



# 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)

Volume 39, Number 11

November 2009



## Territorial Commander seeks innovative direction from Central representatives

by Major Keith J. Welch

I want this process to be strategic and spiritual," said Commissioner Barry C. Swanson, territorial commander. He began the three-day Conference on Strategic Priorities by

stating the purpose was to seek God and His will for the Central Territory. The 200 officer, soldier and employee participants were asked to prepare for the conference by studying Psalm 85 of which the eighth verse begins: "I will listen to what God the Lord will say..."

The territorial commander spoke about the 12 spies sent to scope out the Promised Land (Numbers 13). Ten came back with negative reports, while Joshua and Caleb desired to accomplish God's will. Commissioner Swanson looked around the room

and said, "I believe we have a roomful of Joshuas and Calebs here."

Guest speaker Reggie McNeal, missional leadership specialist for Leadership Network, challenged attendees with thought-provoking



McNeal told the participants that if The Salvation Army did not exist today, God would have wanted to create it. He warned, "If you don't come out of here with more than you can do, you are wasting your time."

Delegates divided into six groups to explore innovative ideas regarding the territorial commander's priority areas. The six strategic priorities include: engaging in concentrated prayer, strengthening multicultural ministries, enhancing youth ministries, targeting urban ministries, increasing soldier recruitment, and expanding candidate recruitment. An assigned leader guided each group with probing questions geared to stimulate new thought.

The entire delegation came together

## Salvation Army responds to worst floods in Philippines in 40 years

Salvation Army teams in The Philippines continue to work tirelessly providing life-saving assistance to people in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Ondoy (internationally known as Ketsana) and the country's worst flooding in 40 years.

Official reports in October indicated at least 246 people died. More than 4 million people have been affected by the flooding, with about 375,000 having to abandon their homes and take refuge in evacuation centers.

Salvation Army emergency disaster teams continue to work round-the-clock to assist those in greatest need, with the initial response concentrated on survivors in the Manila, Quezon City, Marikina and Fairview areas.

The initial response has included distribution of 13,000 food parcels (containing rice, sardines and noodles) to families in eight cities and 22 villages. Shelter, food, drinking water, blankets and medicine also have been provided.

The Salvation Army is assessing ways to address the storm's long-term effects on communities where already vulnerable people have lost everything. Following initial relief, it will continue to work with community members to assist them in rebuilding their lives.

Lt. Colonel Ron Clinch, chief secretary of The Philippines Territory, reports, "This is only the initial response. Many people have lost every-

Continued on page 9

yet humorous ideas. McNeal began by saying, "The only thing to do during this strategic planning is to say, 'Yes!' —Yes to God."

McNeal suggested we should have a blessing ministry by asking people, "How can I ask God to bless you?"

"Our conversion rates aren't going up until our conversation rates go up," he said. McNeal used words like "customized" and "scorecard" to help delegates understand we can no longer script people's lives and whatever we celebrate is what gets done. According to McNeal, when people partner with God, they get excited about what excites God.



er on the last morning to listen to and evaluate the ideas presented from each of the focus groups. Each priority was depicted through an illustrated drawing by graphic recorder Stephanie Crowley and a chart listing the discoveries and breakthrough ideas. Participants were asked to vote for those ideas which they felt were compelling and could lead to innovative change.

The commissioner ended the conference saying, "These are not just the territorial commander's priorities. These priorities belong to each of us." He continued, "We've gone too far in all of this not to go all the way."

See pages 6-7 for more!



Emergency services worker Major Daryl Crowden and another Salvation Army team member waded through water on the way to distribute food.



Photos by Andrew Grey

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## A Heart of Thanksgiving

by Lt. Colonel Merle Heatwole  
Territorial Secretary for Business Administration

*Psalm 106:1-2 (NIV): "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise?"*

**H**ave you ever noticed how much easier it is to identify the things that are wrong with our lives than thanking God for what is right? In many ways, our society has developed a mindset of negativity which permeates our culture. You only

have to watch your local news to see the bias toward the negative aspects of life rather than the positive.

How do we as Christians combat this negative influence? I believe it begins by developing a heart of thanksgiving. We have to make a conscious effort to look for the good



around us rather than focusing on the bad. We have to see things through the eyes of a child as we rediscover the beauty of the world around us.

A few years ago my wife decided that during the month of November, she was going to make a list each day of 10 things for which she was thankful. By the end of the month, she had listed 300 different items.

By focusing on these blessings in her life, it transformed her attitude during what is typically a very stressful time of the year in The Salvation Army.

During this season of Thanksgiving, I encourage you to look around and see the many blessings which God has given to you. Take time each day to list these blessings and thank God for His goodness. Then share these blessings with those around you. Be a beacon of God's goodness in your world.

## Center for Spiritual Life Development hosts prayer leaders



**T**he International College for Officers and Center for Spiritual Life Development in London hosted the first-ever International Prayer Leaders Gathering. Twenty-four delegates, representing all five Salvation Army international zones, met for the event.

The group of 20 officers and four soldiers, each with responsibility for promoting prayer or developing spiritual life in his or her territory, quickly discovered that, despite varied contexts, they have much in common. The ways in which they encourage and resource the prayer life of Salvationists varies, but they share a deeply held conviction that prayer must be a spiritual focus of individual Salvationists, a foundation for Salvationists' life together and that it must undergird Salvationists' interaction with the culture they live in.

The theme "Restoring the Foundations," derived from Isaiah 58:12, was developed in a systematic exploration of six "Calls" from The

Salvation Army's Spiritual Life Commission. These included the Call to the Word led by Lt. Colonel Janet Munn, secretary for spiritual life development; the Call to the Inner life by Commissioner Lyn Pearce, International Headquarters (IHQ); the Call to War by Lyndall Bywater, United Kingdom Territory; the Call to Holiness by Commissioner Robert Street, IHQ; and the Call to Our Life Together by Major Peter Farthing, Australia Southern Territory. Each day was marked by prayer and worship, teaching and personal reflection on one of the "Calls."

The Call to Worship was the appropriate theme for Sunday worship led by the Chief of the Staff, Commissioner Robin Dunster, and Lt. Colonel Edna Williams (IHQ).

## Mumford enriches community



by Cadet Julie Trapp

**H**ave you ever heard someone say, "When I was a cadet..."? Well, while I've been a cadet we've had to tote our meals to our homes because the Mumford building has been undergoing a remodel. We've eaten with our friends not in the dining room but in our apartments. During part of the construction we could only walk on one side of the campus. This is something I (and the other cadets) will be able to share in years to come.

Cadets, officers and staff at the College for Officer Training have been blessed with a newly remodeled Mumford building. For the past couple of years remodeling has been taking place. This fall cadets, staff, architects and contractors joined with territorial leaders and former training principals to dedicate the building. This beautifully renovated building houses the campus dining room, smartly remodeled apart-



ments for cadets, the information technology department, and the campus fitness center.

Now that we're able to use the building again, the benefit I value most is the wonderful dining room. We are able to have meals together as a campus family and enjoy each other's fellowship. I love being able to share meals with my friends and family and to sit and talk about what has happened during our day. While many sessions of cadets enjoyed the old Mumford building, we are blessed with a new place to experience fellowship.

## Central Connection

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## 95 and going strong

**T**he words of Psalm 145:4, "One generation will commend your works to another," never seemed more real

as 95-year-old Pearl Bowman was enrolled as the newest senior soldier at the Sioux City, Iowa, Corps. She had attended the corps for several years with her son, Roger, and daughter-in-law, Vicki, but only considered becoming a member after Roger encouraged her to attend a soldiership workshop earlier this year. Pearl still lives independently and

loves to read. Full of the joy of the Lord, she's a wonderful testimony that you're never too old to "Come Join Our Army!"



Pictured (l-r) are Vicki Bowman, Captain Linda Vandiver, Pearl Bowman, Captain Von Vandiver and Roger Bowman.

## Get Connected!

Check out our complementary material on the web.  
[www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected](http://www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected)

### Clips

Chicago Kroc Dance Team  
Taekwondo tournament

### Resources/Links

Strategic Priorities Conference web pages  
Online Red Kettle  
I'll Fight Day website  
Summer Mission Team web pages  
Metropolitan Division's Jubilee website  
Oak Creek Centennial Corps website  
Taekwondo websites  
Chicago Kroc's latest newsletter

### Web exclusives

Advent material excerpt  
Reflection on the International Prayer Leaders' Gathering by Major Peter Farthing  
An interview with John Kim, Mayfair youth group leader  
More about The Salvation Army in Kenya West  
PowerPoint presentation on the WORTH program in Kenya

## God constructs a corps before a building

From its conception, leadership has envisioned the heart of the Chicago Kroc Community Center to be its corps. Not surprisingly, in God's wisdom and timing, He opened doors for corps planting even before construction began.

While the Army made plans in fundraising, architecture and construction, God was busy constructing relationships within the community. He brought together people in the community to form a nucleus foundation in planting the corps. Two critical ways in which He did this was through school programs and last year's health fair.

One of the most important people God brought to the corps plant was Vincent Johnson. In August 2008 Majors David and Darlene Harvey, Kroc administrators, worked with Vincent on a health fair/gospel concert. Having grown up in the com-

munity, he states that if the center had been around then he might have gone to college instead of prison. With this conviction he and his wife became soldiers and joined the corps' leadership team.

The Harveys and Johnsons met weekly with a launch team from February to May. Then, they started renting Higgins Community Academy School on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Ministries provided during these times include Sunday school, morning worship, youth choir, band, corps cadets, kids' club, praise dance, recreation and adult Bible study. Additional ministries, such as day camp and character-building programs, are provided in partnership with the school. Vernon Lawson, Metropolitan divisional music and gospel arts director, leads music instruction in several schools which has brought many young people to music camp.

On September 20th, four additional senior soldiers and two junior soldiers were enrolled.

"It is a privilege to be a part of God's Army. The Bible says that faith without actions is dead. I am a part of God's Army, and this allows me to do God's work," said new soldier Darryl Wren, who is helping with the newly formed corps cadet



## Kroc raises awareness

This fall Omaha, Neb., Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center staff members and volunteers walked the immediate neighborhoods of Omaha's south side to introduce themselves and Kroc programs to community members.

Not only did they walk the neighborhoods, they hosted a "meet and greet" to further acquaint people with the center's mission, amenities, membership rates, equipment and room rental options.

"This event is one in a series of significant steps we are taking to provide up-to-date information to many of the local area residents who will be utilizing this world-class facility,"

said Kroc Center Marketing Director Molly Skold. "We are very excited and honored to be a part of this neighborhood."

The information initiatives were a success. Over 400 people from the surrounding area stopped by to meet one another and learn more about opportunities at the Kroc Center. Residents were excited and many eagerly signed up for classes this fall as well as registered for membership.

The 122,000-square-foot center, located in historic South Omaha, is scheduled to have its grand opening weekend January 8-10, 2010. Key features of the facility include an aquatic center, state-of-the-art fitness center, 600-seat assembly hall, chapel, and outdoor festival plaza.



brigade. His wife, Yolanda, also has become a soldier and is looking forward to volunteering as a Sunday school teacher.

Cassandra Bell, another new soldier, said she had a "hallelujah moment" when she tried on her uniform at Resource Connection. She currently leads the praise dance team and teaches Sunday school.

Kristina Massey loves that The Salvation Army gives her the opportunity to share God's love with

women. She has a passion to reach women who don't have a church through the new Girlfriend's Unlimited ministry at the corps. She loves how it inspires women interpersonally and spiritually.

The corps is growing, and only God could bring it all together. The Army is building a facility with great programs, and God is building the relationships on the southside of Chicago through the future Kroc Center.

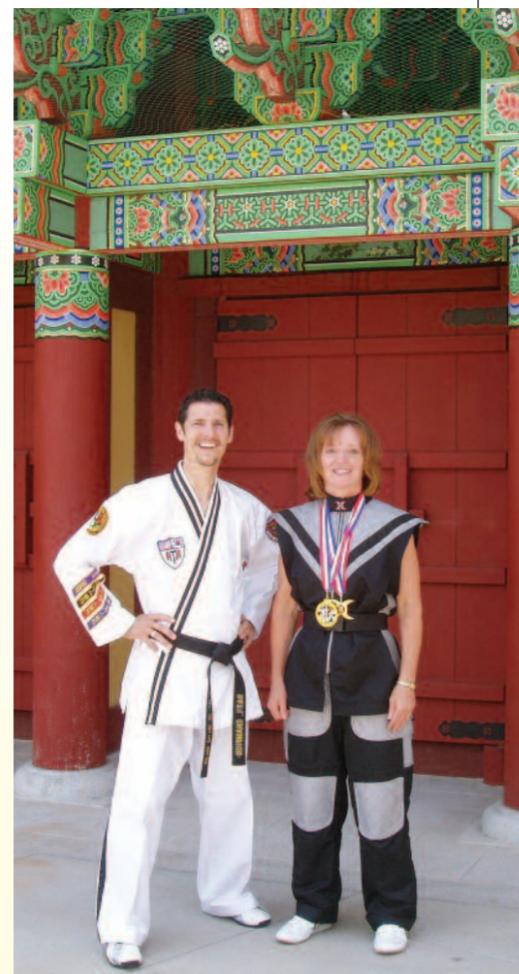
## Kroc in for taekwondo kick

Beneficiaries of the Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Omaha, Neb., may have an opportunity to train with taekwondo world champion, Kim Hedenskog, when it opens in January.

Kim is a recent adherent at the Omaha South Side, Neb., Corps, having been introduced to it by Majors Herb and Yaneth Fuqua, administrative corps officers. Since joining, Kim has become active in service. In addition to being a candidate for taekwondo and self-defense instruction, Kim is a pianist and corps council member.

Incredibly, Kim considers herself to have "fallen into" taekwondo. It started with research on the topic followed by an impromptu stop at a martial arts studio while procrastinating one afternoon on errands. Within days she had enrolled in a class. Her natural ability evident, she was asked to become a trainer and completed the necessary classes in two years instead of the typical three.

Training in competition came naturally to Kim as well. She traversed



across the United States to compete with taekwondo athletes of her caliber for years in preparation. Last year she was named the Nebraska state taekwondo champion and afforded the opportunity to compete in Little Rock, Ark., for the world championship. Internationally, she took home the gold medal and world champion status in two events: weapons and extreme martial arts form.

Although hiring for classes at the Kroc has not yet been solidified, Kim would like to teach taekwondo or self-defense in some capacity. Thanks to her faith, her aspirations are unselfish. "I am satisfied with the way things are and just hope to have an impact on the students I do teach," said Kim.



## Paths to Prayer



by Major Donna Leedom

The routes to retreat became paths to prayer at the Northern Division women's ministries camp. It began with an invitation to participate in a guided fast. Many did so for the first time. Women were welcomed with a prayer meeting based on Jesus' invitation from Matthew 11 to "Come to Me." They came with their burdens. They came to worship. They came to confess and to be healed. And they found a rejuvenated spirit!

Guest Kim Bolton led the women in prayers of praise and delight as she sang and shared from a heart



connected to God. Loads became lighter in the worship and laughter of her ministry.

The Lord's invitation to "learn from me" received the resounding response:

"Lord, teach us to pray!" Workshops on intercessory prayer, fasting and prayer, prayer journaling, solitude and silence, listening to God, prayer walks, praying the scriptures and praying without ceasing were offered to encourage the women to grow in the discipline of prayer.

Opportunities to pray privately and personally were offered throughout the weekend in The Bride of Christ, an experiential prayer room, a reading room and a prayer labyrinth. The women's ministries project for the division, a prayer walk through the camp, was put to good use at this event.

Most importantly, the Spirit challenged women not just to come and learn but to remain in Christ. With altars filled and others formed, paths to prayer were opened for women seeking rest, victory over sin and temptation, strength for the routines they'd return to, encouragement and accountability in one another. May these paths become highways in the Northern Division and beyond!



## Eager Hands bless 2,000

by Craig Dirkes

A sewing circle in Woodbury, Minn., has reached a milestone: 2,000 quilts sewn for people served by the St. Paul Citadel, Minn., Corps.

The group is called Eager Hands Quilters, a ministry founded 12 years ago by Delores Fitzgerald and Lavonne Buchanan of Woodbury Lutheran Church. Eager Hands includes 35 members who craft quality quilts with sewing machines, fabric, thread and other materials donated by church members and community sources.

"About the time we get low on something, we start praying and the materials start arriving in buckets," said Lavonne, while sewing in the basement of Fitzgerald's Woodbury home.

About a dozen women quilt in Delores' home every Tuesday morning, a ritual they started in January 1997.

"We solve a lot of world problems," joked Delores, referring to all the fun the group has sewing, drinking coffee and visiting.

Completed quilts are later dropped off at the corps, one of the Twin Cities' most widely used centers for homeless outreach.

"Clients come here for a hot meal, then come into our social services office requesting emergency services such as hygiene products, socks, employment referrals—and, of course, quilts," said Yvonne Dobler, social services team leader. "[Eager Hands] is a huge blessing."

A blessing indeed. Last winter, for example, Dobler gave a quilt to a homeless man in a wheelchair whose legs were freezing cold.

"He used one of the quilts to drape over his legs so they wouldn't freeze as he wheeled himself around St. Paul," she said.

Just like quilts 1 through 1,999, the 2,000th quilt had the phrase "Jesus Loves You" sewn in.

"Delivering the 2,000th quilt was



Yvonne Dobler, left, shares a joyful moment with Delores Fitzgerald after Eager Hands members dropped off their 2,000th quilt.

such a blessing, I can't tell you," Delores said. "Who would have thought our group could accomplish this? If the Lord leaves me around long enough, someday we will celebrate 3,000 quilts."

In addition to quilts, Eager Hands volunteers have made and donated hundreds of sleeping mats, scarves, mittens and other winter clothing items. These items also are made in Delores' home and at several other Eager Hands locations that have sprung up through the years.



First-year Eager Hands member Mayonne Benson sews a quilt.

## An ode to Santa

by Amanda Waters

The Kansas and Western Missouri Division's annual Larry Stewart Memorial Radiothon raised nearly \$100,000 to benefit its children's shelter in Kansas City. Radio partner, 610 Sports Radio, broadcast live from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm at Crown Center, a local shopping mall in Kansas City.

The radiothon featured appearances by sports and media celebrities including Baseball Hall of Famer George Brett, former Kansas City Royals baseball player Willie

Wilson, and former Kansas City Chiefs football player Deron Cherry.

The shelter which cares for children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect has been operating since 1981. During this time, it's cared for nearly 6,000 children in crisis!

Larry Stewart was Kansas City's "Secret Santa," who for more than 20 years anonymously handed out cash to people in need during the holidays. He revealed his identity a few months before his death in 2007, making worldwide headlines.



## Ring a virtual bell

The start of the holiday season is often symbolized by red kettles appearing throughout your community. Now, you can become an integral part of our fundraising efforts this Christmas by hosting your own Online Red Kettle.

All funds collected through Online Red Kettle are used to support The Salvation Army's work to help the

less fortunate across America at Christmas and year-round. The need is greater than ever.

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## Oak Creek Centennial chapel dedicated

by Major Lee Ann Thompson

The sun was out, the sky was a brilliant blue, and the Army flag was waving crisply over the newest addition to the Oak Creek Centennial, Wis., Corps. On a bright Saturday in September more than 200 people from the congregation and community gathered to dedicate the new chapel along with updated office, classroom and music room space.

Colonels Paul R. and Carol Seiler, chief secretary and territorial coordinator for strategic mission planning, represented Central Territorial Headquarters at the ribbon cutting.



Colonel Paul Seiler delivered an encouraging address during the dedication ceremony. On Sunday nearly 300 attended the first worship service held in the new chapel. Major Greg Thompson, corps officer, challenged the congregation to make their lives fragrant offerings, to become living sacrifices and participate in the rich fellowship of the body of believers.

The new space represents several years of prayer, planning and pooling of resources, not the least of which was a half million dollar internal capital campaign. Major Thompson is especially proud of the congregation, "I commend them for their faithfulness not only in giving their treasure but also in giving their



time and talent. The people of Oak Creek Centennial want this place, as they always have, to be a guiding light set on a hill so everyone who needs the Lord can find Him."

The expansion of the facility moves the chapel capacity from 200 to 400, and the increased space allows for a fully secured pre-kindergarten and daytime childcare program that serves 125 preschoolers with educational programs. Before and afterschool programs serving approximately 105 students also benefit from the additional space.

## Owosso celebrates corps reopening

by Major Catherine Thielke

Eastern Michigan is beset with closings of all kinds: schools, plants, restaurants, stores. No one is surprised anymore—only disappointed.

With closings so prevalent, it was with great celebration that the Eastern Michigan Division reopened its Owosso, Mich., Corps this year. Majors Keith and Collette Bailey were installed as corps officers at the reopening ceremony with a brass band, advisory board members, staff, neighboring corps officers and soldiers showing their support.

Since 2003 Owosso has been functioning as a service extension unit, overseen by Matt Rowland, divisional service extension director. Retired officers Major Eva Coleman and Major Henry Tempel have kept the Army's presence alive in Owosso over the last six years

by running a golden agers club, giving Christmas assistance, and attending community meetings.

Major Keith Bailey said the community is ready to begin corps programming. Every week he encounters people who attended the corps in the past and have found no new church to call home. Bible studies have begun with full corps programming gradually being added.



Pictured at the Owosso, Mich., Corps reopening are: Lt. Colonels Norman and Diane Marshall, Eastern Michigan divisional leaders; Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele, territorial program secretary; and Majors Keith and Collette Bailey, corps officers.

## At the heart of camp

by Kara Langford

Riding the heels of a divisional retreat was the dedication of the newly renovated chapel at Camp Mihaska in the Midland Division. The retreat theme, "Coming Back to the Heart of Worship," set the stage for the dedication and ran throughout the program.

Officers, soldiers and friends joined territorial leaders Commissioners Barry C. and E. Sue Swanson and divisional leaders Majors Lonneal and Patty Richardson for the special program which ended with a prayer walk.

"The prayer walk through camp gave us the opportunity to invite God into all aspects of the lives that are touched at Camp Mihaska.

Every building and every area was prayed for individually, while the divisional team and territorial guests met on the hill by the three crosses to pray for the camp as a whole," said Major Deb Richardson.

In addition to the chapel and lodge renovations, four new dormitories, with the capacity to house 300 campers and counselors, were dedicated. Leonard Armstrong, Mayor of Bourbon, Mo., issued a proclamation of Camp Mihaska Day in the city, marking the important contribution the Army has made through camp.

More than 60 years after its purchase, Camp Mihaska stands equipped to serve campers well into the future.



Photo by William Greenblatt

(l to r) Majors Lonneal and Patty Richardson, Midland divisional commander and divisional women's ministries secretary; Barbara Pearce, St. Louis regional women's auxiliary president; Jim Hoffmeister, St. Louis regional advisory board chairman; Commissioners E. Sue and Barry C. Swanson, territorial leaders, in front of the new chapel.

## Children dedicated to Lord at ARC

by Colleen Kinney

By the time Kimball Beard had graduated from the Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center program in 2000 he had turned his life over to the Lord. This summer as an expression of his faith, he and his wife of six years, Cindy, dedicated their children Angel, 2 months, Kimball Jr., 3 years, and Ian, 11, to the Lord.

The ceremony, held in the chapel of the ARC where Kimball has grown in faith, was officiated by Envoy Merle Miller, ARC administrator. Kimball and Cindy, who met at a Salvation Army thrift store in Rochester Hills, Mich., where Kimball is still employed, were joined for the dedication ceremony by their former store manager, Mary Lou Lantz. While she now manages a different store, she



Pictured l to r: Mrs. Carrie Igwe, director of children's ministries, Kimball Jr., Kimball and Cindy Beard, Ian and Mary Lou Lantz, holding Angel.

remains close, taking on a family-like role with the children.

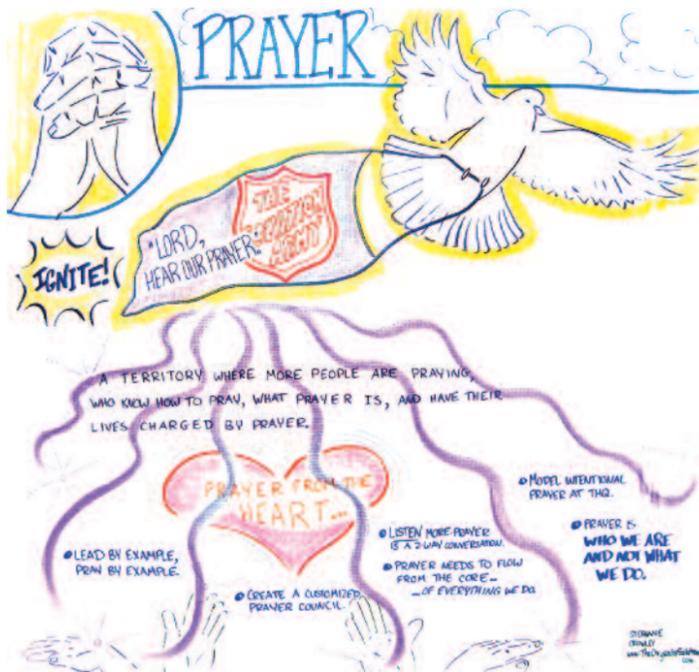
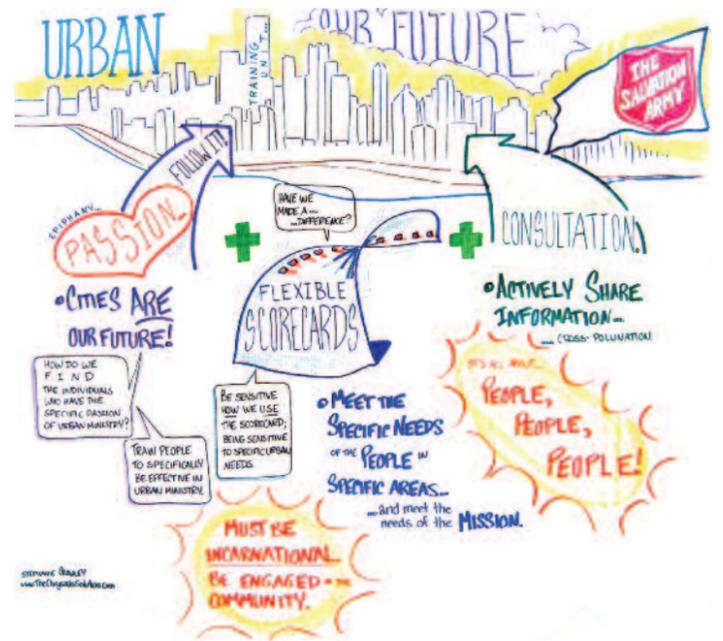
Kimball said, "Through prayer God led me to commit the children so they would know Him from an early age." As a Christian father he wants to give his children the gift of faith that they can carry through their lives.

# Six Strategic Priorities for

In September Territorial Commander Commissioner Barry C. Swanson called together 200 Salvationists in the Midwest to engage in meaningful discussion and planning regarding the six strategic priorities he's identified for the Central Territory.

"There is a need for a clear set of strategic priorities which serve to focus our energies on mission accomplishment at this point in our history," said Commissioner Swanson. "Key mission critical issues, if addressed with strategic intent, will immediately influence the ministry effectiveness and statistical performance of the Central Territory in a positive manner."

Let us hear what God has laid on our leader's heart, learn some concepts that emerged in the strategic priority groups, and, with the Holy Spirit's enabling, work together to truly focus our Kingdom-building mission.



## Engage in Concentrated Prayer

"We understand it is God's work we are doing and that He alone is responsible for its success. We are all men and women of prayer. We believe in it, and we practice it in our personal lives in varying degrees," said the territorial commander. "Generally speaking, however, when it comes to ministry our prayers tend to lack both focus and faith... What is needed is the discipline to engage in concentrated prayer, bringing us into close alignment with His plans."

When prayers aren't concentrated there can be a loss of focus, clarity of mission and purpose. But with this priority come amazing opportunities like renewed passion, increased power, clear vision, greater confidence, improved morale and growing faith.

Within the last year a territorial ambassador for prayer was appointed and an office

for prayer ministries created, a territorial prayer summit was held and a 24/7 prayer movement was launched. Since then an increased sensitivity to prayer has emerged under the leadership of Commissioner E. Sue Swanson.

The focus group considered the question, "What is lacking in our spiritual formation strategy that accounts for weak spiritual disciplines and how do we best address it?" A conviction emerged that this two-way conversation with God is at the core of everything we do. There was a challenge not just to be engaged in new techniques but to listen to God's Spirit.



## Target Urban Mission

When William and Catherine Booth started a fledgling mission to the poor in the east end of London, they found their destiny. It is still ours.

"We are uniquely—and I would say divinely—positioned and equipped to be powerful agents of Jesus Christ in our cities," said the territorial commander. "I affirm the good work we are already doing in many locations and those who are engaged in those efforts. However, when we consider the magnitude of the need, it is simply not enough... We need men and women willing to accept this challenge knowing it will involve some personal sacrifice. Organizationally, it will mean deploying some of our best personnel to accomplish what will be pioneering work."

Members of the urban mission group asked, "Why are our urban units struggling and how do we empower and release them for greater impact?" They called for an incarnational approach to mak-



ing a difference in the community, bringing in officers who can connect where the issues of anonymity and detachment make it easy to pass by on the other side of the street.

Work continuing from this group will look at the descriptions and definitions of cities, which are "inextricably linked to the Army's future," according to Major Phil Aho, territorial urban mission secretary. These urban centers can be seen as training centers with opportunities for regional consultation to accommodate neighborhood variations.

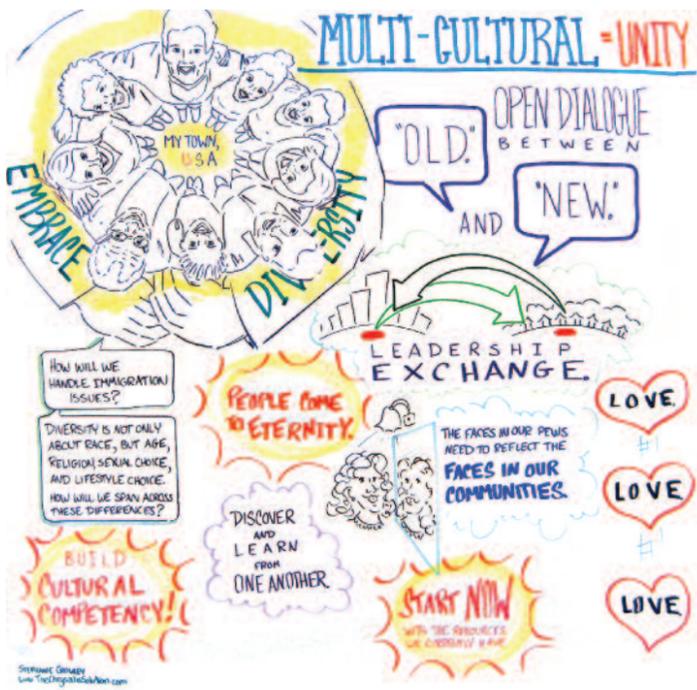
## Enhance Youth Ministries

Our effectiveness—or lack of it—in youth ministries impacts the future. The territorial commander's concerns include: failing youth discipleship, a steep decline in most youth program areas, complexity of the youth culture, a changing audience due to society's mobility, fewer quality lay leaders, and unrealized potential.

However, with God's help, we can modify our methods to embrace this incredible evangelistic opportunity and mobilize and empower young soldiers for meaningful service.

"The hard work of determining what to do differently to achieve this priority is underway," said Commissioner Barry Swanson. "As the Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Centers begin operation, we must see them as opportunities to pioneer new ministry expressions directed specifically at youth and learn from their experiences."





Drawings reflect the work of graphic recorder Stephanie Crowley, who captured key concepts visually during all general sessions.

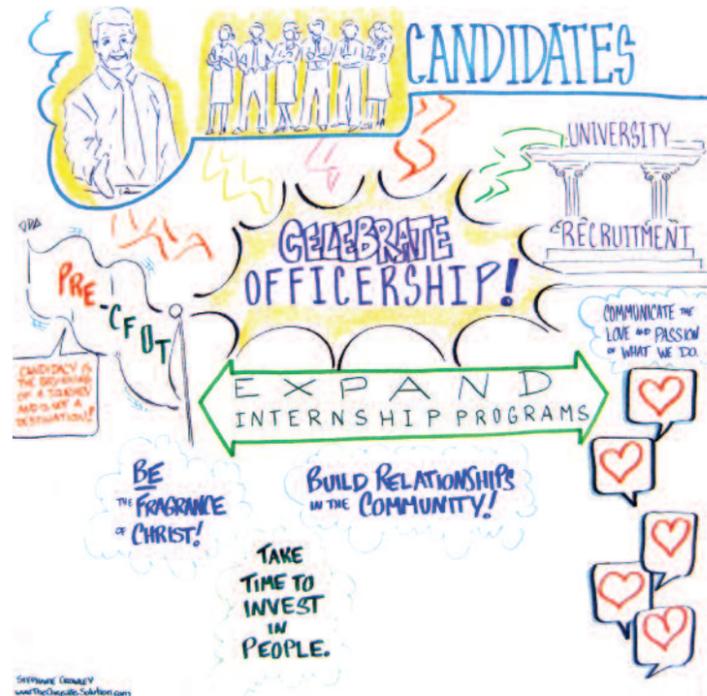
## Strengthen Multicultural Ministries

According to the territorial commander, the challenge for the church is to understand and accept the truth that the gospel of Jesus transcends all cultures. Christ brings a Kingdom culture which embraces every human culture (Colossians 3:11), freeing us to appreciate diversity and experience community.

However with a few notable exceptions, truly integrated worship is lacking. There also is a disparity between overwhelmingly homogeneous leadership, officer and lay, and the many constituent

cies we serve. We must wrestle with these challenges and realize the adverse impact on our ability to carry out the Great Commission.

It's no surprise that "cultural competency" became a foundational element of the multicultural strategic priority group. Open, respectful dialogue between old and new could be a starting point where people learn from each other. Suggestions such as leadership exchange and allocation of resources were put forth with a vision that someday the faces in our pews will reflect the faces in our communities. Major Mary Hammerly will continue leading the dialogue.



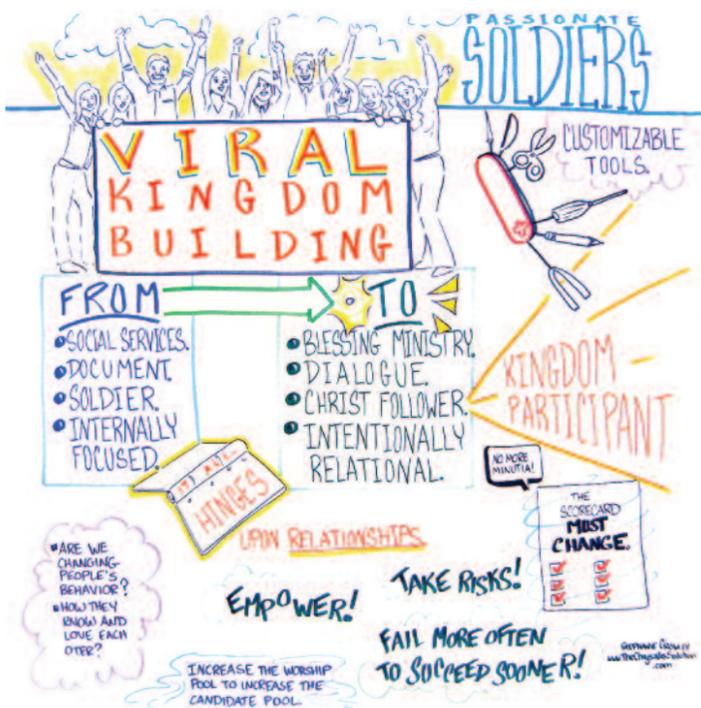
## Expand Candidate Recruitment

"Common sense tells us that the future of our mission hinges on the willingness of men and women of exceptional leadership talent to make a lifelong, fulltime commitment to the Lord through the vehicle of officership," said Commissioner Swanson.

While there may be generational differences in culture and values, he believes it's important to challenge the notion that people under 40 won't make a long-term commitment. Instead, he thinks they resist a sense of being manipulated and not being released to express their passion for God and personal mission.

Commissioner Swanson declared, "Any soldier, feeling compelled to relinquish secular employment in response to a spiritual calling, wanting to devote all their time and energies to the service of God and people, should absolutely find that passion fulfilled by becoming a candidate, entering our first-rate college for ministry training, and being commissioned as a Salvation Army officer."

The strategic question led by Lt. Colonel Dawn Heatwole, territorial candidates' secretary, was, "Why is our officer candidate pool inadequate and how do we recruit the number and type of officers needed for mission effectiveness in the future?" An airport metaphor caught the imagination of this strategic group. Candidacy and the College for Officer Training are like an airport in the journey—a point of connection, not the destination. This may mean building the "journey" based on an individual's skills and interests and finding expedient ways to get them off the ground so that ministry impact can take place.



## Increase Soldiership Vitality

We need not only to strengthen numbers but spirit. We must encourage soldiers to be on the cutting edge of mission, increase contact between corps and social services (remembering it's a two-way street), and be mindful that soldiership is our primary method of discipleship. Lt. Colonel Richard Vander Weele, territorial program secretary, is giving attention to this priority.

The exploration of this priority began with the questions, "Why do people not want to 'come join our Army?'" and "How do we empower and release corps leadership to develop strategies that

attract and retain soldiers?" However, given speaker Reggie McNeal's perspective on broader Kingdom building, this group encountered some times of tough conversation.

The group became passionate about "viral Kingdom building," where risks are taken in order to succeed, mission increases quickly, and people are contacted in a network rather than linear manner. Phrases like "Christ-follower" energized the group to see soldiership vitality as moving outward with energy and passion and impacting lives for eternity.



## Conclusion

The work of the Conference on Strategic Priorities was a catalyst to chart a new future. There will be goals and action steps for each priority which can result in exceptional outcomes. Your input will be important. Prayerfully consider your part in the mission, and let's see our Central Territory catching faith-filled, risk-taking Kingdom vision and taking the hope of Jesus to our world.

## No hood, no streets



Robert Becker/Lincoln Journal Star

Stanford Bradley has been employed by the Lincoln, Neb., Corps for the last dozen or so years. Starting as a teen, he worked his way up to assistant director of its community center and has been a positive influence on countless young lives, according to Corps Officers Captains James and Angela Pennington.

Now 28, Stanford said it was the Army's influence that helped save him all those years ago after a devastating late-night phone call changed his life. Stanford met Jesus, experienced God's redemptive grace

and discovered a new purpose for living.

One of five brothers, Stanford was raised in a crack house by a drug-addicted mother who eventually ended up in prison. A high school athlete, Stanford thought he "was God's gift to women." He fathered his first child at age 14; by 16, he had two more.

Stanford was arrested several times during his teen years, mostly for non-payment of child support. He lived in and out of juvenile centers with his older brother, Frankie Lee, who lived more "in" than out of the juvies for his criminal activities.

Proud that other gang-bangers looked up to him, Stanford also wanted "to do right" by his children; he just didn't know how. He asked questions of other fathers, but with the illegal activities in which the two brothers were involved, Stanford always assumed he wouldn't live to see his 19th birthday.

It was Frankie Lee, however, who met an early end. He was shot while at a party through a window by an opposing gang member. His gang waited on Stanford's decision. Retaliate?

Stanford just couldn't; the omen he'd always envisioned for himself had happened to his brother at age 19.

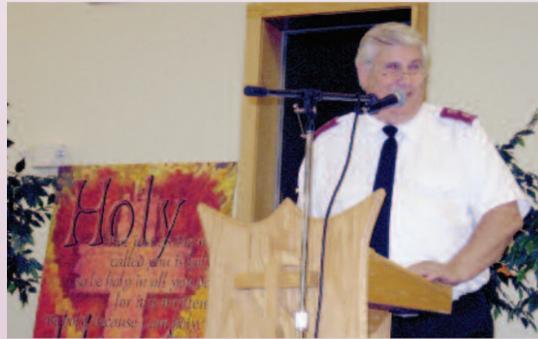
"People say you've got to figure out what you want in life," said Stanford. "But, you also have to figure out what you *don't* want. I didn't want to be in prison or a casket in front of my kids."

That's when Stanford showed up at the Army, where he ran a score clock six hours a day for small-fry basketball.

"Believe it or not, running that clock kept me out of the hood and off the streets," said Stanford. Of the remaining four brothers, he's the only one who hasn't spent time in prison. "It was the start to my changed life. Now I have a wonderful wife, Yu-son, and six kids—five boys and a girl—all living together."

## Around the Territory

ROSEVILLE, MINN.—Thanks to a new refrigerated truck, The Salvation Army in the Twin Cities area can offer fresh meats and produce to the thousands of people served by its metro area food pantries. The Army has been receiving bread, vegetables and other non-perishable foods from Lunds, Byerly's and Coborn's grocery stores. With the new truck, it's estimated they will be able to pick up an extra 800,000 pounds of perishable foods such as meats, eggs and dairy products annually.



FINLAYSON, MINN.—With holiness as the destination, the annual Northern divisional pilgrimage weekend took an uncommon but welcome path by being soldier led from prayer to preaching. Spirit-empowered soldiers from the division shared their gifts. Lt. Colonel Dan Sjogren, divisional commander, pictured.

## 1929—A crisis that shaped the Army's future

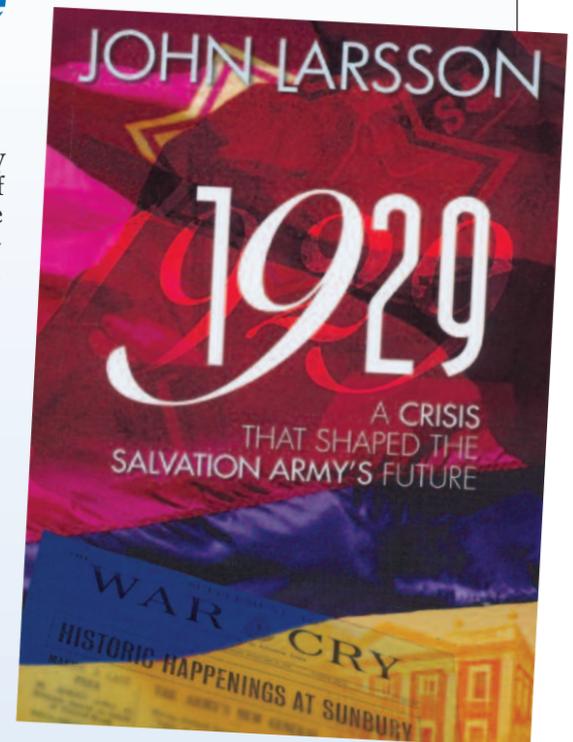
General John Larsson (Rtd.) writes about his new book

When on the gray Saturday afternoon of March 23, 1929, the "Wolverine," 59 minutes late, steamed into Chicago, a large contingent of Salvationists was on hand to welcome the Territorial Commander Commissioner John McMillan. Present were also batteries of cameramen and press reporters who held up proceedings.

The arrival of Commissioner McMillan was big news for, after an absence of almost three months, he was returning from London where he had been a member of the first High Council. The press had given close coverage to the story of Commander Evangeline Booth's pressure for constitutional reform, by which Generals would be elected rather than appointed by their predecessors through a name left in a "sealed envelope" to be opened at the General's death.

Commissioner McMillan had been a key right-hand-man to the commander in the reform movement—he was later to become her chief of the staff when she became General—and everyone was waiting for his account of what had happened at Sunbury Court, just outside London.

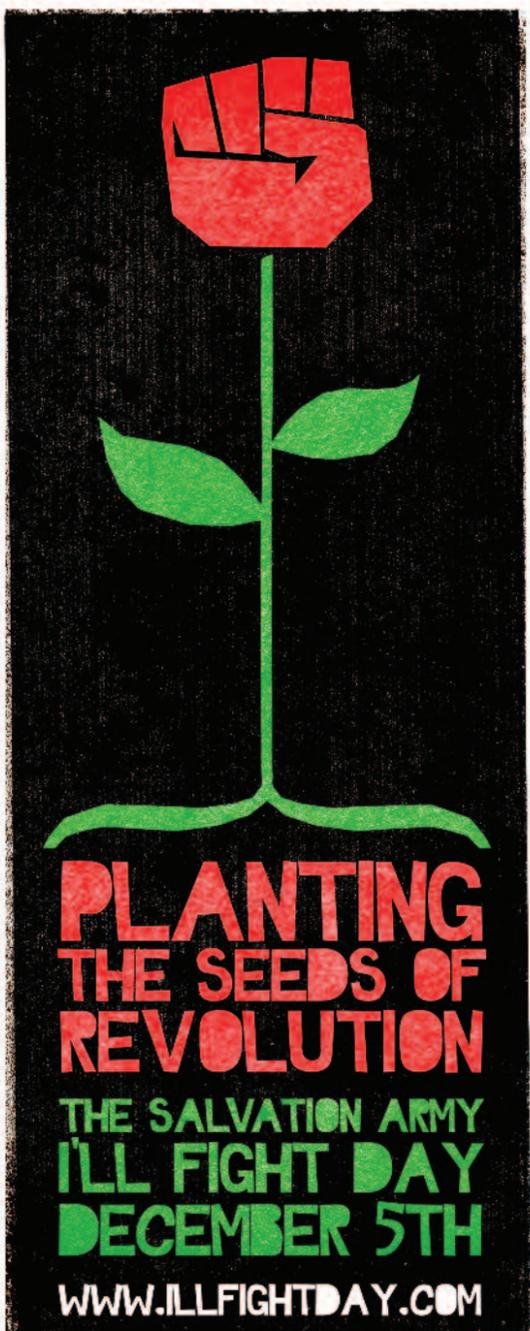
He told the story a few days later at the Sherman Hotel where all the officers in Greater Chicago had gathered. "No one could have sat through the commissioner's 90-minute address," wrote the *War Cry* reporter, "without being impressed with its clarity, its scheme, its emphases, nuances and peaks." The commissioner held his audience spellbound as he recounted the astonishing twists and turns of events that culminated in the High Council voting General Bramwell Booth out of office.



How could such a tragedy happen? Bramwell Booth was, next to William Booth, the greatest General the Army has ever seen and whose equal it is unlikely to see again. Commissioner McMillan would have sought to answer that question as he took his audience behind the scenes. But it is not until now, 80 years later, that the full story, with all its background and consequences, is being told. If it has taken that long for the story to be recounted it is because very real sensitivities are involved—sensitivities which even now have had to be carefully weighed.

There is no doubt, however, that what shook the Army in 1929 also shaped its future and set it on a path to reform that continues to this day. 1929 is therefore part of the heritage of every Salvationist.

Note: *1929* by General John Larsson (Rtd.) is published by International Headquarters (Salvation Books) and can be obtained from Resource Connection at 1-800-937-8896 or [shop.salvationarmy.org](http://shop.salvationarmy.org)



## Philippines floods

Continued from page 1

thing, even household items and clothing. Supporting families in re-establishing their lives will be the next stage, including the need to help with funeral expenses."

Responding to such a large scale disaster requires large resources, but The Salvation Army in The Philippines is putting its faith in God's providence by actively meeting needs. Keep them in your prayers and to donate to this relief effort, visit [www.salvationary.org](http://www.salvationary.org)

from International New Releases



Only 1,000 people were expected when the Salvation Army team arranged food distribution in Santa Rosa, Laguna, but 3,000 turned up. The police (in light blue shirts) helped to control the crowds.

## Salvation Army responds to earthquakes in Sumatra, Indonesia

by Major Raelton Gibbs, International Emergency Services

After two devastating earthquakes hit the Indonesian island of Sumatra, The Salvation Army sent emergency teams to the city of Padang and surrounding districts to undertake quick assessments and begin responding to this massive natural disaster.

On September 30th the first devastating earthquake, measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale, struck Sumatra, leaving more than 500 people dead and thousands of others buried in rubble. Homes, schools, bridges and roads in Padang were destroyed, cutting off the city from the outside world. As the population tried to deal with this, a second earthquake struck—this time measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale—180 miles from the previous epicenter. Initial reports estimated the death toll at 1,100 people, and many were still missing.

Indonesia is made up of about 17,000 islands and is in one of the world's most active seismic fault lines along the "Ring of Fire." Less than two weeks previously an earthquake caused devastation in nearby Java, another of the country's islands.

The Salvation Army already was working on Sumatra and able to send teams to the affected areas to begin the emergency relief effort. Transport and communications are extremely difficult due to the disaster but Commissioner R. Basuki Kartodarsono, Indonesia territorial commander, said, "We will do our best to help the affected families."

The Governor of Sumatra has asked that priority be given to children's care and health services, so The Salvation Army also has sent a medical team to participate in a united effort. The distribution of items for babies and children (milk and clothing) and the provision of medical care have been given priority, but Salvation Army emergency teams also are providing temporary shelter and distributing food, clean water and bedding.

The Salvation Army remains flexible in its approach and is constantly reviewing its work to ensure that it is able to complement that of other agencies so that all communities receive the assistance they need.

Donations to the "South Pacific and East Asia Fund" can be made online at [www.salvationarmy.org](http://www.salvationarmy.org)

## Calling Kenya home

With their two-year anniversary for calling Kenya "home" approaching, Commissioners William and Nancy Roberts, territorial leaders of Kenya West, have increasingly felt it really has become home for them.

They've had some firsts, like Bill commissioning the first session of Kenya West cadets (15 Witnesses for Christ) after the rapidly growing Kenya Territory was split in March 2008 into east and west.



ers. Bill recently met with Kenya's Anglican Church leader, Archbishop Eliud Wabukala, who had fond memories of attending a Salvation Army secondary school. "We regularly hear of significant people in Kenya who were students," said Bill. "Think of the opportunities we have to positively impact Kenya's future."

Nancy's pride and joy is the territorial WORTH program, which empowers women by teaching them to read and write and become self-reliant by creating income opportunities. Currently there are about 50 groups of more than 1,000 women; Nancy hopes for 100 groups soon. Another program dear to her heart is support for HIV/AIDS orphans, who also are often afflicted with the disease.



The territories share the centrally located National Training College near Nairobi. Each territory's incoming session is limited to 25 cadets; this year's Ambassadors of Holiness hit full capacity (50) with 41 second-year Prayer Warriors!

The Roberts live and work in Kakamega, a city about 200 miles northwest of Nairobi. More than half the country's population lives in the largely rural western provinces.

Kenya West's statistics are amazing; more than 113,000 senior soldiers and 121,000 junior soldiers attend over 330 corps and 900 outposts led by less than 500 officers in its 16 divisions and districts.

This spring the territory's first world services/self-denial ingathering brought in 3.1 million Kenyan shillings, a 60 percent increase over the previous year.

Kenya West has a strong commitment to education: 210,000 students attend 450 schools with 4,300 teach-



Additionally, Nancy promotes anti-sex trafficking, which is especially prevalent along the Kenya-Tanzania border. After Nancy met with Salvationists there, a small corps opened a beauty salon staffed by former sex workers. Leading women's seminars and events also keeps Nancy busy. Bill reported her performance of an African-style gospel dance was a big hit at a women's congress!



## Passport to Adventure

Are you an active leader in your corps?

Do you have a solid walk with the Lord and demonstrate spiritual maturity?

Are you between the ages of 18 and 28?

If so, you might consider applying for Summer Mission Team 2010.

Summer Mission Team (SMT) is a leadership development program that invites young adult Salvationists into a deeper relationship with the Lord through participation in an eight-week team missions experience.

Team members may be involved in vacation Bible school, day camp, adult evangelistic programs, basic work projects and feeding programs. While the teams minister with The Salvation Army overseas and throughout the Midwest, they are given the opportunity to discover God's plan for all people to be part of His Kingdom. Summer Mission Team members also benefit from gaining a broader perspective of The Salvation Army.

For more information or to request an application, contact the World Missions Bureau at [Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Missions@usc.salvationarmy.org) or 847-294-2108.

## Growth in numbers and spirit

The youth ministry at Mayfair Community Church, in Chicago, Ill., is growing by leaps and bounds. According to John Kim, Mayfair's youth pastor, it has nearly tripled in size over the past five years! With more than 40 teenagers involved, the primarily Korean-

American corps has experienced this growth since moving into its own building from Metropolitan Divisional Headquarters.

Since many of Mayfair's current members were either born in the United States or came here at an early age from Korea, the ministry is conducted primarily in English. The cultural barriers and challenges for this young congregation are great, and the youth group often provides spiritual counsel, aiding the young people as they navigate between two cultures.

On Fridays, they gather for "Friday Night Live," which is a time of worship, Bible study, prayer and fellowship. After worship, teens break into small groups led by a young adult mentor and teen peer leader. A close group, many of the young adults remain as mentors



through their college years.

Not only has Mayfair youth group experienced growth in numbers, but it has grown spiritually. After struggling two years, Chris Chung, one of the groups most promising and godly members, lost his battle with cancer. Chris was known to have embodied 2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV): "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Working through this devastation, a deepening of faith occurred as the teens supported one another. Not only did these

young people comfort each other, but they encouraged John as well.

Growing in numbers and united by the grief of losing a dear member of their community, the Mayfair youth group is larger and stronger than ever.



## Ongoing leadership

Unlike most of the teenagers who grew up in the Mayfair Community Church youth group, Hannah Kim joined the corps during her early high school years. "It took a while to get involved...and step out of my comfort zone," she explained.

Now on the welcome committee, Hannah encourages others who are new to the congregation. "I knew how it felt," she said.

Hannah accepted Christ in the 7th grade but didn't know the full meaning of Jesus' death on the cross until she came to Mayfair youth group and heard John Kim preach. As time passed, she could feel herself growing and maturing in her faith, and through the youth group she started to see what parts of life are most precious. Summers at camp also impacted her spiritual journey.

As her faith grew, Hannah became



a leader in the youth group. During high school she co-led Bible studies and now, a college student at the University of Illinois at Chicago majoring in elementary education, she leads a study on her own on Friday nights and on Sunday mornings helps with Sunday school.

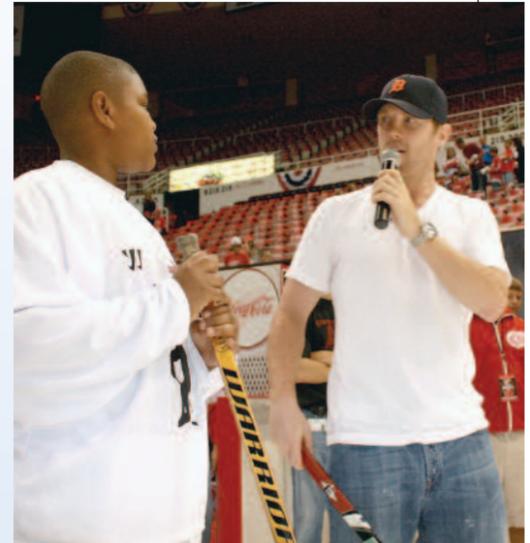
"I really like how close we are to each other," she said. "I feel like I'm home when I go there every weekend."

In the future, she says, she wants to continue to use her gifts to serve God and lead others.



## Red Wings treat kids to VIP experience

Youth from The Salvation Army were treated to a visit from Detroit Red Wings hockey player Dan Cleary during HockeyFest at the Joe Louis Arena. Ten children from the Army's STRIVE Youth Hockey program in Pontiac, Royal Oak and Warren, Mich., received a demonstration from Cleary and one-on-one instruction in foot drills and stick



handling. The kids were able to play goalie, take home a jersey and get a real-life fan experience which they otherwise might not receive.

The Salvation Army received a grant from the Detroit Red Wings foundation earlier this year to help fund the STRIVE (Student Training for Integrity, Vitality and Education) Youth Hockey program. STRIVE is a grassroots effort to provide children new opportunities and to partner with community members to grow the sport of hockey.

STRIVE's mission is to help meet the spiritual, mental and physical needs of children through an organized floor hockey program at Salvation Army corps community centers. It allows them a chance to experience a sport they may not have considered due to economic restraints.

→ A Territorial Seminar for Leaders of Children's, Youth & Young Adult Ministries ←

# REFUEL



## January 29-31, 2010

Wonderland Camp & Conference Center

"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:10-11 NIV



Contact your Corps Officer for more information  
register@www.SARefuel.com

DOING THE MOST GOOD



MARCH 12-14, 2010

# JUBILEE

CAMPUS OF WHEATON COLLEGE  
WHEATON, ILLINOIS




**JUBILEE**  
IS THE METROPOLITAN DIVISION'S CELEBRATION OF 125 YEARS OF SALVATION ARMY  
MINISTRY AND SERVICE SINCE THE FIRST OPEN AIR MEETING WAS HELD IN THE  
CITY OF CHICAGO, FEBRUARY, 1885.

**JUBILEE LEADERS**



LT. COLONEL  
ISRAEL AND EVA GATHER  
NATIONAL LEADERS



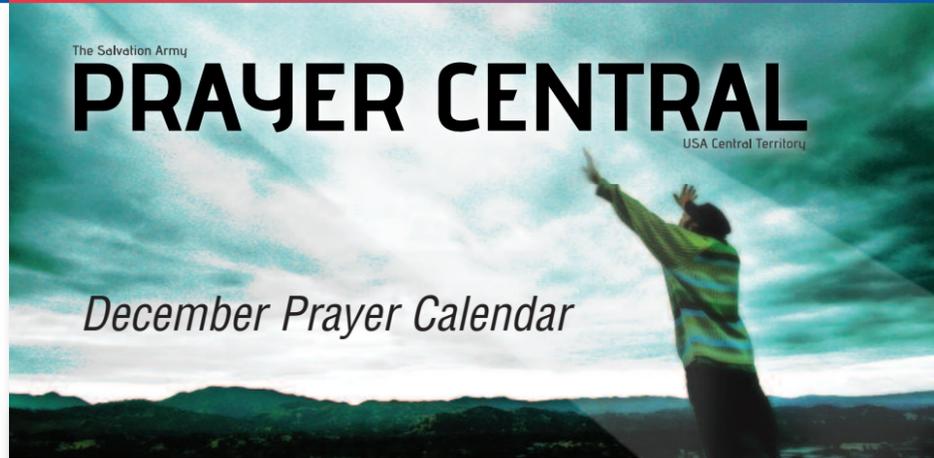
LT. COLONEL  
DAVID AND CHERY GRUNDLE  
DIVISIONAL LEADERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: JUBILEE125.ORG  
EMAIL: USCMET\_JUBILEE@USC.SALVATIONARMY.ORG  
WRITE: JUBILEE, 5040 N. PULASKI RD.  
CHICAGO, IL 60630

The Salvation Army

# PRAYER CENTRAL

USA Central Territory



December Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Tuesday	Acts 19-20	Kansas City Westport Temple, Mo., Corps
	2 Wednesday	1 John 3-4	DeKalb, Ill., Corps
	3 Thursday	Deuteronomy 13-15	Jefferson City, Mo., Corps
	4 Friday	Nehemiah 5-9	Jamestown, N.D., Corps
	5 Saturday	Psalms 140-142	Marshalltown, Iowa, Corps
	6 Sunday	Song of Songs 1-2	Lansing Citadel, Mich., Corps
	7 Monday	Revelation 1-6	Marinette, Wisc., Corps
	8 Tuesday	Acts 21-22	Omaha, Neb., ARC*
	9 Wednesday	1 John 5	Midland, Mich., Corps
	10 Thursday	Deuteronomy 16-18	Keokuk, Iowa, Corps
	11 Friday	Nehemiah 10-13	Kokomo, Ind., Corps
	12 Saturday	Psalms 143-145	Midland DHQ**
	13 Sunday	Song of Songs 3-4	Lawrence, Kan., Corps
	14 Monday	Revelation 7-11	Des Plaines, Ill., Corps
	15 Tuesday	Acts 23-24	Joplin, Mo., Corps
	16 Wednesday	2 John	South America West Territory PIM
	17 Thursday	Deuteronomy 19-21	Lakewood Temple, Minn., Corps
	18 Friday	Esther 1-5	Mason City, Iowa, Corps
	19 Saturday	Psalms 146-148	Lansing South, Mich., Corps
	20 Sunday	Song of Songs 5-6	Captain George Katchanov (Canada)
	21 Monday	Revelation 12-17	Marquette, Mich., Corps
	22 Tuesday	Acts 25-26	Chicago Kroc Center, Ill.
	23 Wednesday	3 John	Rockford, Ill., ARC
	24 Thursday	Deuteronomy 22-24	Monroe, Mich., Corps
	25 Friday	Esther 6-10	Celebrate Jesus, God's greatest gift to all!
	26 Saturday	Psalms 149-150	Macomb, Ill., Corps
	27 Sunday	Song of Songs 7-8	Urbana InterVarsity Student Missions Conference
	28 Monday	Revelation 18-20	Lafayette, Ind., Corps
	29 Tuesday	Acts 27-28	Leavenworth, Kan., Corps
	30 Wednesday	Jude	East Chicago, Ind., Corps
	31 Thursday	Revelation 21-22	Kirkville, Mo., Corps

Go to [www.prayercentralusa.org](http://www.prayercentralusa.org) for prayer updates.

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

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



## Boones take a bow

A retirement celebration was recently held for Majors Robert and Elaine Boone at the Lincoln, Neb., Corps, where they were honored for almost nine decades of combined service as active officers.

Bob, a Defender of the Faith (1966), and Elaine, a Proclaimer of the Faith (1965), joined forces by marrying in 1967. They served in corps throughout eastern Michigan, adding son Robert and daughter Wendy to the family along the way in the early '70s. Then came corps appointments in Missouri, Kansas, Wisconsin, Indiana and Iowa, plus a smattering of adult rehabilitation centers in Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois. In the late '90s, Bob and Elaine embarked on their longest appointment at the Lincoln Corps.

Although the Boones retired from an appointment at Western Divisional Headquarters, they'd been the Lincoln corps officers for the last 12 years—1997 until June 2009. The Lincoln Corps and its officers, Captains James and Angela Pennington, were delighted to host the Boones' retirement service, which featured many musical performances by the band, soloists (including Bob on piano), duets and small groups.

Colonels William and Susan Harfoot, Centralites serving in the Western Territory as chief secretary and territorial secretary for women's



PHOTO: Eric Gregory/Lincoln Journal Star

ministries, presented certificates of retirement to Bob and Elaine as Lt. Ruth Sellen and Leroy Garman held the flags.

The Boones are residing in the city that has become home, Lincoln.

## --Mustard Seeds--



## Wandlings retire



The retirement of Majors Myron and Nancy Wandling was an emotional time of praise and celebration. It began with "Shout to the Lord," written and sung by son David Aaron Wandling. He also wrote the touching "Good and Faithful One," which he performed later on in the service after his parents were presented their retirement certificates by Captains Monty and Angie Wandling.

Special music was presented by the two captains and their children, Blain and Grace; M. Brent Wandling read a scripture selection. Myron and Nancy, who spent several years on the missionfield in some very challenging situations, gave the high-spirited message, "What? My body, too?"

The Wandlings entered training as

a married couple and were commissioned in 1966 as Defenders of the Faith. They held corps appointments throughout the Northern Division until the mid '80s when Myron began serving in finance positions. In the mid '90s, they were sent on special assignment through International Headquarters to serve on a relief team in Rwanda. After a short stint back in a Kansas corps, the Wandlings returned overseas to serve on a relief team in Bosnia. Soon after they returned home came a three-year appointment to the Zambia and Malawi Territory, where Myron served as finance secretary.

In 2001, they returned to corps work in the Metropolitan Division, then the Midland Division, until their September retirement to a warmer (perhaps more African?) climate in Queen Creek, AZ!

## Morrison celebrate 34 years of service

The Moline, Ill., Corps was the site of the celebration commemorating the retirement of Majors John and Juanita Morrison after 34 years of officership. It was selected due to its central location and because it was built under the Morrison's leadership while they were stationed there. The retirement ceremony was conducted by Colonel Thomas C. Lewis, their longtime friend.

Immediate family members who helped celebrate included: their daughter Major Prezza Labbee with her husband Captain Ralph Labbee and their family; their son Shaun Morrison, his wife, Karen, and daughter; and brother and sister-in-law Majors Lee and Melody Morrison who served as flagbearers.

The Morrison enjoyed 10 appointments including two on divisional headquarters in the Central Territory, two at territorial head-

quarters—one in the Central and one in the East. They had the privilege of opening a new corps in Porter County, Ind., and serving as the only divisional corps growth officers in the Central while in the Western Division.

The highlight of the evening was participation by one friend from each appointment where they served.

The Morrison gave full and complete credit to God for His amazing direction of their 34 years of service. Major John Morrison noted: "If we were not completely in God's hands none of the amazing experiences we have enjoyed over the past 34 years would have been possible."

The Morrison are retiring in Levering Mich., near Cheboygan where they will be working part-time at the Cheboygan Service Extension Unit.



## Advent series released

Spread the real meaning of Christmas to a world that desperately needs Jesus.

Discover *The Purpose of Christmas—Love!*

The latest Advent series from the territorial evangelism and corps growth department contains worship services, women's ministries programs and community care outreach.



## Promoted to Glory

### Major Christine Sonju

Major Christine Sonju was promoted to Glory on September 10, 2009, from her home in Florida. She was 88 years old.



Mary Christine Sonju was born in Bingen, Norway, to Anders and Sorine Sonju. Eight years later, their family moved to the United States and eventually settled in Chicago. Christine became a Christian at 13 but didn't experience sanctification until college.

In 1940 she became a soldier and was active in the band and songsters at the Chicago Humboldt Park, Ill., Corps. A natural evangelist and student of theology, it wasn't long before her call to officership was clear. She was commissioned to the rank of probationary lieutenant in 1948.

The first half of Christine's ministry was blessed with various appointments around the northwestern part of the Central Territory. After this she served at the Chicago Emergency Lodge. She retired in 1983 after serving in several appointments at Central Territorial Headquarters.

Major Sonju is survived by

nephews James, Michael and Steven Sonju, along with a very special nephew, Paul Sonju, who along with his wife, Kjersti, were Christine's primary caretakers.

## Asbury College Visit Weekend



for Salvationists who are high school juniors or seniors

**When:** January 28-31, 2010

**Where:** Wilmore, Ky.

**Cost:** None! (other than getting yourselves down here!)

**Lodging and meals are free.**

**What:** Stay in a dorm with a Salvationist on campus. Visit classes and chapel service. Meet professors. Participate in "Sallie" band and vocal ensemble rehearsals. Enjoy Saturday evening events planned just for you and a Sunday morning Salvationist worship service. (You'll be back on the road by noon!)

**How:** Talk to your DYS today  
Get more information @ [www.asbury.edu](http://www.asbury.edu)  
Or email us:  
Cathy\_Himes@usn.salvationarmy.org  
Michael\_Himes@usn.salvationarmy.org

**Register online.** Make sure you mention you're a Salvationist to ensure a roommate who's a Salvationist.