



# 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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## Jesus Theatre takes center stage

by Joe Caddy

The Salvation Army has long understood how music and fine arts can provide an effective medium to present the gospel in a way that resonates with all types of audiences. Over the years the Army also has invested in effective summer camp ministries which not only give campers an opportunity to commune with nature but to draw closer to God.

Over the past couple of summers, these two important ministries have combined in a new way as summer camp staffs have implemented an imaginative presentation model known as Jesus Theatre which uses the creative arts to present the Good News in a visual and creative way leading to an invitation to accept Christ.

Originally created for use in Salvation Army camp ministries in

the Eastern Territory, Jesus Theatre utilizes a mix of theater and movement set to music. Camp staff spend time learning and rehearsing the 30-minute piece during their orientation and present it to campers throughout the summer.

Whether it is the piece titled "Balloons" which was performed at camps in summer 2016 or "Under Construction" which has been featured this summer, each Jesus Theatre presentation contains a symbolic representation of the entire gospel story from creation to salvation to regeneration.

By utilizing a cast comprised of camp staff members, Jesus Theatre also provides counselors and program staff the opportunity to take a greater role in the spiritual development of their campers. Cast members effectively serve as ministers of the gospel and their participation in the production often opens lines of communication for them to engage in meaningful conversations with their campers about Christ and His teachings.

While Jesus Theatre was created with camp ministry in mind, it also can be an effective means of presenting the gospel in corps as demonstrated by the Creative Arts Service

Team (CAST). Over the past two summers, CAST has performed an adapted version of the show as part of vacation Bible schools, day camps and evangelistic campaigns throughout the territory. In July 2017 members of CAST and the Bill Booth Theater Company combined to present Jesus Theatre in Spanish while on a short-term mission trip in Argentina.

While producing a Jesus Theatre piece requires time, effort and imagination by the cast, the key to the presentation's effectiveness lies in the cast's capacity to respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Each presentation ends with a choice to accept God's gift of salvation. So far, the response has been overwhelming.

"Jesus Theatre allowed us to set the spiritual tone on the first night of each camp," explained Major Cyndi Shiels, former Kansas and Western Missouri divisional youth secretary. "It was effective in delivering the gospel in a powerful way which spoke to all age groups. I believe this impacted all areas of our camping program in a great way."



## Chicago Kroc Center celebrates five years

by Major Karen Johnson

The Chicago, Ill., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center celebrated its fifth anniversary with the theme "Kroc Gives Back" and a week filled with engaging, family-friendly activities to express gratitude to its employees and the community.

"We were excited to offer a week of activities for our community that were fun and educational, as well as fulfilling our mission as The Salvation Army and helping people take the next step on their spiritual journey with God," said Major Marc Johnson,

senior Kroc Center officer. "We are blessed God has helped us to reach this milestone and we look forward to

many more years of bringing hope to this area of the city."

The festivities began on Monday with a cookout for employees and two free showings of the hit movie, "Hidden Figures," which drew about 200 people from the neighborhood. On Tuesday, the Kroc Center hosted a health fair that provided free information and was supplemented by vendors who offered health and wellness products. Wednesday showcased a "Fitness Fun and Games Extravaganza!"



Captain Ketsia Diaz from the Metropolitan divisional youth department and Lt. A.J. Zimmerman, Kroc Center officer for congregational life, present Chris Mack with the Territorial Youth Volunteer of the Year award.



The weekend presented more opportunities to engage the community. On Friday, more than 300 people enjoyed barbecue, live jazz and the movie "Lego Batman" from their lawn chairs and blankets. Saturday the Kroc Center undertook service projects that ranged from free document shredding by a truck in the parking lot to the beautification of five community lots. On Father's Day everyone was invited to Sunday morning worship and then a softball game between area police and fire departments.

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## Let's meet at the cages

by Commissioner Brad Bailey  
Territorial Commander

My grandson's Little League All-Star baseball team recently won the state championship for seven-year-olds and under. During their playoff run, they experienced moments when they were overwhelmed by a few opposing teams, which shook their confidence in their abilities and potential. During one of these times of doubt, at the conclusion of their practice, the coach instructed the boys to surround the batting cage and to cheer for the one who was taking his turn at batting practice. As each boy stepped into the cage, his teammates yelled words of encouragement, praise and approval—

a cacophony of attaboys, if you will. The coaches noticed as each boy received this unexpected encouragement from his peers, he began to stand taller, concentrate better and hit the ball farther.

One of the greatest thrills of being a follower of Jesus is seeing others grow in their relationship with Christ and being part of their effective spiritual development. In the New Testament, the apostle Barnabas is referred to as the "Son of Encouragement." He was committed to empowering and encouraging others, and his encouragement catapulted people to another level of Christian maturity and effective service.



Encouraging and empowering others in the name of Jesus is what we Salvationists want to be about. Our priority is to be present for others, placing their needs ahead of our own and encouraging them to engage in the vision God has given them. The essence of a Barnabas ministry of encouragement is putting one's personal agenda aside and encouraging others to be effective in service to the least, lost, last, left out and looked over.

With so many things to do, it's easy to lose this focus. But when we shortchange our relationship with God and others, our Christ-inspired influence begins to break down. Consequently, we shortchange ourselves and the effectiveness of the mission. But when we add value to others, we make a significant impact.

Love is the mark of authentic Salvationism and is the evidence we follow in the footsteps of our Savior. Receptivity to the gospel follows the manifestation of genuine love and acceptance of others. We care about lost people because Jesus cares about lost people. Who is God strategically placing in our path to lift up, to encourage, to empower and to love in Jesus' name?

This is a clarion call for us, Salvationists in the Central Territory, to encourage and motivate each other to reach out with the love of Jesus to the whosoever without discrimination and to stand in the gap as Christ's messengers of compassion.

"So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind. I know you're already doing this; just keep on doing it." (1 Thessalonians 5:11, *The Message*)

Salvationists, let's meet at the cages. Together, we can do this!

## Fun, foamy fundraising!

How many run/walk fundraising events feature a human car wash, foam-filled inflatable slides, a rain tunnel, fire-truck hoses, water balloons and bucket dumps? "Run the Flood" does because it's rooted in water.

The first annual event raised support for those affected by the 2008 flood in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the worst in the city's history. The run/walk eventually evolved into "Flood the Run," a family-friendly outing to raise funds and awareness for The Salvation Army and Matthew 25, a local charity founded in 2006 to strengthen the city's west side that helped rebuild housing for 250 fami-

lies after the 2008 flood.

Held each August, the fun-filled course, which is suitable for all ages and skill levels, meanders for almost three miles through a large park along the Cedar River and ends on a 100-foot-long "slip-n-slide" followed by a picnic. The race starts at 8:00 a.m. with the release of the first wave of participants; subsequent waves are released every 10 minutes.

Attracting more than 1,000 runners and walkers each year, the amount of funds raised also has grown. The Salvation Army and Matthew 25 equally shared the \$26,000 raised last year, reported Lia Pontarelli, director of develop-

ment and communications for The Salvation Army in Cedar Rapids, which is led by Majors Alan and Kimberley Hellstrom, corps officers.

"This popular event has given The Salvation Army great exposure to many people in the region who may not have been aware of all the services it offers," said Lia.



## A passion for produce

Captain Chrissy Cooper anticipates a full harvest from the community garden at the Indianapolis Eagle Creek, Ind., Corps this summer and autumn. She hopes to provide more than 200 bags of fresh food to those in need in Indianapolis. Last year the corps pantry gave out 180 bags of produce to clients.

Although she now oversees the project, the captain credits Cadet Makayla (Broer) Parnell for making it a reality. When Makayla became an intern at the corps in 2014 she had a vision for a community garden to supplement the



Makayla gets her hands dirty with Lydia Cooper.

food pantry and provide fresh options for program meals. Her enthusiasm spread.

Makayla grew up eating vegetables out of her family's garden. As an adult, she's passionate about people having access to fresh, healthy produce—something that isn't available in many urban areas.

While spending a week serving at the Urban Mission Center in St. Louis, Mo., Makayla was inspired by the community garden they started in their inner-city neighborhood. It opened her eyes to the possibility for fresh food to grow in the least likely places.

The first year, with a budget of \$100, Makayla and Captain Chrissy built two raised garden beds, filled them with soil, and planted a variety of vegetables. They gave out 60 bags of produce in the food pantry and used the rest to add freshness to their weekly supper club meal.

The next year Turner Construction donated the supplies and labor to build four more raised beds. The garden flourished as volunteers assisted with weeding, watering and harvesting the vegetables.

Although Makayla has been away from the corps for a year, having entered the College for Officer Training last fall, she left a legacy that continues to grow.



**Central Connection** 

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# Taking the next generation under their wing

by Craig Dirkes

The afterschool and summer youth programs at the St. Paul Eastside, Minn., Corps are a safe haven for dozens of elementary-age children, some of whom live where gangs, drugs, prostitution and gunfire are a part of everyday life.



Eighteen teenagers who graduated from these programs are now giving back as volunteers, teaching the next generation of kindergarten through sixth-grade kids how to stay out of trouble, make good choices and lead positive lives. In 2016, they logged an astounding 5,400 volunteer hours!

"I love working with the kids," said Britney, adding that serving young children gives her purpose. "You're not out on the street, you're not roaming around. Here you're safe. You don't have to worry about getting shot or having bad things happen."

During the school year she and fellow volunteers come to the corps every Monday through Thursday afternoon to help kids with their school work, reading skills through Mission: Literacy, play with them in the gym, help the girls earn badges in sunbeams and the boys learn "tools of the trade" in boys group and serve meals, snacks and more.

"Volunteering gives them something to do and a sense of worth," said Wanda Sue Fleur, Eastside's youth program coordinator. "They see the difference they are making. I can see the joy on their faces when they're helping the younger kids."

The children become joyful as well. That includes Jakyla, an afterschool participant who enjoys interacting with the teen volunteers. "It's great! They like to play with us and help us with our homework," she said.

Jakyla wants to be just like the young women who've taken her under their wing. "I can't wait to be a volunteer here," she said. "I will get to help kids and tell them I've actually grown up here, too."

That's exactly what Wanda Sue



wants to encourage. She concluded, "Watching the kids come back, watching them grow...It just makes me very, very proud."

The St. Paul Eastside Corps is led by Envoy Donald LaMar.

## Thomas a beacon to others

Bandmaster Peggy Thomas has received the Beacon Award from the International Women's Brass Conference. Introduced just three years ago, the award is given to "women who have been beacons of light for those around them, both in the fields of performance and education. These women influence so many generations of musicians throughout their careers sharing the art of performance, and standing for the values of equity, perseverance, and excellence."

From a young age, Peggy was intent on developing and using her God-given talents to further God's Kingdom. She graduated from the Eastman School of Music in 1975 with a bachelor's of music in trumpet performance and from the Northwestern University School of Music in 1977 with a master's of music in trumpet performance.

In 1976 she became the first woman in the world to gain membership in a Salvation Army staff band. As a member of the Chicago Staff Band (CSB), she served as principal



cornet for almost 40 years and is presently its deputy bandmaster. She has recorded extensively with the CSB, plus has recorded two solo albums, *Songs in the Heart* and *Perspectives*. She has appeared as soloist, clinician and conductor throughout the United States, Canada, Korea, the Netherlands, England, New Zealand and Australia.

She also has served as the bandmaster of the Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps Band since 1983. Under her leadership, the band not only has supported the corps' mission and worship but has traveled ministering extensively and has recorded more than 50 CDs.

"Peggy's outstanding musicianship goes without saying; however, her quiet and humble leadership is what sets her apart," said Beth Cooper, music teacher and currently principal cornet in the CSB. "She has paved the way for so many women musicians who would have never had the chance to play in a staff band without her. Peggy has always been an inspiration for me and is a true beacon."

## Iron sharpening iron

*As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.*  
Proverbs 27:17, NIV

Discipleship, outreach, fellowship—these are the three aims of the Petoskey, Mich., Corps Men's Club, this year's recipient of the Territorial Men's Fellowship Club of the Year award.

Led by Envoy Greg Irwin, the group spent the last program year in dedicated service to their corps and community. The members raised \$1,000 for World Services/Self-Denial through a hotdog cookout held at the thrift store combined with personal stewardship and donations. They also donated their time and talent volunteering in a variety of capacities, including yard and handyman work, taking the afterschool program kids fishing, and ringing bells at kettles during the holidays.

Also during the Christmas season, the club adopted a family and raised \$500 to provide Christmas dinner and gifts. In the spring, they assisted with cleaning the thrift store. They also donated their time to assist an elderly woman from the corps' congregation with yard work and outdoor projects. In the coming year, the men plan to continue providing free services to the community.



Petoskey men's fellowship members prepare a community meal.

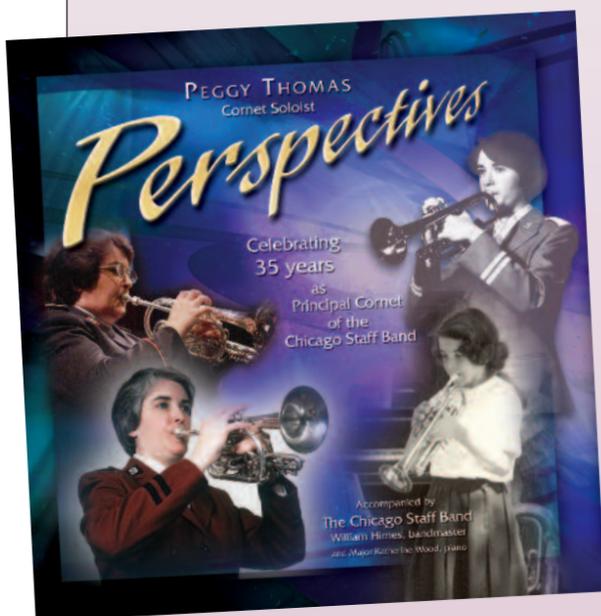
Of particular importance to the men is setting aside time to help other men who are in tough situations. One Thursday evening a month they volunteer to host dinner and Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous meetings for Harbor Hall, a local rehabilitation center. Because several of the group are familiar with the struggles of addiction, they feel compelled to befriend and minister to this population.

In preparation to engage others with the gospel, the men meet regularly for Bible study, "sharpening" one another as their scriptural motto says. As the men study the scripture they are challenged to grow in faith and live in such a way as to glorify God. At the end of each meeting the group prays individually for the members of their "brother" group, the Lakewood Temple, Minn., Corps Men's Club.

"It's a way for us to look beyond ourselves and our immediate community," said Envoy Greg.



Participating in worship



# Where He leads me, I will follow

**B**ill and Deb Middendorp are out of their comfort zone. Along with their four children, the Middendorps have been on a journey to discover God's place for them.

Early in 2010, with Bill attending Sioux Falls Seminary fulltime and Deb working in a nursing home facility, the family had everything they could have wanted: a big home, a close-knit community and family nearby. But they weren't at peace, so they began to pray for God's leading.

"For many years we tried our own way of being where we thought we wanted to be and we didn't have peace," said Deb. "Throughout our praying we told God, whatever You ask of us, we're a 'yes.'"



Deb instructs a young student on piano.

But God didn't just ask them to step out in faith. It was more like taking a leap. The first thing they felt Him ask them to do was to sell the big, beautiful home they loved. Obediently, though hopeful for a slow process, they put it on the market. One showing and less than a month later, the house was sold. Bill and Deb were flabbergasted. Although they had no idea what God had in store for them, they began to downsize, selling or giving away over half of



The Middendorps make their rounds in a Salvation Army van.

their belongings as they waited on God to provide direction.

A few months later, still not knowing what God was going to ask, Deb set aside time for prayer and fasting. She went to the chapel of the First Baptist Church in George, Iowa, where they were members, and began to pray and search the Bible. Every verse or passage she landed on shared one theme: do not be afraid. Meanwhile, Bill was at home studying and praying.

The message was clear. Sitting in the presence of God in two separate places, they'd each felt the same leading—Chicago—and they were terrified! They didn't understand how God could use small-town people in a big city.

"We were not sure how it was going to work," said Bill. "It made no sense."

Bill and Deb had never lived in a big city, nor had they wanted to. It was a struggle to accept God would want to use them so far outside their comfort zone. Yet even before they told anyone about it, affirmation of their calling came in unexpected ways.

A resident at Deb's workplace offhandedly commented, "You're not going to up and move to Chicago on us, are you?"

As if that weren't enough, "A friend reminded me the safest place to be is in the center of God's will," Deb recalled.

It was still a struggle, but they kept moving forward believing God had called them and would show them the way.

The family closed on their house and, having nowhere yet to live, moved in with Deb's parents. They continued to pray for direction and downsized even more, eventually fitting everything they owned into one trailer.



A homeless man selects fresh food.

Bill took a student internship with a church planting group in Chicago and began making connections. They found an apartment in Chicago's west suburbs, but with no proof of income there was no chance of a lease. A friend heard about the situation and offered to co-sign the lease and cover rent for the first year, telling them, "God wants you there."



Middendorp children Brandi, Bobbi Jo, Darien, and Billi Jo

With all of their belongings packed into the trailer hitched to the farm truck they'd bought for the exact amount for which they'd sold their riding mower, boat and other equipment, the family was ready to move. Then, the night before their departure, a huge storm blew through the area. They woke to find a tree had fallen on the truck, crushing it. Neighbors had suffered damage to their property as well.



Bill and Deb minister to the homeless in the Des Plaines, Ill., area.



Bill and Deb with their children at the Des Plaines, Ill., Corps

Undeterred, the Middendorps put in a call to their insurance agent and got to work helping with the community's cleanup efforts. Within 24 hours the insurance company totaled out their truck and they were able to purchase a nicer vehicle—and it was even Deb's favorite color! Soon, they were on their way to their new home.

"God provided the way again and again and again. In ways we never could have imagined," Deb said.

For the first six months, the family traveled into the city to worship with friends. But when winter hit and the drive became more difficult, they began to visit other churches closer to their home. Nothing seemed the right fit, so they continued to search, visiting different congregations in the area.

When the lease was up on their apartment the family moved into a small mobile home. Bill was still a fulltime student and Deb was teaching piano lessons, but with no other income, money was tight and their savings began to dwindle. Then, out of the blue, word came from the small, rural First Baptist Church. The Middendorps were being added to the missionary roll and would receive a monthly stipend to assist them with the cost of living and to support them in ministry opportunities for which God had prepared them!



Bill and Deb gather backpacks to distribute to homeless individuals.

As the family began to settle into the mobile home community, the children were invited by members of the Des Plaines, Ill., Corps to participate in a traveling vacation Bible school being held in the neighborhood. At the end of the week, the leaders invited the family to worship services at the corps.

Surprised, Bill and Deb responded the way many people do at first: "You're a church?"

But when they walked into the corps that first Sunday morning, they knew they were home. The more they learned about The Salvation Army and its mission, the more convinced they became of God's hand in bringing them to Chicago.

Slowly, the family started getting

involved at the corps. Bill rang bells at the kettle the next Christmas season, and God opened his eyes to the ministry that lay before him. Several of the other bellringers were homeless. As Bill listened to their stories, his purpose emerged.

"I just listened to their needs," he said. "They needed personal hygiene items, backpacks, blankets—things most of us don't have to worry about."

With the blessing of Captains David and Shannon Martinez, at that time the corps officers, Bill and Deb started reaching out to the homeless community in and around Des Plaines on behalf of The Salvation Army. Bill volunteered to serve as chaplain in the food pantry and collected unused food and toiletry items to give out during their weekly visits to their homeless friends.

Meanwhile, the Middendorp children became active in youth programs and Sunday school. They attended summer camps at Wonderland Camp with other corps kids. The oldest two, Darien and Brandi, attended teen Bible study and corps cadet classes while the younger two, twins Billi Jo and Bobbi Jo, participated in sunbeams, youth music programs and junior soldiers.

Deb started volunteering with the corps' youth programs, joined the praise team and built relationships through women's ministries. Bill joined the men's Bible study. Together, they attended soldiership classes and made the decision to enroll as senior soldiers. Shortly thereafter, the kids were enrolled as well.

When Bill finished seminary in 2015, he started working at the corps fulltime as the jobs program and street ministry coordinator. He continues to work with the homeless, hitting the streets twice a week to provide necessities and to offer support and spiritual guidance.

Deb volunteers at the corps wherever she is needed, often joining Bill in street outreach ministry, and teaches piano lessons part-time to supplement their income. Through it all, God has been incredibly faithful. The Middendorps are now at peace, knowing this is right where God wants them to be.

Deb concluded, "We learned to trust in God's provision when humanly speaking it makes no sense."



Deb sings with Emily Proccichiani and Jill Romin during Sunday worship.

## Newly accepted candidate

**Justin Tracy**

**Cape Girardeau, Mo., Corps  
Midland Division**



I accepted Jesus at age 6 with the help of my parents after attending a Billy Graham crusade in Columbus, Ohio. I grew up in church and served as a leader in the youth group during high school. I attended Indiana Wesleyan University and was introduced to



The Salvation Army through a service trip to the Harlem Temple Corps in New York City.

I quickly began to learn about the scope of Salvation Army ministry and was even more interested. I met Captains Jason and Dana Bigelow during our trip and through that relationship learned about the Ministry Discovery Internship. I accepted the internship and through that experience have felt the call to officership strengthened in my walk with Christ. I am excited to serve God as an officer.

*Until recently Justin's corps officers were Captains Ronald and Bridgette Amick. His current corps officers are Lts. Matthew and Virginia DeGonia.*

## Extraordinary service to a faithful God

**by Evie Polsley**

*I was a stranger and you invited me in. (Matthew 25:35, NLT)*

For Majors Jim and Judy Garrington there are no strangers, only people with whom to share Christ's love and saving power. This was evident as friends and family from around the world gathered at Wonderland Camp to thank them for their love, service and passion for Christ and His people for more than 40 years as officers.

Their session name, "Overcomers," was apropos as they surmounted road blocks and carried people's burdens to proclaim the love and goodness of God. Their retirement service, like their ministry, was filled with joy, laughter, family, friends and celebrated God's faithfulness.

The Garringtons' officership was anything but ordinary. Serving in Germany for 23 years, they ministered in a nation of families divided by political strife. Through Judy's sacrificial acts of service and Jim's gift of evangelism, they saw God break down walls of anger, grief and unbelief in the hearts of men and women. Their ministry not only encompassed those on the west side of the Berlin

Wall but those in East Germany as they risked their safety to sneak Bibles across the border. When communism collapsed and the wall fell, the Garringtons were some of the first officers to preach and live out the love of Christ to people who for more than a generation were not even allowed to say His name.

After returning to the Central Territory, their ministry didn't waver. For 18 years they showed Christ's compassion to lost and hurting people in corps, officers who needed a champion or someone to listen and countless others.

During an open mic at the retirement, streams of people shared how the Garringtons opened their home and hearts to others, whether a hitchhiker, a family fleeing religious persecution or someone who just needed a listening ear.

Majors Beat and Annette Rieder, who had ministered with the Garringtons in Germany, conducted the official retirement ceremony in which Major Beat relayed, "I saw firsthand their integrity and obedience to do what God had called them to do. In all things—calling, faith, personal testimony—their lives reflected God's love and faithfulness."



At their retirement service, Majors Judy and Jim Garrington are shown with their great niece, Ellie, and granddaughter, Lili.

# 730... AND BEYOND



*9,600 days and counting*

**by Major Lee Ann Thompson**

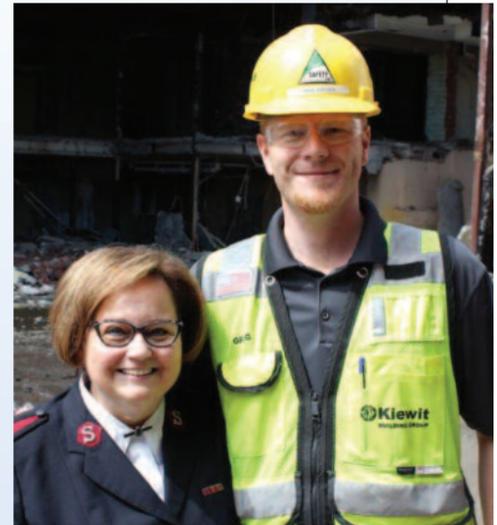
The phone rang. Seeing it was Greg Johnson, our construction site project manager, I was pretty sure he was calling to give me an update. Instead, he said, "I have something I need to tell you. I have a brain tumor, and I need to have surgery and treatment afterward. But don't worry about the project, I've got it covered."

"Once you said the words 'brain tumor,' the project was the last thing on my mind," I assured him.

We talked about how he felt, how his family was taking the news, and what his next steps were. He told me the tumor was actually a recurrence. Obviously, his wife and parents were concerned but hopeful. His four young children only knew "daddy" was going away but would return soon.

I was privileged to pray with him. I prayed God would provide peace for him, comfort for his family and wisdom for his medical team. "I don't think I've ever had a client pray for me," he said.

When I asked about the location and date of his surgery, he responded the third week of April in Phoenix. That's when the situation turned into a miraculous "God moment" for me.



Only God's timing could have matched my husband's and my trip to Phoenix, Ariz. for the National Advisory Organizations Conference with his surgery.

We arrived at the hospital two days after Greg's surgery. His wife, Karen, and parents, Sally and Nyle, all seemed to know who we were and welcomed us. We had a great visit, heard about the wonderful prognosis for Greg's recovery and ended our visit by praying with this family.

I've been an officer for more than 9,600 days. Not one has been exactly the same, and I love it! A phone call I thought was going to be about business turned into unexpected ministry with a new friend and his family. Moments like these are some of the best.



**730**  
and beyond...  
CANDIDATES CENTRAL

**If you have declared  
God's calling to  
officership in the  
future...**

**If you plan to enter  
the College for  
Officer Training  
in August 2018...**

**Or even if you are  
wondering if  
officership is God's  
plan for your life...**

The Central Territorial Candidates' Department invites you to be part of the 730 Weekend 2017 to be held October 6-8, 2017, at Central Territorial Headquarters and the College for Officer Training.

Three different tracks of workshops and learning opportunities have been specially designed with you in mind. And there's lots of great fellowship, too!

Register today at [centralusa.salvationarmy.org/usc/730andbeyond](http://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/usc/730andbeyond)

For more information, contact your divisional candidates' secretary.

# Scandinavian Jubilee *October 6-8, 2017* Come celebrate a rich and godly heritage



**Music by the Stavanger, Norway, Corps Band**

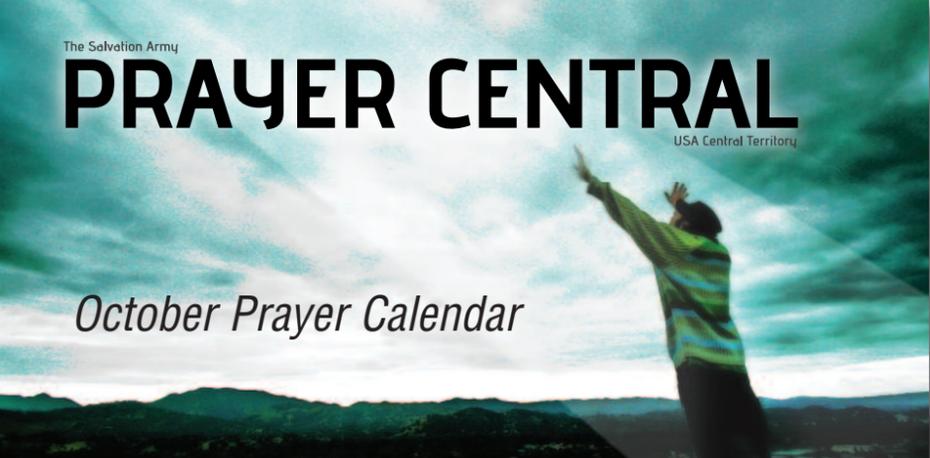
Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps  
500 S. Rockford Ave.

For more information, call (815) 226-4400



**Messages by Colonels Jan Peder and Birgit Fosen**

Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries  
Norway, Iceland and Faeroes Territory



# PRAYER CENTRAL

The Salvation Army USA Central Territory

## October Prayer Calendar

My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Sunday	Numbers 22-24	New life in Christ on this Decision Sunday
	2 Monday	2 Chronicles 11-15	Janesville, Wis., Corps
	3 Tuesday	Psalms 117-118	Indianapolis, Ind., ARC*
	4 Wednesday	Proverbs 28	Farmington Hills, Mich., Corps
	5 Thursday	Jonah	Dubuque, Iowa, Corps
	6 Friday	Acts 3-4	Scandinavian Jubilee, Rockford, Ill.
	7 Saturday	Hebrews 5-7	Territorial Candidates Weekend
	8 Sunday	Numbers 25-27	Harvest Festival Sunday
	9 Monday	2 Chronicles 16-20	Huntington, Ind., Corps
	10 Tuesday	Psalms 119	Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo., Corps
	11 Wednesday	Proverbs 29-30	Blue Island, Ill., Corps
	12 Thursday	Micah	East St. Louis, Ill., Corps
	13 Friday	Acts 5-6	Grand Forks, N.D., Corps
	14 Saturday	Hebrews 8-10	Territorial Multicultural Ministries ONE Conference
	15 Sunday	Numbers 28-30	Youth character-building programs
	16 Monday	2 Chronicles 21-24	Hastings, Neb., Corps
	17 Tuesday	Psalms 120-121	Kansas & Western Missouri DHQ**
	18 Wednesday	Proverbs 31	Global Mission Team
	19 Thursday	Nahum	Grand Rapids Fulton Heights Citadel, Mich., Corps
	20 Friday	Acts 7-8	Kenosha, Wis., Corps
	21 Saturday	Hebrews 11-13	Kansas City, Mo., ARC*
	22 Sunday	Numbers 31-33	Women's ministries throughout the territory
	23 Monday	2 Chronicles 25-28	Flint Beecher, Mich., Corps
	24 Tuesday	Psalms 122-124	Freeport, Ill., Corps
	25 Wednesday	Ecclesiastes 1-2	Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps
	26 Thursday	Habakkuk	Granite City, Ill., Corps
	27 Friday	Acts 9-10	Huron, S.D., Corps
	28 Saturday	James 1-3	Switzerland, Austria and Hungary Territory <sup>PM</sup>
	29 Sunday	Numbers 34-36	Holland, Mich., Corps
	30 Monday	2 Chronicles 29-32	National Headquarters
	31 Tuesday	Psalms 125-127	La Crosse, Wis., 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

## Keeping the legacy alive

by Mary Zaleski

Envoys Celia McDougall left her home in Flint, Mich., for Brest, France, on April 19, 1919. She would soon reach a hut in Coblenz, Germany, where she would become part of an elite group of Salvation Army women who provided fresh doughnuts and spiritual comfort to soldiers on the frontlines during World War I and later during occupation duty in Germany. Records show that along with Ensign Grace Beacraft, Celia spent 750 days in France and Germany serving 5,000 doughnuts a day—all told, about 3.7 million!



Chuck McDougall, Cati McDougall and Lt. Colonel John Turner

of the historic festivities.

The idea to serve the confections was started by Adjutants Helen Purviance and Margaret Sheldon during the fall of 1917. Assessing the supplies on hand in the trenches and wanting to provide spiritual and emotional comfort to the soldiers, they came up with the idea of frying doughnuts for the troops. Soon, they were making up to 9,000 doughnuts per day.

"We wanted to keep this legacy alive," said EMI Divisional Commander Lt. Colonel John Turner at the museum event. "We want future generations to know just what these brave women did."

Colonel Turner concluded by donating the iconic photo of doughnut girl Lt. Stella Young to the museum for its WWI exhibit.

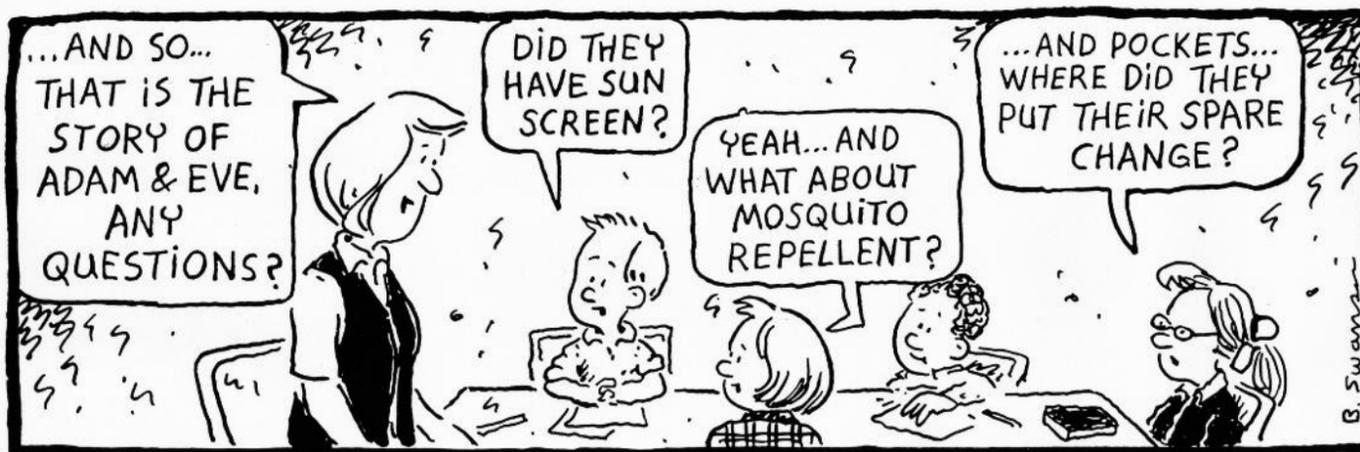


Cheryl Freismuth and Susan Kilyk of the division's development staff join Cati McDougall (center) as doughnut girls for the event.

Today, her great-nephew, Chuck McDougall, serves doughnuts, coffee and water, as well as other necessities and meals, to people following disasters such as fires, tornadoes and other emergencies as Eastern Michigan (EMI) divisional emergency disaster services director.

"I'm fifth generation," said Chuck. "I was born into a family legacy of caring and giving." As accustomed, Chuck served doughnuts and coffee to attendees at a 100th Anniversary Doughnut Girl Celebration on National Donut Day, June 2, at the Michigan Military Technical and Historical Society Museum in Eastpointe, Mich. He also brought along his niece, Cati McDougall, dressed as a doughnut girl, to be part

## --Mustard Seeds--



## Chicago Kroc

Continued from page 1

One of the week's highlights was the presentation of the Territorial Youth Volunteer of the Year award to Chris Mack. Volunteering as the center's costumed mascot, "RJ," Chris has a great way of connecting with people and helping them feel welcomed. He also assists with the community Thanksgiving dinner and in other areas as needed. In the last two years, he's given more than 400 hours of service. "I enjoy every moment of volunteering at the Chicago Kroc Center," said Chris.

Today, the Kroc Center has almost 8,000 members. In the summer the number of people who use the center daily often reaches 2,000! It offers a full and impressive range of aquatics, fitness and sports programs but also boasts an amazing Academy of the

Arts, a senior center which enriches the quality of life for older adults, and family life and education classes from finances to gardening. Given the Army's holistic mission, the Kroc Center also has vibrant music programs, character-building programs and other children's ministries, youth and adult Bible studies, women's ministries and men's fellowship.

Programming and corps life for the Chicago Kroc Center began over 10 years ago with the appointment of Majors David and Darlene Harvey as Kroc Center administrators, who were also responsible for overseeing the center's construction, program development and official opening five years ago and then led it until the summer of 2016.

"People wondered five years ago how the Kroc Center would make a difference in such a challenging area of Chicago," said Major David Harvey. "With thousands of people coming in and out per year, a corps thriving with soldiers and volunteers, a fifth-grade class that started with us 10 years ago and will be graduating college next year...yes, God is still at work in our world through this center."



## Promoted to Glory

### Major Alvin Nelson

Major Alvin Nelson was promoted to Glory on July 10, 2017, in Rockford, Ill. He was 94 years old.



Alvin was born on April 5, 1923, in Chicago, Ill., to Alvin and Lucile Nelson. He attended Wright Junior College prior to entering the College for Officer Training (CFOT) and was commissioned in 1944 with the "Liberty" session.

He married Captain Elsie Mattson on November 7, 1945. They served faithfully for more than 40 years in corps, divisional headquarters and at the CFOT. Major Alvin also was the city coordinator in St. Paul, Minn., and Rockford, Ill. Most of the Nelsons' appointments would have been part of the great Scandinavian Department (division). Upon retirement in 1988, the Nelsons became committed, hard-working soldiers of the Rockford Temple Corps which they once led. In 2008, Elsie was promoted to Glory.

Alvin's life reflected his deep devotion to Christ, immense love for The Salvation Army and sincere concern for others' spiritual well-being. He was known as one of the territory's saints: a godly, gentle man whose powerful prayers were legion, blessing others until his last days.

Alvin was preceded in death by his wife, brother and sister. He is survived by his son, David, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

### Major Jerold Johnson

Jerold Leon Johnson was born on December 17, 1938, to Leon and Naomi Johnson in Moline, Ill. He was promoted to Glory early Sunday morning, June 11, 2017.



He was saved in 1957 and received the blessing of a clean heart during the Watchnight service on New Year's Eve in 1958. On January 12, 1958, he became a senior soldier.

Jerold married Helen Lucille Bryan on August 30, 1958. They entered the College for Officer Training and were commissioned in 1962 with the "Soldiers of Christ" session.

They served in appointments throughout the Midwest. Notably, Jerold was instrumental in the building of four corps. In 1995 they were appointed to the Kansas and Western Missouri Divisional Headquarters where they served as chaplains in social services until their retirement in 2003.

Jerry was known as a hard worker with great artistic talent. His genuine love for people was evident in his kind-hearted nature and in being a father figure to many youth in the territory.

He is survived by his wife and four children, Major Nathan Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Major Lurlene Johnson and Ivy Roberts and five grandchildren.

## Bridging hearts program fills gap



by Major Heidi Reed

During an advisory council meeting at the Wyandotte Downriver, Mich., Corps, Judge James Kandrevas (a council member) asked if there was anything The Salvation Army could do to help women going through his court involved in prostitution. He was visibly burdened for them. Of course, we said, "Yes!"

We began a group called "Bridging Hearts." It's led by Janice Quick, our corps women's ministries secretary, Karen Dillenbeck, a volunteer trained in prison ministry, and me.

At first, the women in the initial group were not thrilled to be court-mandated to come to The Salvation Army for six weeks, but their look of dread soon changed to excitement. They really enjoyed coming.

In March we started our second group. This time there weren't long faces. They had been told by the probation officer how the members of the first group loved coming and actually looked forward to it.

Each week is filled with refreshments, fun activities such as crafts and games (even archery), a presentation regarding resources they can access, and a DVD series titled "Unashamed" by Christine Caine. Our caseworker gets to know each woman and shares

about the resources available to them from our corps as well as from the community. Our energy assistance specialist lets them know about conserving energy, how to get on a payment plan, and how to handle past due accounts. I share about corps programs, including Sunday worship, for them and their children.

What an exciting time it is when we are able to share the gospel and



Caseworker Nancy Tsui

see hearts touched. What a joy it is to see changes in the women. One broke off a six-year relationship that was destructive. Another got a job. Some of the children have gotten to go to summer camp, and were thrilled. One woman said, "I've been listening to the videos. I know I have a future now and I know that I have a lot of people here that care about me."

It has been a privilege to get to know and love these women and to pray for them and with them.



Captain Brian and Major Heidi Reed pictured with Judge James Kandrevas and the corps' women's ministries secretary Janice Quick.

## A joyful offering

Majors Micheal and Shirley Myers celebrated their retirement earlier this year in a farewell service led by Lt. Colonel Norman Marshall and held at the Bay City, Mich., Corps, where they have served since 2005. Several community leaders were in attendance to offer their support and well wishes.

The Myers were married in 1990 and began their ministry together when Micheal was commissioned in 1994 with the "Crusaders for Christ" session. Shirley had been commissioned earlier in 1978 with the "Disciples of Jesus" session. They enter retirement with the joy of having served nearly 25 years together.

Throughout their officership, the Myers' served in corps appointments throughout Michigan and Indiana. Their greatest joy was building relationships and loving God's people through service to the community.



Photo by Jacob Hamilton

"I love seeing God change lives," said Major Micheal. "It was a joy offering hope to people and allowing God to work in every situation."

In retirement, they plan to enjoy their home in Howell, Mich.—during the warm months, that is. In the winter, they hope to spend time with their daughter in Florida and their son, who lives in Indiana. Major Micheal also intends to enjoy the open road on his motorcycle.