Due to school closures in Japan, corps step in to provide midday meals for children in strategic locations.

Central Territory during COVID-19

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Major Beverly Best drops off donated food to Tricia Able for senior residents at Booth Manor in Kansas City, Kan.

Major Beverly Best, **Kansas City Citadel, Kan.**, corps officer, who oversees multifaceted ministries that also have an extensive preparedness plan, including quarantine space, if needed, for residents in their housing programs, concurred, "I believe God has put The Salvation Army in place for such a time as this. We have a tremendous opportunity to minister to the most needy and spread the love of Jesus." Among the many services they're providing are a drive-up food pantry and financial aid using phone, text and email. The major's signature plate now reads: *Keep a distance. Wash your hands. Trust God.*

At the request of the local sheriff, The Salvation Army in **Grand Rapids, Mich.**, is serving as a drop-off site for donations of personal protective equipment like gloves and N95 face masks critically needed by health care workers and first responders. Chris Striebel, Western Michigan and Northern Indiana divisional EDS director, is overseeing the donations from the public every weekday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Across the Midwest, corps have been engaged in the life-sustaining service of providing food. It's been a game-changer for thousands like a young mother who came to the **Warsaw, Ind., Corps** clutching her two children. "I work in a restaurant and they have cut my hours in half," she sighed. "I'm a single mom, and I don't know how things are going to stretch even further." Her eyes welled with tears as she received food, including fresh fruit. "I offered to pray with her," said Envoy Ken Locke, corps administrator. "We bowed our heads and asked God to see us through." After she left, an elderly couple knocked on the door. "We just want to help," they explained as the envoy brought in bags of cereal, canned tuna, laundry supplies and soap from their car to restock for the next family in need.

Part of a Hunger Coalition and known for its excellent summer meal program for children, the

Livingston County, Mich., Corps has been a natural for the community to turn to now to help ensure children, who normally receive school lunches, have the food they need.

According to Major Prezza Morrison, corps officer, the EDS team which was established in the last year has been a Godsend as it enabled immediate service. To expand that service, the corps reached out to its Christmas and summer volunteers for help. All spots for volunteers were filled in just 30 minutes, and there's a waiting list! Working in crews of just four with enough physical distance, they've had no trouble manning the canteen that goes to five locations. In the first three days, more than 300 sack lunches were distributed, and the Army was in conversation with the school system about the possibility of providing more than 600 food boxes once the school had finished its service program in March.

"We're seeing people in need who've not turned to us before," said the major. "I hope that when this is all over, we've all grown in compassion and learned lessons about generosity and giving."



Volunteers in Livingston County, Mich.

At the **O'Fallon, Mo., Corps**, they have been making wellness calls and delivering wellness boxes (a War Cry, a board game or craft, devotional, treats and toys) to their members. In lieu of her science experiment on Wednesday youth nights at the corps, Major AmyJo Ferguson, corps officer, began posting it to social media. The first post helped kids understand the spread of COVID-19 and the need to follow instructions to keep themselves safe and healthy. The major also encouraged youth to guard their hearts (Proverbs 4:23) and reach out to her or her husband to talk or for prayer. It was viewed over 950 times!

Many corps, like **Norridge Citadel, Ill.**, have leveraged technology to minister to their congregations, like streaming services during the Lenten season, while others like **Wichita Citadel, Kan.**, have held drive-up worship services.

Pathway of Hope (POH) case management has continued remotely. For instance, at the **Fergus Falls, Minn., Corps**, dedicated POH staff have been work-

ing with families via phone and email. Caseworker Breanna Grundmeier uses Google voice to send daily messages of inspiration and encouragement. Lt. Elysia Nordan, corps officer, has provided pastoral care over the phone, while her husband, Lt. Anthony Nordan, has made deliveries of toilet paper, cleaning supplies, diapers and wipes.

Though the six Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Centers across the territory had to shut their doors, officers and staff have found ways to stay connected with their members and communities.

For instance, the **Quincy, Ill., Kroc Center** has been one of the designated drive-thru sites for the Quincy Public School System where parents have been able to pick up breakfasts and lunches for their children.

Creativity and service have remained hallmarks of the **Omaha, Neb., Kroc Center**, where a plethora of service has been undertaken to meet needs of all ages. They have made check-in calls and delivered essential items to senior members, and they've assembled more than 200 activity kits (science, reading and math activities, a book and toy) for children whose schools are closed. In the first few hours of drive-up distribution, they gave away 80 kits.

Each day **Chicago, Ill., Kroc Center** team members have been posting workout routines, dance and music instructions, Bible studies and updates on their website and social media; worship has been livestreamed on Sundays.

"We are still committed to serving our community and fulfilling the mission of The Salvation Army to the very best of our ability," said Major John Pook, senior Chicago Kroc officer.

The 10 Booth Manors (independent living residences for lower income or mobility impaired older adults) have taken extra measures to help protect their residents.

"We recognize that we are serving a vulnerable population and want to do everything in our power to keep them healthy," said Sarah Jakubowski, manager of the **Oak Creek, Wis., Booth Manor**.

In addition to continuously sanitizing public areas, staff have set up stations for easy access to hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes. Group activities have been suspended, and residents have been encouraged to stay in place. Information, food boxes and other resources are delivered right to their doors. As importantly, staff are maintaining an open and reassuring dialogue with them during this frightening time.

"Whatever lies ahead," said Sarah, "the staff and residents of Booth Manor will continue to work together to focus on our blessings and support one another in our efforts to stay healthy."

At one of the territory's premier senior programs, the **Lakewood Temple Corps Day Care Program** in **Maplewood, Minn.**, staff are



Milwaukee Brewers bullpen catcher Marcus Hanel, his wife, Jill, and son, Nathan, join the feeding effort at the Oak Creek, Wis., Corps.

working hard to keep their senior participants engaged at home and to support their caregivers while the program is closed for the safety of this higher at-risk age group.

"Our day program is known for working with those who have frontal lobe disease. Engagement is very important to them, as well as a routine," said NancyLee Dahlin. "Being at home isolates them and their engagement level goes way down. Without routine they lose their sense of purpose. Caregivers can only do so much, and their level of stress goes way up."



People make appointments and back right up to the corps' pantry door in O'Fallon, Mo.

Staff have been making wellbeing phone calls, even singing "Happy Birthday" to one participant who was overjoyed. They are developing and uploading videos of the center's programming, including entertainment, worship and education, to their Facebook page. "Caregivers we have talked to are so excited," said NancyLee, who also is looking at introducing a virtual support group for them.

In **Peoria, Ill.**, EDS sought to involve their volunteers, many of whom are older, in meaningful service to their communities through prayer and community care call teams. Within 24 hours of an appeal, the number of prayer teams more than doubled, going from 5 to 12 and resulting in more than 150 people interceding from their homes on topics compiled daily from corps, headquarters, families and individuals. In addition, EDS volunteers have made daily care calls, especially to older adults, checking to see if they are okay, sharing encouragement, offering prayer and referring them to the city's 211 service for additional assistance.

Sam Amick, Heartland divisional emergency services director, concluded, "We want to give a word of hope in this uncertain world."

Report as of March 24, 2020



Captain Brian Clark loads food for a family at the Hammond-Munster, Ind., Corps

Regeneration seeks revival

by Eric Himes

Ever feel like something is missing from your spiritual life, in The Salvation Army or the Church in general? When was the last time you felt the presence of God or the moving of the Holy Spirit? Is there something more for us to experience and receive?

More than 400 young adults from across the Central Territory were asked these questions, and many of them found answers at this year's Regeneration conference themed, "Revival," with guests Michael Collins and Carole Voisey.

"Revival must start with yourself," Michael Collins began. "God, You want humility, show us where

our pride is. We want revival, show us what is in the way."

In talking about the importance of the Holy Spirit to our Movement, Carol Voisey challenged, "You can't give people something you don't have." She challenged delegates to seek the purifying fire of the Holy Spirit—a burning, passionate love of God—that would consume them so



that their lives would draw others to Christ. Many young adults responded.

Worship was led by Osby Berry, a gospel singer who garnered viral attention from singing Hillsong United's "So Will I (100 Billion X)," hitting over 23 million views on YouTube. He was joined by an incredibly gifted and joyful band composed of members of his church in Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as Salvationists. This worship was a highlight of the conference with clapping, dancing and unity in the Spirit.

Founded by Salvationists from the Eastern Territory, the ConnectUp prayer ministry returned to Regeneration for a second year. Teams facilitated prayer sessions which were filled throughout the camp. Many delegates testified to experiencing God in a new way through this intercession and made renewed commitment to their personal prayer life.

Main meetings were complemented as well by a Stop Light Party, Meme banquet and free time activities ranging from sports and crafts to fellowship in the main social hub, the 730 Café. Delegates also met in small groups by division, and on Saturday afternoon they could attend workshops that explored Silence and Solitude by Rob Noland which focused on hearing God's voice, Asking for a Friend...Mental Health by Dr. Karen Hurula, Fierce Conversations about Social Justice with Captain Katherine Clausell, and a Gospel Choir practice with Osby Berry.

Delegates also were given the opportunity to support Salvation Army literacy programs and Bible camps to educate and empower women in Mali, West Africa. These will feature teaching about equality between men and women from a biblical perspective. Delegates gave \$2,611.74, which was matched by Central Territorial Headquarters for a total of \$5,223.48.

As the conference concluded, young adults had been inspired to fulfill Catherine Booth's vision: "We want The Salvation Army to be like Samson's foxes, going through the churches with a fire-brand, setting every true Christian on fire."

Photos by Andrew Grey

Refuel supports Mission Imperative

Refuel 2020 was a powerful experience for youth leaders of the Central Territory which led them to deepen their relationships with Christ and renew their commitment to discipleship.

Doug Holliday and Jay Fast from Sonlife ministries gave an in-depth presentation of 4 Chair Discipleship which is based on the model of Jesus making disciples who then made disciples.

They encouraged delegates to truly engage in this paramount mission and use the very practical method moving people from the first chair where people are seeking to know more about Jesus to the fourth chair where they are making disciples themselves.

It captured the territory's Mission

Imperative of "More People, more like Jesus."

"Refuel was a time for me to realize that I am a product of someone else taking time to pour into my life

and show me God's love for me," said Geoffry Leedom, youth development coordinator at the Evanston, Ill., Corps. "Now it is my turn to say, 'Come and see what

God has for you.'"

In addition to united sessions, 10 workshops covered everything from camping and community outreach to in-depth Bible study and Godly Play®. In addition, there was a vacation Bible school swap meet where people shared ideas, resources and equipment, and an informal setting called The Gathering where delegates could network, fellowship and flesh out together the presentations, their own spiritual lives and how to apply 4 Chair Discipleship in their corps.

"Sometimes those in ministry can lose their focus on why they do things," said Captain Rachel White, St. Louis Gateway Citadel, Mo., corps officer. "Refuel helped me realign my vision to build the Kingdom through discipleship."



Loving kids, serving families, empowering leaders

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. (Mark 10:13-16, NIV)

by Lisa Jordan

These are my favorite youth ministry verses! Kids were important to Jesus. They need to be important to us.

Eighty-five percent of people who make a decision for Christ do it by age 13. Childhood and adolescence are critical times for spiritual forma-

tion. New research shows almost 80 percent of young adults walk away from the Lord because their faith has been a set of behaviors and not really a relationship with Jesus. When they fail in a behavior—which they will—they give up on their faith.

It's my mission to create an environment that helps our teens be the

other 20 percent. Proverbs 22:6 (NIV) says, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it." I love the concept of training. It involves teaching, but also what it looks like to follow Jesus. It's relational and experiential. It's discipleship.



Photos by Carol Shroufs

I've had the privilege of being part of youth ministry since I was in high school. I loved helping with children's ministries and working at day camp. As an older teen I was encouraged by Chris Shay to serve alongside her in our teen ministry. She modeled strong leadership and built an intentional discipling relationship with me. Her love for God's Word laid the foundation for our programming.

As the Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps' (OBT) first youth ministries coordinator, Chris established the goal for our youth ministry that by age 18 teens are saved, discipled Salvationists. Her successor, Viki Payton, led our team to develop a mission statement to support that. It reads: "The purpose of OBT's Youth Ministry is to join together to seek and glorify God, grow to be obedient followers of Christ, proclaim the gospel, demonstrate God's love and discover our role in the body of Christ."

I have the great joy to build on their legacies of loving kids, serving families and empowering leaders.

Youth



Cathleen Himes and Lisa Jordan

Making disciples

by Jesse Luhn

About three years ago, God placed a calling on my life. He blessed me with a hunger for His Word and a desire to know Him deeper. That hunger and desire led to tenacious study of the life of Jesus and a voracious consumption of theology. During this time, God revealed the calling He had for me: to make disciples.

However, there was one problem—I had never been *discipled*. I had been in Bible studies and attended Sunday school, but I was never discipled. Before I could even think about making disciples, I needed to become one. As God's plan for my life became clearer, I was blessed to find wise men who graciously discipled me. They showed me discipleship isn't a curriculum. It isn't a program. It isn't about getting coffee once a week. Discipleship is about a *relationship*.

Those men invited me into their lives, just like Jesus invited His disciples to "come and see" (John 1:39). It was through those men that the Holy Spirit equipped me to go and make disciples as Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:19).

As I continue to be discipled, God has given me the awesome responsibility of discipling the young people of Oak Creek, Wis., Corps where I serve as the youth development coordinator. It isn't always easy, but God has been good to me. It has been amazing to witness God's beauty as young people accept Christ for the first time. I have seen the Holy Spirit stirring in the hearts of kids, drawing them in closer to God. I have walked alongside teens as they figure out what it means to follow Christ. I am so incredibly grateful God has chosen to use me to change the lives of the young people around me, and I am eager to see what He will do next.



Encountering Jesus



by Melissa Bledsoe

Never would I have imagined I'd be working with youth, specifically teens, but God is all-knowing and this is what He had planned for me. I've been the youth development and outreach specialist at the Chicago Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center for five years now.

Most of the youth we serve in the West Pullman neighborhood on the far south side of Chicago have seen a lot: gun violence, fights, abandonment. You name it, they've seen it. However, one thing most of them haven't seen is what having a relationship with Christ looks like.

When I first arrived at the Chicago Kroc Center, I was unsure what the spiritual needs of the youth members looked like, but I was determined to introduce them to Jesus Christ. Through programs and staying late with the kids, I was able to

get a glimpse of what was missing. The Kroc Center held a teen Bible study every Wednesday during Family Night, and it was there where the small group of youth was able to fully express their needs. It was simple: Jesus. These teens needed to encounter our Lord and Savior because He heals all wounds.

Taking this simple activity to a deeper level and growing it to almost triple the number of participants, it has been amazing to see the spiritual development of our youth. From some actually leading Bible study, to others being encouraged to get a part-time job at the Kroc Center to others coming to worship service on Sunday, they are growing in their faith.

God is definitely on the move here at the Chicago Kroc Center, and I am honored to be a part of this transformation. I have never felt so fulfilled and am grateful God has placed me here for such a time as this.

Relationships are key in Rochester

Relationships are key.

That's what Majors Bob and Lisa Mueller, corps officers in Rochester, Minn., say about discipleship and the success they've seen at their corps. "The majority of the children and youth who attend the corps come from places with difficult environments," said Major Bob. "The hope for their future lies in a growing, maturing relationship with Jesus Christ. Therefore, we place special emphasis on youth development at the Rochester Corps. The means to that end is discipleship and leadership training."

While the work is challenging at times, the Muellers are focused on living life with their youth and pouring into them God's love. They both lead junior soldiers and corps cadets classes each week, identifying it as part of their job as "assistant candidate secretaries." They believe their witness as officers, shown in their joy, interactions and care of others, will influence future generations to consider a lifetime service in The Salvation Army.

It is not always easy. "It has be-



come our most challenging work. Often, we drop the lesson and just listen to what is going on in their lives," the major said. "We believe keeping discussion and lessons relational is paramount in the development of today's youth and feel the unmet needs of the youth should always drive program."

The Rochester Corps offers an array of music and performing arts classes to complement the leader-

Youth



ship development programs. According to the major, these instructional classes help youth discover their hidden passions and talents. In addition, they regularly participate

in Sunday worship and are involved in service projects that range from cleaning storage rooms to ringing bells at Christmas kettles to visiting nursing homes.

Growing together



Every month the Omaha Citadel, Omaha North and Lincoln, Neb., corps cadet brigades get together to do their BOLD lessons. Learning and growing together, the young people enjoy a meal, fellowship and an opportunity to see their friends outside of divisional events and camp. It also allows the leaders to share in the teaching responsibilities and fellowship with other leaders.

"Corps cadets is one of our favorite ministries," said Major Rochelle McClintock, Omaha Citadel corps officer. "This small group of young people are leaders in our corps, in their homes and in

their schools. Corps cadets gives me an opportunity to spend more one-on-one time with my young people and to see their spiritual growth and challenge them to think about difficult topics that are relevant to their lives."

The major said they especially appreciate the BOLD curriculum that helps them tackle issues and allows flexibility in scheduling.

"It gives us as adult leaders a vehicle to talk about the hard stuff, to ask the hard questions and to challenge us all to base our thoughts, actions and reactions on the Word of God," said the major.

They are also grateful for the \$1,000 per year toward college that graduate corps cadets can earn from the territory.

"As they graduate and head to college, they realize what a difference that can make for them," the major concluded. Thank you to the Central Territory for making this investment in our kids."



BOLD

BIBLE STUDY | OUR HERITAGE | LEADERSHIP | DISCIPLESHIP
FOR CORPS CADETS

Coming this fall

new videos to enhance the already popular BOLD corps cadet curriculum!

Be on the lookout.

Burdens, blessings and badges of honor

Carla Wiedemeier never really had a childhood. Her family was dysfunctional with both of her parents struggling with addictions. As the oldest child, she slid into the role of caretaker to her seven brothers and sisters, taking on responsibilities like making mac and cheese and hot dogs for dinner when she was just five.

By the time she was 10 the children had been in and out of shelters three times, and when she was 13 they were removed from the home. A few years later Carla lost her brother, Joseph, who had Hunter syndrome. It dealt the final blow to her mom who couldn't cope with



the loss, and Carla lost her as well—to an overdose. Carla was only 17.

She was living on her own by age 24 and trying to make her way. "I finally thought that I was done cleaning up the karmic debt my parents had built up and which I'd never asked for," she said. That was

until one day when her dad dropped off her siblings for her to watch and then disappeared from her life.

"I was angry and frustrated at my dad for putting that on me, and I was frustrated and angry at my mom for giving up. And then I was angry at God," said Carla.

To deal with the emotions and stress she'd experienced as a child that eventually surfaced, she did the unfathomable. She turned to methamphetamine (meth).

"As much as I'd been through as a child nothing could compare with what I put myself through as an adult and the power meth had

over me," said Carla.

She seemed to manage for years until she found herself homeless in 2017. It proved her turning point.

"That's when I surrendered to God...I told Him I couldn't do it anymore," said Carla. "I couldn't continue to hold onto this pain...Bitterness was eating me alive."

She not only found God's unconditional love but His strength. She says before she ever heard the gospel, she felt there was a God looking out for her; now she knew Him.

There were still challenges ahead, but there also was hope. She had to work through the recovery process, make new friends and build a support system, learn how to take care of herself—and how to love herself.

"At the beginning of my sobriety I truly needed an army of support, and that's exactly what God gave me," reflected Carla. "It's amazing how God worked through The Salvation



Army to change my life."

She began her journey with the Army as a mailroom clerk at Northern Divisional Headquarters, then started attending a corps. Her involvement grew, and she became a soldier. She currently works as special events coordinator for the Lakewood Temple, Minn., Corps.

"Five years ago I would never have thought this would be possible," said Carla. "I now know there is nothing in the world I can't face with Jesus at my side."

Photos by Craig Dittes



Together under the umbrella

Though the 64th Annual United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, scheduled to convene in March at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, was cancelled due to concerns about the Coronavirus, The Salvation Army International Social Justice Commission (ISJC) moved ahead with its parallel events.

Central Territory delegates—Captain Katherine Clausell, territorial social justice and urban mission sec-



retary, and Carla Wiedemeier, soldier at the Lakewood Temple, Minn., Corps (two of the 20 Salvationists internationally chosen to attend)—were still able to participate in the ISJC events highlighting the *Girl Child and Women in Power and Decision Making*.

With the theme *Together under the Umbrella*, stories of redemption and transformation were shared via movement, song and testimony. Countless brightly colored umbrellas were suspended from the ceiling of the auditorium in the ISJC building as a metaphor for the protection and work for justice for women and girls and in honor of the 1995 Beijing

Fourth World Conference for Women, where over 31,000 women from across the globe gathered to diligently work to develop goals for equality, development and peace.

Colonel Janet Munn, director of the ISJC, opened the event by eloquently explaining the significance of umbrellas of Justice. "Umbrellas can be viewed as both 'protection' and 'empowerment' for women," she said. The colonel went on to share when viewed upright, "umbrellas not only provide protection and covering for us from storms, but they are also a reminder of the urgency of protecting others from storms of injustice." However, when held upside down, she said open umbrellas can collect and gather elements of nature critical for sustaining life, such as rainwater or grain. In addition, upside umbrellas aid in the collection of needed resources that may be used to strengthen and empower women.



Salvationist women (members of the event planning team) united for the protection and empowerment of women and girls.

Carla Wiedemeier and three other women courageously shared their stories which challenged, inspired and left listeners with a sense of hope for women and girls.

"What a blessing to stand in witness to the bravery of women around the world who dare to seek justice and gender parity," said Major Katherine.

Through these ISJC events, The Salvation Army reaffirmed its commitment to unite with others around the globe to protect and work for justice for women and girls.

Visit the ISJC website (salvation-army.org/isjc) for more information and to view a global call to prayer by General Brian Peddle.



Captain Katherine Clausell (r), Central territorial social justice and urban mission secretary with Rev. Dionne Boissiere, chaplain of the United Nations Church Center

Pekin youth Cook It!

Every Friday night the kitchens at the Pekin, Ill., Corps are bustling with activity; a team of 8th graders flip pancakes and scramble eggs, while a dozen teenagers downstairs excitedly scribble grocery lists for their weekend meals at home.

"Friday nights are crazy for us," said Lara Campbell, program specialist. "We have over 15,000 square feet of space dedicated just for our community center, and we use every inch of it for Cook It!"

Cook It! was created to meet a growing need in Tazewell County neighborhoods; youth not only learn how to make recipes but shop for groceries and cook those foods at home. As addiction and crime take more parents out of homes, a growing number of youth under age 18 must take on responsibilities like cooking. Cook It! nights are split into two parts: planning and cooking. The planning group works with staff to create recipes and grocery lists while the cooking group makes those recipes for dinner that night.

"Forty-five percent of all of our

kids under the age of 18 are living with a guardian who they are not related to," said Captain Megan Lewis, Pekin corps officer. "When the dinner table is empty, we are seeing that the rest of the home is empty as well."

The Salvation Army is a place where these kids can learn about life in community.

When Lara Campbell and her staff first launched the Pekin teen group, named the "Dragon Guild" after the high school mascot, a few teens kept asking for snacks to take home. As that program grew to more than 40 teens every week, most of them would ask to dig around cupboards for leftover after-school snacks. When Lara found a young girl eating cold mac and cheese one Friday night, she realized something had to change.

Having planned for five kids on Cook It!'s opening night, the staff knew it would become a staple of the community center schedule when 15 kids walked through the door. After seven months of tweaking the program, Cook It! averages 50 kids every week.

"In my job I've seen that most kids in our neighborhoods do everything in their lives by themselves," said Lara Campbell. "The Salvation Army is a place where these kids can learn about life in community."

Captain Megan concluded, "It's great to see the older teenagers coming alongside the younger ones to help with homework, encouragement and mentoring and also to see the leaders build relationships with the students by walking alongside them each week, starting with meeting the immediate need of hunger."



730... AND BEYOND

THE
SALVATION
ARMY

5,797 days and counting

by Major Malinda O'Neil

Growing up, chaos was the norm in my home. Change was constant. My parents were divorced, and our family struggled from the effects of addiction and abuse. Another, more positive constant was The Salvation Army.

My grandmother was a soldier and often volunteered to drive the corps van. She would make sure I made my way to the corps for Sunday school, sunbeams, corps cadets, music programs and all the rest. I spent summers at Echo Grove Camp, going to every camp I was eligible to attend. Salvation Army leaders showed me what love, forgiveness and commitment looked like. They helped me to see there was another way of life. They helped me know the unconditional love and grace of God.

In 2012, I was appointed as the divisional youth and candidates' secretary for the Midland Division. During this time, the territorial youth department, led by Major Gail Aho, focused on "making a place for young people to grow." I loved it! It took me back to my years as a young person and to those leaders at the Alpena, Mich., Corps who made a place for me to grow. I wanted to do the same for the young people in my life.

Some of my best days in the youth department were watching young people grow and develop in their leadership. Serving six years in that appointment, I had the opportunity to see teens become young adults and college graduates, take on leadership roles—even officerhood—and teach me. My favorite



transitions were young people going from camper to camp staff, learning from one another about leadership and influence, watching them try and succeed in leadership and try again if they failed.

In my current role as senior officer at the Green Bay, Wis., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, making a place for people to grow is still at the forefront of my mission and calling. Every day I have the privilege to work with a great team of leaders and staff who are committed to creating a place for people to belong, to be well and to be transformed.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow" (1 Corinthians 3:6, NIV). I am not the designer of the seed, nor the energy by which it grows. I simply have committed to Christ that I will do my part to create a place and, as I am able, to plant, water, nurture and guide, and occasionally clear the weeds.

Discovering girl guards

For the last two years young women at the Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps have been on a journey to discover more about themselves, life and God. They're members of a new girl guard troop.

The girl guard troop reflects multiple generations of women working and learning together.

Their intrepid leaders, Commissioner Sue Swanson and Kelly Tolcher, have enlisted a cadre of godly women from the corps to share their knowledge, wisdom and faith. Each has a specific skill set that blesses the young women in the program. A seamstress sews on emblems. Another acts as chaplain to guide them in spiritual formation. Someone else who is good with sales takes on fundraising, while a computer whiz maintains

precise records. There are guests who teach the emblems. The girl guard troop reflects multiple generations of women working and learning together.

Through this the leaders pray that their ministry helps troop members to grow into strong, confident individuals who know Christ, experiencing the difference He can make in their lives.

The troop has covered a wide range of topics: sports, careers, health, arts and crafts, drama, Christmas ministry. They now hold an annual cupcake sale that helps fund their classes and activities but also gives them the opportunity to



Youth

give to World Services/Self-Denial.

"It has been a blessing to see the girls earning emblems which are proudly displayed on their sashes," said Commissioner Sue. When the sashes are presented, each girl receives a specific Bible verse pinned to the back of her sash and carries

it over her heart each time she wears it.

According to Commissioner Sue, the individual guards have grown as the troop has systematically studied the book of John. Some have come to faith in Christ.

"These young women are up for any challenge," the commissioner concluded. "They are creative. They are kind to each other. They are workers. They are precious."

MESSENGER'S OF
Reconciliation

2020  2022

Newly
accepted
candidates



Adam and Amanda Hines

Both first-generation Salvationists
Mason City, Iowa, Corps ♦ **Western Division**
Captains Kenyon and Melissa Sivels, corps officers

Spiritual Gifts

Adam: Leadership ♦ Evangelism ♦ Teaching

Amanda: Discernment ♦ Serving ♦ Teaching

Ministry Passion or Experience

Both: Children/Youth ♦ Preaching/Teaching

Spiritual mentors

Adam: Deane Adams

Amanda: Rita Graham



Daniel Champlin

First-generation Salvationist
St. Louis Temple, Mo., Corps ♦ **Midland Division**
Lt. Grant and Captain Jaclyn Holloway, corps officers

Spiritual Gifts

Discernment ♦ Serving ♦ Evangelism

Ministry Passion or Experience

Preaching ♦ Teaching

Spiritual mentors

Bill Morris ♦ Chris Nelson

KWM ambassadors

Continued from page 3

the corps cadet track. "Their engagement in Salvation Army mission is critical toward advancing the Kingdom, and they need to understand how important they are regardless of any talent or ability they may or may not have."

As the weekend came to a close, a new excitement and energy showed in the delegates.

"The kids from Olathe, including two first-timers to camp, had a wonderful weekend," said Lieutenant Kory Strand, Olathe, Kan., corps officer. "We are already seeing the fruits of the camp as kids came home asking to be enrolled as junior soldiers and corps cadets!"

The Salvation Army

PRAYER CENTRAL

USA Central Territory

June Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Monday	Jeremiah 47-52	South Africa
	2 Tuesday	Luke 7-8	Chicago Central, Ill., ARC*
	3 Wednesday	Galatians 1-3	Salvation Army Team Emergency Network
	4 Thursday	Exodus 37-40	Bloomington, Ill., Corps
	5 Friday	1 Kings 5-9	Corps revitalization in the territory
	6 Saturday	Psalms 66-68	Anderson, Ind., Corps
	7 Sunday	Proverbs 2-3	Aurora, Ill., Corps
	8 Monday	Lamentations	Elkhart, Ind., Corps
	9 Tuesday	Luke 9-10	Norway, Iceland and The Faeroes Territory
	10 Wednesday	Galatians 4-6	Aberdeen, S.D., Corps
	11 Thursday	Leviticus 1-3	Albert Lea, Minn., Corps
	12 Friday	1 Kings 10-13	Alma, Mich., Corps
	13 Saturday	Psalms 69-71	Beloit, Wis., Corps
	14 Sunday	Proverbs 4	Music programs in the Heartland Division
	15 Monday	Ezekiel 1-6	Summer Mission Teams
	16 Tuesday	Luke 11-12	India Northern Territory
	17 Wednesday	Ephesians 1-3	Youth at the Pekin, Ill., Corps
	18 Thursday	Leviticus 4-6	Battle Creek, Mich., Corps
	19 Friday	1 Kings 14-18	Alpena, Mich., Corps
	20 Saturday	Psalms 72-74	Burlington, Iowa, Corps
	21 Sunday	Proverbs 5-6	Belvidere, Ill., Corps
	22 Monday	Ezekiel 7-12	Fathers' example to their children
	23 Tuesday	Luke 13-14	Korea
	24 Wednesday	Ephesians 4-6	Austin, Minn., Corps
	25 Thursday	Leviticus 7-9	Norridge, Ill., Corps girl guards
	26 Friday	1 Kings 19-20	Youth at the Rochester, Minn., Corps
	27 Saturday	Psalms 75-77	Beatrice, Neb., Corps
	28 Sunday	Proverbs 7	Chicago North Side, Ill., ARC
	29 Monday	Ezekiel 13-18	The Good Soil Initiative
	30 Tuesday	Luke 15-16	Youth leaders in the territory

Go to www.salarmycentral.org

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

--Mustard Seeds--



An Evening of Music

Chicago Staff Band performs with the Boone High School Concert Band

by Lt. James M. Beardsley

For the Boone, Iowa, community, especially the 72 members of the Boone High School Concert Band, the visit of the Chicago Staff Band (CSB) in late February will long be remembered.

The CSB's visit included performing a miniconcert for 65 band students from the Boone Middle School and leading worship at the Grace Community Church to their full congregation, but the highlight of the visit was a Saturday evening concert, An Evening of Music, which featured the CSB and the Boone High School Concert Band.

A year and a half in the making, the concert was well attended by more than 400 members of the community, giving students and their parents a new appreciation of The Salvation Army and strengthening its relationship in Boone.

The concert band, directed by Mr. Chris Truckenmiller, began the concert with Frank Ticheli's *Simple Gifts, Movement 4* and Randall Standridge's composition "Whiplash," which showed off their versatility and skill.

Following the concert band's offer-

ings, the CSB took center stage and performed an awe-inspiring one-hour set with a wide variety of pieces from Marcus Venables' "In Awesome Wonder" to Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*, arranged by CSB member Joshua Turner, to Dr. Harold Burgmayer's arrangement "Can You Dig It?" featuring four popular tunes of the rock band Chicago. Their numbers featured soloists Marc Smith, Major John Aren, Brett Tolcher and A/Captain Paul Bower.

Then the two bands combined to perform Andrew Mackereth's "Dance Like David" and Ray Steadman-Allan's march "Southdown." The finale featured Richard Wagner's *Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral*.

According to Harold, the CSB was glad to travel to the great state of Iowa, home of the "Music Man" and "Seventy-Six Trombones," where banding is highly valued. "It was special to hear Salvation Army pieces, like 'Southdown' and 'Dance Like David,' played by a high school band," he said.

"The Boone High School Band is so grateful that we got the opportu-

nity to play with the CSB," said Chris. "They were inspiring and so fun and easy to work with. Our students enjoyed getting to know the members over dinner and had a truly special concert that night. We will remember this for a long time and hope we can do another one soon."



Students from the Boone High School Concert Band rehearsing with the Chicago Staff Band



Dr. Harold Burgmayer with Boone, Iowa, Corps Officer Lt. James Beardsley and Chris Truckenmiller

Service at Milwaukee shooting

by Amy Hand

Chaplains with The Salvation Army of Milwaukee County provided emotional and spiritual care (ESC) to

first responders and Molson Coors workers after a shooting that killed five people on February 26, 2020. Four chaplains were called to the scene by the Milwaukee Police Department.

According to Major Steve Woodard, Milwaukee County coordinator, the chaplains were led by Pastor Alexis Twito and provided comfort, prayer, a listening ear, and a loving and calm presence.

In addition to ESC, a Salvation Army canteen provided a hot meal and coffee for investigators who were working at the scene in the cold weather.

The Chaplaincy Program is a partnership between The Salvation Army in Milwaukee County and the Milwaukee Police Department. The chaplains are called to critical incidents such as homicides, drug overdoses, house fires, fatal accidents and suicides when police determine emotional and spiritual care is needed.



Promoted to Glory

Major Cammie Griswold

Major Cammie Griswold was promoted to Glory on February 4, 2020. The middle of 13 children born to George and Lena Gregory, she had a lovely soprano voice and a gentle, caring spirit that was evident to others.

Cammie met and married Wayne Griswold in 1957 and they moved to Rockford, Ill., where they began attending the corps and were enrolled as soldiers. They entered officer training in 1960 and were commissioned in 1962 with the "Soldiers of Christ" session. For the next 38 years the Griswolds served in corps, divisional and territorial appointments. They retired in 2000 from Kansas and Western Missouri Divisional Headquarters, where Cammie served as secretary for women's ministries.

In retirement the Griswolds made their home in Leesburg, Fla., where they enjoyed time with family and friends and soldiered at the corps.

Cammie is survived by her husband of 62 years; children, Wayne Jr., Carol (Rodriguez) and Stephen; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Major Phyllis Riggs

Major Phyllis Riggs was promoted to Glory on February 12, 2020. She loved serving the Lord through The Salvation Army. Quiet and unassuming, she strove to exemplify Christ and point others toward Him.

Having accepted Christ in her youth, Phyllis sought the Lord all her life. As a young woman she attended Fort Wayne Bible College and earned undergraduate degrees in Christian education and music. Following the Lord's leading, she entered officer training from the Fort Wayne, Ind., Corps in 1961 and was commissioned in 1963 with the "Servants of Christ" session.

Phyllis married Lt. Johnny Ray Riggs in 1965 and they embarked on a lifetime of ministry together. The Riggs served in corps appointments and as divisional evangelists until his promotion to Glory in 1997.

Phyllis retired from the Boone, Iowa, Corps in 1999 and settled in Indiana.

She is survived by her siblings, four nieces and six great-nieces and great-nephews.

