



Central Connection

The Salvation Army / USA Central Territory
News and Views from the Midwest

"We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future." Eph. 4:3,4 (NLT)

Volume 38, Number 3

March 2008

New beacon of hope shines in Kansas City

There's a new beacon of hope shining in the Midwest! The Salvation Army recently held a community celebration and dedication

service for its new Harbor Light Village in Kansas City, Kan. More than 500 people attended the service, held inside the chapel of the new corps community center.



Territorial leaders Commissioners Ken and Joy Baillie; Divisional Commander Lt. Colonel Ted Dalberg; Mark Holland, Wyandotte County commissioner-at-large, and his son Gabriel; Majors Lynda and Stan Magoon, Wyandotte County administrator and associate administrator; and Art Collins, Kansas City, Kan., Advisory Council chair.



"The Salvation Army is pleased to be dedicating this building to God and to acknowledge all those who helped make this day possible," said Lt. Colonel Ted Dalberg, Kansas and Western Missouri divisional commander. "This project has taken many years and the support of many people to become a reality."

Commissioner Ken Baillie, territorial commander, delivered the dedicatory address. He said The Salvation Army's mission is to minister to the body, mind and spirit, declaring, "There is no one who is so far down that the grace of God can't reach them."

Among those attending the ceremony was U. S. Representative Dennis Moore who represents Kansas City, Kan., in Congress. "I am proud to be here today to see this

beautiful facility. I know this wonderful campus is going to do great things for the community." The Salvation Army also received congratulatory letters from U.S. Senators Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts of Kansas, Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius and President George W. Bush.

The Chicago Staff Band (CSB), led by Bandmaster William Himes, performed several songs at the event, including "God Bless America" and "Bless this Campus." The previous evening, the CSB performed a patriotic concert with the Kansas City Symphony called "Unite Us in Music" which was attended by 700 people.

The \$12.5 million dollar Harbor Light Village complex, dedicated to the Glory of God and the service of

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By His wounds we are healed

by General Shaw Clifton

WHO among us does not need healing? Which of us is perfectly whole? Where is the one with no need of a Savior? The first step toward healing is to recognize our need. Yet how often our pride gets in the way and we struggle on wounded, our vitality quietly seeping away and our effectiveness for the Kingdom compromised.



weary. You work hard, but can grow tired. You give of yourself sacrificially for others, but the results can seem small.

God sees it all. More than that, our Savior has experienced it for himself. In the person of Jesus Christ we find a Savior who is the Wounded Healer. Those

resounding, passionate, moving verses found in the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 53, speak to us still today: "He had no beauty or majesty...He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering...and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows...He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities...and by his wounds we

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Salvation Army ministers on NIU campus after deadly shooting

The Salvation Army immediately responded on February 14th after a gunman entered a lecture hall on the Northern Illinois University

(NIU) campus in DeKalb, Ill., and opened fire, killing five people and injuring at least 15 others before killing himself. Salvation Army

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Major David Dalberg consoles a couple as they visit a memorial on Friday, Feb. 15, 2008.

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Observer or participant?

by Lt. Colonel Mickey McLaren
Secretary for Business Administration

My wife injured her knee exiting the car as we were dropped off at the airport for a trip to Florida. Arriving at our destination, we headed to the emergency room where an x-ray revealed nothing was broken except our vacation plans as she couldn't walk well.

When we arrived back home my wife made a shopping list, and I "volunteered" to go to the store. Now I have done a great deal of grocery shopping in my time, but I was always an observer, not a participant. I pushed the cart from aisle to aisle, but I didn't decide which aisle

to go down or which item should go in the cart. My philosophy was "just pick one." There are a million cans of soup, so just pick one. The same for cereal, bread, meat, etc... I found all the items on my list, plus a few other "essentials" like snacks, and proudly went home from my shopping expedition.

Yesterday in the Sunday morning worship service, I couldn't help but notice how many people really didn't participate. It began with some beautiful worship choruses, but some people were not singing. The words were on the screen; the music was easy to follow. We were led in



an excellent manner. I wondered what the problem was.

My curiosity was peaked, so while I participated I consciously noticed others during the rest of the service. Though none of us really spends enough time talking to God, some people didn't join in the prayer. During the offering, others did not offer back to God even a token of the blessings He has given us. A sermon citing God's Word and our "hard hearts" gave instructions about God's intention for our lives; yet a few people seemed not to pay attention. This experience empha-

sized again to me the importance of being involved in all aspects of living and worshiping as God intended.

James 1:22-25 (NAB): "Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his own face in a mirror. He sees himself, then goes off and promptly forgets what he looked like. But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres, and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, such a one shall be blessed in what he does."

Be a participant not an observer.

Journaling the journey

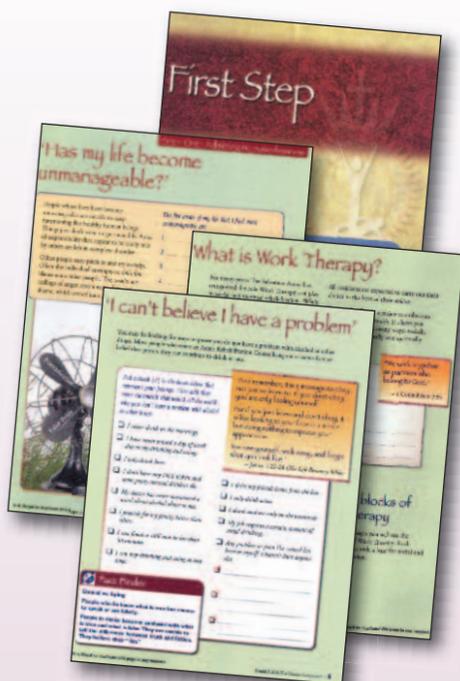
It is difficult to face our true emotions and feelings. We often try to push them aside or mask them. Many men who come to adult rehabilitation centers (ARC) for help have turned to drugs and alcohol as an escape. Part of the program's healing process involves individual and group counseling. The men are asked to honestly journal, often helping them face the past so they can positively move into the future.

Journaling has been used by ARCs for a number of years and is intended to promote positive lifestyle change. Recently, the journals have been redesigned to be more user friendly, interactive and have a stronger presence of scripture.

"The old journals had very little Scripture included in the pages. It would refer the men to the Life Recovery Bible, but in the new journals the passages are right there on the page," said Ed Paulson, ARC Command rehabilitation services consultant.

Other new aspects include points to ponder that ask the journaler to take a moment to reflect on a particular issue and determine how it relates to spiritual growth, and fact finder that gives additional information that may help the journaler better grasp a concept.

The journals are divided into 13 levels that address issues the men are facing on their journey. The first level asks, "What got me here?" and



the final lessons help them learn to manage life issues in a positive, constructive manner.

"The intent is to get the men to focus on their issues and give them an outlet where they can express their feelings and learn from them," said Ed. "Every lesson challenges the men to recognize what they are currently doing that has put them in this situation and how they can change it."

Funding for the redesign came from the T.L. Williams Family Trust Fund that generously has awarded grants to ARCs to improve programs for beneficiaries.

New beacon of hope

Continued from page 1

humanity, consolidates most of the Salvation Army's operations into one location. There are three buildings including the corps community center, which is led by Captains Eduardo and Elvira Vasquez, and features a chapel as well as classrooms, a gymnasium, exercise rooms and a computer lab.

The Virginia Harding Center for Homeless Services, named after a longtime member of the Kansas City, Kan., Advisory Board, is a 16-bed emergency facility to accommodate families and single women who need shelter. It features a child's play therapy room and an outpatient counseling center for those with addiction issues. As an extension of its homeless services, The Salvation Army also operates a transitional living program which can accommodate individuals and families for up to two years.

The third building on campus focuses on addiction recovery programs for both men and women.

"For the first time, we will be able to provide a full array of recovery programs for women because of the family shelter we now have on campus," said Major Stan Magoon, Wyandotte County administrator for The Salvation Army.



Programs offered will include detoxification, treatment, outpatient counseling, reintegration and recreation. Of the 112 beds in the recovery center, 47 will be dedicated for homeless military veterans. Some of the program's funding comes from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Salvation Army is utilizing only a little over half of the 11 acres of property it acquired for the new campus. In the future, softball and soccer fields may be added.

The Salvation Army will continue to operate an early childhood learning center, Hispanic outreach ministry and emergency assistance site in downtown Kansas City, as well as a senior residential complex.

Central Connection

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With the Word of God as our foundation, we as a Christ-centered and praying people will glorify God by becoming a spiritually healthy community of believers who are committed to wholehearted service and ministry in The Salvation Army.

Strengthened by His presence in us individually and corporately, we share a common passion for bringing people into an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ and meeting human needs in His name in the diverse communities where we serve.

Get Connected!

Here's what you'll find this month on our webpage.

www.usc.salvationarmy.org/getconnected

Clips

Summer Mission Team video
Harbor Light dedication address audio excerpt

Resources

List of General Shaw Clifton books
Prayer items on behalf of Summer Mission Teams
Music ministry resources
Vacation Bible School planning timeline & ideas

Links

Commissioning and iConnect registration form
Prayer fellowship webpage
National Headquarter's anti-trafficking website
Vacation Bible School vendors
Salvation Army Continuing Education Program

Web exclusives

The Salvation Army in Argentina
Salvation Army Continuing Education Program first person
Adult Rehabilitation Center journal excerpt
Chicago Staff Band with the Kansas City Symphony
Summer Mission Team first-hand experiences

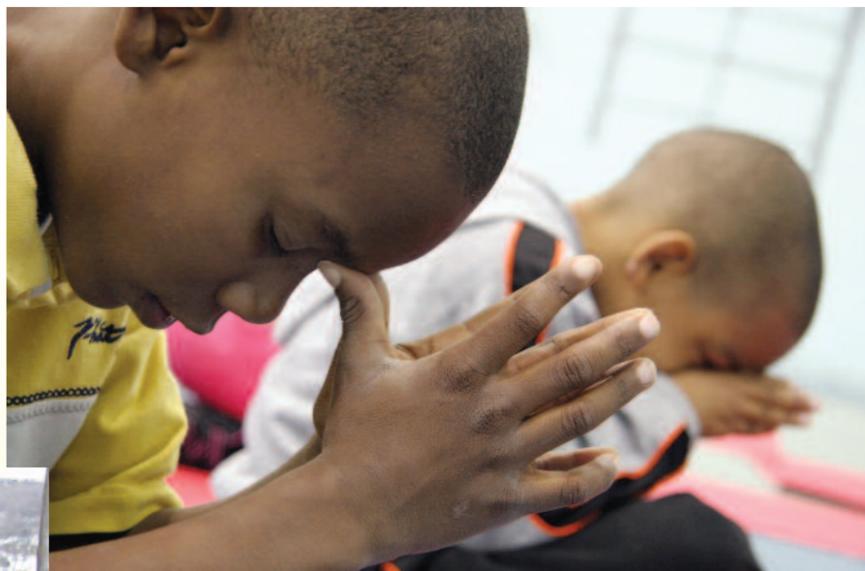


24/7/13 continues to impact Central Territory

As the year progresses, the territory continues to be in prayer 24 hours a day, drawing close to the Lord and reaping the blessing. Here's a sampling of what's taking place.

Western Division

At the Huron, S.D., Corps worship became an opportunity to pray through the names of God while



Captain Carol Lewis, territorial evangelism and corps growth department secretary, and Mark Bender, prayer fellowship coordinator, ask the Lord to bless the Central Territory as a result of the 24/7/13 effort.

matching each with a *Hallelujah Chorus*. Captains Gerald and Donna Loos said, "We encouraged the people to pray as the Holy Spirit led them. Tears were flowing, and we could feel God's presence...We had seekers at the altar, and lives were changed." Invitations to prayer were shared with the noon meal program. Two people came and indicated they can't wait to come back!

Northern Division

Captains Paul and AmyJo Ferguson of the Fairmont, Minn., Corps set up a prayer nook on the chapel's stage. It became a powerful place for spiritual warfare. "When I read some of the entries I was blown away by the depth of things people were brave enough to write about: unsaved loved ones, confession, recommitment and thanksgiving," said Captain Paul. One soldier spontaneously put an offering plate out. It collected \$52!

Midland Division

Members of the East St. Louis, Mo., Corps gathered with those of the Granite City, Ill., Corps in their chapel for prayer. At various stations, people prayed for missionaries, sick members and corps growth. Prayers of thanksgiving also were offered. The time went too quickly.

Vicki Poff at divisional headquarters said, "I was reminded while participating in the 24/7 Prayer Initiative that prayer is not about us informing God of anything but rather about us spending time in His presence so that we are changed."

Territorial Headquarters (THQ)

24/7/13 proved a powerful experience at THQ. One officer reported such a powerful experience with God during her hour to pray that she decided to do it again the next day at the same time.

"I heard from an employee who said they spent their hour praying only for our missions teams that served in Argentina and Chile and prayed nothing for themselves," said Captain Carol Lewis, evangelism and corps growth department secretary.

Captain Lewis related her own experience, "4:00 a.m. came early. I woke up with a troubled spirit, full of doubt and feelings of abandonment and isolation. I let the Lord have it full force. 'Wrestling with God' gained new meaning. He pinned me to the mat in record time. That afternoon two women from the Jehovah's Witnesses rang my doorbell. They wanted to share their scriptures. I told them I'm an ordained minister and while our doctrines differ greatly I would love to share the gospel. They weren't interested. After they left, I felt God say, 'Remember our war on the floor this morning? Remember what you told those women? You are ordained. I called you. You are Mine.' O, the peace my Savior gives."



One under God

On any Sunday morning, visit the Minneapolis Citadel, Minn., Corps if you want to catch a glimpse of what worship in heaven may look like.



The Korean singing group provides special music during Sunday morning services.

"People from many different cultures, ethnicities and nationalities worship and fellowship here as brothers and sisters in Christ," said Corps Officer Captain Alex Lim who, with his wife Chris, is thrilled to see the corps growing as a strong, multicultural body of believers. The corps is also happy to include in their fellowship beneficiaries from the nearby Minneapolis Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC).

"We encourage the men who come from the ARC to make this corps their home church," Alex continued. "People throughout the corps support them through prayer, loving acceptance and friendship as the men work through the rehabili-

tation process. Three of our brothers committed their lives to God at the corps after graduating from the ARC program."

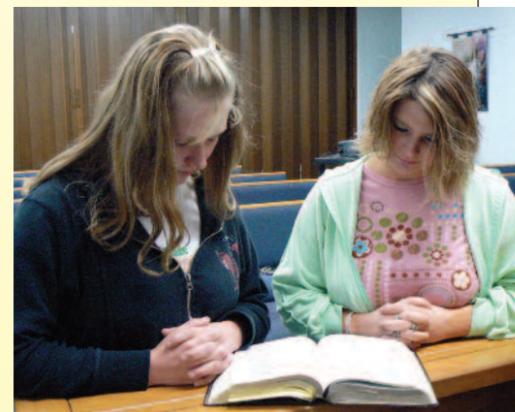
After a recent enrollment at the corps of six new senior soldiers, Alex was delighted to point out that a group shot taken after the service represented people from five different ancestries: African, European, Hmong, Korean and Mexican!

"We used to have separate worship services in three different languages (English, Hmong and Korean) on Sunday mornings, but we quickly ran out of space," said Alex. "We've grown so large we now have one, big English-speaking service that incorporates and recognizes the many cultures that make up our congregation."

"My prayer is that our corps will continue to grow strong and increase in its multiculturalism," Alex concluded.



Pictured (l-r) are Captain Alex Lim, Lt. Colonels Susan and William Harfoot, Howard Richardson, Sweetflower Van, Daniel Villarreal, Richard Arrenholz, Major Rebecca Sjogren, Nou Khang, Payang Vue, Major Daniel Sjogren and Captain Chris Lim.



Amy Ervin and her sister Melissa Maxfield take part the 24/7/13 prayer effort at the Fairmont, Minn., Corps.



Come join us!

"It's been an exciting year of growth for us," reported Major Dan Leisher, corps officer of the Grand Rapids Fulton Heights Citadel, Mich., Corps. Major Laura Leisher added that their Sunday morning pickup route went from a few stops 12 months ago to two routes to handle the demand for rides to the corps!

The Leishers recently enrolled three new soldiers who started attending the corps through its seniors' program and Christmas kettle efforts. Others are in the process of making The Salvation Army their church home.

"Growth has taken place in our corps due to the ministry efforts of our employees and our soldiers," explained Dan. "You never know when that one

smile, word of encouragement, listening ear, home visit or time spent in prayer will affect someone's relationship with Jesus," he continued.

The Leishers are excited about the plans being laid out in the Come Join Our Army initiative.

"Fulton Heights Citadel is ready to step up to the challenge and looks forward to God's continued blessings over the next 12 months," exclaimed Dan.



Pictured (l-r) are Major Dan Leisher, Marilyn Lieson and Christy and Henry Slagter; the flagbearer is Major Marge Peterson.

To sign or not to sign?

by Patricia Taube

Chances are you may have been a leader in your corps for a while now—maybe even years! But there's a chance you may have never filled out a local officer's bond or warrant application. Why do we do that anyway? Some people would say, "I don't need a piece of paper to make me a leader." But is it just a piece of paper? When you sign on the dotted line, you are really doing more. Here's why:

You're making a commitment that you've prayed about. You are saying, "This is a ministry that God has called me to."

You're accepting responsibility for a part of the body of Christ. Whether a character-building group, an adult Sunday school class or greeting people on Sunday mornings, you pledge to do it well with God's help. Others know they can depend on you.



You're setting an example. Ministry doesn't just happen. It takes many people coming together. It takes those who "shine" up front and those who work behind the scenes. When you stand in front of your corps congregation and accept your commission, you're setting an example that leadership here is a priority for you.

Your commitment testifies to those who only see your corps' paperwork that its leadership is healthy. When your corps' Vital Signs reflect leadership making commitments and new leaders stepping

forward it indicates a healthy congregation.

Maybe least significant, but really interesting down the road, **you become a part of your corps history.** Your name is recorded as someone who gave time, energy and effort to the build God's kingdom.

As the leadership and program development coordinator in the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division, I review the local officer's bonds. I have seen the names and signatures of saints in this division, the positions they held and the officers they worked alongside. There are hundreds who

worked decades to see children and adults come to the Lord and experience the love and caring of this unique community of faith we call The Salvation Army. May each of us prove as faithful!

Maybe you should ask your corps officer about that bond.



Denese Eagle Green Bay, Wis.

It's a blessing to serve long enough in one place that you're able to influence multiple generations. And Denese Eagle fulfills her calling by doing just that. She's the sunbeam leader, junior soldier sergeant, assistant Sunday school teacher, and women's ministries secretary at the Green Bay, Wis., Corps.

Teens from her early days of corps ministry are now parents of children attending corps youth programs. Denese's conviction that God has called her to leadership in Green Bay is as real as any officer's call to fulltime ministry. Goal oriented, Denese feels it is important for all of the leaders she works with to be "on the same page," agreeing on what is to be achieved, from setting the goals and steps to achieve them to taking time for feedback. What worked? What didn't? How do we deal with the struggles?

As Denese has grown in the Lord, she's even more convinced that we lead by example and effective change must start with leadership. Denese hopes that those she serves know she does it because she wants to. It's not a job but where her heart is.



Rob Buchler Escanaba, Mich.

Whether an officer or a lay leader, the path of service holds twists and turns we don't always anticipate. That has been true for Rob Buchler, assistant corps sergeant-major of the Escanaba, Mich., Corps. When plans to assist in a church plant ended, Rob stepped out in faith and moved to Escanaba in an interim pastorate. In that capacity he came to know Major Bill Cox. For Rob these circumstances were God's hand leading him to the Escanaba Corps, specifically to come alongside in support of the Coxes' ministry.

Rob is a firm believer that lay leaders need to "step up" and take on leadership that supports the officer. "The officer can and does do a lot, but he or she can't do it all," he said.

Rob also serves as a substitute Sunday school teacher, Discipleship Training level one facilitator and leads the corps prayer team. Major Cox praises Rob's gifts of administration, but Rob would tell you that administration and leadership are not gifts that came naturally. They've been developed since his conversion. He is especially blessed when others catch the vision and it "takes root" in their lives.

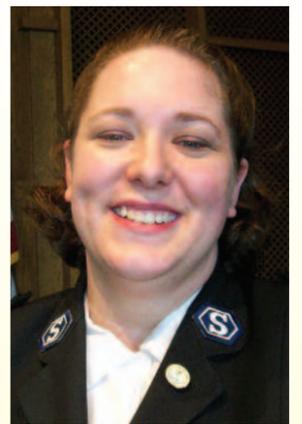


Penny Harrison Manitowoc, Wis.

When asked why she feels so strongly about being involved in corps leadership, Penny Harrison doesn't hesitate. "My daughter," she says! Penny knows how important good role models are and wants to make sure that her daughter sees an example of godly leadership.

At the Manitowoc, Wis., Corps, Penny fills a variety of roles: women's ministries secretary, Sunday school teacher, corps librarian, teen leader, bus driver on Sunday morning and worship committee member. She readily shares that each position was at one time on her list of impossibilities. / could never do that, she thought. Stepping into the opportunities the Lord has presented, Penny has found that while she might feel out of her comfort zone the Lord faithfully equips her for every task. She finds her greatest reward is being a part of spiritual growth in those she leads, from the littlest preschooler in Sunday school to the ladies in women's ministries.

"It's exciting to see growth and to know they 'get it' and that I had a part in that," said Penny. In ministry, it doesn't get any better than that!



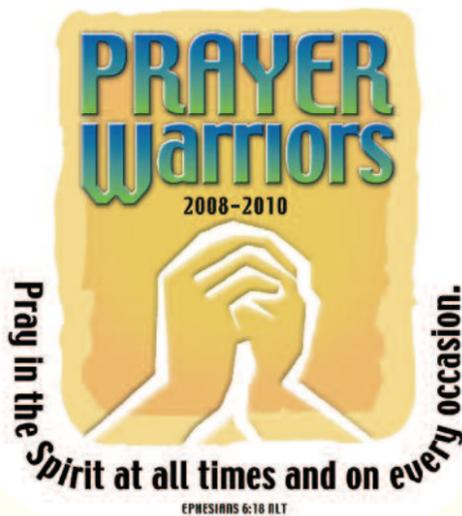
Newest accepted candidates



Dana Hixenbaugh

Kearney, Neb.
Western Division

As an officers' kid Dana understands the responsibility that comes



with this commitment. It was at a youth councils that she prayed with her mom, Major Joann Hixenbaugh, and knew God was leading her to officership. "What 'I' wanted to do got in the way," said Dana. During a commissioning weekend she recommitted her life *almost* totally saying she would be an officer, but in "her" time.

While attending a chapel service at Vennard College, Dana listened to Major Karlene Lenz preach about following God's path for your life. Dana realized the only way to follow God was in His time and way.

For Dana this includes becoming a member of the Prayer Warriors

session. She graduates from Vennard College in May and will be coming to the CFOT from the Kearney, Neb., Corps where her parents, Majors Dale and Joann Hixenbaugh, are the corps officers.

James and Jamie Curry

Council Bluffs, Iowa
Western Division

James and Jamie Curry have very different backgrounds and even come from two different parts of the country. Jamie is a Midwest girl, while James hails from the West Coast, but they're united in their confidence that God has called them to become members of the Prayer Warriors session.

Jamie's call came while attending youth councils at age 12. Even with typical teen angst she never completely lost view of her calling. James met the Army at the San Bernardino, Calif., Adult



Rehabilitation Center where God changed his heart. Two years later a retired officer took him to lunch where they talked about officership. James laughed and said, "God would not want someone like me!" He found out God did.

The Currys are assisting at the Omaha North, Neb., Corps and will be entering training from the Council Bluffs, Iowa, Corps where their corps officers are Captains Joel and Ramona Arthur. They will be coming to training with daughters Lea, 9, and Amanda, 4.

"A-list" retirement

Even during her retirement celebration, Major Nancy Cramer's life-long quest to help others discover Christ was honored.

Major Robert Doliber, territorial finance secretary, conducted Nancy's retirement from her appointment as chief cashier at territorial headquarters. He said Nancy didn't want accolades; instead, she wanted her retirement to "point to Christ." Yet, Robert continued, Nancy started off as an A/Captain—and "A" described her level of service: wonderful attitude, great aptitude and always a job well done.

Well known for singing as she went about her duties, Nancy made the cashier's window a place of ministry with ever-changing artwork and scripture on the walls. Before coming to territorial headquarters in 2004, Nancy served as a corps offi-

cer in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota.

Major Gloria Stepke, territorial historical museum director, led the service at the Des Plaines, Ill., Corps. She praised Nancy's "zest for learning"—having earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education—plus learning how to speak Spanish so she could help with the corps' Hispanic ministries. Nancy also served as the corps' missionary sergeant, played piano for the Spanish worship service and baritone for the English service.

Fittingly, everyone was invited to stay after the meeting for a gala *fiesta* hosted by the corps' Hispanic congregation!

Nancy's daughter, Katharine, said, "Mom is a woman of strength and resourcefulness. Some of our warmest memories involved sitting around a piano with mom playing

and singing the great songs, especially 'The Lord's Prayer.'"

Nancy's son, Curtis, recounted how his mother sang to him throughout the night when he was very ill. He then sang, "People Need the Lord." His wife, Karen, sang, "Who am I."

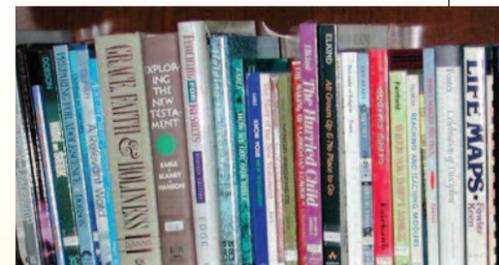
Major Shirley Younts gave a prayer of dedication as Nancy entered her well-deserved retirement after almost 18 years of service.



Photos by Rick Vogney



Want to recharge your ministry?



Check out the Salvation Army Continuing Education Program (SACEP)

What: A five-day intensive study with courses accredited through Olivet Nazarene University and the opportunity to work toward a bachelor's or master's degree in practical ministries

Who: Salvation Army soldiers, employees and officers

Where: Olivet Nazarene University
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When: May 12-16 and August 4-8

Topics:

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- Family dynamics

For more information, email Susan_Harfoot@usc.salvationarmy.org, call (847)294-2225 or log onto www.usc.salvationarmy.org and click on SACEP.



Music by the numbers

by William Himes
Territorial Music and Gospel Arts Secretary

I'm not typically a bean-counter, but the advent of our national campaign Come Join Our Army has prompted me to look at membership and music ministry numbers pertaining to our territory from 2002 to 2006 in order to get a clearer picture of where we are and where we need to go.

I limited the categories to senior and junior soldiers, singing company, youth band, senior band, songsters and gospel arts. I based my analysis on the premise that **the most important category is membership: senior and junior soldiers.** This is our foundational "people pool" from which we draw for virtually all that is done for the sake of salvation, discipleship and service.

As Commissioner Ken Baillie said at last June's *Festival of Worship Arts*, the news is not good. Over the past five years the number of members on our soldiership rolls has declined, particularly with junior soldiers, our future Army.

How do these numbers correspond with our music ministry?

Although our established music groups also have shrunk during this timeframe, fortunately in many cases they have not declined at the same rate. For example, while senior soldiers declined 12 percent over five years, senior band membership only shrank by 1 percent. More alarming is the fact that junior soldiers declined by 28 percent, yet youth band memberships reduced by 12 percent. On a happier note, **gospel arts groups (such as praise bands, drama and dance groups) have actually increased by 40 percent.** (Seven of 10 divisions registered increases ranging from 11 to 61 percent.)

This mixture of grim and good news causes me to conclude that **the long-term training, discipline and accountability that characterize our music sections contribute to the development of Salvationists who make a lasting commitment to the Army.**

Think about it. Most corps activities meet once each week, typically achieving their objectives within that time period.



From girl guards to Bible study, they may provide positive group interaction, but the benefits are typically personal. While a singing company or a praise band also may provide individual fellowship and nurture, a music group must function as a team to be effective.

And whether the music is piano, guitar, brass, percussion or voice—it is expected that they will be on duty every week, prepared to contribute to the spirit and content of corporate worship for the benefit of others.

The stats

Here's the thing about statistics: they are only as good as the accuracy of the input. Some of the numbers in this study revealed astonishing contradictions. For example, one division indicated singing company memberships had increased 9 percent, yet attendance had declined an incredible 38 percent over the same period. This could mean one of two things: either attendance is not being taken on a reg-

ular basis, or more kids are singing less frequently. (Let's hope the former is true.)

Another division's youth band memberships declined 17 percent, yet attendance increased 34 percent. Usually this means corps have gotten behind with the paperwork of registering participants officially on the rolls. (Or could it be that new participants have yet to be channeled into a viable junior soldiers program?)

While it is possible to explain away any statistical anomaly, one statistical trend is indisputable. Over this five-year average, every division showed a decline of junior soldiers at rates from 3 to 38 percent. Equally troubling was a decline in singing company memberships in eight of 10 divisions from 4 to 66 percent. Interestingly, youth band stats were mixed: five up and five down. The "ups" showed increases of 1.5 to 18 percent, whereas the "downs" were 3 to 30 percent. (No tidy speculation comes to mind.)

Senior musicians seem to be holding on to a greater degree,





with memberships showing increases up to 18 percent—and declines as steep as 21 percent. Being part of this “mature generation,” I can attest that my junior soldier days included large doses of corps and divisional music activities where a host of committed volunteer leaders made substantial investments of time, interest and encouragement. Is that what our children experience today?

In my opinion, these numbers show that our corps music programs can be a means of holding, developing and challenging our people—even against some powerful statistical trends. Furthermore, can you think of a vibrant, growing corps that does not use music as an effective component of worship? I can't.

The resources

The great news is there is an abundance of Army music published for music groups of all sizes, ages, styles and abilities. Singing companies make great use of *Children's Praise* and *Sing to the Lord for Children's Voices*, while songsters can start from

unison with *Psalms, Hymns & Spiritual Songs* and progress to three-part (SAB) *Sing Praise* or *Hallelujah Choruses Vocal Edition*, then move on to *Sing to the Lord for Mixed Voices* for larger advanced groups. All are available with accompaniment CDs.

Did you know that the vast majority of Army instrumental music published today is geared for four to five players? That includes the *American Instrumental Ensemble Series*, *Hallelujah Choruses Instrumental Edition*, and *Unity Series*, complete with demonstration recordings. As groups progress and grow they can make good use of the *American Band Journal* and *Triumph Series* (for nine or more) with the *General* and *American Festival Series* available for larger and experienced musicians.



Praise bands should have a look at the resources produced by transMISSION and the Central Territory's own Singing Company. These bands have produced performance/accompaniment CDs including *Send the Fire*, *I Know a Fount*, *Unfailing Love* and *The Red Book Sessions* and soon to be released *Mercy Seat Sessions*, respectively. All disks include leadsheets that can be downloaded and printed for live performance. *The Hallelujah Choruses PraisePak* edition now has 80 arrangements with praise team vocals and rhythm section and with the unique option of three-part brass to add punch and color when feasible.

Aspiring keyboard players (also known as a “band of one”) would do well to have a look at the *Simplified Piano Tune Book* with 200 of the best known melodies from our songbook arranged for the inexperienced pianists seeking experience with congregational accompaniments. *Piano Offerings 1-2*

and *Musical Offerings 1-3* also provide a variety of useful repertoire for worship services.

What is there to join?

I believe that Come Join our Army is the right emphasis that has come at the right time. But have you asked yourself, “What is there in my Army that people would want to join?” By “join” I mean become a member of a local center of spiritual nurture and service. Have you examined your worship services through the eyes of an acquaintance or friend you would invite? If they attended when you weren't there would they feel welcome? Would they be drawn into a worship experience that has been prayerfully prepared to help them understand God's love and potential in their lives?

I think it's time to take another look at the important role music can play in our Army to contribute to worship and to minister and bless. If you're not motivated by that alone, it's time to take another look at the numbers.



Swearing off chocolate

Monica Casey has sworn off chocolate—quite a feat, especially for a 9-year-old. But the reason she's given up chocolate is even more amazing. She's taking a stand for kids across the world.

It all began Easter 2006. Her mom, Katie, had received information from a friend about kids being forced to work on cocoa farms. It nagged at her heart, and after research Katie was downright convicted. She has three children of her own.

With Easter approaching, Katie asked her children if she could replace the chocolate in their baskets with other goodies. Nathan, 7, and Autumn, 4, were too young to understand or even to agree. But then there was Monica, who not only agreed to the one-time holiday omission but wanted to boycott chocolate completely.

Her mom was not surprised. Monica has always had a sensitive heart. She also had studied slavery in history class. She started telling her friends and neighbors. Soon, Monica and 15 other kids, all under age 14, from her corps banded together on a mission. They made posters. They recruited an adult to help make a video. They wrote a petition and asked people to sign: "We commit to pray for children who are forced to work on cocoa farms." About 65 people signed.

Monica wanted to do more. Together, she and her mom wrote letters to company executives and state officials about human trafficking. They even created a MySpace page. And in their daily family prayers, they talked to God about it.

"I wasn't really surprised by Monica's reaction," said Katie, "but by her conviction and commitment."

Katie doesn't want Monica to become too burdened, yet she's impressed with her young activist daughter. And she's learning from her.



Katie said, "Through Monica I've learned that we may not be able to do everything, but we can all do something. As Christians we can each find our niche. We can each make a difference."

After checking watchdog websites and fair-trade companies, Katie's family has reintroduced some chocolate into their home by companies which don't use cocoa beans from forced child labor. But they continue to be involved in the fight against human trafficking.

Katie and Monica hope to work for two weeks this summer with children, many of whom are orphans, at The Salvation Army Berogo Rehabilitation Center in Ghana. Ghana borders the Ivory Coast where trafficking has been prevalent.

Editor's note: For more information about their mission and fundraising efforts, email Katie at Katie_Casey@usc.salvationarmy.org

Second legal aid clinic opens

With approximately 1 million people in southeastern Michigan living below the poverty line, The Salvation Army has opened a second William Booth Legal Aid Clinic. The new office is located in Pontiac, Mich., and will provide free legal services to those living at or below the poverty line dealing with family law, wills, landlord/tenant, general advocacy, public benefits and entitlements.

"The presence of the clinic in our community will help to ensure access to our legal system for all our citizens," said Pontiac Mayor Clarence Phillips. "The Salvation Army is demonstrating its commitment to this community by bringing this outstanding clinic to our doorstep."

The first clinic opened in 1994 in Detroit, Mich., and was founded by Robert and Ellen Dickman. The clinics are the realization of their dream to give back to the community. Many of the Detroit clinic's clients



Pictured (l to r): Judge Fred M. Mester, Oakland County Circuit Court judge and chairman of the William Booth Legal Aid Clinic Advisory Board; Robert Dickman, founder of the Legal Aid Clinic; Ellen Dickman, executive director of the Legal Aid Clinic; Pontiac Mayor Clarence Phillips, and Captain Heath Sells, Pontiac, Mich., corps officer.

are from The Salvation Army's Harbor Light Center where the clinic is headquartered.

"Countless men, women and families are affected by legal problems," said Captain Heath Sells, Pontiac corps officer. "The people of Pontiac will have another tool to advance their lives for the better."

Wellspring sees life

Since its beginning the Salvation Army has been a ray of hope and path for change to people entrenched in the sale of sex. Today, it is estimated that 27 million people around the world have been victimized by human trafficking. Though enormous, this number is only the beginning. It doesn't include all the young and old alike who sell their bodies in cities and towns across America.

Leading the charge in the fight is the Wellspring program in Omaha, Neb. Aimed at helping to break the cycle it provides a safe and caring environment for people involved in prostitution, and their families with the goal of a comprehensive, holistic life transformation.

"We're also looking to do more with intervention of at-risk youth like runaways or girls who think no one cares. They are bait for those who want to take advantage of them and we want to reach them before the lifestyle even begins," said Dr. Linda Burkle, divisional social services director.

According to Linda many of the women involved in prostitution have multiple issues including mental illness and drug addiction. Wellspring works at addressing all areas of need including counseling, drug treatment and follow-up care. Over the past few years the program has expanded and women are contacting them, actively seeking help. This is especially true with the jail ministry.



"Over the past year we've met a lot of women through the jail system who want our help. We are able to connect with them and get them placed in treatment directly from jail, before they have a chance to get into the lifestyle again," said Mary Raynovich, Wellspring program director.

No matter how the people get involved in Wellspring, the staff have found it's relationships, trust and respect that help participants succeed.

One young woman who has been in the program for two years recently graduated with an associates degree from a local college. At her graduation she attributed her success to the Wellspring program and said, "Thank you for never giving up on me."

"Many women believe they would be dead if not for Wellspring," said Mary. "We give people a hope and see their potential. To us, everyone is a child of God, and the women we work with are truly amazing."

The battle continues



As part of the Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAAST) The Salvation Army is at the forefront of the battle against human trafficking and has helped develop *Hands that Heal: International Curriculum to Train Caregivers of Trafficking Survivors*.

This tool will:

- train frontline providers
- inspire churches, communities, organizations and individuals to engage in the battle

In addition, a four-day training session to equip potential trainers also is available.

For information on the new curriculum or to host training, contact Major Mary Corliss at (847) 294-2202 or e-mail Mary_Corliss@usc.salvationarmy.org



Argentina adventure

Last month, after two and a half years of corps life in Resistencia, Argentina, Central Territory officers Captains William and Cassandra DeJesus, and their two sons, Alejandro, 9, and Michael, 6, moved to Buenos Aires, the nation's capital. Willie was tapped to serve as the territorial youth and candidate's secretary and Cassie as Buenos Aires Central corps officer.

They left Resistencia with hearts full of good memories and the satisfaction of many accomplishments. The corps and its outpost experienced much growth while they were there. Sunday services at the corps attracted 40-50 people each week, almost reaching the chapel's capacity.

"Even more important was the increase in spirit," reported Willie, who had the privilege of enrolling 12 junior soldiers and five senior soldiers. Another 10 adults and four



youths were enrolled in recruits classes.

The corps' outpost also experienced growth. Outpost Antequeras is located about 20 minutes from the corps in a small *barrio* (neighborhood) alongside the river.

"Thanks to the assistance of the Kansas and Western Missouri divisional mission team, (led by Envoy Bersabe Vera) and the Central Territory summer mission team

interns (Viki Payton and Elyse Dalberg), we were able to add a much-needed kitchen and bathroom extension to the former one-room outpost!" exclaimed Cassie. The outpost offers weekly worship services, Sunday school, home league and a feeding program.

The corps' youth group, which averages 20-25 teens each week, has grown and strong leadership has emerged. "Last year, we began teaching guitar and keyboard. Now the corps has a praise and worship band with a drummer, three guitar players and two keyboardists," said Willie. The worship band plays every Sunday, and praise and worship meetings led by the teens are held twice a month. "The Kansas and Western Missouri divisional mission team conducted a mini-music school while they were here and donated instruments to the corps," Willie added.

"Our boys, Alejandro and Michael, have adjusted very well to the language and culture in Argentina," Willie continued. "It's wonderful to hear them speak and play with their friends." This month, Alejandro and Michael will be entering fourth and second grade, respectively (March is the beginning of the school year in Argentina).



The DeJesus family (l-r): Alejandro, Willie, Cassie and Michael.

"Cassie's mastery of Spanish continues to improve," boasted Willie. "She particularly enjoys women's ministries and children's Sunday school in her corps duties." And, in addition to his new territorial duties, Willie continues to work on obtaining his master's degree.



Central Territory SMT interns Viki Payton (l) and Elyse Dalberg helped lead youth programs at the corps and outpost.



The Kansas and Western Missouri Mission Team helped build a kitchen and bathroom extension onto the corps' outpost.

Summer Mission Teams announced

Peru

Andrew Dobney* (Dearborn Heights Citadel, Mich.)

Elizabeth Frost (Bloomington, Ill.)

Cinthya Gonzalez (Kansas City Blue Valley, Mo.)

Angel Hall (Alpena, Mich.)

Jon Moe (Rockford Temple, Ill.)

Keri Polsley (Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.)

Enrique Villatoro (Rockford Temple, Ill.)

Russia

Sara Johnson* (Royal Oak, Mich.)

Doug Dobney (Port Huron, Mich.)

Courtney Fuqua (Grand Forks, N. D.)

Nate Hood (St. Charles Tri-City, Ill.)

Amy Kruger (Northbrook, Minn.)

Carolyn Meyer (Port Huron, Mich.)

David Shay (Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.)

Zimbabwe

Doug Engle* (Royal Oak, Mich.)

Rachel Aren (Grand Rapids Fulton Heights Citadel, Mich.)

See Chang (Northbrook, Minn.)

Alicia Johnson (Chicago Mt. Greenwood, Ill.)

David Mantel (Norridge Citadel, Ill.)

Ian Smith (Chicago Mayfair Community Church, Ill.)

Elizabeth Wright (Mason City, Iowa)

Central 1

Mona Hood* (St. Charles Tri-City, Ill.)

Brian Horn (Kansas City Northland, Mo.)

Samantha Hulke (Menasha Fox Cities, Wis.)

Justin Kistler (Des Plaines, Ill.)

Brenna Logan (Springfield, Ill.)

Monica Porrett (Port Huron, Mich.)

Jamison Taube (Oak Creek Centennial, Wis.)



Central 2

Jonathan Taube* (St. Charles Tri-City, Ill.)

Alexandra Anderson (Sheboygan, Wis.)

Alfonso Azuaje (Cicero Templo Laramie, Ill.)

Kevin Barringer (Decatur, Ill.)

Melissa Heatwole (Omaha South Side, Neb.)

Dietrich Hunter (Norridge Citadel, Ill.)

Caitlyn Tennyson (Kalamazoo, Mich.)

Spain Interns

James Davisson (Norridge Citadel, Ill.)

David Witthoff (Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.)

South Africa Interns

Emily Aukes (Kalamazoo, Mich.)

Katy Clark (Kalamazoo, Mich.)



*Denotes team leader

Do you trust Me?

by Captain Nancy Powers

November 12, 1992. That's when my life and my daughter's life changed forever. I'd called the pediatrician's office because Katie was having very odd movements she couldn't seem to control. She also couldn't stop making sounds. In making an appointment for us, the nurse casually said, "It sounds like Tourette Syndrome to me."

What did this mean? I began yelling at God, how dare He allow this to happen to my daughter. Then I heard His voice, almost audibly, "When you dedicated Katie to me, did you mean it?" "Yes, Lord, I meant it, and if you want her to be a missionary, I'm all for it. But, I didn't know my dedication of her could mean You would allow her to have a horrid disorder that could make her a social outcast and hurt her physically." God kept asking, "Did you mean it?"

I struggled all night with that question. The real question was how much faith did I have? Could I trust God? Did I trust Him? Would I trust Him? By morning, I had turned Katie over to God's care. I have never regretted that choice.

Numerous doctor visits, tests and specialists appointments confirmed that Katie had Tourette Syndrome (TS). The effects were horrid. She injured her back and neck many times from the head-thrusting tics. Children made fun of her in school. For a few years she developed Coprolalia, the uncontrolled saying of inappropriate words. Some tics made her nauseous; others gave her headaches. The medications had terrible side effects from falling asleep to weight gain. Tourette Syndrome did its best to destroy my child.

Katie had accepted Jesus into her heart when she was just five. She had a tremendous faith and knew she could do all things through Christ. Philippians 4:13 was her favorite verse. She quoted it often—sometimes to herself, sometimes to others. She relied on God to bring her through each situation, whether a tic or a mean-spirited person. Katie's faith grew stronger with each trial.

I remember when she had a gasping tic and couldn't breathe. We

would lay on her bed and remind her of God's promise not to give us more than we could bear. We called on God to quiet the tics and give her rest. Soon the tics would quiet; often she fell asleep before the end of the prayer. God was faithful to my little girl.

He had a plan for Katie's young life. People noticed her and they noticed her struggles, but each person was told that God gave her the strength to get through the trials. Two of Katie's public school teachers came to know the Lord because of her faith. Doctors and nurses heard about the love of God with each visit. In sixth grade Katie's public school class heard her story, and it changed the way they acted toward her and each other. It changed so drastically that her class won the Kindest Kansan Award that year, and Katie was asked to speak to 1,000 people about her experience.

During elementary school Katie was a trainer for her school district on Tourette Syndrome. She traveled to elementary schools and trained teachers, principals, counselors and police officers about the disorder. As



Graduating from high school in 2005.

a child, she was allowed to tell her story, and it always included her faith. She shared with these professionals the only way to get through life was with God's power. No adult would have been allowed to share that, but a little girl, dedicated to God, gave that powerful message.

Katie is now 21. Her tics have grown quieter. She attends college and works at an answering service. Her faith in God remains rock solid. As her mom, I've seen Ephesians 3:20 in our lives as God has truly done exceedingly, abundantly beyond all that I could ask or think.



Katie in 1st grade.

My mind went into overload. I picked up the encyclopedia—Teret, Terrett, Tirette and finally Tourette Syndrome. It described my daughter perfectly: muscular tics and verbal tics a person cannot control. The worse case scenario described a person shouting obscenities and hurting their body from uncontrolled movements. I was devastated.

My daughter was perfect, beautiful, smart, outgoing and talented.

Paul and Kay Rader Scholarship deadline approaches

The deadline for application submissions for the Paul and Kay Rader Scholarship is fast approaching: April 15, 2008! This scholarship is available to minority Salvationists who attend a Christian college and can demonstrate financial need. Five scholarships, up to \$5,000 each, are available for the 2008/2009 school term. Guidelines and application forms can be obtained through the youth office at your divisional headquarters. (Officers' children are not eligible.)



Captains Nancy and Merrill Powers with their children, Robert and Katie, at a family reunion in Colorado last year.

Around the Territory



DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MICH.—Parents from across the Detroit metro area flocked to Dearborn Heights to win tickets to a Hannah Montana concert. A local limo company raffled off four tickets as well as a limo ride to the concert in the specially decorated Montana Mobile. Captain Steven Merritt, Dearborn Heights Citadel corps officer, attended the event that raised \$5,000 for The Salvation Army.

Relive the glory

Asbury SASF Reunion

June 19-22, 2008 / Asbury College

- Renew Salvation Army Student Fellowship friendships
- Celebrate 50th anniversary of first SASF band trip
- Reunite in band/vocal ensembles

Learn more at www.asburycollege.edu or email Cathy_Himes@usn.salvationarmy.org or call (859) 858-3734

Commissioning and iConnect

Finding Your Place in the Mission

Friday, June 6

Noon	Retired Officers' Luncheon+
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
1:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Resource Connection open
5:00 p.m.	Active Officer Recognition Dinner+
7:00 p.m.	Childcare open, junior program
7:30 p.m.	iConnect—SEEK*
10:00 p.m.	Afterglow

Saturday, June 7

7:30 a.m.	SMT/Overseas Officers and Prayer Fellowship Breakfast+
9:00 a.m. – noon	Registration
9:00 a.m.	Childcare open; junior program
9:30 a.m.	iConnect—SERVE
noon – 12:30 p.m.	Great Lakes Youth Ministries Concert

Saturday, June 7 (Continued)

noon	Life Service Luncheon+
noon – 6:30 p.m.	Resource Connection open
12:45 – 4:00 p.m.	Workshops
2:30 – 6:00 p.m.	Divisional Youth Performance Groups
4:30 p.m.	Silver Star Recognition Dinner+
6:30 p.m.	Childcare open; junior program
7:00 p.m.	iConnect—LEAD*
10:00 p.m.	Concert by Caedmon's Call*

Sunday, June 8

8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
9:00 a.m.	Childcare open; junior program
9:30 a.m.	Commissioning and Ordination Service
2:15 p.m.	Service of Appointments*

+ By invitation only
* Ticket required



June 6-8, 2008

Star Radisson—Merrillville, Ind.



--Mustard Seeds--



APRIL 2008

PRAY FOR:

- 1 The Midland Divisional Women Officers' retreat
- 2 Annual command consultation reviews being held this month
- 3 Officers, soldiers and staff of the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division
- 4 Youth councils being held each weekend this month
- 5 The Northern Division's Festival of Creative Arts and Music
- 6 The Army's ministry in Springfield, Ill.
- 7 The Alma, Mich., Corps
- 8 Evangelistic meetings by the Kistler family in Lafayette, Ind.
- 9 The commissioning and iConnect weekend in June
- 10 Captains Willie and Cassie DeJesus and sons in Argentina
- 11 The Eastern Michigan Divisional Advisory Board Retreat
- 12 The Minneapolis Citadel, Minn., Corps
- 13 People to "Come Join Our Army"
- 14 Those called by God into officership
- 15 The Kistler family's ministry in Livingston County, Mich.
- 16 The Western Divisional Social Service Seminar
- 17 The new Kansas City Harbor Light Village
- 18 The Chicago Staff Band's visit to the Northern Division
- 19 The Indiana Divisional Women's Rally
- 20 Souls to be won for Christ on this Decision Sunday
- 21 The Salvation Army Continuing Education Program
- 22 The Kistler family's ministry in Crystal Lake, Ill.
- 23 Cadets learning practical ministries in the Chicago area
- 24 The Wellspring program in Omaha, Neb.
- 25 The National Advisory Board
- 26 Legal aid clinics in Detroit and Pontiac, Mich.
- 27 Fresh ways to reach people on this Older Adult Ministries Sunday
- 28 The Kistler family's ministry in Duluth, Minn.
- 29 The Territorial Writers' Conference in Rolling Meadows, Ill.
- 30 The National Program Conference

Promoted to Glory

Major Mrs. Dorothy Jensen

Major Mrs. Dorothy Jensen was promoted to Glory on January 14, 2008.



Dorothy Southard was born on September 27, 1915, in Evansville, Ind. When her family moved to Chicago, Ill., she became involved in the Charity Gospel Mission where as a child she first gave her life to the Lord. Later she was the girl guard leader and corps cadet guardian at the Chicago Belmont Corps. After high school Dorothy worked for the F.W. Woolworth Company.

She entered the College for Officer Training in 1941 and was commissioned to assist at the Muskegon, Mich., Corps in 1942. Later that year she married Captain Herbert Jensen and together they served in several corps appointments across the territory. They also ministered on several divisional staffs where Dorothy was guard and sunbeam director and league of mercy secretary. In 1968 the Jensens were appointed to territorial headquarters. Herbert was promoted to Glory less than a year later. Dorothy continued to serve her Savior through the Army holding appointments at the Saginaw and Detroit, Mich., Eventide residences.

In 1972 Dorothy returned to Chicago in the public relations department and as volunteer services director at the Unified Command. She retired to Indiana in 1977. Dorothy was an enthusiastic and reliant worker who had a passion to save lost souls.

Major Mrs. Jensen is survived by a daughter, Dorothy Holdren; a son, Herbert (Deanna), 10 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and a dear friend, Jean Olmer.

Mrs. Major May Riches

Mrs. Major Harold (May) Riches was promoted to Glory on December 20, 2007.



May Bolam was born in Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, on May 23, 1918. She was raised in a Christian home and attended the local corps with her

family. As a child she gave her heart to the Lord and was active in the corps teaching Sunday school and girl guards.

In 1939 she married Harold Riches. After World War II they immigrated to the U.S. settling in Grand Rapids, Mich., where they were faithful soldiers at the Grand Rapids Citadel Corps. The Riches entered the College for Officer Training in 1947 and were commissioned to lead the Alpena, Mich., Corps in 1948.

The Riches spent many years serving the Lord in corps throughout the territory. They also changed lives in appointments at the Detroit Evangeline Residence and adult rehabilitation centers in St. Joseph and Flint, Mich. They retired in 1981 after serving as corps officers at the Princeton, Ind., Corps.

May was a kind and understanding woman whose goodness and dedication to Christ was evident in all she did. She had a heart for young people and was able to minister to many women facing difficult situations.

Mrs. Major Riches was preceded in death by her husband, Harold. She is survived by two sons, Major David (Brenda) Riches, and Harold Riches; a daughter, Janice (David) Servis; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Brigadier Violet Hasney

Brigadier Violet Hasney was promoted to Glory on January 15, 2008.



Violet was born in Sawyer, Wis., on December 3, 1918. As a child she moved with her family to Fort Worth, Texas. She began attending the local corps and as a teenager taught Sunday school where her leadership skills were developed. After graduating from high school she worked as a seamstress and clerk at the thrift store. In 1936 she moved to Waukegan, Ill., and while attending the corps felt God calling her to officership.

She answered the call in 1940 when she entered the College for Officer Training. She was commissioned to the Springfield, Ill., Corps in 1941 and for the next 39 years faithfully served God throughout that division. Unique for the Army, Violet spent the last 17 years of active service in the Sterling-Rock Falls, Ill., community. She retired in 1980 but remained active by taking part in special meetings and speaking engagements.

Violet was dedicated to advancing the mission of The Salvation Army. Commissioner Andrew S. Miller commented, "Everywhere you have gone, you have brought a sense of God's presence and have moved the Army forward."

Brigadier Hasney is survived by a brother, Lt. Colonel William (Ruth) Hasney; two sisters, Mrs. Geraldine DeVett and Major Marjorie (Vernon) Jewett; and several nieces and nephews.

By His wounds we are healed

Continued from page 1

are healed" (vv 2-5).

There is no one who does not need the Savior. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory God intends for each human being (Romans 3:23). Isaiah 53 says: "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (v 6). This is Jesus, our only Savior. This is the Son of God, born of Mary, raised in Nazareth, the young man who was perfectly filled with the Spirit of God, born to be our Wounded Healer.

Do you know him? Have you searched him out? Have you recognized your need of a Savior and turned to Jesus? Countless millions have done so, included among them the world's Salvationists. By his wounds we are healed. Without him we would be nothing. Only Jesus makes us whole, and we return to him again and again seeking fresh healing from the hurts and trials of the battle against sin and evil.

How gentle is this Wounded Healer, how understanding of our pain. How gracious he is, how

patient with our pride, how tolerant of our foolishnesses. He has walked our way before us and understands. Therefore we can approach him with confidence, for he knows and sees it all. He is not shocked by our sin, not repelled by our lack of love, not anxious to make us feel small. Instead he longs for each of us to reach that full height of all we can become in the strength of his power and love as they flood our beings. He has a plan for each of us and it begins at Calvary's cross.

See the Wounded Healer there impaled. The nails through his hands and his feet hold him, but not as firmly as his love for you, not as determinedly as his longing for your healing from sin. How ardently he desires your salvation, how invincibly he loves you. Do you see it? Can you realize it? Your Wounded Healer did it all for you and for me. At Calvary's Cross we find forgiveness for our sins, balm for life's hurts, healing for our wounds, through the only Savior. There is no other.

All scripture from the New International Version



Vacation Bible School

As you're planning this year's VBS, take advantage of a special Salvation Army discount arranged by Resource Connection with major publishers. A vendor list with discount and ordering information and catalogs has been mailed to your corps.

Questions? Call Resource Connection at 1-800-937-8896



Salvation Army on NIU campus

Continued from page 1

emergency disaster services personnel worked with university police to provide support and emotional and spiritual care to law enforcement officials and students.

Meals, beverages and refreshments were served from a canteen on site. In addition, officers trained in critical incident stress management provided comfort to law enforcement officials and students. Captains Alex and Aimee Norton, corps officers in DeKalb, Ill., have a vital ministry on the NIU campus and were a comfort to many students dealing with the horrors that occurred on campus. A prayer service was held at the DeKalb Corps, and prayer rooms were made available to students throughout the night.

"We have been flooded with prayers from all over the territory which is one of the greatest tools we

possess as servants of the Most High God. I am blessed to report that God in His awesome wisdom had prepared our corps for this tragedy," said Captain Alex Norton. According to the captain, the corps which includes 40 students had embarked on five days of intensive, 24-hour prayer the week prior to the tragedy and felt strengthened to minister.

He continued, "I am overjoyed to report that none of our students were harmed and even amid the horrific event God is using them to be vessels of healing. Pray for our students that God will continue to use them as His vessels of grace and peace among the student body. Pray that in their suffering they will feel God's divine comfort in their every thought. Pray also that the Holy Spirit will give us the wisdom to find new ways to reach the 25,000 students who we have been called to embrace."

Readers' Forum

Our grief has been overwhelmingly encompassed by the outpouring of prayer and kind words from an Army family that has carried us to the throne of God. We are aware that a sudden slipping away of our beautiful wife, mother, daughter, sister, pastor has left a devastating void in the present and a glorious longing for the future. With much gratitude, Major Wesley Green writes on the promotion to Glory of his wife, Major Sharon Green.