



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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Ministering in the heart of Lake Street

Located on Minneapolis' Lake Street, the Minneapolis Temple, Minn., Corps is at the center of where peaceful protests gave way to rioting in late May and early June, leaving behind a path of smoldering buildings, broken glass and shaken residents.

For Majors Roberto and Melissa Viquez, the riots were not a reason to shutter the building and hunker down, but a new opportunity to reach out to a hurting community with the love of Christ.

"We are at the heart of Lake Street,"

said Major Roberto. "We are here to be light. We have worked hard to clean up and improve our community, and we are not giving up."

The morning after rioters tore through the neighborhood, Salvationists joined with hundreds of others to begin picking up the pieces. Soldiers of the Temple Corps arrived ready to serve by making sandwiches, handing out bottles of water and offering words of comfort and prayer to residents and volunteers as they began the process of cleaning up.

"Without the congregation, we would not have been able to assist the community during the protests and rioting," said the major. "We have a group of soldiers who came to help and serve the community even though there is still fear over the coronavirus. But they came, put on their masks and gloves, and



Major Roberto Viquez

worked because the need was there."

As the community began to heal and rebuild, the Viquezes connected with corps members and the community by leveraging their location to hold outdoor worship while handing out food, water and cleanup supplies and maintaining their relationship with a local radio station to keep people informed.

In addition, the majors modified the drive through food pantry they'd set up to cope with coronavirus re-

strictions to become a sort of outdoor market, making it more accessible to those without vehicles. On pantry days the majors and soldiers spend time connecting with people as they wait to choose their items, lending a listening ear, offering prayer and welcoming them to join virtual and in-person corps activities.

"It's an opportunity to reach out and share the love of Christ," said the major. They also plan to continue outdoor worship as long as weather permits to maintain a strong presence, share the gospel and give people a sense of inclusion and belonging.

Though they are slowly beginning to meet in person for worship, following safety precautions to prevent the spread of coronavirus, Majors Viquez also recognize the value in continuing to reach out in other ways to keep people connected and growing in their faith. For example, virtual youth activities, Sunday school, women's and men's ministries and adult Bible study continue to keep children and parents engaged several times a week through social media.

Major Roberto concluded, "The need is great. We cannot stop serving. We stay positive, look for the good and focus on God. These are our people, this is our community and we are so happy God put us here."



Majors Roberto and Melissa Viquez and Dulce Cruz pray for their community.

New task force promotes corps planting

by Captain Brenna Lee

A new task force, comprised of both soldiers and officers, has been formed to support the territory's renewed emphasis on corps planting. Led by Major Will DeJesús, territorial corps and community mission secretary, this group has been charged with developing a strategy and establishing a corps planting culture in the territory.

Due to COVID-19, task force members met virtually throughout the spring with Church Planting Coach Steve Pike to discuss paradigm shifts and to brainstorm how to plant corps in new ways and in different places. Subsequently, they recommended initially focusing on

four of eight strategies from Converge (a church planting organization), which they believe with dependence on the Holy Spirit will foster growth within the territory's 11 Midwest states:

- Recruiting Church Planters
- Training Church Planters
- Resourcing Multiplication
- Mutual Accountability

Recruitment involves acknowledging "the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few" but also having a constant, unyielding faith that God will provide what we need. Recruitment of corps planters—both lay pastors and officers—must be intentional. We must

seek and pray for people who have an entrepreneurial spirit and love God and others to take part in corps planting.

Training corps planters is also crucial in developing new corps expressions. Continued expansion is dependent upon encouraging, equipping and empowering leaders prior to church

planting opportunities and during their ministry.

Resourcing multiplication addresses the beauty of a healthy, growing corps expanding naturally by

reproducing into two or even three congregations. One of the task force assignments is to change the narrative about what a church or corps is and to educate Salvationists about how the multiplication of the corps can take place as new expressions of worship and community.

Lastly, as in many things, accountability is key. Corps planting requires mutual accountability and clear expectations between corps, corps plants, communities, divisional and territorial headquarters.

Please join us in praying for the Central Territory as it rethinks expansion of ministry in unexplored communities and in new and creative expressions. Consider the role you might play in reimagining your corps' impact in its community.



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Standing at a crossroads

by Lt. Colonel Renea Smith
Secretary for Personnel

When September rolls around, I usually feel like I'm getting a restart on my year. Maybe it's the change of seasons, students returning to school or programs starting up again. Whatever it is I am filled with a desire to reevaluate my direction, consider my goals and refocus on the targets in front of me.

This year hasn't been ordinary, and I expect this September won't be either. We've dealt with some major issues, and it's changed us; I pray for the better.

Hopefully, we have leaned more completely on God, spent more time meditating on His Word, considered the character of Christ and aligned

our lives to Jesus, the chief cornerstone. I pray the catalysts of this year have caused us to assess our relationships with Christ and with each other. Are we following Christ's example? Are we truly listening to each other, opening our minds and hearts to different thoughts and perspectives and committing to loving each other as Christ loves each of us?

Today, we stand at a significant crossroads, a place of natural readjustment. After many difficult months, we are on a path to recovery. Our next steps are important. The way we do business and relate to one another has changed. How do we, as an Army, change to meet that new reality? We don't want to miss the opportunity God has given us.



So, what are we as Salvationists—followers of Christ—doing? Are we moving forward to engage the imperatives of our mission?

- How are we strengthening and developing the spiritual life of others?
- How are we capturing the hearts of the young, engaging their passion and unlocking their potential?
- How are we weaving ourselves into the fabric of our cities and responding to needs?
- How are we engaging our communities and serving people in love and humility?

- How are we recognizing and encouraging the unique calling to spiritual leadership?

In Isaiah 43:16a, 18-19 we read, "This is what the Lord says... 'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.'"

God has called The Salvation Army to attention. He is doing a new thing in and through us. Don't miss it! Be attentive, watchful and obedient. We will need to leave the past behind; there is new territory ahead.

Don't be afraid. Instead, be courageous! Take for yourself the words Joshua told Israel as they prepared to enter the promised land, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you." (Joshua 3:5, NIV)

Territorial Staff Songsters commissioned virtually



by Stan Kelley

The Central Territorial Staff Songsters (CTSS) were virtually launched this summer. Dr. Harold Burgmayer, territorial music and creative ministries secretary and songster leader, opened the event with introductory comments about the groundswell of vocal music making in the territory over the last several years that has led to the creation of this newest musical ministry group.

Territorial Commander Commis-

sioner Brad Bailey commissioned the songsters, challenging them to spread the message of Jesus and the mission of The Salvation Army and to encourage the expansion of vocal music ministries in the territory through performance and education. In short, to inspire and to equip.

In preparation for its inaugural performance originally scheduled for a Soldiers' Rally with the General in April, the CTSS held a rehearsal weekend at the Kansas City Northland, Kan., Corps that included participation in the Sunday morning worship. But only days following their return home, COVID-19 forced the world into isolation, which prompted the songsters to indefinitely cancel plans for a vibrant, in-person music ministry.

However, according to Harold, "This change of plans could not quench the Spirit which we already sensed to be working in us."

Demonstrating adaptability and with assistance from the territorial visual communications team, the songsters opted for a virtual event featuring "I know a fount," a beautiful hymn first published by The Salvation Army in 1923 which still speaks to hearts today. Greetings

Central's Rising Stars

by Beth Malovance

This year marked the inauguration of the Central Territory's Rising Stars Solo Festival.

Youth and young adults, ages 9-25, recorded solo performances from the safety of their own homes and uploaded them online. Adjudicators from across the U.S. and Canada were engaged to review the solos from their own locations and submit graded assessments with comments

to each participant.

Though details for the Rising Stars online event were released before the COVID-19 outbreak, the strained conditions didn't deter the Centralites from participating. The festival garnered submissions from six divisions in five

different performance areas. The options for performance areas included brass, dance, drama, guitar, percussion, piano, ukulele and voice. Repertoire was assigned based upon the soloist's current Music Arts Proficiency (M.A.P.) level and listed on the Territorial Music and Creative Arts Ministries Department website.

Five outstanding soloists were chosen to have their videos aired during the Virtual Central Music Institute. Monday night featured Ashley Joseph (Western Division) on euphonium. On Tuesday we saw a drama monologue from Katrina Baoicchi (Western Michigan/Northern Indiana Division) and on Wednesday a guitar solo from Feith Sanchez (Northern Division). Thursday featured a piano solo from Samantha Jarbou (Eastern Michigan Division), and Friday rounded out Rising Stars with Troy Hanton (Metropolitan Division) performing a trombone solo.

Every soloist received comments and a rating from three adjudicators, each of them being experts in their field. Soloists also received a certificate and promotional sticker for participation.

Utilizing technology for the arts is becoming a norm, and as a territory we have learned much through this process. Therefore, we see the first year for Rising Stars as a success, and we look forward to building upon what we have learned in the coming year.



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Living the mission in Muscatine

Tucked away into a bend in the mighty Mississippi River, the small town of Muscatine boasts a rich and charming history. Once home to Samuel Clemens, perhaps better known as Mark Twain, the city of nearly 24,000 has retained its hometown appeal. For Lt. Greg Bock, who hails from a similar Mississippi River town, it's the perfect fit—almost like coming home.

Appointed fresh out of training last year, Lt. Greg and his wife, Lt. Elizabeth, have worked their way in to the hearts of the Muscatine community with their enthusiasm, ingenuity and passion. They've breathed new life into the ministry of The Salvation Army, bringing it to a place of leadership among local service agencies and catching the attention of individuals, donors and the media in the process.

When the Bocks arrived in Muscatine with their three children in June 2019 it was with excitement to see what God had in store. Meeting with corps members, the advisory board and community leaders, they sought to understand the community and its needs as they began planning for

their first Christmas campaign.

"The Christmas campaign was our introduction to the community," Lt. Greg explained. "The goal was to gain visibility and exposure. It wasn't just about raising money. It was about educating my community about the message, ministry and mission of The Salvation Army."

To that end, Lt. Greg lived in a giant red kettle positioned outside a popular grocery store during the Christmas campaign, a feat that caught the community's attention and sparked its interest. He welcomed people to stop by and used those visits to tell them about The Salvation Army. By the end of the season, the Christmas fundraising goal had been surpassed for the first time in many years.

Enabled by their growing reputation as creative thinkers and doers, the Bocks were well-placed to lead collaborations and partnerships with other agencies in order to keep the community fed during COVID-19 layoffs and lockdowns. They spearheaded a community-wide Pandemic Pantry campaign to fill the corps' and other local food pantries struggling to meet the increasing need.

Residents were able to drop off donations of nonperishable food items or money, order food bags from the local grocery stores they could pick up to donate or purchase virtual food bags which the gro-



cery store would pack and deliver to the pantry for them.

Just over a year into their appointment, the Bocks have earned the respect and accolade of a tight-knit community that has shown its appreciation in many ways, including a drive-by parade for Lt. Greg's birthday and the honor of being recognized as a Pearl of Muscatine—someone who is integral and inspira-

tional to the community.

The lieutenants are well on their way to realizing the vision they have for The Salvation Army's presence and ministry in Muscatine.

"We want to be a 'go and serve' Army rather than a 'come and see' church," said Lt. Greg. "We want to be a missional force for the Kingdom."

Photo by Margaret Stadtwald, Discover Muscatine



Heatwoles to lead Latin America North

Commissioners Merle and Dawn Heatwole, Central Territory officers, have been appointed as Territorial Commander and Territorial President of Women's Ministries for the Latin America North Territory, effective November 1, 2020.

The territory encompasses the countries of Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras,

Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela. The Army's ministry in these 10 countries is vast and comprehensive. According to the 2020 *Year Book* it includes 66 corps and eight outposts; residential homes for the disabled, elderly and children; health education in hospitals; day care and child development centers, kindergartens and schools for children; vocational training, feeding centers, camps and retreat centers and an adult rehabilitation center.

The Heatwoles currently serve at International Headquarters where Commissioner Merle is International Secretary for Business Administration and Commissioner Dawn is Secretary for Spiritual Life Development. Immediately preceding these appointments, they served as International Secretary and Secretary for Women's Ministries for the Americas and Caribbean Zone. They will succeed Commissioners Tito and Martha Paredes who will be retiring.



Territory's newest Echelon

The territory's newest Echelon chapter is working to advance The Salvation Army's mission in the Twin Cities. This summer members joined the Northern Division's efforts to support communities coping with civil unrest and standing up against racism in the wake of George Floyd's death by taking an active role in the division's prayer vigil and peaceful prayer walk and volunteering to pack food bags.

"This chapter of Echelon excels in serving The Salvation Army," said Major Nancy Mead, then Echelon coordinator and mentor. "It was no surprise that during a time of unrest and uncertainty this group would walk alongside us."



Members of Twin Cities Echelon join in the Northern Division's prayer walk

Cities Echelon president, a lot of young professionals are looking to join groups like Echelon where they can make connections while also giving back to their community.

Leaders of the group continue to reach out to potential members and look forward to resuming popular social and professional networking events when appropriate. They are encouraged about the future of Echelon in the Twin Cities.

"I would love for Echelon to be a little bit more known," concluded Sarah. "It's a place where recent college graduates can have their voices heard as young professionals—something that can be difficult to find. As we grow, we want to become a trusted partner for the division as a group they can call on for their volunteer or fundraising needs."



While the coronavirus pandemic prevented Echelon members from engaging in their regular volunteer activities for several months, such as hosting parties for children living in one of the Army's shelters or volunteering at the Harbor Light, the group found other ways to support The Salvation Army's work. Through social media and email blasts, they kept their contacts informed of the Army's efforts and encouraged colleagues to donate or participate in fundraisers like the Virtual Walk for Good hosted by the division.

According to Sarah Grey, Twin



Young professionals make connections at one of last year's Echelon networking events.

Photos by Craig Dikes

Understanding Holiness

As a preview to the first National Seminar on Holiness next summer, Dr. Bill and Diane Ury, National Ambassadors for Holiness, talk about what holiness means and how Salvationists can live it out.

What is Holiness?

Bill: Holiness is the highest thing a person can say about God. It is God's essence, His nature. Every attribute of God's—His justice, mercy, sovereignty—must be qualified by His holiness, which means it informs all He does.

The crucial matter is that holiness is not defined by us. It is revealed by God, and it is offered to every per-

son by God Himself. So, the key is not a "what" but a "who." Yahweh told Moses the ground he was standing on was holy because the Lord Himself was present. He makes holy wherever He is. The most important place He desires to dwell in His fullness is the human heart, and that is where we focus our attention. If God can have access to all of us, then His "all" can restore the moral image which was destroyed by sin. If that occurs, then He can pour His holy love into our hearts for the sake of others.

Why does holiness matter to Salvationists?

Diane: Holiness is the manifested, self-emptying nature of God that is more concerned about others than self. Our motto is "others." There's no possible way to live for and serve the lost, last, least and unlovely (with a heart that isn't false in motive, grumbling in spirit or self-vaunting) without the cleansing presence of the only One who is that way.

Bill: As we have traveled to every territory and



Spiritual Life

met the finest people we have ever known in the Army, it has become very clear: holiness is the reason The Salvation Army exists. We must be as clear as possible in what we are preaching and producing as mat-

uring disciples of Christ. Our continued ministry depends upon the depth to which we allow the reality of holiness to permeate our soldiers, corps and ministry. We must not allow an undercurrent of unbelief regarding holiness of heart and life to pervade our movement.

As a result of our commitment to the fullness of God's life permeating our hearts and motivating all we do, we will find this beautiful concept of holiness will be accused of claiming too much for the human life before heaven. We have been fed a line for too long. We have been told the highest thing we can claim is that we are abject sinners. Though we understand sin, we believe in the Resurrection and Pentecost. God can do what He alone can do in everyone who desires to be transformed. Nothing in salvation is defined by our ability. We do not have to sin because of the power of God in our hearts.

What are your goals for the new National Seminar on Holiness slated for summer 2021?

Bill: We hope to discern what Salvationists know about holiness. Theology can become abstract pretty quickly, but it is impossible for anyone to know Christ without being theological. So, we want to converse about the theology of holiness—what is understood by that and how it is applied to our lives. Also, we want to learn how each territory is encouraging this fundamental doctrine, experience and expression of holiness. We believe the Army is one of the few voices in the Church to emphasize the possibility of a clean heart and clean hands of service.

Culturally, how does holiness fit in?

Diane: Our culture is crying out for holiness. Every person is created with hunger for God. What manifests itself as vile sin and destructive behavior has its root in being separated from the One who is life, light, goodness and truth. Jesus Christ in Himself is the healing of our separation from God. I believe with all my heart that holiness is the most relevant message for our culture. Whatever you've done, whatever filth seems to be clinging to your soul, however despairing your life seems, Jesus is your rescuer.

Holiness feels so abstract, what does it look like in everyday life?

Bill: The best term to describe holiness is Jesus. And the clearest revelation that He is on the throne of a human heart is love—selfless, others-oriented, active love. When God began to describe Himself to Moses, He did not use abstract terms. He said I am warmly disposed toward you. I am kind. I am always faithful, always loving, and I never cease to be fair. (Exodus 34:4-6). As we move through scripture those themes, actions, attitudes and expressions are found to be gifts offered to every believer. Think of the Beatitudes, the fruit of the Spirit, or any list of character traits in the epistles. Our Sanctifier does not want us to be confused or to buy into the belief that these gifts from His heart are only for a small, elite group of super-spiritual people. This is the real life God made us for.

Diane: Holiness shows itself in our lives through humility and speech, right off. When God's Spirit makes His home in us, we will not have such an appetite for being noticed, acknowledged or thanked.

There's a profound, almost secret joy that inhabits our daily duties. People who abide in intimate relationship with Jesus see the beauty in life, of the mundane and small things of daily living.

Adapted and reprinted from the New Frontier Chronicle online.



Recommended Resources on Holiness

by Bill and Diane Ury



Books

- Humility by Andrew Murray
- Ideas Have Consequences by Richard M. Weaver
- Lectures in Old Testament Theology by Dennis F. Kinlaw
- Let's Start with Jesus by Dennis F. Kinlaw
- Living Holiness by Helen Roseveare
- My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers
- Samuel Logan Brengle: Portrait of a Prophet by Clarence Hall
- Social Holiness by Jonathan S. Raymond
- The Bible Among the Myths by John Oswalt
- 52 Standard Sermons by John Wesley

Websites

- Seedbed (seedbed.com)
- John and Charles Wesley Center (jcwcenter.org)
- Salvation Factory (salvationfactory.org)
- Army Barmy (armybarmy.com)
- Francis Asbury Society (francisasburysociety.com)

Podcasts

- The Hour of Holiness with Dr. Bill Ury
- Fundamental Wesleyan Society
- Titus Women

For a more comprehensive list, please visit our website salarmycentral.org

Not-to-be missed podcast

In preparation for a **Territorial Racial Justice Summit, October 26-27, 2020**, we wanted to bring to your attention two very interesting and timely interviews by Captain Andy Miller on his popular podcast *Captain's Corner*. Not merely food for thought, these conversations are feasts to be relished and digested.

The first features Commissioner Israel Gaither, former National Commander, who discusses his life and ministry, dealing with racism, his in-

terracial marriage, thinking through a response to #AhmaudArbery, what The Salvation Army can do to promote more diverse leadership, and the beauty of the Kingdom of God.

The other features Major (Dr.) Marion Platt, Memphis, Tenn., Area Commander, who will be one of the guests for the upcoming summit. During this episode, Captain Miller and Major Platt discuss the Army's history in speaking into racial tensions and positive steps that organizations can take to fight racism.

Captain's Corner – the Podcast



EP. #25 with guest
**Commissioner
Israel L. Gaither**



EP. #27 with guest
**Major (Dr.)
Marion Platt**

Walking for a better future

by Camerin Mattson

Captain Amanda Keene spent Juneteenth—a day for celebrating the end of slavery in the U.S.—passing out water and face masks at a march for racial justice. "It was so hot, but so good," she said of the sweltering day.

Captain Amanda is the corps officer in Gary-Merrillville, Ind., a community that's about 80 percent African-American. She also sits on a committee at the Merrillville School District with other faith-based leaders who were invited when the state of the schools made local leaders realize something needed to change. "It's a great collaboration," Captain Amanda said.

When the committee leader emailed members to let them know that a recent high school graduate was organizing the event, Captain Amanda was one of the few who responded. She called the young woman and simply asked, "How can I support you?" The woman hadn't previously organized an event, so Captain Amanda inquired what they were doing for water for participants and garbage collection. Met with silence, she offered, "Let me take care of it."

That day Captain Amanda, a couple staff and volunteers manned a table and passed out water, Gatorade, garbage bags, masks, gloves and hand

sanitizer. She walked with an estimated 200 people from the Merrillville High School parking lot to the police station, where organizers calmly stated their case to further racial justice in their community. "It was such a beautiful thing," Captain Amanda said. "I feel better about the future now."

"My neighbors have been dealing with injustice long before COVID and George Floyd," she said. "This is what our neighbors eat, sleep and breathe."

While she works diligently to serve her neighborhood through afterschool programs, a food pantry and community meals, the captain also said, "It's not enough to hand out food and pay someone's rent. We have to do something about systemic injustices that cause our community members to need help."

She continued, "The Salvation Army is a community where you can come and feel safe, known, and supported. We're here to fight with and for you."

The organizer certainly felt that support. After the event, she texted, "Thanks for your allyship. It's good to know you're here to support us."

Captain Amanda responded, "This is what the Army looks like."



An Army awakening



This summer 50 officers and soldiers from the Metropolitan and Wisconsin/Upper Michigan divisions met at the Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps to discuss action steps that can be taken by individuals and the territory to advocate for racial equality.

"The convening of this discussion was really about bringing individuals together, particularly those who made the declaration [#SalvationistsinSolidarity] to begin the dialogue about how to take action in light of their desire to stand in solidarity with people of color," said Major Katherine Clausell, territorial social justice and urban mission secretary, who facilitated the event.

Joining the dialogue were territorial leaders Commissioners Brad and Heidi Bailey, territorial program secretaries Lt. Colonels Jonathan and Barbara Rich and Commissioner Barry Swanson, who at the time was leading the Metropolitan Division. According to Major Katherine, their presence and participation—hearing

what was on these leaders' hearts—encouraged those gathered at the Temple Corps, as well as nearly 150 other Salvationists who watched the livestreamed event which has since been viewed 3,500 times online, reaching 4,900 people. The evening also included a panel discussion and time for questions and answers.

"I thought the gathering was a much-needed conversation that Salvationists were longing for, especially Salvationists of color," said Cadet Samantha Tamayo, who helped coordinate the event. "My heart breaks for what my black and brown brothers and sisters are going through. The least I can do is to use my gifts and talents to help offer a platform where people feel heard."

"I was honored to serve as a panelist," said Major Caleb Senn. "The important discourse during this setting is only a starting point for our territory's response to racial injustice. I am encouraged that we can move forward from this point committed to further education, advocacy and accountability."

The Church has left the building

by Lt. Karen Felton

This summer my husband, our intern and I visited 10 businesses around our corps (Chicago Midwest) to say we understood how hard it's been between COVID-19 closings and the looting many of them experienced and that The Salvation Army is here as they start the process of rebuilding.

We brought each business a gift bag that contained Salvation Army water bottles, tons of candy, and a letter expressing our support and prayers. Also included were enough gift cards to take their entire staff to a local sandwich shop—helping to support a 40-year plus small business with the same owner—through money donated by a local church. Dunkin' Donuts also donated gift cards, and the Blackhawks supplied hats and other fun items for the bags. We are thankful for the generosity of the church, business and sports organization that made it possible.

Across the board, the businesses were surprised to see us. One man, whose family business was completely emptied during the looting, said, "You serve people who are much worse off than us. We shouldn't take this." I told him it wasn't about who's worse off but about all they'd come through. Another



Lt. Karen Felton with intern Katrina Andrews and Major Gary Felton

woman, who was exhausted and struggling to get caught up, said our visit was at just the right time. It was a joy to see how delighted people were by this small act of kindness. We met a lot of people and are resolved to keep encouraging them.

Recently, my husband has been enamored with the phrase "The Church has left the building!" More and more I am convicted we need to get out of our buildings, listen to the people we serve, walk alongside them, and let our neighborhoods see God's love with which we want to surround them.

This Army runs on volunteers

It's never been more evident than during the pandemic that volunteers are essential to carrying out our mission. Here we salute some of the very best who've been chosen as Volunteers of the Year.

Chris Ayers—Individual

Bloomington, Ill., Advisory Board Member Chris Ayers is passionate about serving with The Salvation Army and encouraging hundreds of people to join the "Fight for Good." Through his Facebook group called "His Hands & Feet" he has inspired colleagues, church members, friends and family members to volunteer and to give monetarily and gifts in-kind. He has sponsored, provided guidance and recruited golfers for the Army's Annual Red Shield Classic Golf Outing which benefits the Safe Harbor Shelter where he began volunteering 15 years ago and continues to serve at least twice a month.

found helping her neighbors with yard work, shoveling snow and taking their dogs for a stroll. No matter what she's doing, Natelie says her goal in serving others is to show Christ's love.

Sue Nelmes and Kay Perry—Family

Sisters Sue Nelmes and Kay Perry are fundamental to the Kalamazoo, Mich., Corps' ministry at Christmas. Over the last 11 years, they have spent count-

less hours making sure the Toy Shop which serves families in need is bigger and better each holiday season.

They handle every aspect: collecting, sorting and setting up all the gifts, running the distribution, and tearing the toy shop down when it's done. They ensure parents are respectfully assisted in selecting just the right gifts for their children to open Christmas morning.

In addition to the endless hours they invest, Sue and Kay purchase popular toys on sale throughout the year and donate hundreds of dollars' worth of gifts and books, which are especially important to encourage literacy so students aren't held back in school. The sisters work from spring through fall to find community groups to donate books to ensure every child who receives a toy also receives at least one book. Because of Sue and Kay's efforts, the Kalamazoo Corps provided nearly 15,000 toys to 2,800 children last Christmas.

Pamela Anderson—Lifetime

Pamela Anderson, who died February 24, 2020, was honored posthumously as lifetime volunteer for more than 20 years of service at the Fergus Falls, Minn., Corps.

"Pamela compassionately served her community and The Salvation Army with love for God's people," said Lt. Anthony Nordan, corps officer.

One of many examples of the difference Pamela made was last year's



Lisa Meyer and Natelie Walcott (r)



Pamela Anderson



Chris Ayers not only supports The Salvation Army but gets friends like Jen involved in the mission.

Chris is not only key to the Army's efforts in Bloomington, he has served for the last three years on the Territorial Investment Advisory Board which meets quarterly and provides recommendations to the Territorial Finance Council on matters related to investments held by the Central Territory.

In addition to The Salvation Army, he volunteers at Midwest Food Bank, serves on the Wishbone Canine Rescue Board of Directors and is very involved at his church and his son's high school. He makes his community a better place to live.

Natelie Walcott—Youth

"I love helping people!" said 15-year-old Natelie Walcott. "It feels so good to know we can provide food for those who are hungry and warm coats for those who need them in the cold weather. It makes me happy! The best is when I get to see them smile."

Natelie has been volunteering with the Sheboygan, Wis., Corps since 2016. She has stocked food pantry shelves, sorted outerwear for Coats for Kids and toys for Christmas distribution, stuffed backpacks for the back-to-school giveaway and served food and cleaned up at the Salvation Ride bike fundraiser along scenic Lake Michigan. Last year she was even a donut girl in the Memorial Day and Fourth of July parades.

In addition, she helps in the nursery and children's worship at the First Christian Reformed Church where she attends. She also can be



Sue Nelmes and Kay Perry

Christmas Toy Shop. When corps staff felt overwhelmed the day before the event, she rallied the community and brought in more than 100 volunteers. She coordinated the gifts, food and work assignments and made sure every parent was greeted with encouragement and offered prayer.

Volunteerism was a lifestyle for Pamela and over the years she served hundreds who struggled with poverty or addiction and those who were incarcerated.

She consistently brought people with her to serve at the corps, knowing the difference they could make for others and the positive effect it could have on their own lives. According to the lieutenant, people were inspired by Pamela to band together to address problems and improve their community.

"Her impact will be felt for generations," said Lt. Anthony.

Peoria Women's Auxiliary—Organization

Helen Keller said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." This statement rings true for the Peoria, Ill., Women's Auxiliary, which has been established for 74 years. Its members love the Lord and The Salvation Army. Their dedication and hard work have resulted in more than \$1 million donated to the Army in the

past 10 years.

Currently composed of 20 members, the auxiliary's volunteerism is extensive. They serve lunch monthly at the Sylvia Fites Family Services Center, organize an Annual Garage Sale fundraiser and plant flowers each summer at Eagle Crest Camp. During Christmas, they stuff hundreds of stockings for the children's Red Stocking Party and help set up and work at the Toy Shop. Perhaps most impressive is their annual event, which last year featured an inspiring speaker and auction, that not only raises funds but shares The Salvation Army's work with the community.

Their personal financial giving is impressive, too. Auxiliary members gave \$110,000 to the 2019 Tree of Lights Campaign and another \$20,000 in response to a direct request. They have purchased items for the homeless shelter and instruments for Peoria Citadel's School of Music and have underwritten scholarships for youth to attend the Central Bible Leadership Institute.



The dynamic Peoria Women's Auxiliary with Major Khristina Augustein and Major Kelly Collins at last year's fundraiser.

Service at a Glance

It's a privilege to share the gospel and meet people's need in Christ's name. Here's a glance at the exceptional service given during the COVID-19 crisis in the Central Territory through July 27, 2020.

354,649

Food Boxes given to Families and Individuals



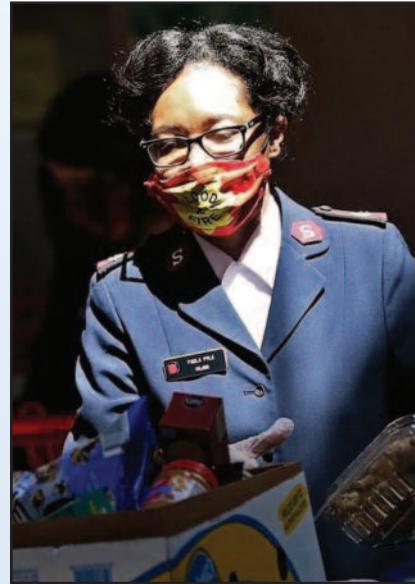
220,167

Individuals Provided Lodging



302,355

Personal Protective Equipment Supplied



84,729

Emotional and Spiritual Care Contacts



2.1 million

Meals Served and Delivered to Homes

82,343

Comfort Care Kits (personal care items)



46,592

Cleaning Supplies and Kits Given

Someone cares

Hotline lent support and encouragement

During the COVID-19 crisis, an Emotional and Spiritual Care (ESC) hotline was established at Central Territorial Headquarters to provide compassionate support, prayer and referral to other resources. It was manned by 30 trained officers, employees and volunteers who answered calls every day, seven days a week, in four-hour shifts from their homes or offices.

The needs were as varied as the callers: a nurse in a hospital who was concerned about her patients and wanted to share the number with them; a lady who was scared because she lived down the block from a chicken processing plant that had to be shut down because so many workers were infected; a widow who struggled with isolation; a veteran looking out for his buddies and neighbors.

"Most of the people I talked with were just trying to figure out how to do life in quarantine," said Major Jo Langham, who manned the hotline in the evenings. "They just needed to know that someone cares. At the end of our conversation, I offered to pray with them. Everyone wanted

me to pray with them."

"Some people are going through really rough waters, but I believe the Lord will see them through," said Major Mickey Hale, a retired officer who was glad to take back-to-back shifts most days. In certain situations, with the caller's permission, the major shared their contact information with the officers in their area for follow-up call.

Other people like an elderly woman who received a food box delivered to her home from The Salvation Army just called to say thank you. "She couldn't say thank you enough. We prayed together, and I encouraged her to call in the future to stay connected," said Rosann Rustia, an EDS volunteer.

"I am thankful that the territory is prepared to provide emotional and spiritual care during this pandemic and other disasters," said Major Joseph Wheeler, who coordinated the hotline as part of the territorial incident command team. The major credits this to ESC training that has been available through EDS since 2005.

The territorial ESC hotline complemented a national hotline and hotlines in half the territory's divisions.



Prepared for the long-term

According to Dr. Maribeth Swanson, territorial social services secretary, the on-line social service caseworker certification introduced last year and the capacity-building and collaborations which have resulted from the Pathway of Hope (POH) initiative will aid immensely in managing and meeting people's long-term needs in the wake of COVID-19.

"We have learned a lot from POH on how to support families experiencing a crisis move toward increased stability and sufficiency," says Swanson. "I think The Salvation Army is in a much better place in our capacity to implement strong long-term recovery case management, networking with other community agencies, churches and educational institutions at the local level."

This should help enable people to access a range of resources for utility assistance, rent/mortgage assistance, childcare, housing, and emotional and spiritual care. Because of POH there is an infrastructure in place, specific personnel training and a robust client data system that can track outcomes so progress can be assessed, and assistance adjusted. It is anticipated for the foreseeable future most case management will occur virtually, and additional steps have been taken to enable this.

Though many states are reopening, with social distancing and limited gatherings expected to remain the norm for an unspecified period it is anticipated Salvation Army units will continue to leverage technology to provide other services and programs for their members and communities.

MESSENGERS OF
Reconciliation



Newly
accepted
candidates



LaToya Surratt

First-generation Salvationist

Austin, Minn., Corps ♦ Northern Division

Majors Jeffrey and Cindy Strickler, corps officers

Spiritual Gifts

Evangelism ♦ Giving ♦ Serving

Ministry Passion or Experience

Children/Youth ♦ Social Services

Spiritual mentors

Major Rose Marie Mason ♦ Major Cindy Strickler



Landon and Megan McClintock

Multigenerational Salvationists

Omaha Citadel, Neb., Corps ♦ Western Division

Majors Trevor and Rochelle McClintock, corps officers

Spiritual Gifts

Landon: Leadership ♦ Administration

Megan: Serving ♦ Teaching

Ministry Passion or Experience

Landon: Preaching/Teaching ♦ Men's Ministries

Megan: Children/Youth ♦ Social Services

Spiritual mentors

Landon: Matt Walter

Megan: Captain April Rutledge-Clarke



Lucas Gantner

First-generation Salvationist

Omaha Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center ♦ Western Division

A/Captains John and Tracy Gantner, Kroc Center officers

Spiritual Gifts

Evangelism ♦ Serving ♦ Teaching

Ministry Passion or Experience

Missions ♦ Preaching/Teaching

Spiritual mentors

Tim Gantner ♦ Major Mary Poff

730... AND BEYOND



2,639 days and counting

by **Captain AJ Zimmerman**

As a teenager, I was very critical of my corps officers. I didn't understand the amount of work, compassion and faith it took to wear those red epaulettes. But as a 25-year-old lieutenant in my first corps appointment 500 miles away from home in a place I hadn't know existed, I began to understand the weight of this calling called officership.

One year of preaching, youth ministry, women's ministries, social services and being a vital voice in the community taught me that my corps officers should have been given a medal for how seamlessly they did it all—while listening to me complain.

I was in their shoes. One day in the afterschool program I had a conversation with a teenager who felt like I was not doing a good job. While he may have been right, I had a sneaking suspicion he was frustrated I'd missed his basketball game. Though he'd been coming to "The Sal" for years to play, he was coming regularly to destroy this 6-foot-seven-inch lieutenant on the court. To him, my job was to open the gym and lose at basketball while wearing a strange suit and dress shoes.

I began to realize God had woven all the pieces of my life together, even the fact I was tall but couldn't



play basketball, for ministry and His glory. Everything was to build His Kingdom. It was exciting to develop relationships and share God's love in a very natural way. Sometimes I was overwhelmed because I couldn't be three places at once; other times, I was frustrated I lacked certain skills, but God always gave me what I needed.

Eventually, I got to see that teenager's basketball game and realized I wasn't the only one he destroyed. While that was gratifying, I was excited when on a Sunday morning he walked into the worship service with a smirk on his face and sat down to listen to me preach.

Is officership hard? Absolutely. But it's also a privilege. God is so good! His plans are rich and satisfying. I am so grateful He has chosen to use me.



Timothy Gantner and Rachel Rosete-Gantner

Multigenerational Salvationist ♦ First-generation Salvationist

Omaha Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center ♦ Western Division

A/Captains John and Tracy Gantner, Kroc Center officers

Spiritual Gifts

Timothy: Administration ♦ Leadership ♦ Serving

Rachel: Leadership ♦ Discernment ♦ Teaching

Ministry Passion or Experience

Timothy: Missions ♦ Preaching/Teaching

Rachel: Social Services ♦ Preaching/Teaching

Spiritual mentors

Timothy: Patricia Gantner, A/Captain John Gantner

Rachel: A/Captain Tracy Gantner

Retiring officers reflect on service, pass on wisdom

This summer 22 officers retired after giving an average of 30 years to ministry. Reflecting on their service, they shared a little of their experiences and advice for the recently commissioned Messengers of the Kingdom session. Here's what they said are the secrets to happy and fulfilled officership—advice that can benefit all of us, officer and soldier alike.

Keep God first

Joy in service, the officers overwhelmingly agree, begins with maintaining a close walk with the Lord.

"Make an appointment with the Lord each day and keep it," advised Major Ed Tutewiler. "Prayer and time with God come first."



Majors Jonathan and Linda Fjellman

prejudice and poverty and other hardship day in, day out has really been my passion."

In their final appointment at the Racine, Wis., Corps, the Nicolais were blessed to see individuals coming to Christ as the corps grew threefold which they credit to extending love and acceptance, building relationships and meeting every visitor with a heart of compassion.

"We said that we would be faithful to serve anyone who entered the doors, and that is what we have done," said Major Cindy. "At times it has been difficult, but God has been so good to us, and we've bonded as a family in Christ."



Majors Edward and Diann Tutewiler

"You are called by God, working for Jesus," Major Jonathan Fjellman said. "Spend time with Him in daily devotions without fail."

Love your people

As corps officers for more than 30 years, Majors Ken and Cindy Nicolai found that truly loving those in their ministry made all the difference as they used their gifts to serve the downtrodden and offer hope to those facing difficult circumstances.

"My greatest joy was the people—plain and simple," said Major Ken. "To come alongside those who face



Majors Cynthia and Kenneth Nicolai

Find your passion

Majors Gerhard and Conny Scheler knew from the outset that God had called them to serve in adult rehabilitation centers (ARC). As an ARC alumnus, Major Gerhard's passion was—and still is—seeing others find freedom in Christ. Since being commissioned in 2002 they have shared God's love with hundreds of individuals.

"It is a great joy to talk openly about Jesus Christ and to see how the Lord works in His people," concluded Major Conny.

When commissioned, Majors Phil and Gail Aho did not have the intent of serving in the inner-city although that is where their officership took them. They were just two officers who were determined to go where the Army sent them and do their best to serve. "We salute and go because we believe that God can do something," said Major Phil.



Majors Phil and Gail Aho

However, along the way they discovered a real love and passion for coming alongside and serving people in urban settings, whether the west side of Chicago, Gary, Ind., or the heart of St. Louis. They became strong proponents for the Army's ministry in this context and advocates for those to whom it ministered. For the Ahos this has carried over into retirement as they've chosen to live and minister in a city setting despite the pandemic which would give many others pause.

Allow God to equip you

Major Donna Miller, who spent most of her officership ministering in social services, reflected, "I think becoming a corps officer was both the best and the hardest thing. I've never loved more nor cried harder. It's stretched me and made me grow, and I've loved it!"

She said pouring herself into ministry gave great fulfillment and she'd do it all over again in a heartbeat. As a teenager, however, she couldn't have imagined becoming an officer as her first impressions of The Salvation Army weren't favorable because they "dressed funny" in those uniforms. Despite her reservations, the Army became a spiritual home and a place of security, love and stability for her. After she began regularly attending worship at the corps and got involved with the youth meetings, Major Donna had a spiritual awakening. "I felt the Holy Spirit calling me to Salvation Army ministry. God said, 'If you're an officer with The Salvation Army, you can serve me and serve people.' I realized as an officer, I could do it all."

No matter their appointment, whether corps, headquarters or Kroc Center, Majors Andrew and Cheryl Miller say the Lord equipped them to do His work.



Majors Andrew and Cheryl Miller

"Every single appointment stretched us and required us to use the gifts God had given us for that particular appointment" said Major Andy. "When you find yourself having to rely on God, He always gives you the gifts you need."

Even in times of discouragement and difficulty, Majors Miller found that God was faithful to equip them for His work as they allowed Him to use them.

"During those times part of the song 'His Provision' would come to me, 'Then my Lord has made provision for the day of my despair, and his precious Holy Spirit hears my prayer...'" said Major Andy. "I learned to praise the Lord through it all and tell the devil to get behind."

Trust in God's provision

Serving in corps, Harbor Light Centers and ARCs since their commissioning in 1978, Majors Doug and Beckie Stearns were reminded early on of God's unfailing provision when they arrived in their first appointment to find that the corps was in debt and barely staying afloat financially.



Majors Douglas and Rebecca Stearns

"After selling the Easter War Cry so we could pay for them, a check for \$5,000 came in the mail," recalled Major Beckie. The donor continued to send a \$5,000 check each month for the next five, and by the beginning of that year's Christmas campaign the corps was out of debt.

"The sweetest moment was finding out that the gentleman who was sending the checks was someone I had taken time to listen to and pray with in that small farming community where we sold the War Cry," she said. "He was so touched he chose to bless our ministry."

God's provision in that first appointment shaped how the Stearns trusted God in every area of their lives.

"God always provides for our needs in Christ Jesus to do His Kingdom work," concluded Major Doug.

Summer retirements

We salute these officers who retired this summer after giving up to 45 years in ministry and service.

Majors Gail and Phillip Aho

Majors John and Julie Aren

Majors Jonathan and Linda Fjellman

Majors Michael and Rebecca Gates

Major Janet M. Litherland

Majors David and Zandra Luft

Majors Andrew and Cheryl Miller

Major Donna M. Miller

Majors Cynthia and Kenneth Nicolai

Majors Diann and Edward Tutewiler

Majors Cornelia and Gerhard Scheler

Majors Douglas and Rebecca Stearns

Faith. Growth. Healing.

The Salvation Army Camp Experience

by Jolie Diepenhorst

A new history exhibit speaks to the importance of camp in our lives and organization and encourages us to look forward to next year when they'll resume.

For more than 120 years Salvation Army camps have surrounded children and adults with a loving community, helping them to develop as individuals and facilitating faith, growth and healing—a robust ministry which has its origins right here in the Central Territory.

food to uplift the spirit and health of mothers and children. In 1897, they initiated the first Salvation Army Fresh Air Camp. Located in Fairmount Park in Kansas City, Mo., the camp hosted mothers and babies for one week. Though it could accommodate 25 campers overnight, many mothers couldn't leave their families for an extended time, so they attended daily and went home every night. The camp's success prompted the Stillwells to add another week for 20 more families.

The Chicago Metropolitan Area fresh air camps began in Hinsdale and followed the same model as Fairmount Park. Mrs. Francis Fowler made accommodations for mothers and children on her family farm near Hinsdale, Ill. A short time later, Mr. and Mrs. Fowler, along with other investors, purchased the Gary Farm in Glen Ellyn, Ill. The 56-acre farm became the first permanent fresh-air camp in the Central Territory.

The first camp season in Glen Ellyn was in July 1911. Salvation Army leaders secured transportation for families who lived in the tenements of inner-city Chicago; later the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad transported hundreds of

In the late 1800s the United States embraced the Second Industrial Revolution. Immigrants traveled to overcrowded American cities filled with opportunities to change their future and find success. Farmers and their families migrated from their labor-intensive, rural existence to cities and soon realized the workdays at the factory equaled that of farm life. Mothers, fathers, and often children, could find themselves at factories 10 to 12 hours daily, six days a week. Children who did not work were left unattended and vulnerable. With other organizations, The Salvation Army lobbied for play places both in and outside the city. For mothers and children, The Salvation Army offered Fresh Air camps, a rural destination that offered the opportunity to escape the drudgery of the industrial world and breathe fresh air.

Fresh Air

Majors Henry and Mary Stillwell recognized the considerable advantages of the sun, fresh air and good



mothers and children for a week's stay at camp. The families received care, medical attention and the spiritual uplift.

Youth Camp

The success of family camps inspired leaders to develop camps just for children which encouraged them to become self-reliant by attending without their mothers and learning to do things like build fires, cook outside and construct shelters. It was the first type of character-building camp the Army offered. Today, the camping program still seeks to aid in spiritual growth, to cultivate values and character and to develop respect for natural resources and all living creatures.

Character-Building Camp

Recognizing the needs of young people, in 1910 General William Booth asked leaders to structure a scouting program like the Boy Scouts but mold it to fit the Army's teachings. The character-building programs of the Life Saving Scouts and Guards were developed. Today, camps encourage children through sunbeams, girl guards, explorers, and adventure corps programs.

Music Camp

Music has always been an integral part of The Salvation Army and its ministry. Providing both the "expression of joyous faith and a form of recreation" music was a program that easily transferred to the camp experience. Young musicians of all levels learned the beauty of the gospel arts at camp. Today's music camps, including Central Music Institute, allow campers to discover and develop their talents which can be used in their own corps' ministry.

Bible Camp

In 1944 Brigadier and Mrs. Dallas P. Leader envisioned a camp program to serve Salvationists through fellowship, studying the Bible and feeling physically and spiritually refreshed. What began as the Territorial Leadership Institute today is the Central Bible Leadership Institute—which still strives to nurture and strengthen Salvationists so they can fulfill the Army's mission.

In the wake of the pandemic, interactive components have been temporarily removed from the exhibit and a new, improved website with a virtual tour of the camp exhibit, an interactive story map and games is being developed. Until we can welcome you again in person, please enjoy learning about camps online from your own home.



THE SALVATION ARMY
CENTRAL TERRITORY
MUSEUM

Visit salarmycentral.org and click on museum under departments to link to this and to read about the making of this exhibit.

Donut Day supports frontline workers



by Samantha Hyde

On National Donut Day this year, officers, soldiers, staff and volunteers headed out across Indianapolis, Ind., to bring 2,000 sweet treats from local favorite Titus Bakery to frontline health-care workers to thank them for their service during the pandemic.

began in April 1917 with just a dozen young women who were deployed to the war zone in France.

Eventually around 250 Salvation Army volunteers traveled abroad to help care for soldiers. Cooking special treats in battle conditions with limited rations was a challenge, but two young women, including Huntington, Ind., native Helen Purviance, found a way to fry the first of the soon-to-be famous donuts. News spread, and it wasn't long before thousands of donuts were being fried daily all along the front. When the American soldiers returned home, they brought with them fond memories of these lassies and a love for donuts.

Today the donut still serves as a symbol of the comfort The Salvation Army brings to those in need through its many programs. Donuts, meals and hydration are regularly served to first responders and others on the frontlines during fires, emergencies, and disasters. Throughout the week leading up to Donut Day this year, donuts were delivered as well to fire and police departments in the Indianapolis area.

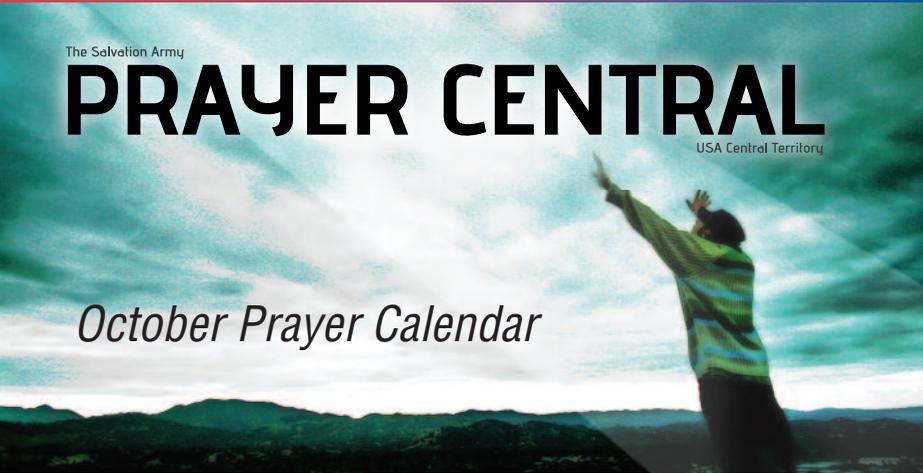
The Salvation Army delivered 1,400 donuts, along with sample bags of Donut Day coffee blend by Julian Coffee Roasters, to Eskenazi Hospital in downtown Indianapolis and St. Francis Hospital on the south side. A canteen was stationed on the city's north side from which volunteers served another 600 donuts and coffee at employee entrances of Ascension St. Vincent Hospital and the nearby Ascension St. Vincent Women's Hospital.

On the St. Vincent campuses, women dressed as Donut Girls honored the legacy of the young women who served on the frontlines of World War I. The Salvation Army's mission to provide emotional and spiritual support to young soldiers



Correction/Clarification

While we were proud to share the enrollment of Larry Woods as a soldier in the July/August issue, we mistakenly reported it was livestreamed from the Minneapolis, Minn., Parkview Corps. This happy occasion was broadcast from the Noble Worship Center (Corps) in Brooklyn Park, Minn.



My Prayer List	Day	Bible Reading	Pray for The Salvation Army
	1 Thursday	Numbers 22-24	Janesville, Wis., Corps
	2 Friday	2 Chronicles 11-15	Chicago Midwest, Ill., Corps
	3 Saturday	Psalms 117-118	Officers throughout the territory
	4 Sunday	Proverbs 28	Farmington Hills, Mich., Corps
	5 Monday	Jonah	India Central Territory
	6 Tuesday	Acts 3-4	Dubuque, Iowa, Corps
	7 Wednesday	Hebrews 5-7	Share Your Christmas Joy campaign
	8 Thursday	Numbers 25-27	Huntington, Ind., Corps
	9 Friday	2 Chronicles 16-20	Kansas City Citadel, Kan., Corps
	10 Saturday	Psalms 119	Blue Island, Ill., Corps
	11 Sunday	Proverbs 29-30	East St. Louis, Ill., Corps
	12 Monday	Micah	Japan Territory
	13 Tuesday	Acts 5-6	Grand Forks, N.D., Corps
	14 Wednesday	Hebrews 8-10	Corps planting in the territory
	15 Thursday	Numbers 28-30	Hastings, Neb., Corps
	16 Friday	2 Chronicles 21-24	Kansas & Western Missouri DHQ**
	17 Saturday	Psalms 120-121	Youth character-building programs
	18 Sunday	Proverbs 31	Muscatine, Iowa, Corps
	19 Monday	Nahum	Kenosha, Wis., Corps
	20 Tuesday	Acts 7-8	Congo Brazzaville Territory
	21 Wednesday	Hebrews 11-13	Kansas City, Mo., ARC*
	22 Thursday	Numbers 31-33	Flint Beecher, Mich., Corps
	23 Friday	2 Chronicles 25-28	Twin Cities Echelon
	24 Saturday	Psalms 122-124	Freeport, Ill., Corps
	25 Sunday	Ecclesiastes 1-2	Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps
	26 Monday	Habakkuk	Granite City, Ill., Corps
	27 Tuesday	Acts 9-10	Huron, S.D., Corps
	28 Wednesday	James 1-3	Women's Ministries
	29 Thursday	Numbers 34-36	South America East Territory
	30 Friday	2 Chronicles 29-32	Holland, Mich., Corps
	31 Saturday	Psalms 125-127	La Crosse, Wis., Corps

Go to www.salarmycentral.org If you follow the prayer calendar during the year, you will have read through the Bible!

*ARC = Adult Rehabilitation Center
**DHQ = Divisional Headquarters

--Mustard Seeds--



Norway implements Pathway of Hope

In June of 2018 Dr. Maribeth Swanson, territorial social services secretary, and Linda Brinker, territorial Pathway of Hope (POH) project manager, were invited to present on the Pathway of Hope initiative at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development in Dublin, Ireland.

With approximately 50 Salvation Army officer and employee delegates from across the globe in attendance, their workshop and poster sessions generated substantive discussions about the Central Territory's experience and the potential applicability of the POH model in other countries.

Following the conference social service personnel from Norway pur-

sued more information. Within a few months their team decided to move forward with POH implementation and, as a first step, translated the 150-page POH manual into Norwegian. They also identified the immigrant population as the primary focus for services. Last fall the team initiated the pilot phase by utilizing the approach with 14 families, specifically interested in improving their employment outcomes, which is commonly addressed through POH with families based on their individual goals in the Central Territory.

Earlier this year POH teams from the Central and Norway, Iceland and Farroes territories met over Skype to share lessons learned, suc-

cess stories and scaling strategies. The Central team was able to offer guidance regarding use of POH tools and assessments, volunteer engagement, recruitment, evaluation and outcomes, community partnership development and fundraising. Maribeth Swanson concluded the meeting with a prayer for discernment for the Norwegian team and gratitude for what the Lord will do.



Looking into implementation of the Pathway of Hope in Bergen, Norway, are Kristin Stordal, Katrine Hogganvik and Kristine Jorstad Boch.



Bring joy to a child in need this Christmas season.

The Share Your Christmas Joy program aims to send \$100 to as many Salvation Army children's homes, school and centers worldwide as possible.

Sharing Your Christmas Joy is an opportunity to make Christ's birth real not only to children around the world but to you!

Ask your family, friends and coworkers to join you in Sharing your Christmas Joy!

Send a check to:

The Salvation Army
ATTN: Share Your Christmas Joy
5550 Prairie Stone Pkwy
Hoffman Estates, IL 60192

Or visit centralmissions.org/christmas_joy



Clean water for Andrews

by Samantha Hyde

The Salvation Army brought bottled water to residents of the small town of Andrews, Ind., this summer when the water supply was declared to have dangerously high levels of the carcinogen vinyl chloride and was unsafe to drink.

First on the scene was Major Gerald Smelser (retired since 1995) who lives in nearby Huntington. After assessing the situation, he conferred with Captain Dennis Marak, who was familiar with the area as he'd been the corps officer in Huntington until last year, they brought 36 cases of bottled water—190 gallons!—the

next day to shore up the town's public water supply until a semi-load could get to Andrews.

"I didn't know the Army could do this," said John Harshburger, Andrews town council president. "We are very grateful."

Bert Williams, Indiana divisional emergency disaster services coordinator, worked with Convoy of Hope to get a large semi filled with water bottles of various sizes to Andrews, stocking the town's warehouse with 17 pallets of water. Residents come to the warehouse every day to pick up water for drinking and cooking while town officials address the contamination issue. Additional shipments are planned as the water crisis in Andrews continues.

Andrews has filed a lawsuit against Raytheon, formerly United Technologies Corporation, in response to the repeated contamination of the town's wells over a 27-year period.



Captain Dennis Marak (second from right) with Andrews Council President John Harshburger and other staff

Promoted to Glory

Major Cheryl Lawry

Major Cheryl Lawry was promoted to Glory on May 30, 2020. She is remembered as a humble servant, prayer warrior, caring friend and capable leader.



Cheryl was born May 31, 1952, in Mitchell, S.D. At age 10 she met The Salvation Army and began attending the corps. During a pilgrimage weekend in 1968, she accepted Christ and the call to officership.

After high school, she entered officer training with the "Lightbringers" session and was commissioned in 1972. She married Joseph Lawry in 1974 and they served in corps and divisional appointments until Joseph's promotion to Glory in 1988.

Cheryl served primarily in business and finance at divisional headquarters, the College for Officer Training and Territorial Headquarters. She attended and served at the Norridge Citadel, Ill., Corps for many years. In 2018 she retired from her final appointment as territorial property secretary in which she oversaw the move of Territorial Headquarters to its current location in Hoffman Estates, including the planning, renovation, design and amenities of the new building and organizing the packing and moving process.

Cheryl is survived by her sons, Joseph Charles Jr., Benjamin James and Joshua Alan.

Major John Mowers

A devoted follower of Christ, Major John Mowers was promoted to Glory on June 4, 2020. Well-known for his engaging Bible teaching, world vision and dedication to ministry, he also loved music and teaching music to youth.



Growing up John attended the Kansas City Westport Temple, Mo., Corps. He entered officer training in 1974 with his wife, Nancy, and was commissioned in 1976 with the "Overcomers" session.

The Mowers served in corps and divisional appointments until 2000, when they were appointed to the

College for Officer Training (CFOT) in the Latin America North Territory. While there, John served as divisional commander for the Costa Rica Division for more than two years.

In the following years the Mowers trained cadets in the USA Central and South America East territories, with John serving as vice principal and principal, respectively. They retired in 2012 from Kansas and Western Missouri Division where John was Hispanic ministries director.

In retirement, John remained active in corps ministry, teaching Bible studies and youth music lessons and leading Hispanic ministries near his home in Texas.

John is survived by his wife; children, David, Jennifer, Michael and Kristina; five grandsons and two granddaughters.

Major Camie Bender

Major Camie Bender was promoted to Glory on June 7, 2020. Compassionate and encouraging, she had a great love for people and always had room at her table for the lonely and hurting. She was especially passionate and gifted in ministering to youth.



Camie was introduced to The Salvation Army in Rapid City, S.D., through a Christmas basket delivered to her home. She attended the corps as a child and accepted Jesus as her Savior. She entered officer training with the "Pioneers" session and was commissioned as a single officer in 1959. In 1961 she married sessionmate Jacob Bender.

The Benders served in corps throughout the territory and were divisional youth secretaries in the Midland Division before opening the Army's work in Yalta, Ukraine (now Russia) in 1993. Though physically difficult, Camie found the endeavor spiritually rewarding. After more than three years overseas, they returned to the Central Territory. They retired as chaplains of the Chicago Central, Ill., Adult Rehabilitation Center in 2003.

Camie is survived by her husband; children, Jacki Pascoe, Joye Waterworth, Jill Sánchez, and Mark; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.