

THE BRIDGE BUILDER

November-December 2013
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Major Harold Poff, Allen County Coordinator, Corps Officer/Major Lynneta Poff, Corps Officer

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From the Major's Desk

"And she will bring forth a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Matthew 1:21

Yes, it's that time of year.

The hustle and bustle of the season that we call Christmas is upon us. The stores are already setting up their displays, in hopes of making lots of money. People are already beginning to shop a lot, hoping to find the magic gift that will bring all joy and happiness.

But, in all the hustle and bustle of the season, we often lose sight of the greatest gift of all: Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate.

More and more every year, it seems that Jesus is getting pushed farther and farther out of the celebration of His own birth. We cannot display publicly any images that represent Jesus. We cannot publicly mention His name. We cannot even acknowledge publicly the name of God.

Is it any wonder that the season has become one of great greed and excess, when we've taken the reason out of the season?

God has given us a tremendous gift. He sent His only Son to save us from our sin. How sad it is that we won't even allow His birth to be celebrated. May we not also lose the privilege of His grace and His salvation, offered through this gift of God: the gift of Himself, Immanuel, God with us.

Have a blessed and wonderful Christmas season! May you sense His love and joy and peace during this very busy and blessed season, and may you know the warmth of His loving embrace!!

God bless you, and Merry Christmas!!

Major Harold Poff



Fort Wayne Corps' Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 24
(after the worship service)

Join us for a time to give thanks. The corps and corps council will be providing turkeys, dressing, mashed potatoes and green beans.

Please list the food you will be bringing to share and how many family members plan to attend.

The sign-up sheet is in back of the sanctuary.

Gifts Showcase

Don't forget! Our first Gifts Showcase will be November 24th, immediately following our Thanksgiving lunch. Whether you are sharing a gift or cheering on those who share with us, this will be a great time for everyone. Hope to see you all there!



Salvation Army Nursing Home Blitz

The Fort Wayne Salvation Army Corps will be holding their annual 'Nursing Home Blitz' on Sunday, December 8th. This is a wonderful time for you and your family to share a gift, a War Cry Magazine and your smiling face with nursing home residents.

Please contact Major Lynneta Poff to sign up for a nursing home to visit.

The Salvation Army will once again participate in annual Santa Lighting

Come downtown on Wednesday, November 27 for a cup of coffee or hot chocolate served from The Salvation Army canteen. Our volunteers will be ringing their bells and free pictures with Santa will be taken. Don't miss this annual event (and pray for good weather).





“The Christmas Visit”

Elizabeth is busier than anyone else at work, and church, and in her family. There is always something to be done and Elizabeth is the “go to” person to be sure it is done right. So, how will Elizabeth prepare for a visit by the most important person in her life?

Especially during the holiday season when she has so much to do already? Extra cooking and cleaning

and maybe even new guest towels for the bathroom? Will it be enough?

This year our Christmas program, to be presented December 22nd during our morning Worship service, is a re-telling of the beautiful story “The Visit”, created especially for our Corps. If you would like to be part of the program, please look for the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary. As we learned last year, “all God’s creatures got a place in the choir”.



Women’s Ministry in November

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
Unless otherwise noted

- November 6:** “What’s in the Bag?”
(Purse Auction)
- November 13:** Pilgrims-by faith
Major Margaret Quinn
- November 20:** Wrap silverware for
Thanksgiving Dinner
- November 24:** Corps Thanksgiving
Dinner– set up and clean up
- November 27:** No meeting tonight

The Competition is On!



Three years of losing the Corps Bell Ringing Competition to the youth has made the adults ready for battle in order to win this year’s event.

From what I’ve heard, some adults have been planning for this competition for quite a long time.

Adults and youth will ring at the Scotts on West State from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm. Sign up on the sheets in back of the sanctuary or call Roxanne to register at 744-2311, ext. 217.

This is a fun fellowship opportunity and we really hope you can participate. By bell ringing, you will be supporting the Fort Wayne Corps’ programs.

The adults will ring:

Saturday, November 23

The youth will ring:

Saturday, November 30

Bid on November’s World Service Basket



‘Christmas Comfort Collection’

For your chilly Holiday Evenings

November’s auction basket is called ‘Christmas Comfort Collection’. The items in the basket will provide you and your special someone with old and new classics and a treasure full of comfort foods to enjoy together.

Proceeds from this basket auction go to support Salvation Army Missionaries.

This basket’s value is \$80.00

Minimum bid is \$40.00

It includes:

- Animated Musical Christmas Snoopy
- 2 DVDs (Silver Bells & Home for Christmas)
- 1 CD (Winter Wonderland)
- 2 Christmas Mugs
- 8 Hot Chocolate Mixes (Caramel, Mint, Artic White, French Vanilla)
- 16 Microwave Popcorn (Extra Butter, Caramel Glazed, Kettle Corn & Parmesan & Herb)
- 12 Candy Canes
- 1 bag Dipped Pretzel Bites
- 1 box Queen Ann Chocolate Covered Cherries
- Sausage and Cheese Gift Pack

The last date to bid for this great crowd pleaser is, Sunday, November 24, 2013.



The corps had a smash last Sunday

Major Flora O'Dell came up with a new idea. She began by asking that the following announcement be included in the Sunday Bulletin on September 22nd.

“Smash The Pumpkin Party”

November 3, 2013

Immediately following the
Holiness Meeting

Hosted By: Major Flora O'Dell (retired)

Will only last about 45 minutes

Come See What This Is All About!

She was very secretive and would not give us any more details or explain what was going to take place. (I must admit, I was quite curious as to what she was planning!)

Then, on Sunday, September 29th, Major Flora presented each person present for church with an unfinished pottery pumpkin bank. She challenged each individual to decorate their pumpkin, and then fill it with change for the next month. All the money collected in our pumpkins would go toward our World Services Goal. (World Services is each corps' contribution to support Salvation Army missionaries around the world.)



The kids show off their pumpkins before smashing them.

There was chatter all month from individuals as they tried to get others to talk about the design of their pumpkin, and how much money they were collecting. Some were very secretive, while others openly shared their “pumpkin art”.



Paula Poff and Richard Grzych (pictured at far right) judged the adults' pumpkins.

On October 27th, Major Flora reminded everyone to bring their pumpkin to church the next Sunday. She also gave out “sealed” assignments to some individuals with instructions on their duties the next week during the Pumpkin Smashing Party. Again, some individuals were very secretive about their “sealed” assignments, while others were quick to share what their duties would be at “Pumpkin Smashin”.

Finally, Major Flora announced that on November 3rd, following the Holiness Meeting, we would all gather downstairs for the Pumpkin Smashing Party. She told us there would be pumpkin pie to eat, a piñata for the kids to break, our pumpkins would be judged by age groups, we would smash our pumpkins, and count how much we had collected for World Services.



John Woods III smashes his pumpkin.

On November 3rd, we had a grand time eating pumpkin pie, breaking open the piñata, smashing our pumpkins, and we raised \$275.82 for world services!



John Woods, Sr. prepares the piñata which ‘attacked’ by the kids.

Thank you to all who participated!
Major Lynnetta Poff

Salvation Army Needs Realtors to Rally for Realtor Ring Day

Realtors can make a difference in our community by bell ringing on the 4th annual REALTOR® Ring Day on Friday, Dec. 6. REALTOR® Ring Day is a collaborative effort between participating Salvation Army locations across the country and local real estate professionals to help fund Salvation Army programs and services. By bell ringing, realtors will raise donations to prevent families and individuals from being evicted from their homes and to provide them with food.

Realtor Ring Day first began in the Salvation Army's Northern Division by a Prudential realtor who once found herself and her daughter homeless. The only place she found to assist her was The Salvation Army and this is her way of giving back to others.

“Participation in Realtor Ring Day is really very simple,” stated Major Harold Poff, “A realty office chooses a location to ring the kettle bells and cover the site from 10:00 am-6:00 pm. Then realtors within office ring for approximately one (1) hour each. Realty offices are encouraged to include their friends or family to fill their scheduled slots. Realtors will receive recognition for their participation and are encouraged to promote their company wherever they ring.”

THE SALVATION ARMY

2901 N. CLINTON ST.

FORT WAYNE, IN 46805

Major Harold Poff, Allen County Coordinator, Corps Officer
Major Lynnetta Poff, Corps Officer

NONPROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

FORT WAYNE, IN

PERMIT NO. 636

REGULAR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

“Return Service Requested”

SUNDAY

9:30 am United Sunday School Opening
9:45 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Open gym and game night (first Sunday of the month)

WEDNESDAY

4:30 pm Band
5:00 pm Theory and Singing Company
6:00 pm Bible Study
6:30 pm Praise Team
7:00 pm Women’s Ministry

THURSDAY

4:30-6:00 pm Character Building activities (Sept. through May)
6:00-7:00 pm Junior Soldiers and Corps Cadets (September through May)

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 the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE HOURS

Food Pantry-Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 pm
CURF- Tuesday morning walk-ins (call for more information)
Other assistance provided by appointment (744-2311)

YOUTH PROGRAMS

After-school programs-please check the calendar for other events.



A thank you goes to several area restaurants

Any time The Salvation Army asks volunteers to help us, we want them to feel special and know how much we appreciate what they do. The lunch donations we received for Christmas intake volunteers did just that. We encourage you to eat at one of these restaurants and tell them thanks.

Chick fil A

Halls

Lee’s Famous Recipe

Nine Mile

Nolt’s Marketplace

Qdoba

Rack-n-Helens

Shigs in Pit

2013 World Bell Ringing Contest

The Salvation Army needs a few crazy, dedicated people to compete in the World Bell Ringing Contest to begin on Tuesday, December 3, 2013.

Fort Wayne’s first contestant, Steve Batzka, rang 36 hours in 2012. This is the first hurdle you must pass to take the Fort Wayne bell ringing title. The current World Bell Ringing winner rang 80 hours last year. We know, he must be a little crazy, but definitely committed to raising awareness of what The Salvation Army does and raising money for all those in need in his area.

Do you have the stamina and will to compete or do you know anyone who does? Then please call Roxanne at 744-2311 or email: Roxanne_Albrecht@usc.salvationarmy.org to find out more about this fun opportunity.



“Silver Bells” can be purchased at Wal-Mart for \$10.00

Part of the proceeds will go to The Salvation Army

Veteran sports anchor, Bruce Dalton, lives life “for the win.” But, to his family, friends and those around him, that’s not always a positive thing.

After getting into a brawl with a referee at his son’s basketball game, Dalton is sentenced to community service as a Salvation Army bell ringer during the Christmas season. Approaching even raising donations and filling food baskets as a game to be won, things quickly go south. Will Dalton learn that life isn’t a win or lose game, but a sport best played as a team? Dalton’s job and relationship with his family hang on that very question...