



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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Commissioner André Cox elected General

Commissioner André Cox, a Swiss-British Salvation Army officer, has been elected as the 20th General. The High Council, 117 senior leaders of The Salvation Army from around the world who gathered outside London for the sacred task of choosing the next international leader, elected the new General.

The General accepted his new responsibility in a spirit of humility, saying that, irrespective of the rank he held, he had not moved away from his original calling to officership—to be God's servant and to proclaim the gospel. General Cox shares his ministry with his wife, Commissioner Silvia Cox, who is the world president of women's



Commissioner Paul Seiler, territorial commander, congratulates General André Cox.

ministries. Together General and Commissioner Cox will lead the 1.5 million-strong worldwide church of The Salvation Army.

Born in Harare, Zimbabwe, to an English father and Swiss mother, André Cox spent his childhood years in Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom before moving to Switzerland, where he met his wife and from where they entered training. They were commissioned in 1979.

The 59-year-old General has vast international ministry experience. In the early years of officership, he held appointments in Switzerland and Zimbabwe. More recently he served as the territorial commander in the Southern Africa Territory, the Finland and Estonia Territory, and the United Kingdom Territory with



General André Cox addresses the assembled Salvationists.

the Republic of Ireland. In February 2013 he was appointed as Chief of the Staff, second in command of the international Salvation Army.

On being announced as the 20th General, the new international leader told more than 10,000 people from around the world watching via live webcast that he was thankful to God but aware of the "awesome task that has been placed upon our shoulders." He continued, "I pray that The Salvation Army will be known for being a force for good in the world. I pray that The Salvation Army will be a force for positive change and transformation in the communities in which we serve. And I pray that we Salvationists, no matter what our rank, will live up to the spiritual values we proclaim, that we will live them out in our lives. And in that way I know that God will bless and will lead us."

A video clip of the announcement may be seen at www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNI5-SuvvL4&feature=youtu.be

From an International News Release



The Indian commissioners present the new international leaders with traditional cultural gifts.

Unveiling of logo builds 150th Anniversary Congress momentum

After a selection process lasting several months, the official logo for The Salvation Army's 2015 International Congress has been revealed. Designed by Kim Hansen and Jan Aasmann Størksen from Norway, the logo will become a familiar sight in the lead-up to the congress, which is being held in London, UK, July 1-5, 2015, to mark the Army's 150th anniversary.

The logo is comprised of interwoven shapes, each of which resembles a dove, the symbol of the Holy Spirit. Commissioner William Cochrane, international secretary to the Chief of the Staff, explained, "We are a holiness movement and this congress will

express that from the outset. Additionally, the interlocking shapes in the traditional Salvation Army colors of yellow, red and blue infer the unity that is ours through our diversity. The Salvation Army is at work in 126 countries around the world, yet we are one."

When the multicolored elements are combined, they form a star, which is a prominent symbol on the Salvation Army flag.

The outer part of the logo forms a circular shape, which is reminiscent of the earth. This ties in with the congress theme Boundless - The Whole World Redeeming, with the logo's shape reinforcing the Salvationist's desire to see the entire world won for



BOUNDLESS
the whole world redeeming

The Salvation Army International Congress
150th Anniversary | 1-5 July 2015 | London, UK

God. Lt. Colonel Eddie Hobgood, International Congress 2015 coordinator, added, "This circular shape, which has no beginning nor ending, reminds us of the words 'eternal,' 'never-ending,' 'limitless' ... 'boundless.' God's love, His salvation and His grace are indeed boundless and worthy of our acknowledgement and celebration during the course of our five days together in London."

The final choice for the logo was selected by the International Congress Planning and Advisory Council, on which Lt. Colonel Ralph Bukiewicz serves, working with international leadership, from approximately 40 submissions from around the Salvation Army world.

For the latest news follow @Boundless2015 on Twitter.

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Staying power

by Commissioner Carol Seiler
Territorial Coordinator for Strategic Mission Planning

This summer an intriguing title crossed my desk courtesy of Bob Jones, Resource Connection secretary, and the Christian Booksellers Association. It was an "advanced reader copy." No, I am not an advanced reader; it just means a copy circulated early to see whether there's enough interest to buy it and also that the text may be changed in the final version.

The book was titled *Called to Stay*. The focus was on millennials (young adults) not leaving churches which are out of touch, dry and drifting from mission, but instead being

called to stay and be change agents in them. I sent the book to Eric Himes, director of young adult ministries, for his thoughts. I wondered if the concept only resonated with this non-millennial who sometimes wishes to be 25 again.

What strikes me about the title is the contrast to how we often see being "called." Perhaps it's our Army culture, but being "called" almost always is linked to giving up everything and moving to a new venture to start over, whether that is officership, a job in another state or country, or leaving a non-Christian family setting.



Rarely do we think of being called to stay put, called to be Christ-followers in the irritating, mundane, less-than-ideal context of where we are. In fact, we are called to be faithful, called to be a voice that refuses to let others give up, called to struggle to see God's presence over time and in situations that externally are dark.

I am just thinking out loud. I don't intend to belabor the point or prevent any launching of new callings. But being "called" must remain grounded in God who is doing the

calling. We must be sure we are seeking His purpose as we listen during times of decision. "Called to stay" could be translated "God hasn't released me from His purpose in this place, yet."

Reading this book, along with *Orbiting the Giant Hairball* by Gordon McKenzie, which encourages creativity without being absorbed into bureaucracy, makes me feel strongly that part of what will keep an almost 150-year-old Salvation Army healthy and vibrant will be those who find a way not to become part of the landscape but to shape it. It doesn't mean to blend in or lose yourself but to be authentic in our individual and collective spiritual walks. We are, you know, "Creating a Shared Future," and we need those who keep the "stay" from being "stale."

Tour of Hope

by April Fetz

When Santa Rodriguez's friends invited her on a day trip to tour The Salvation Army's Hidden Falls Camp, she just couldn't resist. She was curious about the different things The Salvation Army did.

This was Santa's first camp experience. She was first in line at each



stop, ready to try something new and learn from the campers. She was hooked.

It was also the first time several employees got a chance to experience camp, at least Salvation Army camp. The experience not only educated the employees but helped them do their jobs better from writing the Happy Camper newsletter to telling corporate donors about needs.

The day trip was part of the Indiana Division's Tour of Hope program

which started last year. Each tour is a different adventure showcasing the programs and facilities The Salvation Army provides for the community. It's a way for volunteers, corporate partners, donors, employees and the curious to see and experience first-hand what their efforts do or could do.

This summer the Tour of Hope traveled to the Indianapolis, Ind., Fountain Square Corps, the Ruth Lilly Women and Children's Center (Block of Hope), and the Indiana War Memorial for a glimpse at the Donut Girl exhibit. At each stop, people learned what programs the facilities housed. They also heard the personal stories and ways The Salvation Army helped the people

who visit and work at these facilities.

"Every time I get closer to The Salvation Army, I realize there is still so much that the Army does," said Steve Gould, Brown County Advisory Board member, at a recent tour. "Today it was women in crisis. I had no idea there was something like that."

Steve's wife, Kim, attended the Tour of Hope as well. She was almost speechless. "Wow!" she said. "This has been mind opening. Very influential people should do it to get a flavor for what's going on."

Central Connection 

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Southeast Mich. ARC Singers "Pure Joy"

Web exclusives

Women's Auxiliary Member Michelle Nimmo's testimony
Sponsorship Inspiration for Share Your Christmas Joy by Mona Taube
Ideas from Fort Dodge that can help grow your corps
More on the Army of Readers

Building an "Army of Readers"

As children head back to school, The Salvation Army in Grand Rapids, Mich., is doing its part to promote literacy. With the Peter C. and Emajeon Cook Foundation and support from Crowe Horwath and other community partners, The Salvation Army conducted its "Army of Readers" initiative for a second year to highlight the importance and joy of reading.

Over 35 young professionals and college student volunteers attended an orientation at The Salvation Army before visiting nearly 40 classrooms to read books and conduct special joint activities for approximately 900 children. Volunteers were paired up to read in two or three classrooms and to conduct activities ranging from antenna headband



crafts to bandana decorating projects.

Siona, from the Grand Rapids Montessori School, wrote in a thank you note, "Dear Army of Readers, thank you for

reading us that amazing book! I loved the activity you made for us. My favorite part had to be the activity; I mean who in the world could come up with something so fun? I am so glad you came into our school!"



Angela DeVries, Western Michigan and Northern Indiana divisional volunteer services director, not only helped to coordinate volunteers and lead the orientation session but participated in the reading event, too. She recalled that as she started reading, one little boy, who had been acting up, slowly made his way over to the reading area. Before long he was really into the book, raising his hand and answering questions. "When I packed up to leave he came over, gave me a big hug and thanked me for spending time with him," said Angela.

Carrie Boer, from the Peter C. and Emajeon Cook Foundation, which has served the West Michigan area for over 25 years, said, "We all recognize that education is vital and reading is the cornerstone. We're helping our kids realize how reading opens so many doors, and I think this program has a special ability to bring a little bit of joy to reading as well."



Grant to empower caregivers

The Metropolitan Division has received a \$10,000 grant from the MetLife Foundation and the National Alliance for Caregiving to start a new volunteer-based caregiving program for vulnerable seniors in the Chicago area.

The division's Family and Community Services plans to mobilize volunteers and resources in local congregations and the community to offer an array of direct services such as transportation, light chores and housekeeping, repairs and friendly visits, as well as resources, education and support for family caregivers, including in-home respite.

At the heart of the new Two are Better than One program are dedicated, supervised and trained volunteers who will provide this in-home support for a diverse group of vulnerable seniors and caregivers who are low-income, disadvantaged and suffer from isolation. Many of the at-risk seniors and caregivers with whom Family and Community Services works have little or no ongoing family or community support. It is hoped that this service will enable seniors to remain living independently longer and empower caregivers.

The Metropolitan Division is one

of 10 locations nationally to receive a grant to replicate family caregiver education and support programs in their local communities. The winners were chosen based on innovation, collaboration, sustainability and effectiveness in



provided by family members. Managing the competing priorities of work and family, in addition to caregiving, is stressful and costly and can exact a heavy toll, resulting in burnout and health problems. Experts anticipate that family caregiving will grow in the decades ahead.

replicating a program/best practice for caregiver needs in their own communities.

"The startup funds for these award-winning replication programs will offer caregivers in these communities a new quality of support that can make a positive difference in the challenges they face as caregivers," said Gail Gibson Hunt, President & CEO, National Alliance for Caregiving.

According to a press release by the MetLife Foundation announcing the award, family caregiving has a value to society estimated at \$450 billion per year—more than the value of home care and nursing care combined. At least 65 million adults provide critical care that helps friends and loved ones with debilitating illnesses remain in their homes and other community settings. An estimated 80 percent of all care received by older Americans is



New EDS requirements

A Safe from Harm module, specific to disaster situations, has been added to the Introduction to Emergency Disaster Services course all volunteers are required to take. Those who have already completed the course must complete the new Safe from Harm module to have their badges renewed. This important new component has been added since people are even more vulnerable after disasters.

"In times of disaster people who are normally high functioning are not functioning at their full potential, which makes them more susceptible to predators," said Kevin Ellers, territorial emergency disaster services coordinator.

Educating EDS volunteers on how to recognize danger signs is intended to add an extra layer of protection for vulnerable people in these disaster situations.

Approved trainers for the National Disaster Training Program will take an additional "train the trainer" course in order to teach the additional Safe from Harm module. As with other EDS curriculum, it is anticipated this course will be available online in the future.

Employment Opportunity

Multi-media Ministries Editor/Ministry Tool Kit—USA Southern Territorial Headquarters, Atlanta, Ga. Plan/develop, implement, evaluate multi-media materials for ministry tool kit website. Ensure posted content meets established standards. Develop/administer marketing plan to grow site awareness/users lists. Create rich site content; support ministry leaders' submissions for site and Southern Spirit Online (SSO). Monitor all communications; develop site's appeal, functionality. Serve as key participant, content source on SSO team. Provide technical/creative assistance for communications bureau section of Community Relations and Development Department. Requirements: active, uniform-wearing Salvationist in good standing; BA in related field and two years experience producing multi-media and/or web-based ministry resources or equivalent experience providing knowledge, skills. Complete online application for Job #166172 at www.salvationarmycareers.org. For more information: debra_elder@uss.salvationarmy.org.

Blessings in Fort Dodge



Flanked by Captains Ronald and Carol Cook, some of the newest Fort Dodge, Iowa, Corps soldiers and adherents shop for uniforms and Bibles at Resource Connection.

"My life has changed 100 percent since my family started attending the Army. Being enrolled as a soldier means so much," said Kevin Blaha, who was enrolled as a soldier by General Linda Bond at Congress this summer. "Since going there [Fort Dodge, Iowa, Corps] church is fun; the captains [Ronald and Carol Cook] make you want to go, and I enjoy being around them because they're caring people."

Kevin, his wife, Nancy, and their three girls aren't the only ones who've become increasingly involved at the Fort Dodge Corps; attendance at weekly worship services has more than doubled, six soldiers and five adherents were enrolled this summer, and one altar call brought 45 first-time seekers forward.

"The increased attendance is due, in large part, to the love the Cooks show their daily diners," said Major Vicki Steinsland, Western divisional

program secretary. "They know their diners, they sit, eat, laugh and share together. They work together in the kitchen and dining room. They share their joys, sorrows and failures."

When the Cooks arrived at Fort Dodge three years ago, diners queued up, prayed, picked up their food and left. "We started opening the doors at 7:00 a.m. for coffee, prayer and conversation. Our people can come in to talk and share with us," said Carol. "And we're never too busy to hear them." Ronald continued, "It's a matter of getting to know them."

People aren't just invited from the diners program but from many aspects of ministry like youth activities, which is how the Blahas became involved. Every person who walks through the door is encouraged to attend the corps services and make it their church home.



The joy of junior soldiers

by Elizabeth Harvey

Fifteen years ago I was asked to teach a junior soldier class at the Omaha Citadel, Neb., Corps for the short term. I've been involved with and passionate about junior soldiers ever since! As a retired teacher, I believe in the importance of preparing young people for the future. In public schools we taught "life skills." In junior soldiers we teach "eternal life skills."



For the most part, our junior soldiers at the Omaha Citadel are a unique group because of their Sudanese backgrounds. Including and helping these young people become part of our corps has been an exciting learning process for all of us.

One way we've reached out to include youth is through an active group of prayer partners. An example of this mentoring approach is evident on our "Red Shirt" Sundays where the junior soldiers sit with their adult prayer partners during worship on these special mornings. The children make a bold statement in their red polo shirts, and some of the girls wear red berets or ribbons. Their mentors consistently offer words of encouragement, handshakes or hugs and a friendly smile to help keep them coming back each week.

In fact, our entire congregation has been welcoming to the junior soldiers, who've brought brothers, sisters and cousins to be part of our "little army." The young people are growing into becoming members of the band, songsters, praise band and even the corps council, along with other positions in the corps, which is led by Captains Trevor and Rochelle McClintock. And, some of our junior soldiers have grown into senior soldier uniforms, committed to adult corps membership.

Isn't the importance, the impact of junior soldiers, that our children be prepared to fill our ranks and join us in telling the sweet story? Whether a corps has one child or 100 children, the responsibility, the opportunity, is ours to guide and teach our children those all important "eternal life skills" that are part of the junior soldier curriculum.



Highlights from Hales' service

by Philip Hale

Majors Dale and Sharon Hale celebrated their ministry and retirement at the Lakewood Temple Corps in Maplewood, Minn., on June 15, which was also their 39th wedding anniversary. Majors Jim and Judy Garrington presided over the joyous service attended by over 150 friends and family. Lt. Colonels Daniel and Rebecca Sjögren officiated.

With the theme "Snapshots from Service," Dale recounted five areas, or "snapshots," for which he is grateful. These included his personal relationship with Christ, spiritual formation through education at Asbury College, his call to officership, spiritual friendships he formed through the American Correctional Association as chaplain, and an awesome companionship with Sharon. Sharon followed up with highlights of their children and grandchildren.

Sharon and Dale met in Willmar,



Minn., in 1971. Dale was commissioned with the "Lightbringers" session in 1972 and Sharon with the "Followers of Christ" in 1974. They were married that June, and have 81 years of combined service with The Salvation Army, during which time they were blessed with three children and six grandchildren.

The Hales have served in corps appointments from Evanston, Ill., to Bismarck, N.D., as well as at the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan and Northern divisional headquarters. "Every day I am very thankful for so many good friends who have supported and worked with me in this wonderful field of service," said Dale.

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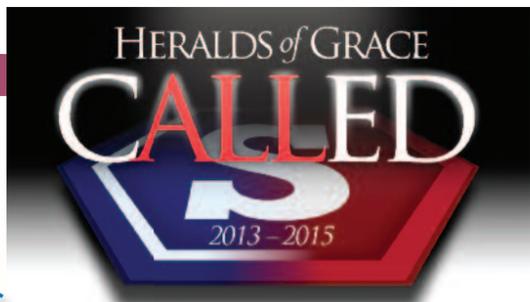
New Members

April - June 2013

204 Senior Soldiers

44 Adherents

152 Junior Soldiers



Newly accepted candidates

Kevin and Megan Sechrest

St. Paul Citadel, Minn., Corps Northern Division



As a child of officers in the Eastern Territory, I felt God's tug at my heart toward Christian ministry when I was 14. I didn't know, however, it would eventually lead to officership. I knew God required "something more" of me after marrying Kevin in 2004 and felt called to be a youth pastor. But by the time I became a mother to four children of our own, I decided to become a stay-at-home mom and home-school teacher. Kevin, who'd been raised in the Roman Catholic faith, became a soldier shortly after marrying me. He, too, knew God desired something more of him and began feeling the tug toward officership. Together we're following God's will for our lives and family!

Kevin and Megan's corps officers are Captains Geffory and Leticia Crowell.



Jessica Martinez

Milwaukee Citadel, Wis., Corps Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division

I was born in Lima, Peru, where I attended the San Martin Corps and accepted Jesus into my heart at age 8.

At 14, I began teaching Sunday school. It was a wonderful experience; I really understood the meaning and importance of being saved and even became the Sunday school president!

God called me to officership many years ago, but I didn't always follow that calling. Then at a congress in Peru in 2010, He called me once more. I prayed about this for eight months and realized I couldn't run away any longer.

I'm so excited and can't wait to see how God is going to work in my life! The Lord has a plan for my life, and that plan is the best.

Jessica's corps officers are Majors Gary and Donna Van Hoesen.



Holy people for unholy times

When officer appointments were announced earlier this year perhaps the one that garnered the most attention—and drew the most questions—was new: ambassadors of holiness. The questions did not have to do with the officers. Lt. Colonels Daniel and Becky Sjögren seemed a natural fit. But what did these new positions mean? What exactly would the Sjögrens be doing?

"We are going to attempt to fan the fire of holiness," encapsulated Dan. "I believe we as a Salvation Army do well in understanding the need for salvation. But going further than that is what I would call the second blessing, holiness. I believe God is still looking for holy people. He has said, 'Be holy as I am holy.'"

The Sjögrens know it's not impossible because of the indwelling and equipping of the Holy Spirit. "God sees our potential, and the Holy Spirit does His work in us," explained Becky. Yet, they acknowledge not only do some people see holiness as unachievable but there isn't an intense hunger for God as Americans are self-sufficient and, frankly, don't feel they need Him. But, they say, if Salvationists focused on holiness, they'd experience fuller lives with a new depth of commitment and would make an even more significant difference in the world.

This new responsibility humbles them; yet, they're comfortable with it. Dan grew up in the grand Scandinavian Division where holiness was preached and lived out by greats like Brigadier Gunnar Erickson. He gravitated to them. Becky's early encounters with the concept of holiness were as a cadet, gaining an understanding and hunger for it under the guidance and teaching of then Lt. Colonels Norman and Marjorie Marshall.

"It's probably going to be the most challenging appointment we've had so far in our career," said Dan. "We feel that holiness has always been an integral part of our ministry and leadership, but now it is the number



one priority."

They plan to teach at various events such as officers' councils, schools of ministry, divisional and corps retreats and seminars on topics like holiness in everyday living and leadership. They also foresee the opportunity of mentoring officers. "We don't want to isolate people or make them feel bad but receive them where they are," said Dan. This kind of sensitivity speaks to their credibility for the new endeavor.

"Lt. Colonels Dan and Becky Sjögren are well known and respected leaders in our territory," said Commissioner Paul R. Seiler, territorial commander. "With the recent change of appointments, to have leaders of this caliber available to help Salvationists to focus on holy living is a wonderful opportunity. What a grand future if every Salvationist, every day, wanted to 'be more like Jesus.'"



Photos by Craig Dirkes

others.

Mission & Purpose Weekend
NOVEMBER 1 - 3, 2013

RAY AND JOAN KROC COMMUNITY CENTER, GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Stories of transformation



Incarnational living

by Jesseica Lugo

I work with the Temple Houses, a Salvation Army incarnational ministry through the St. Louis Temple, Mo., Corps. It's located in Benton Park West, a city neighborhood much like north Philadelphia, Pa., where I grew up.

This is my second experience with The Salvation Army. My first was as a participant in an afterschool program similar to the one we offer. It was a refuge from home. My parents walked despair-laden lives lined with drugs and greeted by prison. I never bonded with my mother; a struggle I still battle with today.

Despite a difficult childhood, one person was able to get through to me: my godmother. She stuck by me with emotional and financial support and a loving home. Most importantly, she introduced me to Christ. My life was changed.

So when I see kids in our neighborhood, I see me. I'm 22, and I deeply empathize with these children. I work hard to help them and spend hours tutoring, listening and

praying for and with them. It's sometimes difficult, but I'm learning you can't always know the impact you're having in the life of a young person. Not only that, but I'm learning to accept they're not always grateful for the help; it's a difficult pill to swallow.

I've been changed as I've served others. I'm more prayerful and have a closer relationship with Christ as I've learned to let Him walk me through challenges. I want to save these kids from an even more difficult life, but in order to do that I've had to learn to walk with God and lean on Him.

My dream for these youth is not only to see them transformed by God's love, but to see them giving back and ministering to others. My dream is to complete my City Vision College degree by 2014, so that I can continue to be with people in their places of need. I want to minister to young people. I want to help their lives to turn around. Just like mine did.



Her love changed us

by Kenneth Jones

I'm one of many people from Detroit who knew Margaret Cross, Detroit Brightmoor, Mich., corps sergeant-major for many years. She was short, used a walker and always wore her uniform hat, but what I think we all remember most is her welcoming spirit.

Sitting in the chapel with her walker, if she saw you come into the corps she would get up, and come over to greet you. "Welcome, we're glad you're here," she'd say.

In our community we need a welcome. Detroit continues to have some difficulties. Maybe the most serious is how people of different races get along. In Detroit there's a lot of black and white separation. That's something else about Mrs. Cross: she was white. We learned from the corps and Mrs. Cross about loving one another and welcoming one another. We're all brothers and sisters in Christ; differences in race don't matter.

Mrs. Cross was courageous, and she loved her community. When she first came to the corps, she described herself as shy, but the day she entered the corps someone grabbed her by the hand and asked, "Can I call you my sister?" It changed her. She came to sharing her faith with just about anyone who'd listen.

A huge part of Mrs. Cross' ministry was weekly visitations to the neighborhood taverns. She went places no one else would to share God's love. Many came to know Mrs. Cross. During neighborhood parades guys would come out of the taverns to give her a hug, wave and cheer her



along on the Salvation Army float. They loved Mrs. Cross, and she loved them.

Her love changed us. I'm even now still discovering how it changed me. I learned it's not about what makes us different; it's about the love we all have for each other in Christ.

I changed because of having God in my heart, and because of the great role model Mrs. Cross was to me. Now I'm welcoming others to enter the gate, first on to the road to salvation, and then as a brother in Christ.

Mrs. Cross was short; I am tall. She was white; I am black. She was old; I am young. But it doesn't matter. We're all just people reaching out to welcome others into the Kingdom of God.





God was faithful

by Captain Brenda McCoy

When my mother was little, she and her friends would climb over the fence to play on the daycare center equipment at the Peoria Citadel, Ill., Corps. Catching them one day, the corps officer offered to unlock the playground gate on Sundays if they came to church. Our family has attended the corps ever since!

My siblings and I participated in many activities; I was even a commissioner's sunbeam and honor junior soldier. But, by my senior year of high school, I turned away from God because I wanted to sleep with my boyfriend. I got pregnant after graduation and had an abortion before starting college. Three years later, I dropped out to marry him and got pregnant again. By the time I delivered our son, Roman, we'd already separated.

I was scared, alone and consumed with guilt. One night I cried out for God's forgiveness. I heard Him whisper, "I love you; I want you." In spite of my unfaithfulness to God, He remained faithful to me.

But less than a year later I met another man—an alcoholic and substance abuser—with whom I had two more children. We were together for 13 years when my youngest brother, Edward, was killed while driving drunk.

Edward's death was a pivotal moment in my life. I got divorced and never felt more spiritually bankrupt, emotionally unstable and alone. I found restoration at the corps. For awhile I also attended another church hoping my children might be inspired by its many professional people of African-American descent. They, however, preferred the Army!

Humbled, I became a senior soldier, then taught Sunday school, girl guards and junior soldiers. One day the corps officers asked me to preach. I was shocked, yet strangely prepared. I shared thoughts on the Christian life with the catch phrase, "Show up, Christian."

Several weeks later, God asked, "Brenda, do you realize you've never put Me first?" I replied, "Why call me now after all the mistakes I'd made?" His answer was simple: "Show up, Christian."

In 2003 I entered the College for Officer Training with my children Roman, Dietrich and Jasmine. Today I'm a corps officer, and my children are all senior soldiers.

Three generations of my family have been blessed through the Army. Dietrich works in ministry at the Chicago Kroc Center and is a member of the territorial praise team. And, both he and Jasmine have been on overseas summer mission teams. God is truly faithful.



Feeding His Sheep

by Jan Nowak

I am the social worker at the Niles, Mich., Corps. I am also a child of God, a servant, a friend, a mother, a daughter, a sister, an employee, a gardener, a reader, a writer, a singer—a bit of a Renaissance woman. I am Welsh and Bohemian. And I am proud of every bit of it.

One way the Niles Corps is impacting our community is through a program called "Feeding His Sheep," which provides weekend meals for elementary school students who might otherwise go without. Children who are on subsidized school lunch programs have their nutritional needs met through the week. But what happens to them on the weekends? What happens to the kid whose mom makes \$1 too much to receive food stamps or the one being raised by her grandmother who lives on \$674 a month from social security?

A little over three years ago, I was challenged to create a program that addressed the need for weekend nutrition for at-risk elementary age children. Our intent was not just to provide "calories" but to make a meaningful contribution to the children's well-being through proper diet and nutrition, through balanced, nutritional meals, and in the end to positively affect their school experience and educational outcomes.

Our solution was Feeding His Sheep which provides a nutritious breakfast, lunch and dinner for Saturday and Sunday. The program now serves up to 245 children who are identified by their school counselors.

On Wednesdays, backpacks are put together for a Friday distribution. Parent/teacher organizations and school staff help to distribute the backpacks in the 10 schools. Each backpack contains easy to prepare meals the children can manage on their own. The backpacks are returned on Monday for reuse. If the backpack is not returned, the child will not receive one again on Friday. This builds accountability for the parents and the children. It also increases attendance on those days.

Feeding His Sheep has done a tremendous job of community building. It involves many corps members

working with parents, volunteers, children, teachers and school officials. And we are now seeing spinoffs into other Salvation Army activities.

But how has this program impacted my own life?

I have always been passionate about serving people, but my natural sensitivities have been raised to the plight of the hungry. I am humbled God would use me in this way. God has made it clear to me we need to be feeding the whole person. I have



Photos by Emily Aukes

grown spiritually, well beyond questioning my own ability; rather, I have plunged into joyful submission of God's abilities. For that, I'm grateful.

Let me share a story about one recipient family. The parents had separated. Their two kids lived with the mom, but she was going blind and struggling. The school counselor discovered the dad wouldn't take the kids on weekends because he had been downsized and was ashamed he could not feed himself, let alone the kids. Through Feeding His Sheep, the two children are now with the dad on weekends. I had no idea we would be a part of helping to keep children with their parents. Who would have thought a food program would help family members maintain relationships?

I am a person of hope. I believe we can change children's lives, not just for a weekend but forever. We are not just affecting their academic performance or physical bodies. I believe we may actually be saving those kids.

What started as a job has woven its way into every aspect of my life. I can no longer separate my job from my life or my faith. It all blends together to make me who I am today.

Motown sound for Jesus!

Over the last 15 years, the Southeast Michigan ARC Singers have composed and performed gospel and inspirational music driven by a Motown sound. Supported by its



band, Justified, this powerhouse of sound has released two albums to critical acclaim. Its latest, *Pure Joy*, received high praise and endorsements from the gospel music industry.

Envoy Merle Miller, administrator of the Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) since 1998, encouraged the formation of a singing group after realizing the ARC had much untapped talent under its roof.

In the years since, beneficiaries—some with professional music industry backgrounds—have treasured this outlet for their talents, not only spiritually enriching themselves but allowing them to share God's message of hope with others.

In its review of *Pure Joy*, Gospel House Music called it "old-school gospel with an exciting new twist. The music will

touch your heart and flood your soul with hope in Jesus Christ." House remixes of two songs, "Prayer for Peace" and "Pure Joy," were described as "guaranteed to make you dance for joy!"

"Their performances exceed professional standards," said Merle of the group. "They do it all for the Lord with great humility." Bill Koviak, assistant to the ARC administrator, serves as the band's general manager and booking agent. The group and band have performed across the country and in the Caribbean.

Singer/songwriter Charles Champion, group leader, described the ARC Singers (which alternatively stands for "Adults Returning to Christ") as an ensemble of recovering people who want to show their gratitude to God.

"All of our lives have been marvelously transformed through the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," he said. "We just want to tell everybody we meet that Jesus truly does save."

At the Family Congress this past summer, the ARC Singers and a 40-voice youth chorus from the Eastern Michigan Division opened the Friday night meeting. Their high energy performance brought down the house. The experience also provided a wonderful opportunity for the youth to learn from professionals, such as Michael Brock, ARC praise and worship director, and Charles Champion, who orchestrated the combined effort with youth.



Certificates for success!

The paper on which the certificate is printed is almost worthless but what it represents to the person who earned it is priceless.

Fifteen beneficiaries of the St. Louis, Mo., Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC), in cooperation with St. Louis Community College, earned Certificates of Work Readiness, pieces of paper that can make a difference to their futures.

The men spent 1,040 hours in on-the-job training, 78 hours in life management classes, and 42 hours studying other essentials. For their efforts, they also received 120 credit hours and 9.6 continuing education units

from the college.

Major K. Kendall Mathews, ARC administrator, initiated the collaboration to put the men in situations where they can experience success. The ARC aims to inject confidence, courage and compassion into the men without compromising their faith, he explained. "We don't know what our future holds, but we know Who holds our future," he added.

Jennifer Williams, director of rehabilitation services, sees anxiety rise in the men when they near the end of their stays at the ARC. "We help them create an exit plan, but that isn't always enough," she said.

"With this certification, self-esteem is improved, as is their confidence in transitioning back into the world."

Daniel Garcia sees his certification as the chance for a better future he never thought he'd have. A former landscaping laborer, he plans to pursue further education.



On-the-job training is intrinsic to the certificate program.

In love with an ARC man

by Valora Frazier

I met Jerome after he was clean and sober, for the second time. He's a graduate of the Omaha, Neb., Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) and now employed as the ARC intake coordinator. At the time we met, he'd just celebrated what we call his "sobriety birthdate." It happens to be Groundhog Day, and I think it's God's funny way of reminding him he'd been there before.

We were married this June. It's been a wonderful time, but not one without concerns knowing the possibility of relapse. As his wife, I share the mission of sobriety with him as well as the spiritual journey that lies ahead of us.

I'm not naïve to the ways of an addict; 29 years ago I was married to one, a heroin addict. He is the father of my oldest child. I know beating addiction takes hard work and the willingness to embrace what God has to offer. I see this willingness in my ARC man.

While thumbing through the King James version of the Bible, a message from 2 Thessalonians 3 stood out. In it Paul speaks about not being idle but working "quietly" for your keep. This is what I see is asked of the ARC men as part of their recovery process, and it's what I see Jerome do every day: quietly earning his keep through seeking God, loving God and loving others through service.

Jerome is an example of this to me.



He quietly encourages me to continue in my "well doing." He's always moving forward, always looking for the solution and always smiling even when things are rough.

His faith in God and willingness to serve speaks volumes about the support he's gained and the things he's learned since coming to the ARC.

Through his example I'm uplifted and reminded to be better today than I was the day before. I know my life is richer from this shared experience. That is what it is like to love an ARC man who gets it and lives it.

*Valora works as an advocate and counselor for the State of Iowa's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. She and Jerome will soon be soldiers of the Omaha ARC.

Davissons go back to school

Considering life as a journey is natural for Majors Phil and Sheila Davisson, and regardless of where they've been they have found God blessing, equipping and using them.

Their current journey has placed them in a very different kind of

appointment which is challenging but also a great opportunity to explore a new kind of ministry.

Booth University College is a Salvation Army liberal arts school with degrees in social work, behavioral science, film and English, religion, general studies and business.



Majors Phil and Sheila Davisson with their children Jaclyn, James and Julia at Jaclyn's commissioning earlier this summer.

It was a Bible College which changed its focus about six years ago. Professors must have a profession of faith, but not the students. According to the Davissons, this diversity among staff, faculty and students makes for very interesting conversations. Since it's not very large, it is easy to get to know the students, staff and faculty well.

Phil is associate dean for extended learning, which means he assists professors with putting their classes online and helping to create classes and finding instructors from around the world for those classes.

Two projects have been taking the bulk of his time: negotiating a Wesley distinctive course, and reworking the intro to officership course. Booth University and the training college for officers in the Canada and Bermuda Territory work together, and when a cadet is commissioned he or she will be within seven classes from obtaining

a bachelor of arts in biblical and theological studies.

As spiritual life coordinator, Sheila creates space for students to explore and deepen their faith. She plans two chapels a week with the help of a great group of musicians. For students living on campus—who are not all Salvationists—she coordinates the opportunity for them to visit the five corps in Winnipeg in the fall.

This last year there were student-led small group ministry options including one called "Movie and a Message." She says there is much to learn about twenty-somethings and sees she has been helpful with their spiritual walk. Good ideas are being generated to create even more opportunities.

With the first year under their belt and with many changes, the Davissons enter the next year better equipped, with broader understanding and a deeper faith.

PIM broadens horizons

He's a tall, slender fellow whose quiet demeanor and quick smile make him a joy to be around. His name is Captain Samuel Opuka, and he hails from the Kenya East Territory. Earlier this year, he attended Congress and stayed for Brengle Institute as a representative from one of our Partners in Mission.

Samuel grew up in Kenya, where his parents attended a Salvation Army corps. He attended Sunday school dutifully and reported, "I was a good corps cadet, too!" After his schooling became more serious, he joined a Christian union of men, where he and other young people worshipped together. "After that I learned I needed to accept Jesus Christ," said Samuel. It was 1984.

Having learned English, Samuel moved to Nairobi to work for a tourism company after he finished

school. On furlough from work to visit his parents, he met his future wife, Jane. They have been married 23 years and have a son and two daughters.

In 1996 Samuel felt his call to officership and left his career to attend the training college in Kenya in 1998. He and Jane were commissioned in December 1999. Since then Samuel has served as a corps officer, administrator, district officer and now as the education officer at the Kenya East Training College.

"The Lord has used me in all the appointments," said Samuel. "Not all were perfect... I've seen the Lord working in me. He has taken care of me, and equipped me to meet any challenges. Also, I thank God because if it weren't for the Army, I wouldn't be here [in the US]. God opened a way through leadership. What is impossible in our human capacity, to God, is easy."



Captain Samuel Opuka with the territorial World Missions staff (l to r) Mona Taube, Chris Shay and Kristin Caddy



Looking for opportunities to share the joy of Christmas?

There's no better way than donating to the Share Your Christmas Joy campaign for children around the world. The goal is to raise \$100 each for 120 Salvation Army overseas children's homes, schools and centers.

Please give by October 31 to ensure donations reach the children by Christmas!

Visit www.christmasjoy.centralmissions.org to donate online or send checks to 10 W. Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016.



Drawing on auxiliary power

Around the territory The Salvation Army is supported by the talented and dedicated women of our auxiliaries. Whether dressed to the nines for fundraising fashion shows or donning Reeboks for a full day of volunteering at the Christmas toy shop, these ladies' commitment is unmatched. They tirelessly give their time, skills, funds and influence to further the Army's mission.



Janesville, Wis., Women's Auxiliary members prepare for their annual fabric fundraiser.

Volunteers extraordinaire

"Last year we clocked over 10,000 volunteer hours," said Michelle Nimmo, Janesville, Wis., Women's Auxiliary co-president with Paige Money. "That's really huge! That's why we can do what we do. We're very active, and I love it!"

With 155 members and two major annual fundraisers that earned a combined total of nearly \$40,000 this year alone, it's no wonder.

"These ladies do something every month to support the Army," said Major Ruth Fay, Janesville corps officer. "They're very active; not only raising money, but they're involved from start to finish."



Janesville, Wis., Women's Auxiliary members Helen Kummer and Barb Nickerson and corps intern Eric De La Paz work hard during the annual flower fundraiser.

For the Coats for Kids program, the women not only put out and collect all of the barrels for coat donations, they individually see that the coats are all washed or dry cleaned. "They'll be at the laundromat for weeks," said Ruth. Then when it's time for families in need to choose coats, they personally shop with each one.

According to the major, another aspect that sets this auxiliary apart is its progressive perspective on leadership. The Janesville Auxiliary's current leaders, Michelle and Paige, are two of its youngest members—in their thirties. "Our auxiliary is renewing itself with newer membership, and original members readily accept their leadership," said Ruth. "It's a vibrant group doing wonderful things."

Revitalization underway

The Metro Detroit Women's Auxiliary is undergoing a period of revitalization much like they hope their city will. Though small, with just 25 members, they're powered by great camaraderie and are eagerly recruiting others to make a difference in the community through The Salvation Army.



WDIV local channel 4 reporter Lauren Podell speaks at the Metro Detroit "Swing into Spring" luncheon.

"The need is great here in Detroit. We've empowered the ladies with responsibilities and challenges in the last two years, and it's really taken hold," said Major Susan Anderson, Eastern Michigan divisional women's ministries secretary.



Ready to help pack lunches in Detroit

Not content to just be involved seasonally, they take a hands-on approach and tackle a different service project each month. They put together personal hygiene bags for the Harbor Light, make 100 Easter baskets for children, ring bells at kettles during Christmas, bring school supplies to afterschool programs, and make sandwiches for the Bed and Bread trucks. On the fundraising front, their newest endeavor, a "Swing into Spring" luncheon, raised critical awareness of a new anti-human trafficking program the Army is introducing in the area.

"We may be small, but we've accomplished a lot, and we all work so well together for a common goal," said Barb Popov, auxiliary president who has been involved for three years.

According to the major, a concentrated recruitment effort is underway not only to expand the group but the good it can do.

A shining star

"Our women's auxiliary is one of the finest in the Central Territory," said Major Miriam Gorton, Heartland divisional women's auxiliary secretary, about the group in Peoria, Ill. "If we need anything, they are there. Their goal is to help the Army financially, physically and spiritually. These women really understand the mission of the Army."



Peoria auxiliary's 2012 fashion show chairpersons Marge Paulson (l) and Lydia Haan promote the show with WMBD channel 31 news anchor Meg Marshall.



The Peoria, Ill., Women's Auxiliary with Majors Evie Diaz and Miriam Gorton

According to Miriam one distinctive is their high standard for membership. Choosing to limit membership to 35, women feel it's an honor to be included and understand the Army is counting on them to be wholly committed. It's just not possible to be an auxiliary member in Peoria in name only.

Throughout the school year the women help in the childcare center, volunteering for nap watch and assisting in the shelter serving lunch. During the Christmas craze, they work on the Red Stocking and Share the Spirit parties, the Bear Tea, assist with the toy shop and wrap gifts. The women all work very hard. "Last year the women gave \$80,600 to our Tree of Lights campaign," said Miriam. It was the single largest donation.

But perhaps their biggest contribution is their annual fashion show fundraiser every October. All members participate to ensure it goes off without a hitch. The fundraiser is well known in the area and has tremendous support from local shops and boutiques. This year's theme is "Project Runway, Make it Work."

Mission motivated

According to Major Theresa Turner, Indiana divisional director of women's ministries, the Indianapolis Women's Auxiliary is a dynamic group of women who not only love The Salvation Army but its mission to spread the gospel. They've been active since 1965.



Major Theresa Turner with William Booth Award recipient Marcia Patton and her husband, James.

In July the 80-member auxiliary held its annual "Lassie Luncheon" which raises funds specifically to support Indiana cadets. Thanks to this effort each cadet receives monetary support when they leave for training, at Christmas and in the spring. Cadets entering with children receive additional support.

The "Golf for Giving" fundraiser is the auxiliary's largest yearly effort, with more than 100 golfers each year. The women plan, provide the materials, and support the event with manpower. After the golf outing, a silent auction is held. Last year the effort raised about \$25,000.

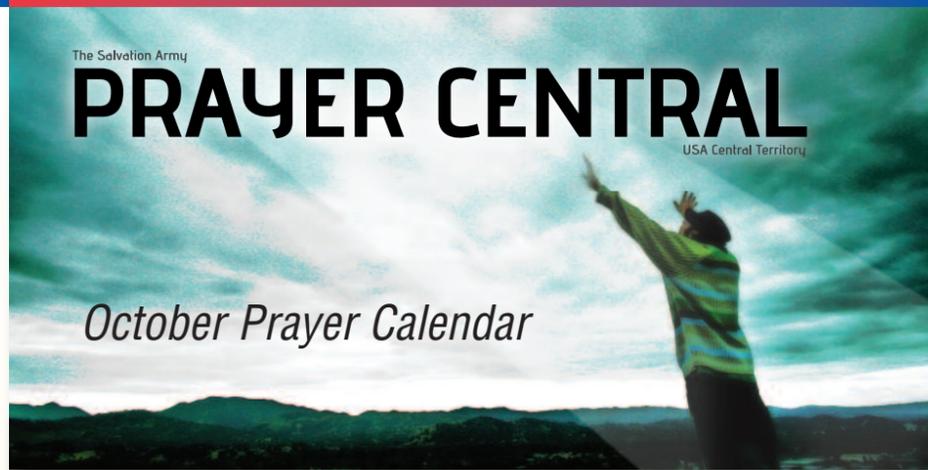
This year auxiliary member Marcia Patton received the William Booth Award, one of the highest awards given by the Army for out-

standing humanitarian efforts and substantial contributions of time, talent and/or financial resources to the work of The Salvation Army.

"Marcia has a passion for the Army, is a stabilizing force, focuses efforts on recruitment and continually helps to make the auxiliary more effective," said Theresa. "Not only is she active in the auxiliary but in her church as well. She is a great Christian witness."



Majors Jolene Hull and Theresa Turner flank the Indianapolis Women's Auxiliary executive officers at the May luncheon.



My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Tuesday	Numbers 22-24	Janesville, Wis., Corps
	2 Wednesday	2 Chronicles 11-15	Indianapolis, Ind., ARC*
	3 Thursday	Psalms 117-118	Farmington Hills, Mich., Corps
	4 Friday	Proverbs 28	"Disciples of the Cross" Session of Cadets
	5 Saturday	Jonah 1-4	Dubuque, Iowa, Corps
	6 Sunday	Acts 3-4	New life in Christ on this Decision Sunday
	7 Monday	Hebrews 5-7	Huntington, Ind., Corps
	8 Tuesday	Numbers 25-27	Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo., Corps
	9 Wednesday	2 Chronicles 16-20	Blue Island, Ill., Corps
	10 Thursday	Psalms 119	East St. Louis, Ill., Corps
	11 Friday	Proverbs 29-30	Grand Forks, N.D., Corps
	12 Saturday	Micah 1-7	Hastings, Neb., Corps
	13 Sunday	Acts 5-6	College for Officer Training
	14 Monday	Hebrews 8-10	Kansas & Western Missouri DHQ**
	15 Tuesday	Numbers 28-30	Grand Rapids Fulton Hts. Citadel, Mich., Corps
	16 Wednesday	2 Chronicles 21-24	Austria, Hungary (Switzerland/Austria/Hungary Territory)**
	17 Thursday	Psalms 120-121	Kenosha, Wis., Corps
	18 Friday	Proverbs 31	Freeport, Ill., Corps
	19 Saturday	Nahum 1-3	Flint Beecher, Mich., Corps
	20 Sunday	Acts 7-8	Youth character-building programs
	21 Monday	Hebrews 11-13	Kansas City, Mo., ARC*
	22 Tuesday	Numbers 31-33	Kansas City Harbor Light Village Recovery Ctr., Kan.
	23 Wednesday	2 Chronicles 25-28	Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps
	24 Thursday	Psalms 122-124	Granite City, Ill., Corps
	25 Friday	Ecclesiastes 1-2	Harvest Coon Rapids, Minn., Corps
	26 Saturday	Habakkuk 1-3	Majors Robert & Rae Doliber (Haiti)
	27 Sunday	Acts 9-10	Women's Ministries
	28 Monday	James 1-3	Huron, S.D., Corps
	29 Tuesday	Numbers 34-36	Holland, Mich., Corps
	30 Wednesday	2 Chronicles 29-32	Corps Cadets (teen discipleship) program
	31 Thursday	Psalms 125-127	La Crosse, Wis., Corps

Go to 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

Retired but serving still



Majors Mark and Sue Haslett with flagbearers Majors James Castor and John Flanagan.

Majors Mark and Sue Haslett's officership can be best described by "Heart to God, Hand to Man." They spent the majority of their time serving at corps throughout the territory. They retired this June at a service in Sedalia, Mo.

"One day when we were stationed in Wichita, Kan., a woman came to see my wife about getting groceries," said Mark. "She not only got groceries, but more importantly, walked out with the 'bread of life.'"

Mark and Sue have many happy memories of the times God has worked through them and performed miracles. They started several new programs at the corps in which they've served including picking up the slack of a discontinued lunch program that served over 29,000 lunches to children last year.

Their son, Peter, led the retirement service, and Sue's nephew, Wade Smith, shared a tribute and memories as did one of Mark's prayer partners, the Reverend Wayne Pierce. Longtime friend, Major Joe Wheeler, conducted the retirement ceremony.

The Hasletts have retired to

Warsaw, Mo.—where Truman Lake ends and the Lake of the Ozarks begins—to enjoy travel and fishing, but they're by no means done serving.

"We're available to do special evangelistic meetings," said Mark. "Before I retired I already had two requests!" Also, as he did for the first time last year with the downtown Sedalia, Mo., Booster's Club, Mark plans to appear as Father Christmas this December.



Heart of a servant

Seventeen-year-old Shawna Hildebrandt in the Northern Division has certainly earned the honor of being named the 2013 Teen Volunteer of the Year. She has been volunteering for The Salvation Army in toy shops, service centers, at red kettles and in her corps' warehouse for the last five years. She's even recruited her National Honor Society to volunteer with her.

"Volunteering has always been a part of my life, and it always will be," she said. "It's a passion of mine, and I love bringing other people into it."

Given that her father, Terry Hildebrandt, is the Twin Cities social services director in the Northern Division, The Salvation Army was a natural fit.

"It's a Christian organization, with the right kind of background and foundation," Shawna said. "It's something I can stand for and believe in."



Shawna (center) with her parents and younger sister, Mikayla

Plus there is such a wide variety of volunteer opportunities from working with children to soup kitchens to the elderly."

Not only does Shawna serve with The Salvation Army, she's involved with other charitable organizations such as Feed My Starving Children and Valley Outreach Foodshelf. She has been a member of six summer mission trips and is actively involved with her church as a youth group leader. For the last three years Shawna has organized an early morning Bible study at her high school.

"She exemplifies that heart of a servant in all she does," said her dad. "She knows her life calling will have something to do with serving her community."

Shawna attends University of Northwestern—St. Paul, Minn., where she majors in non-profit administration.



Shawna (in tie-dye shirt and sunglasses) served with other teens at The Salvation Army Quad Cities Family Service Center.

Helping homeless youth

by Craig Dirkes

The Salvation Army has expanded three of its food shelves in the Twin Cities area to specifically help homeless youth. Each location requires either identification or a permanent address and will allow guests to pick out their own food.

"Without I.D. or address, homeless youth have difficulty accessing food shelf assistance because most service providers require both," said Major Jeff Strickler, Twin Cities commander.

This younger population, typically between the ages of 18 and 21, is more vulnerable to exploitation. A

survey released recently by Covenant House and Fordham University found that nearly one in four homeless youth have engaged in survival sex—trading a sex act to meet a basic need.

The new food shelves are made possible through a partnership with StreetWorks Collaborative, a youth outreach network. StreetWorks staff distributes the food and offer referrals, while The Salvation Army provides food and the site.

The food shelves are an expansion of the Northern Division's youth outreach efforts. In June 2012 it opened an 11-bed shelter for youth ages 18-21.

One 18-year-old stopped by the new food shelves recently. He shared he'd fled a child abuse situation and is now living in youth transitional housing.

"He's poor and uses extreme couponing to buy food at grocery stores, but still must use food shelves 75 percent of the time," said Salvation Army caseworker Jennifer. The young man is working to become self-sufficient as a self-employed artist and is learning to live as cheaply as possible.



Oh, the places we've been

by Major Lynda Magoon

Thinking of the Christian life as a journey through the world offers us a vivid way of visualizing the life of faith. It reminds us of places we have been and that we are going somewhere. Family and friends of Majors Robert and Linda Meyer recently gathered to celebrate a combined 75 years of their journey in ministry as they entered retirement.



Commissioners Ken and Joy Baillie, former territorial leaders, and former soldiers of the Meyers in Marion, Ind., presented retirement certificates to them.

As third-generation Salvationists, Robert was commissioned in 1968 with the "Messengers of the Faith" session and Linda in 1969 with the "Evangelists."

After their marriage in 1969, their journey took them throughout the Midwest with six appointments in Missouri, one in Minnesota and four in Indiana. They were city coordinators in St. Joseph, Mo., and Evansville, Ind. Major Linda Meyer

organized and led several women's auxiliaries, and Major Bob was active in brass banding, disaster services and SATERN (Salvation Army Emergency Radio Network) having been a lifelong amateur radio operator.

They have two grown children, Robert (Lafayette, Ind.) and Theresa (a teacher in Topeka, Kan.). The Meyers will continue their journey in ministry in the Branson, Mo., area where they plan to travel, garden, enjoy their two Yorkshire terriers, spin around in their antique MG and see where their journey takes them.

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2013

EIGHTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND OF
Prayer & Fasting
for Victims of Human Trafficking

The Salvation Army's Initiative Against Sexual Trafficking (IAST) invites you to join with them in observing the 8th annual International Weekend of Prayer and Fasting for Victims of Human Trafficking. Please join with us as we lift our petitions to God to free the captives and loose the chains of injustice.

Get Ready:

- ✓ Mark your calendars
- ✓ Pray and fast in advance
- ✓ Get materials at: www.traffickingprayerandfasting.org
- ✓ Educate yourself and others
- ✓ Partner locally
- ✓ Plan prayer and fasting events

So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and he answered our prayer.
—Daniel 9:3

IAST
Initiative Against Sexual Trafficking

Promoted to Glory

Major Homer Fuqua

Major Homer Fuqua was promoted to Glory on July 6, 2013. He was 81.



Homer was the youngest of seven children born to Archie and Cora in 1931. He and his siblings came to know The Salvation Army in Decatur, Ill., where they became very involved in corps programs. Three of his siblings went on to be officers.

After discharge from the Army in 1961, Homer dedicated his life to the

Lord. That year he also met Captain Laura Symmonds, whom he married in 1962. After his commissioning with the "Defenders of the Faith" session, Homer and Laura served at corps in Michigan, Indiana, Montana and Kansas.

Following Laura's death in 1990, Homer served in Gary and Vincennes, Ind. In 1991 he married Major Dorothy Lenon, and together they served as corps officers in Vincennes until they retired.

Homer's lifelong desire was to see others come to the Lord.

He is survived by his wife; children, Major Cindy (Barry) Corbitt, Bruce (Dawn), and Ben; and six grandchildren.