Chicago Kroc Center celebrates 10 years of transformation

by Cashus Saydee and Dan Bowens

You might say “10 years of transformation” has a nice ring. Hopefully, it says to everyone who hears it that the Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Chicago, Ill., has accomplished something important. Many people have worked hard toward this accomplishment and God’s love has remained constant. The Chicago Kroc Center exists to live out the mission of The Salvation Army in a safe, enriching and sacred environment where individuals have access to opportunities to help them reach their potential.

Since the Chicago Kroc Center opened, thousands of people have come through its doors. There have been community members who come to learn new skills, discover new talents and gain opportunities they may not have had if it were not for the center. Others have learned what it means to be part of a team, receive job training and opportuni-

ties, improve overall health and fitness, and find spiritual enrichment. Through their participation in a safe environment that is rich in culture, strangers become friends, and friends become family on Chicago’s South Side.

The tenth anniversary celebration weekend kicked off with a dinner and live auction gala from which proceeds will be used to fund scholarships and programs. Guests were greeted with valet parking, a welcome photo opportunity; a fun-filled social hour and tour which highlighted programs throughout the center and showcased the various departments’ talent. They admired the artistic talents of the Fine Arts students’ and instructors’ expression in dance, theater, art and music. Guests then were led to the redesigned chapel and performance hall for a fabulous dinner with host Chicago NBC Anchor Art Norman who praised the center’s ability to be a haven for teens and young adults wanting to escape gang violence. This was fitting as the evening honored the Chicago Police Department and other brave first responders in the community. Staff who have served at the center since its opening were also recognized. A music presentation by past Kroc officers Captains Norman and Deneisia Polusca and a live auction added to the evening.

The next day featured a Community Block Party with interactive activities like an inflatable water slide, fitness obstacle courses, face paint-

by Craig Dirkes

Annah Field, 24, is leading the charge to revitalize the Salvation Army’s young professional group Echelon in the Twin Cities. Nationwide Echelon seeks to mobilize the next generation of volunteers and advances the Army’s mission through fundraising, volunteering, social events and networking. Echelon in the Twin Cities had been growing rapidly until the pandemic. As the new president of Twin Cities Echelon, Hannah aims to recapture that momentum. She is joined by a new leadership team she helped assemble.

“Right now, we are making sure our goals and vision are set,” said Hannah, who works as a social media manager for an advertising agency. Members are getting involved in ongoing Salvation Army fundraisers and volunteer activities, such as the 2 Million Pounds food drive weigh-in event this past spring, the Down for the Challenge rappelling fundraiser this summer and will be helping with kettles and toy shop at Christmas.

Hannah met The Salvation Army while volunteering at last year’s 2 Million Pounds food drive. Soon after, she saw a social media post about Echelon that piqued her curiosity.

“By joining Echelon, I thought I could benefit myself and further my leadership skills while giving back to a charity I was interested in,” she said.

Hannah is proud to volunteer for The Salvation Army because she is enthusiastic about the mission. “The Salvation Army is such a massive, worldwide group,” she said. “At the same time, you can feel confident that the work being done locally benefits our neighbors, right here. It feels good knowing that our work improves the communities we see every day.”

Revitalizing Twin Cities Echelon

Continued on page 8
What’s in a name?

by Lt. Colonel Lonneal Richardson
Territorial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Secretary

William Shakespeare thought the name of a thing mattered very little and stated as much in his play Romeo and Juliet: “What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.”

But another William—William Booth—died to differ. Drafting the annual report with his son Brantweil and George Scott Railton for what was then the Christian Mission, the Founder had a flash of insight and with passion took out his pen and replaced it with “Salvation,” saying “We are not volunteers, for we feel we must do what we do, and we are always on duty.”

The Salvation Army name and destiny was set. The Army’s mission was later focused on becoming an army of salvation. As the British newspaper editor WT. Stead surmised, “its destiny was fixed—the whole organization was dominated by the name. New strategies to match the inspiration of its name were devised with breath-taking speed. Old methods were discarded or adapted, and new ones invented.”

From October 2021 to June 2022, the Central Territory served over 1.6 million individuals through our social service programs. Project Advance is rooted in our leaders’ desire to align the Army’s most precious resources, its people, with the local level to capitalize on the opportunities God has given us to live out our calling.

In his summer four Central Territory members of the National Advisory Board (NAB) visited Territorial Headquarters (THQ) in Hoffman Estates, Ill., to learn more about how it supports corps, the grass-roots expression of The Salvation Army. They were briefed on business matters and initiatives like Pathway to Hope.

In an informal gathering and chapel service at the building’s center staircase, Commissioner Heidi Bailey, territorial leader for leader development, commended the NAB members to officers and employees as Salvationists who don’t wear uniforms—some of the Army’s best supporters, beautifully and seamlessly working with us to enable the mission. She especially cited NAB Chairman Mike Cassling for his strong leadership of the board during the pandemic.

In speaking briefly about the advisory board’s purpose and work, Mr. Cassling said, “The National Advisory Board is really focused on making sure The Salvation Army and ‘Doing the Most Good’ in their communities.”

Those recognized included Alpha Kappa Alpha, Gamma Omega chapter (Community Partner), Greg Carag (Corps Volunteer Service), Schnuck Markets, Inc. (Corporate Support), Janet Landstrom Service Extension Volunteer, Karen Helm (Community Leadership), Gretchen Luke (Emergency Disaster Services Volunteer), Barbara Pearce (Regional Volunteer) and Gordon and Margaret Finley (Individual Support).

Videos of each person sharing their inspiration, background and ways of charitable involvement played on screens throughout the ballroom. Their memories of The Salvation Army ranged from childhood to 60 years involvement in emergency disaster services.

Lt. Colonel Robert Webster, Midland divisional commander, greeted each recipient with their award before they had their photo taken with him, Major Kjell Steinsland, Midland general secretary and area commander for the St. Louis metro area, and local TV celebrity Chelsea Haynes who acted as mistress of ceremonies, keeping the event upbeat and lively.

Those in attendance were left stunned by a 45-minute speech by New York Times best-selling author Liz Murray, a Bronx native who reached national prominence with her book, Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard, that chronicled her journeying from the streets of New York City to the classrooms of Harvard University, persisting though her parents were heroin-added and sometimes didn’t have money for food. For more than 20 years she has been inspiring others with her story and is the founder of The Arthur Project, a nonprofit New York-based mentoring program for middle-schoolers.

“I’m standing here today someone who was, first and foremost, helped by nonprofits, volunteers and kind-hearted people in my community,” she said. “I was so close to the brink of, in plain English, giving up on myself. I like to say that I was quite literally ‘loved back to life’ by people who cared about me.”

Do-gooders honored in St. Louis

by Nicholas White

ight award recipients were honored earlier this year at the St. Louis Hilton Frontenac for their contributions to The Salvation Army and “Doing the Most Good” in their communities. Those recognized included Alpha Kappa Alpha, Gamma Omega chapter (Community Partner), Greg Carag (Corps Volunteer Service), Schnuck Markets, Inc. (Corporate Support), Janet Landstrom Service Extension Volunteer, Karen Helm (Community Leadership), Gretchen Luke (Emergency Disaster Services Volunteer), Barbara Pearce (Regional Volunteer) and Gordon and Margaret Finley (Individual Support).

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In his book, Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Unchartered Territory, pastor and consultant Ted Bolinger writes, “The cultural advantage we experienced during the 17 centuries of Christendom has almost completely dissipated. Seminary training for the Christendom world is inadequate to this immensely challenging—transformation-demanding—moment in history. We have to learn to lead all over again. But the church is also at an exciting crossroads. We are entering a new day, new terrain and a new adventure. We are not alone. The Spirit of God goes before us.”

I pray that God will continue to allow The Salvation Army to develop new ministry strategies to reach as many of those 1.2 million individuals as possible for Jesus Christ with the message of His love, mercy and grace, letting them know there is a place for them in a corps family.

What’s in a name? Everything if you call yourself The Salvation Army.
Everyone is looking for FAME

by Julie Taggart and Alyson Rodriguez

As the school year begins, so does the sixth year of the highly successful FAME (Fine Arts, Music and Expression) program at the Grand Rapids, Mich., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. As neighbors, the Kroc Center and Brookside Elementary have partnered to provide afterschool programming, mentoring, swim lessons and additional fine arts.

The goal of FAME is to connect professional artists and arts organizations with students to offer supplemental lessons and activities that enhance cultural and creative experiences. FAME allows students to sample multiple fine arts disciplines, including visual arts, dance, music and theater and then connect those lessons back to the classroom.

For 10 weeks students travel to the Kroc Center, where they rotate through 35-40-minute fine arts classes. They work toward an end-of-session performance, as well as a gallery showing in conjunction with their school showcase.

“It is such an honor to be involved with the FAME program and to watch as students transform a basic idea into a thoughtful work of visual art, dance, and music celebrating their individual identity,” said visual arts instructor Olivia Timmons.

Drumming instructor Josh Dunigan added, “The staff and teachers have worked hard to create meaningful arts experiences for the students, and the students are so excited to learn.”

The 2021-2022 school year offerings included drumming, printmaking and a dance class in partnership with the Grand Rapids Ballet Company. An average of 50 third-grade students enjoyed two hours of classes each week. Each semester they performed in a Winter and Spring Showcase. In December 2021 and May 2022, more than 200 family members and friends attended a performance that featured the hard work that students and teaching artists had put in during the 20 weeks of FAME classes.

Last school year was important to the growth of FAME. Since Brookside Elementary is considered a cultural center in the Grand Rapids Public School District with many cultures represented by the students, the teaching artists chose the theme “I AM… WE ARE” to represent both our uniqueness and connection. Teaching artists focused, as much as possible, on exploring the cultural identities of the students in each class. For instance, in printmaking, students learned about Jacob Lawrence, an influential artist and printmaker of the Harlem Renaissance.

In dance, instructor Attila Mosolygo encouraged students to think about what makes them unique and dance to that. She concluded, “It was an uplifting experience to see the students’ mind, body and spirit in a collaborative performance celebrating our community.”

A cool tradition

by Carolyn Carpenter

With record heat hitting much of the country this summer, many corps and other Salvation Army programs and facilities reached out to care for their neighbors in a variety of ways. In Quincy, Ill., this summer marked the 20th year the Salvation Army has collected and distributed electric fans to provide comfort to those without air conditioning.

New this year, The Salvation Army teamed up with Ace Hardware in Quincy, Ill., and Palmyra, Mo. A display encouraged customers to purchase fans to be given to community members in need. Stores also displayed signage at the registers encouraging patrons to round up their bills or donate to help pay for fans to be purchased and given out to members of the community through the program.

According to Regional Social Services Director Heidi Welty, fans were distributed in June from family services facilities not only in Quincy but in Hannibal, Mo. Special consideration was given to older adults and to families with young children.

Majors Amos and Cyndi Shields, corps officers in Holland, Mich., have launched a Community Impact Committee to better serve the diverse populations in Southern Ottawa and Allegan counties. Designed to assess current programs, determine community needs and identify gaps in services, one of the primary goals has been to form partnerships with local organizations in order to better reach underserved populations.

“One of the things that is really important for us is understanding and realizing that we cannot do it all on our own,” said Major Amos. “If we are going to have an impact on the lives of people in our communities, then we need to have a team of people around us.”

“There is a large and growing Latino population in Holland,” added Rob Simpson, development director. “As we talked with the community and discovered the need for services, we wanted to partner with organizations to reach that population.”

One of the new partnerships is with Latin Americans United for Progress (LAUP), an organization that works to empower the Latin American community through providing support, encouragement and resources to individuals and families. Johnny Rodriguez, LAUP executive director, serves on The Salvation Army Advisory Board in Holland.

Recently, The Salvation Army and LAUP hosted an event which brought the Latino community to the corps to access a variety of vital services. With more than 200 community members given access to Mexican Consulate officials for important document renewal and registration, the mobile consulate was a great success! In addition, partners at InterCare gave 13 COVID-19 vaccinations and health screens to more than 30 people.

“LAUP is a great community partner,” said Major Amos. “Johnny is passionate about his work and has a connection with the people, and we have the facility and additional resources.”

Plans are being made to join forces to meet needs and create additional opportunities. With the help of community partners, advisory board members, staff and volunteers, the Shielshope to build and strengthen relationships which will enable the highest level of service and support to those in need.

Partnering to empower

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Homecoming a faithbuilder for future

by Major Glen Caddy

The Western Michigan/Northern Indiana (WMNI) Homecoming: Family Reunion was a bittersweet time for soldiers and officers. More than 300 people enjoyed the day, anchored by celebrating the efforts of the music campers in the morning and a family worship and candidates’ farewell at the end of the day. The moments between were filled with opportunities to connect with friends we had not seen in a while and chances to make new ones. Little Pine Island Camp hosted the day.

In keeping with the family focus and personality of the WMNI Division, the event featured typical camp activities such as swimming, boating and fishing, as well as other activities like archery and tomahawk throwing. Bounce houses, face painting, caricature artists, a hymn sing and a photo booth added to the family friendly excitement of the day.

The celebration presented an opportunity to say “see you later” to officers moving out of the new divisions as well as candidates headed to the College for Officer Training. There was great joy in dedicating and sending four candidates, whose roots are in the WMNI Division, to be part of the 2022-2024 “Defenders of Justice” session. They join a long list of current and retired officers who answered God’s call, having their start in WMNI.

Music played an important role in the celebration. Campers from the final WMNI Music Camp were featured in the first session. Awards were given for accomplishments in both group and individual categories. The divisional band and a divisional worship team supported the closing session. An afternoon hymn sing delighted those looking for more traditional opportunities for worship.

The final worship session focused on God’s faithfulness as shown through the transition of leadership from Moses to Joshua. The key encouragements were found in the realization that God, who was to the people of Israel as they followed Moses, would be with them as they followed Joshua. God’s admonition to Joshua, and ultimately His people, was to be strong, take courage and be faithful in following all He had said and would say to them. With these promises and admonitions in mind, corps groups and family groups joined in prayer circles and committed themselves, their families and their corps to following God faithfully. There was recognition that it is through God’s power and leading that continued growth will follow with the transition taking place under Project Advance.

The meeting ended with the anthem “O Church, Arise,” a stirring call to faithful following and a reliance on the promises of God. This faithful following is in the DNA of WMNI Salvationists and so will remain as they become part of the Great Lakes and the Indiana divisions. As the homecoming concluded, officers and soldiers returned to their places of worship, work and ministry with a renewed confidence in God’s provision for the future.

“Oh, the places they have been”

A group of officers, soldiers, family, friends and community leaders gathered this summer at the Grand Rapids, Mich., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center to celebrate the good news of God demonstrated in the ministry of Majors Carole and Glen Caddy. With the theme, “Oh, the places we have been” the event honored their combined total of more than 86 years of ministry.

The Caddys’ granddaughters provided video commentary of their appointments based on their reaction to “Grandma and Papa’s” photo album. Retirement certificates were presented by territorial leaders Commissioners Brad and Heidi Bailey.

“Every decision you’ve made in your service and ministry is a statement of your unconditional love for God and your consistent devotion to others,” said the territorial commander.

During their officership, the Caddys served 18 years in corps appointments including DeKalb, Belvidere, and Aurora, Ill.; Appleton, Wis.; and Royal Oak, Mich. The hallmark of their corps ministry was effective community ministry and thriving youth programs.

Divisional headquarters (DHQ) appointments included Midland divisional youth leaders, Western Michigan/Northern Indiana (WMNI) divisional secretary and women’s ministries secretary and leading WMNI for the last seven years.

Other appointments for Major Glen were in the program department at Territorial Headquarters (THQ), as well as director of business at the College for Officer Training (CFOT). Major Carole served in the THQ program and candidates’ departments and as director of field training at the CFOT. They also led the Wichita, Kan., City Command.

Major Glen reminded those in attendance that the road they had travelled had been planned and orchestrated by God. He said, “The road of ministry did not turn out to be anything like we would have imagined, but it was exactly as God had intended. Every ending was a new beginning, and each experience was based on God’s faithfulness in the past. The road was not always easy, but we were never alone.”

The celebration’s key verse was Psalm 16:6 (NIV): “The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.”

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“I’m looking forward to what new and exciting things are to come in the Great Lakes Division,” said Soldier Ray Dafoe, women’s ministries secretary and nursery team leader at the Traverse City, Mich., Corps.
Commemorating the Heartland

by Major Jeff Eddy

How do you commemorate the impact of a division and look forward to God’s future blessings? In typical Heartland fashion, it was done with an all-out celebration this summer, complete with commemorative flags given to each person in attendance at the division’s final event at the Scottish Rite Theatre in Peoria, Ill.

The capacity audience was comprised of soldiers—including the oldest soldier in the division who turns 100 this year!—officers (including many past corps officers), parents of the children from music camp participating in the program, advisory board and women’s auxiliary members.

Led by Major Beth Petrie, Heartland’s final divisional commander, the meeting featured wonderful music and video testimonies. Territorial leaders Commissioners Brad and Heidi supported the event. The territorial commander thanked Major Petrie for her leadership and presented awards to the young people who are “rising stars and future leaders.”

Video messages were shared from former Heartland divisional leaders including Colonel Dennis Phillips, Commissioners Merle and Dawn Heatwole, Commissioners Barry and Sue Swanson, Colonel Evie Diaz, Heatwole, Commissioners Barry and Sue Swanson, former Heartland divisional social services secretary and now territorial integration manager.

The event featured a special arrangement of “Flight of the Bumblebees” where each time it was played, the song was faster than the last! Among the many music camp awards that were presented was the “Spirit of Heartland” which was given to 10 young people who displayed the loving attributes of the division. These award winners, along with several others, attended Central Music Institute this summer.

“It was a time to sing of God’s glory, to give thanks for His guidance,” said Peter Kim, then Heartland divisional music and creative arts director. “It was a time of remembering, of celebration and of uniting as we engaged to advance the mission forward. The retiring of the Heartland flag as the band played the benediction ‘God be with you’ stirred many emotions to close the chapter of Heartland. It was a very successful music camp led by Bandmaster Peter Kim, Dr. Harold Burgmayer which featured soloist Sena Debela (Decatur, Ill., Corps). A quartet from the Korea Territory shared an arrangement of ‘Flight of the Bumblebees’ where each time it was played, the song was faster than the last! Among the many music camp awards that were presented was the ‘Spirit of Heartland’ which was given to 10 young people who displayed the loving attributes of the division. These award winners, along with several others, attended Central Music Institute this summer.

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“I am eager to see how these communities will invest their heart-filled ministry into the North & Central Illinois and the Western divisions.”

Shower blesses expecting moms

by Michelle DeRusha

With a four-year-old and a baby on the way, Christine Miller was used to having very little time to herself, which is one reason she was delighted to receive an invitation to the “Baby Blessings” event hosted by the Sioux City, S.D., Corps.

“It was an opportunity to relax a little bit, chat with other women and enjoy lunch,” said Christine, who was one of 20 expecting moms who attended the event. She also was thrilled that the corps sent her home with an armload of infant items, including a car seat, diapers, toys and clothes.

“The Salvation Army is my number one go-to,” she said. “They don’t just help you; they also offer encouragement and the incentive to keep going.”

Christine learned about the baby shower from an outreach staff member at Rosecrance Jackson Centers, an alcohol and drug inpatient treatment facility for women who are able to bring their children with them during their stay. She successfully completed the program and, as of June, had achieved more than three months of sobriety.

This year’s “Baby Blessings” event was the second annual shower hosted by the Sioux City Corps, which partnered with local agencies—including the Siouxland District Health Department, Capital Center, Community Action Agency of Siouxland, Iowa State University Extension Office and Lutheran Social Services—to offer additional resources, like parenting and nutrition classes, to the attendees.

“Most of the women who attended the shower don’t have the resources to acquire everything their baby will need, so we partner with local agencies to help meet those needs,” explained Sioux City corps officer Captain Karissa Zumwalt. “Even though hosting a baby shower isn’t necessary, we think it’s a big and fun way to celebrate the new life coming. We want these women to know they have people around to support them and their family.”

Indeed, every element of the day captured the essence of the Heartland. A message of love beyond lines and territories. An excitement in the face of change. Quiet innovation and leadership. Doing more with less and doing it in a strength that comes from God. Loving the unlovable, caring for the suffering and marching on undaunted. Though the name and borders change, this spirit will live on in the mission and impact of the territory, and we believe the future is bright for God is doing a new thing.

“As seasons of life wink into history, they offer opportunity for us to observe the meaning of the thing. Beyond physical boundaries, I have come to appreciate that the essence of the Heartland Division has always been heart,” concluded Michael Swanson, former Heartland divisional social services secretary and now territorial integration manager.

“I am eager to see how these communities will invest their heart-filled ministry into the North & Central Illinois and the Western divisions.”
Alisa Carson
First-generation Salvationist
Albert Lea, Minn.  Northern Division
Major Sandy Hunt, corps officer
Spiritual Gifts
Evangelism  Serving  Teaching
Ministry Passion or Experience
Children/Youth  Worship
Spiritual Mentors
Major Sandy Hunt, Marilyn Lancaster

Chata Mabry
First-generation Salvationist
Waterloo/Cedar Falls, Iowa  Western Division
Major Martin and Shannon Thies, corps officers
Spiritual Gifts
Leadership  Serving  Teaching
Ministry Passion or Experience
Preaching/Teaching  Social Services
Spiritual Mentors
Tangela Sailor, Lt. Shanell Debea

Maria Eugenia Medina Valero
First-generation Salvationist
Chicago La Villita, Ill.  North & Central Illinois Division
Major Daniel and Nivia Paredes, corps officers
Spiritual Gifts
Administration  Discernment  Leadership
Ministry Passion or Experience
Children/Youth  Missions
Spiritual Mentors
Nancy de Medina (mom), Captain Martha Valladares

Marcelo Marin and Solange Vera
Multi-generational Salvationists
Grand Rapids, Mich., Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center
Great Lakes Division
Major Carol and Lt. Jack Hoffman, Kroc Center officers
Spiritual Gifts
Marcelo: Administration  Leadership  Teaching
Solange: Mercy  Serving  Teaching
Ministry Passion or Experience
Marcelo: Children/Youth  Preaching/Teaching
Solange: Children/Youth  Social Services
Spiritual mentors
Marcelo: Majors Abraham Marin and Norma Hidalgo (parents)
Solange: Major Norma Hidalgo [mother-in-law]
When John and Tracy Gantner left jobs that they loved to follow God’s call to become auxiliary captains in 2017, they couldn’t have imagined five years later they would be commissioned alongside three other family members. They couldn’t have known their ministry would be instrumental in the others’ callings. But that’s exactly what happened.

Captains John and Tracy Gantner

This June A/Captains John and Tracy Gantner were commissioned as captains, while John’s brother, sister-in-law and nephew, Cadets Tim, Rachel and Lucas Gantner, were commissioned as lieutenants after attending the Training (CFOT).

Captains John and Tracy have read through the Bible!

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

**October Prayer Calendar**

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<th>Bible Reading</th>
<th>Pray for Salvation Army</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Saturday</td>
<td>Numbers 22-24</td>
<td>Chicago, Ill., Kroc Center</td>
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<td>2 Sunday</td>
<td>2 Chronicles 11-15</td>
<td>Columbus, Ind., Corps</td>
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<td>3 Monday</td>
<td>Psalms 117-118</td>
<td>Maizel Territory</td>
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<td>4 Tuesday</td>
<td>Proverbs 28</td>
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<td>Jonah</td>
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<td>Acts 3-4</td>
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<td>Hebrews  5-7</td>
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<td>8 Saturday</td>
<td>Numbers 25-27</td>
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<td>9 Sunday</td>
<td>2 Chronicles 16-20</td>
<td>Joliet, Ill., Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Wednesday</td>
<td>Micah</td>
<td>Mitchell, S.D., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Thursday</td>
<td>Acts 5-6</td>
<td>Jackson, Mich., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Friday</td>
<td>Hebrews 8-10</td>
<td>Hastings, Neb., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Saturday</td>
<td>Numbers 28-30</td>
<td>Character Building Ministries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Sunday</td>
<td>2 Chronicles 21-24</td>
<td>Kansas City, Mo., ARC*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Monday</td>
<td>Psalms 120-121</td>
<td>Lawrence, Kan., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Tuesday</td>
<td>Proverbs 21</td>
<td>Kennesha, Wis., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Wednesday</td>
<td>Nahum</td>
<td>The Netherlands, Czech Republic and Slovakia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Thursday</td>
<td>Acts 7-8</td>
<td>Kansas City, Mo., ARC*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Friday</td>
<td>Hebrews 11-13</td>
<td>Flint Beecher, Mich., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Saturday</td>
<td>Numbers 21-23</td>
<td>Marinette, Wis., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Sunday</td>
<td>2 Chronicles 25-28</td>
<td>Freeport, Ill., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Monday</td>
<td>Psalms 122-124</td>
<td>Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Tuesday</td>
<td>Ecclesiastes 1-2</td>
<td>Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Wednesday</td>
<td>Habakkuk</td>
<td>Granite City, Ill., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Thursday</td>
<td>Acts 9-10</td>
<td>Plymouth, Mich., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Friday</td>
<td>James 1-3</td>
<td>India Western Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Saturday</td>
<td>Numbers 34-36</td>
<td>Holland, Mich., Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Sunday</td>
<td>2 Chronicles 29-32</td>
<td>Newton, Iowa, Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Monday</td>
<td>Psalms 125-127</td>
<td>Warren, Mich., Corps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ARC = Adult Rehabilitation Center

---Mustard Seeds---

**The Best Prayer Ever for Hungry Kids and Pizza...**

---God Bless the Lunch and the Bunch... AMEN!---

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ing, a silent disco, and food and cold drinks from vendors of the Food Truck Rally. As day wound down, many people attended the Inaugural Kroc Star Talent Showcase where the top 10 finalists of more than 100 plus auditions performed for an opportunity to win a Grand Prize sponsored by community partner Fulfillman Benz & Ford Trust. The showcase was filled with music, artistry, dance and wholesome fun with the Pink Panther Double Dutch Team taking home the grand prize.

The celebration concluded on the third day with a worship service and picnic. Corps members and guests shared stories about the center’s blessings, and a soul-lifting message was brought by the Chicago Kroc Center’s first officer, Lt. Colonel David Harvey. The worship team led the congregation in closing the spirit-filled service full of love, reconnection and rededication to serving the Lord before everyone gathered outside to enjoy a family picnic.

Major John Pook, then Chicago Senior Kroc Officer, said, “This weekend was a recognition and celebration of the work God has been doing over the last 10 years. We give Him all the glory for His goodness and faithfulness!”

Promoted to Glory

Major Darlene Higgins

Major Darlene Higgins was promoted to Glory on June 20, 2022. She was known for her quiet, compassionate, servant spirit, which yielded a thoughtful care of people, a persistence in prayer and faithfulness in ministry.

Darlene was born on April 8, 1937, in Indianapolis, Ind., to Louis and Leonoka Hutchings. She entered the School for Officers’ Training as a single cadet in 1955 and was commissioned in 1956. During a short break in service, she married David Higgins on March 5, 1960. After completing a year of officer training, they began a life of ministry together in 1964 and served in corps appointments throughout the Midwest for nearly four decades, retiring in 2002. A lover of music, Darlene enjoyed playing the piano for services as well as singing praises with David to her Lord, Jesus Christ. They instilled that love of music in their children and grandchildren—a legacy that continues. Darlene’s love for God and faithful service has influenced her family greatly.

Darlene was preceded in death by her husband, Stanley, who loved being a grandmother and cherished time spent with her young grandson.

Trish enjoyed hiking, seeing waterfalls, camping, traveling and spending time with family. She loved being a grandmother and cherished time spent with her young grandson.

Mrs. Major Louise Strissel

Mrs. Major Louise Strissel was promoted to Glory on July 16, 2022. She had a heart for young people and became a surrogate mother to many, praying for them, encouraging them and giving them counsel.

Louise was born on February 17, 1934, to William and Francis Ousley. Her life was changed at age 13 when an officer from the Springfield, Mo., Corps visited her family and invited them to church. There Louise found a place to belong and accepted Christ as her Savior.

Later she met Stanley when his parents were appointed to lead the corps. They were married in 1951 and entered officer training in 1954. Members of the “Soul-Winners” session, the Strissels were commissioned in 1955 and served in corps and adult rehabilitation center appointments, with Louise taking countless young people under her wing. They retired in 1994.

Louise was preceded in death by her sons Lois Lathrop, Anna, Billie Hamilton, Nancy Ousley and Linda Strain. She is survived by her husband, children, Michael and MyKayla; parents, Jimmy and Ann Hayley; sister Deb (Rob) Sowels, brother Mike (Nicki) Sowels, grandson Michael Wolfe, and many other family members and friends.