



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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May 2021

Quincy Kroc celebrates 10 years of excellence

by Matthew Schmidt

The Quincy, Ill., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center opened in 2011 as a beacon of hope for the community. Ten years later, this 98,000-sq.-foot center is fulfilling Joan Kroc's vision to provide character- and confidence-building opportunities for adults, children and families.

While the big red slide is the main attraction of the aquatics center, it's the Quincy Kroc Center's commitment to water safety that's keeping kids in the pool. Children as young

as nine months are taking swim lessons at the Kroc Center, which is the area's only Infant Swim of America certified facility.

With an eye on public wellness, the Quincy Kroc Center initiated a program to address obesity since Adams County was named the most obese county in Illinois. In partnership with businesses, the Kroc Center spearheaded the People in Adams County Taking Initiative on Obesity Now (ACTION). Hundreds of people entered the 10-week program with goals of getting active, losing weight and eating healthier. The Kroc Center offered special membership rates for participants along with fitness and nutritional cooking classes.

Besides building healthier bodies, the Kroc Center is building healthier minds. The afterschool Kroc Academy offers tutoring, healthy snacks and activities.



Captains Kristina and Mike Sjögren

Youth directors include STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) by using robots that give children hands-on learning with computer coding. Students have access to technology they may not get at home or even school. The Kroc Center stepped up during the pandemic to offer remote learning for parents who didn't want to send their children to school but couldn't afford to stay home from work. K.R.O.C. Kids (Salvation Army character-building programs) is an award-winning program in the division as enrollment continues to



grow. Every summer, the center is alive with the sounds of music as it partners with the school district to offer the Joe Bonansinga Music Camp, a week-long music program for top young musicians.

The Quincy Kroc Center also opens its doors when the community is most in need. It serves as a warming and cooling center; it

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Reimagine women's ministries—2020 and beyond

by Major Jolene Hull
Territorial Women's
Ministries Secretary

In February 2020 as Commissioner Rosalie Peddle, world president of women's ministries, launched a "Reimagined" women's ministries, she talked about the Lord's leading. It was providential. One month later, we were not only in the throes of reimagining women's ministries but everything in The Salvation Army and in the world!

Reimagining has been a slow and steady process. "It's about knowing what we have and about what we had, but imagining it again; what could be, what can be and how we can be more relevant and how we can be more inclusive," Commissioner Marieke Venter, then zonal women's ministries secretary for South Asia, so aptly captured.



Being relevant and inclusive to the needs of the people in our community, while sharing Jesus Christ, is what women's ministries is all about.

Doing something different is not new for the Central Territory. We have utilized focus groups in women's ministries to address the needs and inter-

ests of women for more than two decades but as Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham, then world secretary for women's ministries, summarized, "Sometimes we need a little bit of a shake-up...we want more, and we want better."

As each corps in the Central Territory continues reimagine women's ministries, they do it out of their desire to serve like Jesus, taking into account the needs of women in their community. One major way women's ministries reimaged itself is through virtual experiences. We have seen nu-



merous examples of Bible studies, holiday parties, Embrace groups, women's craft days and even women's retreats through online experiences. In addition, corps officers have brought a sense of normalcy and togetherness in the form of "women's ministries program in a box." Each bag or box delivered consisted of a small treat, devotional, craft and a little bit of love and hope. Another way for women to connect has been through sharing a meal over Zoom or a conversation on the phone.

As we continue to reimagine women's ministries, let's not be overwhelmed by what seems impossible but look for simple ways of help-

ing and equipping women through self-development, service to others and loving the Lord.

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6 (ESV)

Women's Ministries International Vision Statement

We envision women who are:

- Transformed and empowered by the gospel to lead a Christlike life
- Enriched mutually through local and global connections and support
- Equipped to fulfill their potential through lifelong learning and development
- Engaged in social justice and action to positively impact the world

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The influence of women

by Colonel Steven Howard
Chief Secretary

In this issue of *Central Connection*, you will be presented with several articles related to women's ministries taking place across the Central Territory. There is no doubt that women have had and will continue to have a profound impact on the ministry of The Salvation Army, here and around the world. Our Founders recognized that as demonstrated in the advancement of the Army's mission in the early days. This can still be seen clearly

today with influence of women in all aspects of our operations as they serve as active members of boards, councils, committees, task forces, etc. That influence is even more profound when you think about the women who are involved in the day-to-day Army ministries. The impact is felt in the lives of the children, women and men who come through our doors.

I think of the women who are powerfully presenting the Word of



God in pulpits across our territory every Sunday. They are rightly dividing the Word of Truth as they preach and as they teach every week. Consider the women who provide ongoing leadership to the Pathway of Hope initiative that helps families move out of the grip of generational poverty. What about women who administratively lead our Kroc Centers or Adult Rehabilitation Center programs? They are making a difference for the Kingdom of God.

Reflect for a moment on the women whose work may go unnoticed by the headlines as they serve those who are hungry or teach others to follow Jesus with all their

heart, soul, mind and strength. They may work in our soup kitchens or food pantries. They may teach Sunday school or corps cadets. They may visit those who are sick and infirm. They do all this in the name of Jesus and for God's glory and honor.

Ponder the women who have had an influence on you. Who are they? What were the touchpoints that impacted your life and its direction? I can't help but think about my mother's influence on my life. Not only did she bring me into this world, but she was also my Sunday school teacher for a few years and later was my corps cadet counselor. She has been an example of steady faith and service to all. What about you? Who are the women who have positively influenced you for good and for God? There is no limit to the capabilities and impact of women in our world. Thank you!



by Cassie Hull,
Indianapolis Eagle Creek Corps

The Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps started an Embrace group in 2015. Though the group's size has fluctuated, a few of us have been members from the start. It's been a wonderful place to share, laugh, cry or grieve, pray, worship and, of course, eat!

Our Embrace group has both adults and teenagers. We are mothers, sisters and daughters. Some of us work fulltime, while others stay at home; the youngest members are still in school. Though we come from different walks of life, we



enjoy a wonderful fellowship which everyone looks forward to each month.

We've been through a corps officer transition (twice!), the birth of babies, the death of someone close to us, the addition of new members and the loss of some who moved, the pandemic and lots of other life experiences. I know one thing for certain. We are here for each other. We bear each other's burdens. We pray for each other and our families. We are real with each other; it is such a relief to have this kind of honesty and transparency with other women.

The Embrace questions have taken us into all sorts of topics over the years; sometimes our conversation is short and sweet, and at other times we talk for hours. But we're given this opportunity to be open and authentic with each other while sharing the one thing we all have in common: our relationship with God.

Embrace is about women walking through life together. To learn more, visit uswomensministries.com

Getting fit together

Get Fit is an eight-week women's ministries focus group in Sioux Falls, S.D., that encourages ladies to think and behave healthier.

Discussions about food and exercise teach participants better choices and the pitfalls to success. At each meeting they spin the "wheel of food" to choose a category (for instance bread, pasta, sugar) to avoid the following week. If they eat something from it, they donate a quarter to the "Get Fit" jar. Half of the money, along with half of the registration fees, is given to the participant who scores highest at the end of two months. The other half is put into the corps' women's ministries fund. Scores also are based on recording healthy habits like walking for 20 minutes a day, memorizing scripture, texting encouraging messages to group members or sharing a new healthy recipe.

Major Marlys Anderson, Sioux Falls corps officer and creator of Get Fit, has led this focus group in three corps appointments with great success. She recounts an older woman in Farmington Hills, Mich.,

whose only contact with the corps was a free bread program. Though interested in Get Fit, she was nervous about joining because she didn't know if she could keep up. Major Marlys encouraged her to try it, and the woman ended up the overall winner. She lost 40 pounds and has kept it off! She's now a soldier of the corps.

"Most women lose weight, but the best part is that they gain a closer relationship with one another and the Lord," she said. "Even after the session ends these ladies keep up with one another with texting or phone calls. The program unifies them in a way that I just don't see happening in any other program."

Last October Major Marlys began Get Fit in Sioux Falls with eight ladies in person and four virtually, including one in Michigan who joined via Facebook community

"I like that all ages are welcome and can do this program with ease," said Sue, who is in her 80s. Lacey added, "This program not only taught me about losing weight and being healthier but rebuilding my relationship with the Lord."



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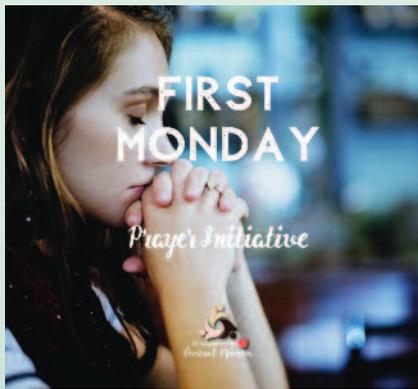
New opportunities in women's ministries

Today's women's ministries is expanding support of women through new resources, collaborations with other programs and partnerships with other organizations. Here are just three of the many opportunities.

First Monday

One of the newest initiatives by the territory's women's ministries department is a virtual prayer gathering called First Monday. Women in the territory are invited to pray with other Salvationists around the world via Facebook Live Video the first Monday of each month at 9:00 am (CST). Simply visit the women's ministries Facebook page and click the live video to join; prayer requests also can be submitted through the department's website.

"God has been teaching me that prayer is the most productive thing a



person can do. This program gives me the opportunity to support the ministry of The Salvation Army in many different contexts as well as women," said Allison Jordan.

Major Paula Pyle commented, "I pray that others would not take this First Monday prayer initiative lightly, as we all need prayer which changes everything. I have a reminder set in my phone, and at the end of every one I automatically set it for the following month so I don't forget to tune in."

TSAO

Women who enjoy spending time outdoors find many ways of incorporating The Salvation Army Outdoors (TSAO) into women's ministries. It's a natural fit, enhancing the program and expanding the audience and possibilities for learning.

Major Nancy Mead led a group of women for outdoor adventures such as hiking, canoeing, camping and exploring the beauty of God's creation in Minnesota during her previous appointment. Major Char Hall in the Midland Division makes killer



s'mores, enjoys hiking and camping, and frequently provides opportunities for like-minded women to join these adventures. Majors Brian and Heidi Reed, corps officers in Wyndotte-Downriver, Mich., invite women from the Adult Rehabilitation Center to participate in their corps' archery classes. The women appreciate a sport that doesn't rely on strength or speed to be successful.

"TSAO is full of wonderful opportunities to reach women of all ages," said Major Nancy Mead.

Whether you're interested in photography, fishing, gardening, geology, or geocaching, we have ideas and resources.

MOPS

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) and The Salvation Army are teaming up!

Serving mothers since 1973, MOPS International has expanded to include

moms of school-aged children as well. Partnering with churches and other organizations, it now serves moms in more than 68 countries.

Recently, Commissioner Jolene Hodder, national president of women's ministries, invited the four U.S. territories to collaborate with MOPS International directors for church partnerships to initiate a specific outreach to Salvation Army moms.

"MOPS believes together is better, so we are linking arms to equip, support and love moms of The Salvation Army," said Michelle Cowan, MOPS director of sales and strategic church partnerships.

Through the partnership, MOPS is offering an upgraded membership for the basic price which includes extra benefits for Salvation Army moms such as Bible studies, content bundles, collectives (small groups) and access to online workshops. Moms can join virtual prayer gatherings, connect with other moms in person at a MOPS group, or join an online Mama Meetup™ to name a few opportunities.

"Seeing a formal partnership between The Salvation Army and MOPS is a dream come true," said Captain Aubrey DeBaar. "It will help us meet the unique needs of mothers of small and older children that can often go unnoticed in such a non-stop, ever-changing season."

To learn more about any of these opportunities, visit uscwomensministries.com.

Crafting an outreach

The Tri-City Corps in St. Charles, Ill., has gotten creative with scrapbooking as a thriving new women's ministries outreach to ladies in the community. Since last August it's been held in partnership with Kelly Taylor, whose home-based online business, One Stop Crop Shop, needed a venue to host patrons when hotels closed last year due to the pandemic. The endeavor has helped this small local business stay afloat and generated rental income for the corps.

One weekend each month, 20 women come to the corps to preserve memories, connect with others, and give back to their community. The corps' large gymnasium allows for excellent social distancing where each lady (or family works) at her own 8-foot table. The endeavor has allowed the women a creative outlet and fellowship during a time of stress and isolation.

"Joining a women's group is a great way to build our Christian faith and also a way to share your faith with others. You will meet women who can share their faith and experiences about how God was



Kelly Taylor

in control and they made it through the valleys in their lives," said participant Judith Yaeger. "On the other hand, we can share our stories with younger women who may be struggling and just need to be heard and encouraged."

This new women's ministries group has connected the women to The Salvation Army's mission. According to Lt. Dena Smith, corps officer, individual members donate items to the corps' food pantry, give financially, and designate proceeds of sales of items to World Services/Self-Denial. Some have responded as well to the invitation to attend Sunday worship services.

"I've learned that the SA is a church! I had no idea. Since coming, I've listened to Dena's sermon on Facebook. I enjoy being a part of this community and knowing that the SA is there to help people in need," said Kelly.



Ministry from the heart

Wednesday mornings and Friday evenings groups of women from the Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo., Corps can be found gathering for fellowship, prayer and learning. The two groups engage in the same activities, with one being led in English and the other in Spanish, providing opportunities for all to enjoy the lessons in their heart language.

To kick off the new year, Major Patricia Giron, corps officer, organized a partnership with Missouri State University to engage the women in a nine-week health and nutrition course. An instructor from the university provided a lesson and taught participants a new recipe, which they prepared and ate together.

When due to the pandemic they sometimes were unable to meet in person, the women picked up ingredients from the corps and joined a virtual class, preparing and eating the meal with their families instead.

Plans are being made for a similar course in gardening and an additional weekly Zumba class in the coming months. "It's planning things we can do together, to grow as a community," said Major Patricia. "My hope is that these classes will allow us to make more connections."

Over the past year women's

ministries participants have grown in their faith and commitment, with one member accepting to the role of home league secretary and two more stepping up to provide support and leadership.

"I can see their potential," said Major Patricia. "They are growing in Christ and participating more, even assisting with Sunday worship services."

The corps recently enrolled six senior and five junior soldiers, as well as two adherents, one of whom first connected with the corps through women's ministries.

The major concluded, "It is so beautiful to see how people's lives change when they come to Christ, how it changes their perspective and they start to grow. For me, women's ministries isn't just a program, it's in my heart."



Major Patricia Giron delivers a Mother's Day treat.



4 730... AND BEYOND



1,985 days and counting

by Captain Carolina Yanez

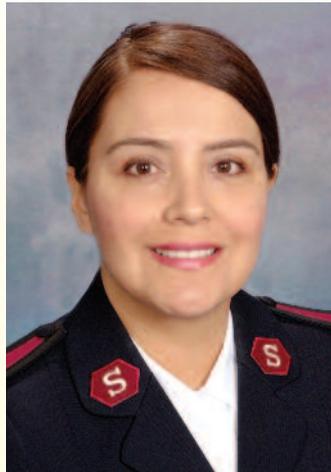
"Joy! Joy! Joy! There is joy in The Salvation Army." I learned this song as a small child watching my father lead his congregation while he played the accordion. It was sung the day I was enrolled as a junior soldier and made a promise to follow Jesus.

That is officership for me. God fills our lives with incomparable joy as we minister to others and see God's amazing grace at work. In His infinite grace, God gives us opportunities to share His love and joy with the world.

I grew up as an officers' kid, helping my parents at the corps, attending every worship service, seeing the happy side of officership but also witnessing the hardships, sadness and discouragement that can sometimes come.

As I watched others, I felt unprepared and unworthy to be an officer. Looking back, I realize the Lord has used every challenge, every failure, every discipline to refine my faith because He arms us with strength and equips us for ministry as we surrender our lives to His plan.

My husband and I love The Salvation Army, and together we discover the ways God uses us individually and as a team as we lead our corps congregation, having the absolute assurance that He goes before us, be-



hind us and walks alongside us as we face every task.

We enjoy being fully involved in our community, meeting local authorities, business owners, teachers and service clubs, as well as the people who come to our building daily looking for help. These relationships open many doors to share about the wonderful things God has done in our own lives.

Watching what God has built through other faithful servants and continuing the work has been a blessing and privilege, witnessing how a child learns his first note on a trumpet or how an older woman still finds ways to serve. But most importantly we are blessed to see how the lives of young and old alike are transformed by God's love and experience joy through Jesus Christ as they become part of His Kingdom in "the Army of the Lord."

Unexpected beauty

"Many beautiful things have happened in our ministry because of COVID," said Captain Alex Yanez, Milwaukee Cold Spring, Wis., corps officer. "It has been different and challenging, but we have continued to serve, and God has blessed us."

Over the course of the four years Captain Alex and his wife, Captain Carolina, have been leading the Cold Spring Corps, it has undergone significant changes, including becoming an intercultural and dual language congregation.

When the pandemic hit in early 2020, the corps' Spanish-English bilingual services and programs



Captain Carolina Yanez serves on the frontline of COVID-19 relief efforts in Cold Spring.

were flourishing. Moving everything online was challenging, but corps members remained active, supportive and unified. To stay connected, the captains continued Bible studies online and developed content to post on their YouTube page for the kids involved in their music program and Sunday services.

"The connection is still there," said Captain Alex of the youth. "We stay in contact with the families through phone calls and visits. We know that as soon as we're ready to open the music classes,

Confident in Christ

Sharing Christ's love comes naturally for Reynaldo Lopez, who has served as the Milwaukee Cold Spring, Wis., corps sergeant-major for the past four years.



"One of Reynaldo's spiritual gifts is encouraging and challenging others in their faith," said Captain Alex Yanez, corps officer. "He is well-respected in the corps and community, so people listen to him."

In the early 2000s, Reynaldo and his wife, Alma, were building their life in the U.S. after immigrating from Mexico. One day while grocery shopping, Alma was approached by Major Monica Orbe and invited to a worship service at the Cold Spring Outpost which was focused on reaching out to the Hispanic community and was meeting in the gymnasium of the Oak Creek Corps. From their first visit, the Lopezes knew they were in the right place and began attending regularly with their four young children.

"There are two things I love about The Salvation Army," said Reynaldo. "One, they always teach and follow the Bible, and two, they serve others and their community."

As a child, Reynaldo remembers his family was regularly visited by members of a Catholic church in their community in Mexico although family wasn't serious about faith. That changed when his older brother was grievously injured while working in Germany and Reynaldo's parents left their younger children with a relative and went to be with

him. During this time, the church members continued to visit the relative's house to offer support and prayer.

"We saw faith in action when they continued to care for us and prayed for my brother," said Reynaldo. "We witnessed the power of God when he was healed."

Reynaldo's family began to grow in their faith, but it wasn't until he started attending The Salvation Army that Reynaldo developed a personal relationship with Christ. He says meeting Jesus has made all the difference in his life.

"Before I was saved, I was always stressed, always worried about my landscaping business," he said. "When I was saved, I learned to rely on God for everything, and now I live in peace."

The seeds of faith planted in his children when the family started attending the corps have grown so as adults they still love and serve the Lord and have unity and peace in their family.

As he lives out his faith each day, Reynaldo holds to one of his favorite scriptures, Psalm 27:13: "I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living."



Community volunteers join with The Salvation Army to distribute COVID-19 relief boxes.

they will be back with us."

Five of the students have remained involved at the corps throughout the pandemic and give at least four hours a week to assisting with praise team and audiovisual elements of Sunday services.

As the pandemic wore on and the need increased, the captains began to notice new faces visiting the food pantry and other social services. Seeing an opportunity, they made it a point to connect with people and develop relationships, inviting them to attend services online and later in person, and promoting their youth music program, which while on hold still garnered a wait list of 45 hopeful students to the 45 already enrolled. It wasn't only the youth

program that gained interest. As the captains continued to reach out to the community, attendance in both online and in-person worship services steadily increased, something the captains attribute to people's renewed need to seek the Lord coupled with the opportunities for service afforded by COVID-19. Three new soldiers were enrolled!

"People are seeking the Lord now more than usual. It has been very spiritual for us as pastors," concluded Captains Yanez. "We have new collaborations and partnerships in the community, a stronger advisory council and more personal connections, and that is a beautiful thing that has come about because of the pandemic."



Crowning achievement

by Matt Schmidt

Patty Douglas was key to a Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center being established in Quincy, Ill. When the announcement was made in 2004 that Joan Kroc had left \$1.5 billion to The Salvation Army to build community centers throughout the country, Patty brought community members and leaders together in her role as development director to determine what a Quincy Kroc Center should offer and assisted with the complicated application. When it was approved, she took on the role of project manager, making some of the decisions about what the building would look like and the programs it would offer.

It was a crowning achievement in a career that spanned 35 years with The Salvation Army. It's a career Patty never envisioned, but she wanted a job where she felt like she could make a difference, and that's exactly what she's done.

She began in 1986 as an administrative assistant at Heartland Divisional Headquarters and eventually became the community relations director in Peoria where she was active in relief during the Flood of 1993. She set up warehouses for donations and moved canteens to where they were needed most.

In 1997 she got a call from Major Herb Fuqua who commanded the Army's work in Quincy. He was setting up a development department and invited Patty to lead it. One of her first major tasks was to start a capital campaign to build a new \$7

million corps community center. When the project failed to get off the ground, Patty and members of the advisory board turned their focus to creating a Hometown Endowment to ensure programs and services longterm. A successful campaign, combined with an unexpected bequest of \$5 million, created a fund of \$10 million. Little did they know how important that would be in their future application for a Kroc Center.



Patty Douglas accepts a donation from Heinze Dance Academy to one of the highly successful Christmas campaign she oversaw during her tenure.

A few years after the Kroc Center was established, Patty coordinated a capital campaign to build a new emergency shelter across the street. It became the only shelter within a 100-mile radius of Quincy to house men, women and families.

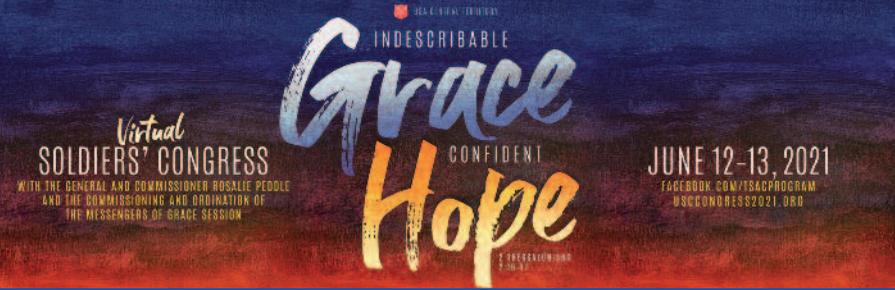
Fundraising was not a career Patty planned, but her genuine personality, honesty and ability to connect with people made her a natural, and at Christmas, nobody did it better. She never once failed to meet a goal during all her years running the Christmas campaign in Quincy. Instead of taking credit, she says it's the community that comes together to make sure families in need have a special Christmas. In retirement, Patty plans to continue "Doing the Most Good" by volunteering for Family Services.

lowed by capacity restrictions when it reopened, but it responded with reduced fees for members, thorough cleaning protocols for the facility and a goal to maintain high customer service values.

Despite the shutdown, Kroc Church found a way to hold weekly services. When the congregation couldn't meet in person, worship opportunities went online.

Captains Michael and Kristina Sjogren arrived on July 1, 2020, during the pandemic to take up appointments as Quincy area coordinator and senior Kroc officer, respectively. Captain Kristina sees a bright future for the facility.

"This pandemic is creating new ways for everyone to think about how we do life together, especially here at the Kroc Center," she said. "I am excited and thank the Lord for the new opportunities we will have to reach people in our community and to serve them in ways we have not seen before. We know the Kroc Center will continue to change lives for years to come."



Don't miss the opportunity to increase your readiness to engage in mission by participating in breakout sessions by best-in-class presenters on Saturday morning and afternoon of the Virtual Soldiers' Congress.

Sessions will focus on the soldier's role in The Salvation Army's holistic mission to "save souls, grow saints and serve suffering humanity."

Specific sessions will be presented in Spanish.

Some sessions will be geared for youth, ages 14-17.

Connect with your corps officer today to discuss how your corps can coordinate to access all of the presentations and be motivated and equipped as a team to make a difference in your community.

Get the latest information by visiting usccongress2021.org or facebook.com/tsacprogram

Quincy Kroc Center Continued from page 1

hosted a coordinated effort to prepare countless meals during a city-wide power outage following a massive windstorm, and it served as a distribution location for meals at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. The National Guard has utilized the Center for training and fitness testing for its troops. Additionally, each Thanksgiving and Christmas, the gym is converted into a large community room as hundreds of people come to enjoy a free holiday meal.

"It's tremendous," said Tony Reis, a charter member. "There are other options out there, but I think overall with the church services you provide, the programs for the kids and the workout facilities, they're second to none."



Because of its efforts in the community, the Quincy Kroc Center was a recipient of the inaugural Herald-Whig Hero of Business and Industry Award in 2019, the only non-profit to be recognized, and has been recognized as the top fitness facility multiple times by Herald-Whig readers. It's also received two gold star ratings from Central Territorial Headquarters for the center's evaluation and standards review. Besides the tremendous economic boost provided during construction, a 2015 national study found the Quincy Kroc Center has a \$13-million annual impact on its community.

Like many centers during the pandemic, the Quincy Kroc Center was hard hit by a three-month shutdown fol-



Getting to the heart of women's

Major Jolene Hull, territorial women's ministries secretary, shares what's been going on with this vital program since its reimagining last year.

At its heart, what is women's ministries about?

It's about meeting the needs of a woman at any stage of her life while discovering who she is and can be in Christ.



How has women's ministries fared over the last year during the pandemic?

Like other programs, women's ministries went into hibernation mode for a time as corps were working to find a safe way to meet the basic needs of the people in their community. As each state and city established ways to be safe, we started to see women in the midst of ministry. Individuals making masks for neighbors, family, friends and strangers. Small teams coming together to sort and distribute food and other essentials by drive-thru service. Others taking time to deliver not only meals but a program in a box just so people could have a sense of connecting with others.



Did any new ways of working or resources emerge that we'll be taking forward?

Before the pandemic there was always the question of how we can meet the need of the working woman who comes home at the end of a long day and wants the fellowship of others but doesn't want to go out. As a result of the need for human contact during the pandemic, there has been an emergence of virtual women's ministries. We have seen virtual Embrace groups, traditional meetings, Bible studies, holiday parties and even women's retreats. Moving forward, the virtual option gives opportunities to help fulfill the needs of women in any community.



It seems there are more collaborations and partnerships with women's ministries. Why are these important and what do you hope they'll achieve?

Although we would like to be able to do all things for women, it's not realistic and thus harkens the need for collaborations and partnerships. For me, collaborations are those networks that are "in-house." We have a great program section here at Central Territorial Headquarters, and we would be amiss not to work together. Doing so makes each department stronger and better equips corps for ministry in their communities. Partnerships, on the other hand, are those networks that are outside the umbrella of The Salvation Army but have a similar ministry and mission. If we want to go deep in our thinking and understanding of others' needs, then partnering and being a part of shared ministry is the thing to do.



What's the best way for women to learn about opportunities to contribute to or gain from women's ministries?

The best way for women to learn about opportunities in their community is through their corps officer or other corps members. On a bigger scale, most divisions now have a women's ministries Facebook group where they can find inspiration and encouragement, as well as be in the know about what is happening in their division.

If they want to know more about women's ministries around the world, check out our neighbors to the north in the Canada and Bermuda Territory (salvationist.ca/womens-ministries/home/) or our sisters halfway around the world in the Australia and New Zealand Territory (women.salvationarmy.org.nz/).



How is women's ministries connected to and supporting the territory's Mission Imperative of "More People, More like Jesus"?

Everything the Territorial Women's Ministries Department touches and produces is done from the framework of the Mission Imperative, and we encourage the divisional women's ministries departments to do the same. We consistently check to make sure we are tapping into the five Mission Imperative focus areas (Spiritual Life, Youth, City Mission, Intercultural, Leadership). We are continuously asking the divisions and women what they need to be "More People, More like Jesus."



What is the most encouraging thing to you about women's ministries?

Right now, the most encouraging thing is the realization of how important it is to be engaged with others. We've been reminded that there is great value in the simplest things, like one-on-one moments with friends and family, and the grandest things like being a part of something bigger than ourselves.

ministries



In contrast, what are the challenges and how do we address them?

The challenge going forward will be not to default to what we know—or what is easiest—but to push ourselves, our programs and each other to be our best and do what's needed. We must live with intentionality.



Your department's website has encouraged women to choose a word for this year. What is yours and why?

Mindful.

I want to be mindful in creating a life that is filled with peace, deeper purpose and joy.

Mindful of my needs and others' needs.

Mindful of who I am in Christ, and mindful to share Christ with others.



A new day is coming

First virtual territorial women's conference on horizon

by Sharon Malane

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. — Isaiah 43:19, NIV

C OVID-19 changed many things in our world. Businesses closed, meetings were cancelled, and something as small as giving a handshake or hug was no longer possible.

As we pushed forward last year, we realized women in the Central Territory were hurting. They missed coming together to fellowship with one another. But what could we do when meeting in large groups wasn't possible? Could we host a conference during an ongoing global pandemic? Knowing with God all things are possi-

ble, we began to look differently at holding an event.

For the first time, the Central Territory's women's ministries department is bringing women a virtual conference experience. *Arise and Shine...A New Day*, January 28-29, 2022, will help women stay equipped and encouraged.

It will feature many familiar faces in the Central Territory as well as a few surprise national and international guests. Ladies can kick off their heels and put their feet up—literally—in the comfort of their own homes. That's right, this conference will be virtual! So, gather with a few friends or just sit back with your favorite cup of tea and furry animal and join us for an inspiring time together.



The Arise and Shine...A New Day women's conference is being designed to:

Embrace all women

emphasizing unity in Christ among diversity through worship and shared experiences

Encourage women

in their passion for ministry through testimonies and messages of women in leadership and the ministry of the Holy Spirit to them personally

Elevate women

their standing in Christ as vital to the cause of the Gospel

Equip women

with tools for leadership and mission

Educate women

on issues and opportunities for ministry in their corps, community, and world

Engage women in action

empowering creativity, vision and collaboration that will result in bringing people to Christ and glory to God throughout The Salvation Army and wider church in the next two years.

Watch for more details in coming months in Central Connection.

Salvation Army opens work in 132nd country

General Brian Peddle has announced that Bulgaria has become the 132nd country in which The Salvation Army is officially at work. It became part of the Eastern Europe Territory, under territorial leaders Colonels Cheralynne and Kelvin Pethybridge, on March 9, 2021.

The work is headed up by Captain Eduard Lebedev, regional leader, Bulgaria, and Captain Inna Lebedeva, regional director of family ministries, Bulgaria, who are originally from Russia and Moldova, respectively. They are supported by Swedish officer Lt. Erik Johansson and Captain Kathleen Johansson, an Australian, who are officially designated as Pioneer Team Members.

"The Salvation Army" in Bulgarian—a Slavic language which is written using Cyrillic characters—is

"Армията на спасението". A Bulgarian Salvation Army shield has been designed and registered.

Although lockdown and other restrictions have made life far from easy, the new Salvation Army ministry is beginning to have an influence. Partnerships have been started with local Christian fellowships, particularly Amazing Grace Church, which has a longstanding relationship with several families who live in a slum area on the outskirts of Sofia. During Amazing Grace Church's Christmas distribution of clothes and food, The Salvation Army was able to come alongside and support with small gifts for the children.

A number of individuals have been helped with simple food parcels and contact has been made with two Salvationists living in different parts of Bulgaria. Home visits have been possible in the teams' quarters and in other people's homes, and the Soldier's Covenant/Articles of War has been translated into Bulgarian.

The pioneering officers also have made contact with several local churches in Sofia as well as forming relationships with representatives from an embassy and other influential organizations, all to ensure people know about The Salvation Army's presence in Bulgaria

and are aware of its mission.

The Johanssons arrived in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, in September 2020 and were joined by Captains Lebedev and Lebedeva and their five children in January 2021. All four officers had actually received their appointments in April 2020 from Colonel Jostein Nielsen, who was then commander of Eastern Europe Territory.

For Colonel Nielsen, a Norwegian officer, Salvation Army ministry starting in Bulgaria is literally a dream come true! As divisional commander for Moldova, he took part in the celebrations in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 2006 which recognized the 15th anniversary of Salvation Army ministry recommencing in Eastern Europe and then growing behind the former Iron Curtain. At that congress, a Bulgarian flag had been presented to recognize a country in which it was believed The Salvation Army would eventually "open fire."

Back in Norway nine years later, having just received an appointment to return to Eastern Europe, Jostein had a vivid dream in which he saw a Salvation Army brass band playing in Bulgaria. Later that year, now living in Chisinau, the Moldovan capital, he received a phone call out of



The Johanssons

the blue from Geir Joesendal, a friend of his brother, who was staying nearby. When the two men met and the potential of expanding into Bulgaria came up, Geir revealed he had properties and contacts in the country and he would be willing to provide assistance.

Jostein felt God was opening a door and, after discussion with his territorial leaders, a year later he was in Sofia, talking to a representative from the Bulgarian Evangelical Alliance who said, "Where have you been so long? We have been waiting for you for 20 years!"

In 2019, registration was granted for The Salvation Army to begin work in Bulgaria and, even though lockdown and a worldwide pandemic have caused delays, the prayers from a 15th anniversary congress held almost 15 years ago are being answered.

The General said, "I am delighted to welcome Bulgaria into the worldwide Salvation Army family. In these days of difficulty, it is fantastic to see God answer prayers made in faith so many years ago in creating this opportunity. God bless Captains Lebedev and Lebedeva, God bless Captain and Lieutenant Johansson and God bless The Salvation Army in Bulgaria."

From an International News Release



The Lebedev family

SUMMER MISSION TEAM

USA CENTRAL

Summer Mission Teams announced

This summer will feature exciting new iterations of the Summer Mission Teams (SMT) program.

For the first time there will be an exchange of teams with another U.S. territory. Two young adults from the Central Territory will serve in the Alaska Division in the USA Western Territory, while three young adults from that territory are headed to the Midwest. Both teams will follow a well-established and successful plan which includes ministry opportunities like conducting outreach, holding youth ministries and taking on practical projects to support corps.

"Just like they would experience on an overseas team, seeing the Army in a different territory helps to broaden their understanding of The Salvation Army," said Kristin

Caddy, World Missions Department director. She added that gaining a deeper understanding of how the Western Territory runs their SMT program is an additional benefit for her department.

According to Major Katherine Clausell, territorial social justice and urban ministries secretary, the Social Justice/City Mission focused SMT will seek to bring social change with the gospel in cities across the Central Territory by utilizing the passion of emerging young adult Christian leaders for justice and mission to the poor, suffering and marginalized in cities.

You can follow the SMTs on the world missions department Facebook page (@sa.w.missions) and through Instagram (@SAWorldMissions).

Social Justice/City Mission Team

Reggie Brooks

Samuel Park

Terecita Vasquez Perez

Team leader

Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps

Chicago Mayfair Community Church (Corps)

Garden City, Kan., Corps

To be announced

USA Western Territory Team

Brianna Kruse

Grace Washburn

Duluth, Minn., Corps (team leader)

Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps

The General signs COVID-19 equity declaration

General Brian Peddle was the latest global leader to sign the World Health Organization (WHO) Vaccine Equity Declaration on March 2, 2021. Adding his name to the document, the General gave thanks to God for the vaccine which he described as an "answer to prayer." But he added: "We know that not every country [yet] has access to the vaccine. Challenges of cost and logistics must still be overcome. And we continue, then, to pray for justice and the fair distribution of vaccines around the world."

The Vaccine Equity Declaration was created after an announcement on January 18 by Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO director-general, that "the world is on the brink of a catastrophic moral failure—and the price of this failure will be paid with lives and livelihoods in the world's poorest countries." The Salvation Army is supporting the WHO call for all governments to work together in solidarity—and in each of their best interests—to ensure that, within the first 100 days of the year, vaccination of health workers and older people is underway in all countries.

The declaration was sent to countries and companies to ensure that, by World Health Day on April 7 that COVID-19 vaccines are being administered in every country, as a symbol of hope for overcoming both



the pandemic and the inequalities that lie at the root of so many global health challenges.

The endorsement of the WHO Vaccine Equity Campaign coincided with the publication of Salvation Army public health messaging posters in more than a dozen languages and the release of a video message presented by the General and Commissioner Rosalie Peddle, World President of Women's Ministries. The international leaders reflect on how COVID-19 can be overcome "together" and exhort Salvationists and friends to receive the inoculation when they are offered the opportunity.

From an International News Release

New Music and Creative Arts Conservatories

Supporting the territory's Equip 25/25 initiative of each division adding five new music and creative arts leaders a year through 2025, two new conservatories will debut this summer.



Week 1
July 19-23
A focus on leadership development for dance, drama, media and praise band

For emerging and current leaders age 16 and up

Week 2
August 2-6
A focus on leadership development for instrumental and vocal/gospel choir



In-person instruction • First-class instructors from around the world virtually
Small class sizes to fit within COVID-19 protocols • Live streaming of some classes and events

Registration is limited. Visit samusiccentral.org for more information or see your corps officer or your divisional music director.

Living in the moment

by Michelle DeRusha

"One day I'm going to marry you at this camp, and we're going to become officers," 11-year-old Mary declared to a boy she met at Silver Lake Camp in Minneapolis, Minn., during the summer of 1970. The boy laughed, but eight years later Mary's prediction came true. Shortly after marrying at the camp where they first met, North Dakota natives Dale and Mary Hunt entered the College for Officer Training in Chicago, Ill., and when commissioned two years later received their first appointment as lieutenants to Linton, Ind.

Forty years and 10 appointments later, Majors Dale and Mary Hunt will retire at the end of June. They have served in both urban and rural corps, beginning with early assignments in corps in Minneapolis, Minn., Grand Forks, N.D., Salina and Wichita, Kan. They served at the Western Divisional Headquarters in Omaha, Neb. (where Major Dale was the finance officer and Major Mary worked in the youth department) and two stints at the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Divisional Headquarters in Milwaukee, Wis. (where Major Dale was the finance secretary and business officer, and Major Mary was older adult ministry director). Later they were ap-

pointed to corps in Waukesha, Wis., Granite City, Ill., and finally to Aberdeen, S.D., where they've been for the last five years.

The Hunts have weathered numerous challenges in ministry, including running programs on shoestring budgets and learning how to work with a wide variety of personalities. They dealt with culture shock and growing pains, particularly early in their vocation when they relocated from big city life in Chicago to life in the small town of Linton.

They learned not to look backward at where they'd been or forward to where they might end up next, but rather to stay focused on the present.

"Over the years, my philosophy became to love the people I was with in the moment," said Major Mary. "I learned how to love people where they are."

The past year in Aberdeen presented unique challenges. The Hunts kept most of the programs running during the pandemic by carefully managing social distancing and being vigilant about mask wearing. Their weekday lunch program more than doubled attendance this winter. Despite the challenges, the Hunts agree Aberdeen has been one of their favorite appointments.

"We have a great community here, great people to work with, generous people," said Major Mary.

Although they are looking forward to being closer to their children and grandchildren in the Milwaukee area, leaving Aberdeen is bittersweet. Major Mary concluded, "Moving to Aberdeen five years ago was like coming home."



Leadership Changes of Appointment

Leadership changes in the territory have been announced and will take place June 30, 2021.



Majors David and Darlene Harvey, who currently lead the Kansas and Western Missouri Division, will take up the roles of Territorial Secretary for Business Administration and Territorial Retired Officers Secretary, respectively, with the rank of Lt. Colonel. They succeed Lt. Colonels Richard and Vicki Amick who will be retiring.

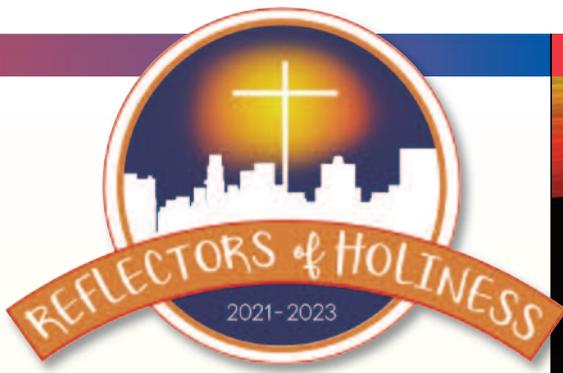


Majors Kelly and Jesse Collins, who currently lead the Heartland Division, will become Divisional Commander and Director of Women's Ministries, and Divisional Leader for Officer Development, respectively, for the Kansas and Western Missouri Division.

Major Beth Petrie will become the Divisional Commander and Director of Women's Ministries for the Heartland Division.

Please pray for these officers as they assume their new responsibilities.

Newly accepted candidate



Chaslyn Shiels

Multi-generational Salvationist

Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., Corps ♦ Metropolitan Division

Majors Caleb and Stephanie Senn, corps officers

Spiritual Gifts

Leadership ♦ Discernment

Ministry Passion or Experience

Worship ♦ Preaching/Teaching

Spiritual mentor

Olivia Vinson

New Pentecost Sunday Worship Kit

Jesus called us to go and make disciples. (Matthew 28:19-20)

Helping people find abundant and eternal life in Christ is at the heart of who we are as The Salvation Army.

But we need Pentecost fire—the Holy Spirit—to stir our hearts and fill us with passion and urgency today to multiply disciples like the first century Church.



This spring just in time for Pentecost Sunday, May 23, a new worship resource kit called “Church Multiplication Sunday” is being released.

It includes: Meeting outlines • Song suggestions • A children’s moment devotional • A sermon

Our Founder William Booth once wrote, “To make our weak hearts strong and brave, send the fire! To live a dying world to save, send the fire!”

This is our prayer, too.

Corps officers, watch for this new resource from the Territorial Corps and Community Mission Department

Women of Purpose are backbone of corps

Lt. Dalvius King-Harvy, Chicago Midway Citadel, Ill., corps officer, reports the Women of Purpose have been vital in keeping their corps programs going strong during the pandemic.

This women’s ministries group of 13 dynamic women is led by Ms. Mattie Green, corps sergeant-major (CSM) and corps council member; Ms. Mattie Williams, women’s ministries treasurer, senior breakfast cook and corps council member; and Ms. Lea Sims, assistant CSM and corps council member.

They are the backbone of the corps, tirelessly serving their community right alongside their corps officer, often five to six days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and then participating in worship and other programs on Sundays. Nothing happens without them, whether hosting

a breakfast for seniors (pre-COVID) or holding fundraisers to support corps programs and World Services/Self-Denial. The events they would hold to raise funds, like rummage sales, have more recently been replaced with phone calls to hundreds of donors, an outreach which often becomes a ministry opportunity.



THE SALVATION ARMY USA
Central Women

are committed to continuing to pray for them.”

“My favorite scripture passage is Philip-
pians 4:6-7
(NIV):
Do not be anxious about

anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus,” said Lea Sims. “This passage is special to me because serving at The Salvation Army as a part of women’s ministries has brought a peace to my life, knowing that my service to God has made a life-changing impact for the less fortunate.”

She concluded, “My service, alongside of my corps officer, has been life-changing for me during the pandemic as it has reinforced to me how very blessed I am. I have seen the need for assistance increase, and my heart for the hurting has increased as well.



Lt. Dalvius King-Harvy and Ms. Mattie Williams pack food boxes for their community.

Being a part of women’s ministries and living the four-fold mission of our group has impacted my walk as a Christian.”



Ms. Lea Sims (r) and her daughter, Sandra Robinson

“These ladies have to have a profound knowledge of The Salvation Army, a great understanding about their neighborhood and its needs, and spiritual depth as they minister to donors who also have faced hard situations this past year,” said Lt. Dalvius. “They will offer to pray for them right then and there and then



Ms. Mattie Green calls donors on behalf of the corps.



The leaders of Chicago Midway Corps’ Women of Purpose: Ms. Mattie Green, Ms. Mattie Williams and Ms. Lea Sims

The Salvation Army

PRAYER CENTRAL

USA Central Territory

June Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Tuesday	Psalm 85	Alton, Ill., Corps
	2 Wednesday	Ephesians 6:1-8	Bloomington, Ind., Corps
	3 Thursday	Proverbs 17:1-15	South America East
	4 Friday	Jonah 1	Champaign, Ill., Corps
	5 Saturday	Jonah 2	Chillicothe, Mo., Corps
	6 Sunday	Jonah 3	Dekalb, Ill., Corps
	7 Monday	Jonah 4	El Dorado, Kan., Corps
	8 Tuesday	Daniel 3	Flint Citadel, Mich., Corps
	9 Wednesday	Daniel 6	Goshen, Ind., Corps
	10 Thursday	Psalm 147	Messengers of Grace
	11 Friday	Matthew 4:1-11	Pakistan Territory
	12 Saturday	Psalm 89:5-13	Hancock, Mich., Corps
	13 Sunday	Proverbs 17:16-28	Indianapolis, Ind., ARC
	14 Monday	John 3:1-21	Messengers of Reconciliation Summer Ministry
	15 Tuesday	John 4:4-42	Kansas City Citadel, Kan., Corps
	16 Wednesday	Luke 6: 12-19	Lakewood Temple, Minn., Corps
	17 Thursday	Psalm 90	Madison Temple, Wis., Corps
	18 Friday	Proverbs 18:1-12	Taiwan Region
	19 Saturday	Matthew 5:1-12	Summer Ministry Opportunities
	20 Sunday	Matthew 5:13-26	Milwaukee Citadel, Wis., Corps
	21 Monday	Matthew 5:33-48	Heartland Division
	22 Tuesday	Matthew 6:1-15	Mt. Clemens, Mich., Corps
	23 Wednesday	Matthew 6:35-34	O'Fallon, Mo., Corps
	24 Thursday	Matthew 7:1-12	Pekin, Ill., Corps
	25 Friday	Matthew 7:13-29	Richmond, Ind., Corps
	26 Saturday	Matthew 13:2-23	Kenya East Territory
	27 Sunday	Psalm 92	Sioux City, Iowa, Corps
	28 Monday	Proverbs 18:13-24	St. Clair County, Ill., Corps
	29 Tuesday	Mark 4:35-41	Topeka Citadel, Kan., Corps
	30 Wednesday	Mark 5	Wausau, Wis., Corps

Go to www.salarmycentral.org

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

A new column
on holiness by
Dr. Bill and Diane Ury

The Gospel of Blood and Fire

Acts 2:1-47

by Dr. Bill Ury

National Ambassador for Holiness

It took me years to appreciate fully the all-encompassing Gospel that produced The Salvation Army. "Blood and Fire" is not just a catchy slogan or an emotional pump-up; it is a summation of the entire Gospel.

If you look closely, everything was different on that first Pentecost after the cross, the resurrection and ascension of Jesus—blood! Something happened that day that turned the world upside down. That is why we find the historical evidence of entire sanctification so clearly in Acts 2. The promised bestowal of the Holy Spirit was not just for illumination and power but for transformation of believing disciples who were spiritually impotent—fire!

Every self-centered attitude and action of the disciples was countered by a blazing reorienting power of the Spirit. First, they began to think like Jesus. His purposes were no longer unclear to them and with the first proclamation of the undiminished Gospel in one afternoon thousands of people came to believe in Christ. Second, a selfless, yet powerful, ministry ensued. In Jesus' name, redemptive power flowed to human need. The disciples knew the risen Christ could meet every need of the heart. Third, the disciples had a new, committed love for each other. They liked each other. Fourth, they loved those who had repulsed them. Indiscriminate, inclusive holy love poured out of them. The Spirit enabled them to cross racial and social barriers without a whit of condescension. Lastly, they stayed committed to Jesus no matter what it cost them. They loved Him with a love that was not of their own making.

All of this and more was given to them in an ongoing, intimate, daily relationship with the Holy Spirit. Only the word "entire" could encapsulate what had happened. Their lives never returned to the emptiness and hopelessness of those years before Pentecost. The will of God, their sanctification, had taken place.

The concept of sanctification is central to the Bible and Christian thought. The Gospel Salvationists believe will never separate Easter from Pentecost, cross from Upper Room, Jesus from the Holy Spirit, or blood from fire.

God does not offer a Gospel that merely pardons sin and leaves us mired in the quandary of abject selfishness. Without the possibility of an Upper Room experience we are left behind locked doors just like we find the fearful disciples at the end of the Gospels. Without the fire-like purifying baptism of the Holy Spirit, the Church is just like the disciples before Pentecost. As one evangelist said, "Without Pentecost, we are simply ornamenting the dead."

But the Holy Spirit in fiery glory has come! If anyone yields by faith to His full presence, He can come and produce in us the life, power, purity and love of Jesus. Then, there is hope we also can live each day as a "Gospel" day. This is what the Gospel means—the life of God in the soul of every person, the presence of Jesus pervading all of me. That is why Salvationists proclaim, but more importantly, live "Blood and Fire," Golgotha and the Upper Room, pardon and purity.

Pentecost was the first Gospel day.

The question is, are we willing to live in the reality of this Gospel day by day? Experiences are wonderful, but it is the daily life of the mind renewed by the power and love of Jesus that reveals those who are formed by the Gospel. If you have ever known a Gospel day, it will set the course for

every day to follow because it is all about the presence of the risen Lord in your heart filling you with His love, power and purity. Today can be your first Gospel day. What a prospect!



--Mustard Seeds--



Bed and Bread Club Radiothon raises more than \$1.7 million

by Sharon Tatom-Garcia

The Salvation Army Metro Detroit's 34th annual Bed & Bread Club Radiothon, presented by Ford Motor Company Fund, raised \$1,734,364.00 to combat hunger and homelessness.

The annual radio fundraiser aired on News/Talk 760 WJR with its on-air personalities Paul W. Smith, Frank Beckmann, Steve Courtney, Mitch Albom, Ken Brown and Guy Gordon broadcasting from their homes in Michigan, Florida and as far away as Haiti.

This year's radiothon marked 11 consecutive years of partnership between The Salvation Army and WJR. In honor of Beckmann's retirement, the nonprofit presented him with a

plaque commemorating his support.

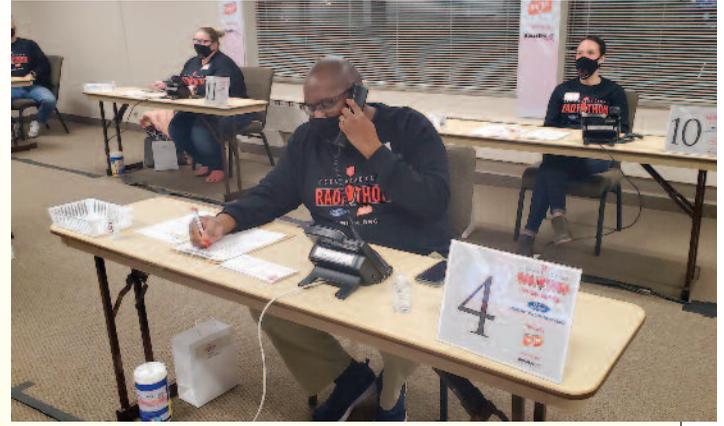
National Commander Commissioner Kenneth G. Hodder, Salvation Army Metro Detroit and National Advisory Board Member Jim Vella, and Detroit radio Hall of Famer and Bed & Bread Club radiothon founder Dick Purtan lent their voices to help those who are hungry and homeless in metro Detroit. Michigan natives Tim Allen and Christine Lahti joined business and civic leaders to show their support of The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit.

Large contributions throughout the day included:

- Mary Culler, Ford Motor Company Fund president, called into the live broadcast to donate \$200,000 on behalf of the philanthropic organization;
- The Jack and Annette Aronson family joined virtually to donate \$100,000 through the Artichoke Garlic Foundation;
- A check for \$50,000 was presented by The Salvation Army Metro

Detroit Advisory Board, Echelon Detroit and the Women's Auxiliary;

- The Bottle Crew President Joel Jacob called in to give \$36,000;
- Mr. Edsel B. Ford II joined virtually to donate \$35,000 to the cause;
- Reflecting on 34 annual radiothons, Pat Moran Chevrolet and The Dick & Gail Purtan Family Foundation, each contributed \$34,000;
- Detroit native and comedian Tim Allen challenged the public to meet his \$25,000;
- DTE Energy Vice President of Public Affairs Lynette Dowler called in to give \$25,000 from the DTE Foundation;
- Overnight donations were matched through a total of \$20,000 in contributions from anonymous donors;
- Alva Adams Mason called in this year to contribute \$15,000 on behalf of Toyota Motor North America;
- Pat Milliken Ford and Detroit musician, KEM, each virtually contributed \$10,000;
- Jim Vella and his family once again stepped up to donate \$10,000.



"The Salvation Army is blessed to have News/Talk 760 WJR, Ford Motor Company Fund and all our generous donors who have stepped up to help us serve our community in these difficult times," said Lt. Colonel John Turner, Eastern Michigan divisional commander. "All the funds raised through the 34th annual Bed & Bread Club Radiothon will allow us to continue providing food, shelter and hope in His name."

The Bed & Bread Club Radiothon has raised more than \$39.5 million in 34 years.

When it comes to serving Detroiters in need, the Bed & Bread Club fills a unique yet crucial role in the city through its food trucks and homeless shelters. It serves more than 3,600 meals and provides 300 people shelter each day to those who are hungry and homeless. Trucks make 57 stops every day to serve Detroit's most vulnerable population sandwiches, soup, hot chocolate, blankets, and more.



Promoted to Glory

Colonel Edward Johnson

Colonel Edward Johnson was promoted to Glory on February 5, 2021. He was well known for his business acumen and musicianship, two passions he was blessed to fulfill in his 44 years as an officer.

Edward was born to officer parents, Captains Edward and Christina Johnson, on November 22, 1928. He accepted Christ at age 6 and as a teenager developed his love for music and accounting.

He entered training in 1948 and was commissioned in 1949 with "The Peacemakers" session. After serving as a single officer for four years, he married Lt. Annette White. They served together for more than 40 years in corps, divisional and territorial appointments in the Central Territory.

In 1974 the Johnsons were transferred to Southern Territory where they served for 14 years at territorial headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., and led the Maryland and West Virginia Division. They held Cabinet positions in both the Southern and Central territories. They were transferred back to the Central in 1988, and Edward served as territorial chief secretary until the Johnsons retired in 1993. After retirement, he continued to be involved at the Marietta and Atlanta



Temple, Ga., corps.

Edward was preceded in death by his wife, Annette, to whom he was married for 67 years; children, Steven, Barbara Glick, Linda Crickenger and Christine Thurley; and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Major Marilyn Smith

Mrs. Major Marilyn Smith was promoted to Glory on February 17, 2021. She was known for her creativity, hospitality and ministry of encouragement by sending cards.

Marilyn was born on March 11, 1932, to Agnes (Nelson) Adams. She graduated from Minnehaha Academy in 1950 and entered officer training that fall. She was commissioned in 1951 as a member of the "Ambassadors" session.

At a Chicago Staff Band concert in 1952, Marilyn met her future husband, then-Lt. Bruce Smith. After just three dates and nearly 100 love letters exchanged, they were married and embarked on a nearly 40-year journey of service together.

The Smiths served in corps appointments and at Eastern Michigan Divisional Headquarters. They retired from their final appointment at the School for Officers' Training, where Marilyn was assistant director of special services.

Marilyn is survived by her husband; daughters, Katrina (David) Boomer and Lisa (Gary) Hanton;



sons, Kevin (Pam) and Mark (Tonya); 10 grandchildren; and her lifelong best friend Major Betty Amick. Marilyn was preceded in death by her daughter, Trina Linnae.

Major Janet Rowland

Major Janet Rowland was promoted to Glory on February 23, 2021. She was known for her love of people, kind heart and encouragement to others in their spiritual journey. She was a faithful prayer warrior and doting grandmother.

Janet was born on May 10, 1951, to Rex (Dean) and Mary Cox. As a child her spiritual journey began to flourish as a junior soldier, corps cadet, musician, and faithful participant at the Port Huron, Mich., Corps, where she met her future husband, Douglas Rowland.

Janet and Douglas married in 1971 and entered officer training a few months later. Commissioned in 1973, the Rowlands served in corps appointments until 2013, when they were appointed to Kansas and Western Missouri Divisional Headquarters and Janet served as community care and older adult ministries secretary until their retirement in 2016. Majors Rowland also were territorial officer counselors from 2006-2015, and Janet attended the International College for Officers in 2000.

Janet is survived by her husband of 50 years; children, Amy (John) Stewart, Brian (Carol), Jeff



(Stephanie) and Jeremy (Danielle); and nine grandchildren.

Mrs. Major Viola Fuqua

Mrs. Major Viola Fuqua was promoted to Glory on February 18, 2021. Generous and hospitable, she loved hosting guests for home-cooked meals. In her ministry, she was passionate about studying the Bible, singing and mentoring others in their faith.

Viola was born on September 12, 1927, to Charles and Goldie Belle Cassidy. She married Paul Fuqua in July 1946 and they entered officer training together in the fall of that same year from their hometown of Decatur, Ill. Part of the "Warriors" session, the Fuquas were commissioned in 1947 and subsequently served in corps appointments throughout the Midwest for more than 40 years.

Energetic, adventurous and quick-minded, Viola enjoyed traveling, sewing and quilting. She also was passionate about her family's history, memorizing and recording volumes on the Fuqua family genealogy for many years.

Viola was preceded in death by her husband; daughter, Mary Catherine; and brothers, Charles and Robert. She is survived by her children David, Michael (Kristine), and Heidi; seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; and sister Barbara Gordon.

