

THE WAR CRY

Official Organ of The Salvation Army in Southern Africa ~ Registered at the Post Office as a Newspaper ~ R5.00 ~ 128th Year ~ Issue No 5808 ~ February 2011



Love for Christ
Love for People

FEBRUARY

- 3 Cadets entry into College
- 4-5 MASIC
- 5-6 Youth & Children's Leadership Training (Eastern KZN Division)
- 12 Youth Leadership Training (Western Cape Division)
- 12-13 Men's Ministry Training (Northern Division)
- 13 Cadets' welcome meeting
- 19-22 Officers and Local Officers' Retreat (Western Cape)
- 25-1 March Review TC/TPWM & Secretary for Personnel (Northern KZN)
- 26-27 Junior Miss Rally (Mid KZN)
- 26-27 Junior Soldier Rally (Northern Division)
- 26-27 Junior Soldier Rally (Eastern KZN Division)
- 27 United Youth Event (Western Cape Division)

MARCH

- 7-12 Discovery Week (1)
- 13 Youth Sunday
- 18-20 Local Officers & Women Officers' Camp (Central/Northern/Mpumalanga)
- 19-20 Men's Ministry Training (Mpumalanga & Swaziland)
- 20 Decision Sunday
- 20 Candidate Sunday
- 21 Human Rights Day (Public Holiday)
- 22-24 Review CS/TSWM & Programme (Northern Division)
- 25-27 Band Weekend (Western Cape)
- 25-28 Visit to Lesotho TC/TPWM

Editorial

Love for Christ - Love for people

Founder
William Booth

General
Shaw Clifton

Territorial Commander
Commissioner André Cox

International Headquarters
101 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4P 4GP England

Territorial Headquarters
119 - 121 Rissik Street
Johannesburg 2001

Editor
Captain Noluntu Semeno

Editorial Office
P.O. Box 1018 Johannesburg 2000
Tel.: (011) 718-6700
Fax: (011) 718-6790
E-mail: SAFEditorial@sasaf.org.za
www.salvationarmy.org.za

Design, Print & Distribution
Dyman Print
ldyman@worldonline.co.za

Annual Subscription Rates
Local: R70 International: R100

Subscription to
The Financial Secretary
P.O. Box 1018 Johannesburg
2000

Published bi-monthly

Copyright:

Pg 1: Woo Bing Stew | dreamstime.com

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE SALVATION ARMY



The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by love for God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

I would like to take this opportunity to greet all readers of the *War Cry*, both Salvationists and friends of The Salvation Army. I am Noluntu Semeno, originally from the Eastern Cape in the area previously known as Transkei in Mt Frere. I am married to Thataetsile Piet Semeno, who is from North West in Stilfontein (Khuma), and we have a son Boitumelo.

I am grateful to the leadership of The Salvation Army for entrusting me with this wonderful opportunity to reach out to you all. I am committed to doing my best to keep the standard of the *War Cry* at the highest level. I am indebted to my predecessor, Captain Gail White, who has since relocated to Australia. I have learned much under her guidance. A big thank you to Captain Gail White and best wishes in your new appointment.

February is popularly known as a special month for loved ones, where people share gifts in the name of LOVE. This is also a time when we can consider the most important gift that is needed in the world and that is love for God and love for others. Over the past few years in my ministry, I have learned that I cannot love Jesus without loving His people. Nor can I love people without loving Jesus, because that would mean I am not complete in my relationship with Christ.

It is possible to love other people, even if you are not a child of God, but, that kind of love often expects something in return. It is the kind of love that comes with expectations, and often conditions. As Christians, we can rest assured in the sacrificial love that Jesus showed on the cross. Jesus loves us all equally; He loves us unconditionally so we also need to follow his example and love others unconditionally and without expectations.

The *Commissioning and Ordination of the Ambassadors of Holiness* was a confirmation of how much the love of God is needed in the world. The new Lieutenants and Cadets have given their lives to God to extend love to all, including the unlovable. To do this they will model Christ-like lives to all those they encounter as they reach out in ministry.

Let us make this Valentine's day very special for all those who need love; let us share with them the love that Christ gave us by reaching out and portraying God's love to each person that we encounter at this special time.

I wish you all a happy Valentine's month.



Noluntu Semeno
Editor





*TC Talk with
Commissioner André Cox...*

A regular column from the desk of the Territorial Commander



The Bible tells us that God is love and that we are created in His image. It stands to reason, therefore, that love is a vital part of what being human is all about. Love is in our DNA!

Unfortunately, we often have only a distorted image of what love is all about. We tend to simplistically follow and believe the stereotypes forced upon us by the entertainment industry.

Love is important to us, let there be no doubt. You only have to “Google” the word love and you obtain in a few milliseconds something like two billion responses or links to websites, which deal with just about every aspect of what we call love. Though much is said about love, there is probably no other word that has been so misused and abused in human history. Many, if not most people, have a false notion of the true meaning of love.

So what is it all about? I recently read this on a website:

“To love someone unconditionally means that you love the person exactly as they are, exactly as they were before, and exactly as they will be in the future because people change all the time, so if you love the person, you will love them even if they become something you disagree with.”

In this age of freedom, without borders or restraints, love often equates to sex, yet, that is not what it is all about. Truly loving someone means that we care for them “warts and all.” Love is not blind and doesn’t brush things under the carpet by ignoring a person's faults, failures and shortcomings. Love is about seeing a person as they truly

are and, yet, retaining the ability to deeply care for them. Love is all about trusting another, knowing that the person will stick with you in the good days as well as the bad! It is an incredible and demanding commitment which we enter into with another person and, it is a two-way commitment with incredible rewards. Love is not about wanting, desiring and receiving in a relationship but it is just as much about giving. It is about how we care and treat someone other than ourselves.

If you want to sift through the two billion or so hits on the internet related to the subject of love, I wish you the best of luck! You will soon discover, if you didn't know it already, that there are very many renowned authors who have made an absolute fortune from writing about the true meaning of love, but none, in my view, have yet bettered the well-known Biblical definition. I still think that Paul gave us the best definition when he wrote:

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.” (1 Corinthians 13:4-8 *NIV*).

It is wonderful and comforting to know that the God who made us, loves us unconditionally; so much so that He sent Jesus into the world that we might know the meaning of true love and reconciliation, so that we in turn, are enabled to reach out to others with the same unconditional love.

What a Blessed Marriage

Lt Colonels William and Thalitha Langa base their successful marriage on God, love, care and respect

Lt Colonel Thalitha Langa grew up in Mpumalanga, where her sister and brother-in-law, Majors S&A Mokoena, were officers. Lt Colonel William Langa grew up in Witbank. Thalitha was just a normal young person in the corps and William was a working young man. When Majors S&A Mokoena were moved to Witbank Thalitha met William for the first time and their relationship began. Their relationship continued to grow stronger, resulting in their marriage in September 1973.

They said that their thoughts often go back to the day when they were married, and the decisions they made together. This also included responding, as a couple, to God's call to officership in 1975. Lt Colonels Langa have been married for more than thirty seven years and throughout their marriage God has been wonderful in their lives.

Over thirty-seven years their family life has not always been easy and there have been difficulties but they believe that the challenges they have faced have not been failures, as they have encountered God in every situation and he has always given them the strength to face each situation. They believe their marriage is strong because they support each other and base their marriage on their trust in God.

As they have grown older, their love for each other has also grown. One of the most important parts of their marriage is that they make an effort to understand each other and remember that 'love is patient' and 'love is kind'. They have discovered that the more they grow in love for one another, the stronger their marriage becomes. It is a marriage that is also built on caring, respect and being responsible.

They believe that in today's world, young couples will quarrel but, instead of working to fix their relationships, they quickly look to other options, such as divorce. The Langas believe that marriage is for life and so they share the difficult moments and treasure the good moments in their lives.

They said their marriage is a walk with God and that even though they may have financial challenges they have always believed that money cannot buy happiness. As a family, they are committed to always praying together because "a family that prays together - stays together". This means they have also learnt to share their spiritual experiences and listen to God by sitting at His feet (Luke 10:36-42).

They thank God for the wonderful gift of marriage that they have and that after all of these years they still enjoy the blessing of God on their marriage.

*A family that
prays together
- stays together*



The Qualities that Keep our Love and Marriage Healthy

Bongie and Hamilton Zulu

How we met

We knew each other twelve years ago as Salvationists. Bongie was at the College for Officer Training and Hamilton was a soldier in the Northern KwaZulu Natal Division. We did not have any kind of relationship until three years ago when we started to develop strong feelings for each other. It was when we began communicating via the phone that we realized we had a lot in common. We then realised that we loved each other and we started to talk about having a serious relationship.

Married life

We have now been happily married for one year. That does not mean we agree on everything as disagreements happen in every relationship. However, the goal is not to win a disagreement but to resolve the problem with respect and love. With God as a head of our relationship we have come thus far.

The qualities that keep our love and our marriage healthy

Spending time together. There are a lot of things that seem to need our urgent attention, such as work, internet and friends but whenever I give time to my spouse it is a sacrifice.

Jesus has modeled the sacrificial kind of love. When we look at the life of Jesus, we can see that God sent him to earth to show love to us all, in spite of our faults and weaknesses.

Communication also means good understanding of each other and listening to each other. We believe that good communication can solve and prevent many issues, which keep us happy most of the time. We are able to tell each other, "Hey I do not like your behaviour or what you are doing." This does not mean I do not love my spouse but it means we can be open and honest with each other.

We have trusted God in order to sustain our relationship. Openness helps us to trust each other and the trust we have strengthens our love every day.



What God has brought together no man can separate

Captains Velani and Philile Buthelezi

Corps officers of Mqantshe Corps

Our relationship background

We both come from the Northern KwaZulu Natal Division. I am originally from Ombimbini Corps and my wife, Philile, comes from Khambi Corps. We knew each other as junior soldiers in the division but really only noticed each other in 1997, during a Young People's Council. Our relationship began in 1998 in the vein of friendship, and from that friendship, love and a deep relationship developed. Divisional events, like Young People's meetings and Easter celebrations, were the only place for us to meet. This made communication a challenge, especially as we did not have cell phones then.

Our relationship and officership

After I completed my matric in 1999, I moved to Johannesburg. We did not see each other for almost three years. In 2002 we met at a candidates' assessment conference. We had never talked about going into officership but it was at this conference that we realized that God had a plan for us together. We were both accepted into the College for Officer Training in 2004, although, due to personal problems, I did not enter the college that year but Philile did. Due to some financial problems we were not able to marry straight after college. This

made the planning of our wedding very difficult and the two year separation was agonising, as at that time, I was in Port Elizabeth and Philile was in Johannesburg. Yet, it is true, "If God is for us nothing can be against us" and true love persevered.

After ten years of being in a relationship it was like a dream when we finally signed our marriage vows on the 19 December 2009. We knew that what we had signed was not just a contract but a concrete covenant.

Our first year in marriage

This has been a wonderful experience, although not always easy, as we had been living separately and on our own for many years. In the past year we have had the opportunity to know and learn new things about each other. The transition into marriage has been helped by taking marriage counselling tips seriously and by being understanding and accepting of each other. Most importantly, from the beginning we permitted God to be an integral part of our marriage. It is our prayer that our marriage will remain firm and unbreakable.

What marriage has brought to our lives?

- Improved our ministry
- Keeps us focused
- Has given us a family and responsibilities
- Personal growth
- Life achievements

Yes, two is better than one!



As part of our Senior Soldier (membership) enrolment, the prospective soldier signs the Articles of War, accepting the eleven doctrines of The Salvation Army. They make a public declaration that includes the following; ***They will abstain from the use of all enslaving substances and harmful activities.***

Drugs, alcohol and other physical addictions are easier to see because the physical effects of these addictions can usually be seen in the health and life of the person concerned. However, pornography can be as equally addictive and debilitating, yet, the outward signs of this addiction may not be as obvious.

Pornography, in all its forms, is far more prevalent in society than we might first perceive. With the advent of electronic media, such as the internet and cell phones, almost anyone can access pornography without any form of control or filter. Pornography is an addiction of both the mind and soul.

Pornography destroys our perceptions of what is normal in the world today and presents people artificially, in ways that are totally contrary to reality. It degrades those who participate in it and degrades those addicted to it. Whilst the words of the senior soldier's public declaration may be in an older version of English than we might use today, the sentiment is clear; pornography, like other addictive substances, enslaves our heart, our mind and our soul and has the potential to destroy all that is good and wholesome in a person.

How to break the Addiction

- Be honest - admit that you are addicted and that you are unable to deal with this problem on your own.
- Find a mentor - find someone with whom you can be open and honest and to whom you can be accountable.
- Pray - we often think of God last, yet, he is the one who is able to guide, nurture, strengthen and sustain us through the most difficult of situations.

*Captain Peter White
Former Territorial Projects & Emergency Services Secretary
Former Secretary to the Moral and Social Issues Council*



THE SALVATION ARMY SOUTHERN AFRICA TERRITORY POSITIONAL STATEMENT Pornography

The Salvation Army believes that male and female are created equal and in God's image with full personhood of body, soul and spirit, and that human sexuality is a divine gift.

Pornography is the distorted portrayal of this gift in a manner which exploits and dehumanises it. Particularly, pornography focuses on the indulgence of individual desires, becoming progressively addictive and detrimental to the way people perceive love and self worth.

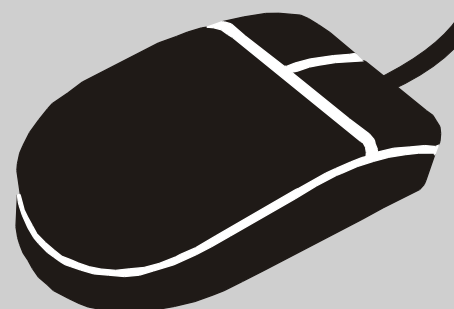
We deplore the prevalence and escalation of pornography with its images of domination, perversion, submission and violence in, among others, publications, theatre, cinema, internet, television, videos and cell phones.

The Salvation Army believes that pornography exploits and degrades both those who produce the material and those who use it. It is linked to other evils such as human trafficking, prostitution, slavery and crime, with devastating effect on individual lives as well as personal, societal and national values and morals.

A special area of concern is the exploitation of children. The Salvation Army supports the proper education of the young on matters related to sexual behaviour and relationships, and believes that such education should stress the sanctity of those relationships.

The Salvation Army believes that all people can be enabled by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and continual guidance by the Holy Spirit, to promote and pursue biblical values, such as love, dignity and respect.

*Approved by
the General
for
publication in
the Southern
Africa
Territory,
January 2010*



The Confidence of God's Love

During the 17th century, Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England, sentenced a soldier to be shot for his crimes. The execution was to take place at the ringing of the evening curfew bell. However, the bell did not sound. The soldier's fiancée had climbed into the belfry and clung to the great clapper of the bell to prevent it from striking. When she was summoned by Cromwell to account for her actions, she wept as she showed him her bruised and bleeding hands. Cromwell's heart was touched and he said, "Your lover shall live because of your sacrifice. Curfew shall not ring tonight!"

The Greek word *agape* is translated "love" in the New Testament. Agape love is different from other types of love, such as *philia*, the Greek word which is used to describe brotherly love or friendship and *Eros*, the Greek word which is used to describe sexual or romantic love between two people. It is important to note that agape love is not used in the Bible to characterise romantic or sexual love. The essence of agape love is self-sacrifice. While the woman may have shown some sort of sacrificial love for her fiancé by preventing the striking of the bell, God's sacrificial love is holy, unconditional and everlasting. For us to understand God's agape love more vividly, we must know something of His nature.

Who is God?

First, there are those who believe God to be a fierce God who sits on a throne and constantly judges humankind. We as humans are born into sin and thus, are exposed to His wrath. Yet, it was God who sent us Jesus Christ because of the love He has for us (John 3:16). His agape love saved us from judgement, through the blood of His Son Jesus Christ shed on the cross. Agape is love is of and from God, whose very nature is love itself. The Apostle John affirms this in 1 John 4:8: "God is love." God does not merely love but He is love itself and everything God does flows from His love. It is also important to remember that God's love is not a soppy, sentimental love such as we often hear portrayed. God loves because that is His nature and the expression of His being. He loves us, the unlovable and the unlovely, not because we deserve to be loved, but because it is His nature to do so and, He must be true to His nature and character. God's love is displayed most clearly at the Cross, where Christ died for the unworthy creatures who were "dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1), not because we did anything to deserve it, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

God's love in us and through us

1 John 4:16 says "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him." God, who loves us today, makes His presence known to us through the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit works among us in many ways.

God wants us to depend totally on Him; this is why He tells us not to worry about anything. Whatever He asks us to do He will always prepare the way and give us the power of the Holy Spirit. Paul sums it up in Philippians 4:13, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Paul is talking about the love of God which enables him to do anything. For us to experience similar blessings, like Paul, we must live our lives in accordance with His will, knowing that He is at work among us.

The challenge of God's love to us

God's agape love is not based on feelings, but a determined act of God to save humankind because of His love for us. The challenge is for us to love one another regardless of our race, creed, and religion. We need to love each other unconditionally by respecting and caring for one another.

In order for us to have confidence in God's love, we need to understand and believe His love for us. God doesn't just have love, He is love (1 John 4:16). It is His nature. You have to know in your heart that He loves you and refuse to accept anything else. Be confident that nothing can separate you from God's love (Romans 8:35-39).

*Major Kervin Harry
Senior Training Officer and Leadership Development
College for Officer Training*

It is God's nature to
love and protect us

Commissioning and Ordination of the 'Ambassadors of Holiness'

11-12 December 2010

Covenant Day

On Friday morning, cadets and invited guests gathered at the Johannesburg City Corps for the solemn occasion of Covenant Day. This is the day for the cadets of the 'Ambassadors of

Holiness' session to make and sign their promise to God to serve him. While the cadets made their promise, invited guests surrounded them in prayer and support.

Mission Team 2010 - Graduation and closure of Mission House

On Friday evening, South Rand Community Church (Corps) was the venue to celebrate the graduation of Mission Team 2010. It was also a time to celebrate the impact that the Mission House has had on young people over the past thirteen years, as it closed its doors for the last time. Many past mission team members attended, with a number of them forming the worship band for the evening. The Mission House opened in 1997 and, from that time, over one-hundred young people have passed through its doors. Through the Mission Team, a large number of those young people have been inspired to start their own businesses and ministries, have entered to the College for Officer Training or have continued to minister in their own corps and churches. Both past and present members spoke of the life changes they had experienced through God working in the lives of those to whom they were privileged to minister. All those that had attended the mission team wore T-shirts which had footprints on them to symbolise the footprints that they had left on people's hearts and lives.

Recognition was paid to those who have supported the Mission House since its opening. Captain Thwala said that although the Mission House was closing, it did not mean the end of youth

ministry but it was the start of a new chapter. He then introduced the four new Divisional Youth Secretaries who would continue youth ministry at the ground roots.

Although it was also a time of sadness, the evening was mainly one of joy and excitement as God was glorified through song, dance, drama and testimony.



Installation of Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

On Saturday morning, the Southern Africa Territory gathered at the UNISA Conference Centre to welcome and install Lt Colonels William and Thalitha Langa at Chief Secretary and Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries respectively.

Lt Colonels Langa entered the College for Officer Training from Witbank Corps in 1975 and were commissioned in 1977. They have served in corps and social appointments, and as divisional leaders. In 2005, they were appointed as Secretary for Personnel and Assistant Secretary for Personnel. During that period they also took interim leadership of the Mozambique Command for seven months. In February 2010 they were promoted to the rank of Lt Colonel and on the 1 November 2010 took up their current appointments.

Major Keith Conrad (Divisional Commander, Northern Division) spoke on behalf of the officers. He said that like

David, Lt Colonels Langa did not choose these appointments but they were chosen and appointed by God. He said they have been equipped

by God and bring gifts and skills that are unique to them. He also said that the officers will follow them and are anticipating strong, stable and courageous leadership. He said there will be many challenges but also many opportunities.

Mr Dumisani Luhlongwana represented the soldiers and local officers and said that Lt Colonels Langa have the skills, personality and capacity for the position. He believed that they are appointed and anointed by God and by accepting the appointment they also accept the responsibilities. He told them to continue to be hospitable, self-controlled, upright and holy and be confident that God is going ahead of them.

Major Lenah Jwili (Training Principal) spoke on behalf of women's ministries. She remembered in 1979 in the South Zulu Division, when Lt Colonel Thalitha Langa taught women to read and write so they could keep in touch with their husbands who were working in Johannesburg. Major Jwili said she showed much wisdom and encouraged her not to forget the people in the community, whilst in her office, as they still want to see her. Women from different cultures came on stage in traditional dress. Major Jwili then told Lt Colonel T Langa that God will give her wisdom to lead and the women will give her support. She also reminded all present that the territory has many cultures and we all need to be treated equally.

Lt Colonel Langa responded by saying that she has learnt to walk close to God and to trust Him. She also said that today she gives herself to God once again and also to the women that she leads. She promised to work in harmony with them to do God's work and to be Christ to all they meet and serve.

Lt Colonel Langa challenged the congregation in his message, by asking if they are ready to move forward. He said that to be ready to move, we, as a territory, and as individuals, need to go back to basics. We need to go back to prayer, obedience and renewal. If we are not ready then we need to renew our commitment to God. Following the message many people responded to the voice of God.



Festival of Praise

On Saturday evening, a Festival of Praise was held that included a drama presentation by the cadets of the 'Ambassadors of Holiness' session. The presentation was based on the life of Brengle but from a Southern Africa Territory cultural perspective.

Those present also enjoyed excellent musical items from the Central Division Songsters, the Territorial Women's Band, the Peart Memorial Corps Band and the Northern Kwa-Zulu Natal Timbrel Brigade. The South Rand Community Church (Corps) Worship Band provided musical support for congregational singing. The cadets from the 'Friends of Christ' session presented a drama naming Christ as the ultimate friend who can be all and give us all that we need.

During the evening, Commissioner André Cox launched the Territory's strategic plan. He asked if, as the 'mother territory' of Africa, we have fallen asleep and forgotten our calling. He said that there has been a decline, both spiritually and numerically, and it was time to question why. For the past eighteen months this has been what has been happening and it is time for the Territory to get moving. Over the next five years the territory will focus on leadership

development, youth and children, Salvation Army community life, community engagement and business.

Commissioner Silvia Cox concluded the evening with a promise that is found in Joshua 1:8-9. She said that as a territory embarking on the journey of the strategic plan, we need to be strong and courageous, and obedient to God in all we do. If we do this, then God will go with us and the Southern Africa Territory will move forward.



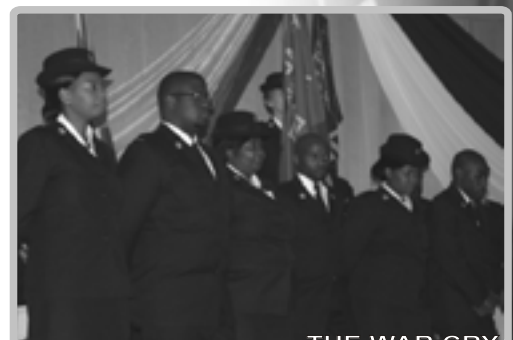
Commissioning and Ordination of the 'Ambassadors of Holiness'

On Sunday morning, the 'Ambassador of Holiness' were commissioned and ordained as Salvation Army officers. This was a sacred meeting where cadets from the session entered the hall from different directions to the tune of 'They shall come from the East', as their Divisional Commanders read their call to officership.

Commissioner André Cox told the congregation that you only become an officer because of a specific calling from God. He said that each cadet present had been called, and today was a day of thanksgiving to God for continuing to raise up Salvation Army officers.

Former training principal, Lt Colonel Jabulani Khoza, outlined the cadets training components before the current training principal, Major Lenah Jwili, presented each cadet to the Territorial Commander. Each cadet knelt in submission to God while the congregation was asked to pray for God's protection, leadership and inspiration as they set out on a life time of service. The cadets then made their declaration of faith in the different languages of the territory. Following their ordination and commissioning each cadet was given their commissions and the verse that they had each received on Covenant Day.

Commissioner Silvia Cox's message was based on John 21:15-17, where Jesus asks Peter three times if he loves Him. She said that God does not just expect words but He expects us to demonstrate our love for Him through our actions. We are all expected to go out into our communities as ambassadors of holiness. Following the message many came forward for pray. Others were challenged, and came forward, to fill the vacant seats left by the 'Ambassadors of Holiness'. The meeting concluded with the song, 'Lord I make a full Surrender.'



Appointment Meeting

This was a meeting of celebration as the new lieutenants marched into the hall to the applause of the congregation. This was followed by a rousing time of worship led by the South Rand Community Church (Corps) Worship Band.

The representative speaker for the 'Ambassadors of Holiness' session was Lt Xolisile Nxumalo. She spoke about being the first session with the word 'holiness' in its name. She said that over the past two years they have learnt humility, integrity and how to live together. She said there have been times of loneliness and spiritual dryness but God had used those times of weakness to make them strong. Lt Nxumalo thanked mentors, family, friends and staff of the training college for their prayers. She also said that we must, at times, remember the words of Psalm 46:10 and to take time out to

be still and spend time with God.

The 'Ambassadors of Holiness' sessional song was written by Jabulani Mkhize, who conducted the Peart Memorial Corps Band as it accompanied the cadets. The song also included a rap segment which resulted in tremendous applause during and after the song.

Before giving each new Lieutenant their new appointment, Commissioner André Cox charged the cadets to remember the promise that they have made to God. He said they are living in a world of sin and people may not want to listen to what they have to say but they will want to see them demonstrate holiness with their lives. He also said that success or failure in ministry depends on our relationship with God and it is vital that as each new officer goes out they need to be with God every step of the way.

During the service, the lieutenants also brought their parents forward to be presented with the Order of the Silver Star. The 'Friends of Christ' session were also given their out-training appointments which are for six months and with one cadet going for nine months. During that time they will minister to a corps and its community. The meeting concluded, as it began, with a celebration item by the Central Divisional Songsters and the Peart Memorial United Band.



them strong. Lt Nxumalo thanked mentors, family, friends and staff of the training college for their prayers. She also said that we must, at times, remember the words of Psalm 46:10 and to take time out to





Sing a new song - Play a new tune

Psalm 33 : 3 reads *“Sing to him a new song, play skilfully, and shout for joy.”* The need to remain fresh and up to date applies to our recognition of the good things God does for us. He wants us to acknowledge that His mercy and compassion are new every morning. (Lam. 3 : 22-23)

Psalm 98 comes up with this grand lift to the soul *“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises to the Lord with lyre, with lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!”*

We are already into the second month of 2011 and it is never too late for us to realise the importance of having a new song, a new expression of what the Lord has done for us in the past, as well as what He is doing for us in the present. The realism of the book of Psalms being the songbook of the Hebrew nation, coupled with its magnificent poetry, accounts for its wide and consistent use through the centuries. No source has provided more texts for musical creations in our Western world. Bach, Handel, Beethoven and a host of others used this amazing resource book. Psalm 98 generated *“Joy to the World”* from Isaac Watt’s pen.

In preparing this month’s contribution I read Psalm 33 again and have been reminded of how deeply the Lord gets involved in every dimension of our personal life. When last did you sing song 98 (SASB).....

*Tell me the old, old story,
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory,
Of Jesus and his love.
Tell me the story simply,
As to a little child...
Tell me the old, old story:
Christ Jesus makes thee whole.*

Look around you at His handiwork. See how His power and wisdom are revealed in nature and in man. Then sing a new song of praise to the God behind it all.

Martin Luther, when he heard discouraging news, used to call family and friends to sing Psalm 46. He also believed that music came straight from the heart of God who revealed it in the Bible. “After theology I accord to music the highest place and greatest honour,” Luther concluded.

Don’t treat the good news of His power as if it stopped a long time ago. The words of a Sunday School chorus are so real ...

*The old, old story it is ever new
The old, old story praise the Lord its true
That Jesus died for me as well as you.....*

May each day of this year give you new reasons to sing and play an instrument to the honour and glory of God who sent His Son to die for you and I BECAUSE He loves us.

Make a joyfully beautiful noise singing and playing your musical instrument.

God bless
Helen

Territorial News

Young Men's Fellowship Camp

On 29-31 October 2010, the Northern KwaZulu Natal Division held its first Young Men's Fellowship Camp. Seventy-five men and four officers attended the weekend, which was led by Lt Gundo Mulangaphuma and Captain B Fatyi, with support from Majors Albert and Peggy Shekwa (Divisional Leaders). The guest for the weekend was Major B Zondo (Territorial Men's Fellowship Secretary).

Following the welcome and introductions on Friday evening the young men watched the movie 'Razor', which was followed by a meeting led by Lt G Mulangaphuma. On the Saturday, studies and discussions took place on drugs and sex, identity and the role of the young man in the church. Major B Zondo preached on the Sunday morning and gave encouragement to the young men present. The weekend was a blessed and exciting time with much enthusiasm being shown for another camp for next year.



Johannesburg City Corps

Johannesburg City Corps recently celebrated the enrolment of Guinenere Eyles, Colleen Dlamini and Loveness Makado as senior soldiers. During the same service commissions were given to Bradley Biya as Corps Sergeant Major, Terri Venter as Corps Youth Secretary and Helen Tuck as Songster Leader.



Soweto Central Corps

26 Senior soldiers and 14 junior soldiers were recently enrolled at Soweto Central Corps by Lt Colonels W & T Langa.



Launch of the Territorial Strategic Plan

On 11 December 2010, the Territorial Commander officially launched the Territorial Strategic Plan. In his introduction, he said that the Southern Africa Territory is the 'mother territory' to Africa, as The Salvation Army came to South Africa first. He mentioned that the 'mother territory' has not been a well territory since the early 1990's and, that for a number of years now, there have been discussions about the situation of the territory that highlight the concerns and frustrations.

He said that for the past eighteen months, the territory has been working towards finding ways of addressing the concerns and of developing a strategic plan that will help us to focus on the most burning issues. The issues raised in the Strategic Plan, stem from discussions and meetings going back as far as 1998.

Commissioner Cox said that the Strategic Plan is not his idea; it is not a THQ initiative nor even our collective idea. It addresses the concerns raised by many people over a long period of time. He then outlined main areas of concentration and the plan itself.

Main areas of concentration

For the Strategic Plan to be manageable, it was decided to group the concerns under five major categories, highlighting the areas which will be focused on over the next five years.

The Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan is a very comprehensive document that will comprise five modules. These are:

1. Strategic Plan outline and detail.
2. Detailed Operation Plan outlining what we intend to do to address the concerns.
3. The Detailed Implementation Plan outlining what activities will take place at a given time.
4. The Measurement Plan which will enable us to track and monitor the progress.
5. The Business Plan which is the budget to ensure that the available financial resources are contributing towards the accomplishment of the priorities of the Strategic Plan.

The development of the strategic plan has not been just another "talk shop" but action has already taken place in order to lay the foundations, so that the implementation of the plan can commence in January 2011.

Conclusion

In our Corps and our Divisions we need to be looking at the plan and understanding the contribution that we need to make to enable us to achieve the goals and the vision for The Salvation Army Southern Africa Territory.

Urban Camping in the streets of Rosettenville



Each year, the leadership team of The Salvation Army South Rand Corps (Community Church) attends the Willowcreek Global Leadership Summit (GLS). In

2009, the GLS created a discussion that challenged us to move further out of our comfort zone than ever before. This was due to the story of Harvey Carey, who is pastor of the Citadel of Faith Covenant Church in Detroit, Michigan. The church is in a similar community to that of the South Rand Corps (Community Church); with high incidents of prostitution, drug abuse, violence and hopelessness. Led by God, Pastor Carey challenged his congregation to move out into the streets. He, with approximately twenty men, chose a spot on a pavement in front of a crack house, where they built a camp fire, roasted marshmallows, prayed and sang praises to God. They stayed from 10pm until dawn. Pastor Carey called it 'Urban Camping' and to date that church has succeeded in shutting down eight crack houses.

The mission statement of South Rand Corps (Community Church) says that we will make a difference in our community by being the salt and the light. We have taken Carey's story to heart. Rosettenville is part of a precinct that has the unenviable distinction of having the second-highest crime rate in Gauteng. Could we undertake a similar action there? Would our people support it? Would we be safe? How might God use that act of service? The World Cup provided us with the perfect opportunity to act on what had now become a firm conviction of our leadership team. One Sunday morning, we presented our people with the various opportunities for ministry for the World Cup period, of which Urban Camping was one. We changed the model by opening Urban Camping up to women, and welcomed any committed Christian over the age of eighteen to join us.

On the first night, more than fifty people gathered at the hall, proving that when you ask big things of your people, they will more often than not rise to the occasion. We had soup and hot chocolate, marshmallows and camping chairs, gospel tracts and warm clothes. Someone brought a guitar. We headed

for Lawn Street and set up "camp" opposite a well-known brothel. We were convinced that we were responding to God's call, although more than a little nervous. The presence of armed security guards did little to quell my own apprehension.

During the night, which we spent singing and praying, we had the opportunity to speak to various people, including prostitutes. Their pimps lit a campfire across the street from us and observed us for the whole night. We explained to anybody that asked, that we were from a local church, and that we felt led to try and shine a light in a dark place. Some people made fun of us and said we were wasting our time with our "holy toyi-toyi." They said that things would never change.

Over the next five weeks we returned to the same spot each Friday night. Before long the "ladies of the night" started to tell us their stories. The common themes were of heartbreak and abuse. One young woman told us that she was tired of this lifestyle, and asked us if we could help her to change her life. We immediately drove her to Beth Shan; a shelter run by The Salvation Army for abused women. In the next week two more women approached us. Word started to spread that The Salvation Army was offering a way out of the life of exploitation and abuse.

- We never pressured the women as it had to be their choice.
- We had some heartbreaking situations where women would make the choice but change their minds on the way to the shelter.
- We always complied with their wishes and returned them to the streets.

At first the pimps were wary and kept their distance. Soon a few responded to our attempts to engage them in conversation, and on one Sunday a pimp attended our morning meeting! However, by the time five girls had come off the streets, business was being affected and the pimps became more hostile.



One night the area leader of the pimps came and threatened our lives for messing with his business. He was promptly arrested and, almost as promptly, was released thirty minutes later, although in a more sullen mood. Our officer asked the group if we should finish for the night, but the young adults refused to be intimidated and the group stayed.

After five weeks of Urban Camping, a total of ten young women had left the streets of Rosettenville. One left and came back to the streets permanently. Others returned to the streets and again voluntarily returned to the shelter. While it is hard for us to understand, the lure of the streets draw these girls back. They need a lot of strength and support to stick with the choice they made to change. The brothel is still open and “business” in the area is still robust but, we continue on a monthly basis to camp at the same spot; to sing, pray and shine our light.

- We are thankful for the supportive presence we have received from members of our corps.
- We are encouraged that other local churches are starting to join us. Maybe, one day, on any given night, there will be pockets of Christians from different churches camping out, singing and praying on multiple street corners as we push back the darkness together.
- We have already seen God do more than we could ask in the lives of both the ladies and in our own faith-journeys.
- We attempted something big and we weren't disappointed.

Our communities suffer from radical problems that require a radical response from the Church. I hope our story will encourage you to examine your own community and ask God for a really big and bold vision and may you have the courage to walk a path not yet trodden.

Stacey Dlamini

Gazette

BIRTH

Congratulation's to Captains Phelelani & Nokuthula Khathi on the birth of their son, S'bonelelwe Hareaipha.

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Major Kervin Harry (Senior Training Officer/Leadership Development) is appointed as Masic Secretary in addition to his present appointment, *effective 06 January 2011.*

Mr Handre Du Toit who has been giving invaluable assistance in the area of finance (Matsoho projects), is appointed the Administrator of Salvation Army Albert Baumann Frail Care Centre in the Mid KwaZulu-Natal Division in addition to his present position as Assistant to Social Programme Secretary.

PROMOTED TO GLORY

Major Agnes Mabena ® was promoted to glory on 8 December 2010.

LIEUTENANTS APPOINTMENTS

Lieutenant Jack Bengani is appointed Corps Officer of Nongoma Corps in the Northern KwaZulu-Natal Division.

Lieutenant Malusi Dlamini is appointed Corps Officer of Pondomesi Ridge Corps in the Eastern Cape Division.

Lieutenant Gabisile Dlamini is appointed Corps officer of Pondomesi Ridge Corps in the Eastern Cape Division.

Lieutenant Siyabonga Mcineka is appointed Corps Officer of Phuthaditjaba Corps in the Central Division.

Lieutenant Xolisile Nxumalo is appointed Corps Officer of Vleifontein Corps in the Northern Division.

Lieutenant Silindokuhle Mbuyisa is appointed Corps Officer of Crossroads Corps in the Western Cape Division.

CADETS OUT TRAINING APPOINTMENTS

Cadet Khanyisile Dlamini is appointed Cadet on the field to Mayfair Corps in the Central Division.

Cadet Zweli Fakudze is appointed Cadet on the field to Evutha Corps in the Eastern KwaZulu-Natal Division.

Cadet Sindisiwe Kunene is appointed Cadet on the field to KwaGcaba Corps in the Mid KwaZulu-Natal Division.

Cadet Busisiwe Mdhuli is appointed Cadet on the field to Mamelodi Corps in the Central Division.

Cadet Zimkita Mlotshwa is appointed Cadet on the field to Mayfair Corps in the Central Division.

Cadet Nomthandazo Mntambo is appointed Cadet on the field to Pienaar Corps in the Mpumalanga & Swaziland Division.

Cadet Thabo Thwala is appointed Cadet on the field to Mabopane/Soshanguve Corps in the Central Division.

Cadet Khwezilokusa Zulu is appointed Cadet on the field to Randfontein Corps in the Central Division.

APPOINTMENTS

Captain Brian Abbott (Mayfair Corps) is appointed as corps officer of Bloemfontein corps in the Central Division effective 06 January 2011.

FAREWELL

Lieutenant Colonels Timothy and Flemah Mabaso left South Africa on Saturday 18 December 2010, to Kenya West Territory, to take up their new appointments as Secretary for Business Administrator and Assistant to the Secretary for Business Administrator.

PROMOTION TO RANK OF MAJOR (15 years service)

Captain Tersia Finn
17 December 2010

Captain Mimmie Payne
17 December 2010

CONCLUSION

Captain Arthur Golding's officership has been concluded with immediate effect. Please uphold our fellow comrade in prayer.

C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E
A	B	A	L	L	O	O	N	S
N	K	G	I	V	E	S	P	S
D	I	N	N	E	R	A	H	E
L	S	I	P	Y	E	C	E	N
E	S	R	R	R	E	R	A	I
S	E	S	O	R	C	I	R	T
E	S	R	P	A	N	F	T	N
S	D	N	O	M	A	I	D	E
T	R	O	S	T	M	C	F	L
Y	P	P	A	H	O	E	E	A
S	M	I	L	E	R	C	T	V

- Balloons
- Candles
- Chocolate
- Diamonds
- Dinner
- Gifts
- Happy
- Heart
- Kisses
- Marry
- Proposal
- Ring
- Romance
- Roses
- Sacrifice
- Smile
- Trust
- Valentines

The remaining letters forms a word
Clue: God's love is this!

“ For God So Lo__ed the world,
That He g__ve
His On__y
Begott__n

FILL IN THE MISSING LETTER
TO FORM A WORD GOING DOWNWARDS



So__
__hat whosoever
Believeth __n Him
Should __ot perish
But have __verlasting life.”



JOKES



Q: What is a ram's favourite song on February 14th?
A: I only have eyes for ewe!

Q: What do squirrels give for Valentine's Day?
A: Forget-me-nuts!

Q: What did the stamp say to the envelope?
A: I'm stuck on you!

Q: What did the light bulb say to the switch?
A: You turn me on.

