

# THE BRIDGE BUILDER

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

## From the Major's Desk



September is a month of transitions. We begin to see the signs of the approaching autumn, while at the same time we can see temperatures approaching those of high summer.

We see newness in schools, particularly in teachers and other staff, and the return of the tried and true.

It is a time of both new and old things.

It's true here at The Salvation Army. At the end of August we said good bye to Captain Sonja Jenkins, as she ended her career as a Salvation Army Officer and prepares for a new phase in her life. We also welcome Sonja Jenkins as the newest Soldier of the Fort Wayne Corps and look forward to her continued service to God and the Army in her new role.

Personally, I always look forward to the return to our regular schedule of activities that begin in September. It's good to have the kids back in our building, enjoying the chance to study, play, and just hang out with their friends. It reminds me that even as we watch the leaves turn colors and prepare to die, there is still newness of life in Jesus Christ.

It also reminds me that winter is just around the corner and soon, we will be listening to the ringing of bells, and other reminders of the season in which we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

So, I enjoy September, and I hope you do, too. Enjoy the changes of the season and all the activities that go with it. But, don't forget to celebrate your life in Christ.

God bless you!!  
Major Harold Poff

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There are several young people who have been promoted to the Teen Sunday School class from the Elementary Department. They are Jamie and Justice Gruber and Ethan and Ayla McLinn.

Milas and Augustus (Gus) Woods will be promoted to the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes respectively, in the Elementary Department.

God bless each of these young people as they continue learning about the Lord.

Ronda Woods,  
Young Person's Sergeant Major



## LEAVE A LEGACY®

The Fort Wayne Salvation Army Corps Community Center will be a host site for the "Leave a Legacy – Write A Will" event on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a public awareness program sponsored by the National Committee on Planned Giving to benefit all types of charitable causes and organizations.

At this event, you will meet with an attorney to discuss the preparation and content of your Will. You will need to be prepared to inform the attorney of the charitable gift you wish to include in your Will and by doing so; the preparation of your Will is free.

While your legacy or Will consists of the assets you leave behind, it is so much more. Your legacy plan will be a permanent reflection of your personal values and your love and concern for your family, your friends and the local Fort Wayne community.

To schedule your appointment at The Salvation Army location and receive the required paperwork to complete, please call: 260-744-2311 and ask for Deb Zimmerman. To learn more about Leave a Legacy – Planned Giving Council of Northeast Indiana go to their website at [www.pgcni.org](http://www.pgcni.org)

*Thank you for your donations*



Once again Allen County residents proved how generous they are. Thanks to last minute donations of new school supplies and monetary donations, The Salvation Army's Tools for School Program provided supplies for 1,127 youth, just in time for the beginning of school.

Each year, families struggling on a strict budget say how difficult it is to buy school supplies for their children. This is especially true for families with more than one child. The Salvation Army provides new school supplies to the children of these needy families. Now their children can start school equipped with the tools they need to succeed in the classroom. This year we distributed over 25,000 supplies. Thanks again to all who helped ensure another successful Tools for School campaign!

The Tools for School Program would not run as smoothly as it does without the support of our volunteers and staff. This year, 136 individuals volunteered 814 hours to help families in need this August. There are several steps to the distribution process.

- School supplies received are separated and counted individually. Salvation Army volunteers go shopping with monetary donations to make sure enough supplies are on hand.
- Volunteers make up backpacks in advance and on the days of distribution for elementary, middle and high school students based upon school requirements. This process is ongoing until all school supplies have been distributed.
- On the days of distribution, Salvation Army volunteers talk to each family to ensure they are eligible to receive supplies. Families then go to the gymnasium to pick up their back packs.



The Salvation Army's Receptionist, Nina Brown (left) and volunteer, Cindy Smith, answered 2,064 phone calls in August. Many were inquiries about Tools for School.



Development/Volunteer Service Director, Jama Smith, and volunteer, Shenora Lechleinder, coordinated family interviews.



Arianna (left) and Reagan Vowles (right) helped fill book bags with one of our RSVP volunteers (back left) and Thelma Cox (back right).



Aurora Kulp (left), the 2013 Jr. Miss Queen of Charities, and her mother, Elizabeth Kulp, also helped by filling the book bags full of supplies.



Lauren Wagoner, the 2013 Miss Queen of Charities, interviewed families.



Volunteers, Deb Gibson (left) and Ginnie Thomas (right), took a moment to rest after all of the supplies were distributed.

***Actions are louder than words***

*(This story has been shared on Facebook and some claim it is a hoax. Please read on and ask yourself how your church would measure up.)*

Pastor Jeremiah Steeppek transformed himself into a homeless person and went to the 10,000 member church that he was to be introduced as the head pastor at that morning. He walked around his soon to be church for 30 minutes while it was filling with people for service. . .only 3 people out of the 7-10,000 people said hello to him. He asked people for change to buy food. . .NO ONE in the church gave him change. He went into the sanctuary to sit down in the front of the church and was asked by the ushers if he would please sit in the back. He greeted people to be greeted back with stares and dirty looks, with people looking down on him and judging him.

As he sat in the back of the church, he listened to the church announcements and such. When all that was done, the elders

went up and were excited to introduce the new pastor of the church to the congregation. . ."We would like to introduce to you Pastor Jeremiah Steeppek". . . The congregation looked around clapping with joy and anticipation. . .The homeless man sitting in the back stood up. . .and started walking down the aisle. . .the clapping stopped with ALL eyes on him. . .he walked up the altar and took the microphone from the elders (who were in on this) and paused for a moment. . .then he recited "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe

you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?"

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

After he recited this, he looked towards the congregation and told them all what he had experienced that morning. . .many began to cry and many heads were bowed in shame. . he then said. . .Today I see a gathering of people. . .not a church of Jesus Christ. The world has enough people, but not enough disciples..when will YOU decide to become disciples? He then dismissed service until next week. . .Being a Christian is more than something you claim. It's something you live by and share with others.



***The story of The Salvation Army's Doughnut Girls (Part III)***



Ensign Helen Purviance and Crew: Inventors of the Doughnut as We Love It

Ensign Purviance coaxed the wood fire in the potbellied stove to keep it at an even heat for frying. Because it was back-breaking to lean over the low fire, she spent most of the time kneeling in front of the stove.

I was literally on my knees," she recalled, "when those first doughnuts were fried,

seven at a time, in a small fry pan. There was also a prayer in my heart that somehow this home touch would do more for those who ate the doughnuts than satisfy a physical hunger,"

Soon the tempting aroma of frying doughnuts drew a lengthy line of soldiers to the hut. Standing in mud and rain, they patiently waited their turn.

Although the girls worked late into the night, they could serve only 150 doughnuts the first day. The next day, that number was doubled. A while later, when fully equipped for the job, they fried from 2,500 to 9,000 doughnuts daily, as did other lassies along the frontline trenches.

After several soldiers asked, "Can't you make a doughnut with a hole in it?" Ensign Purviance had an elderly French blacksmith improvise a doughnut cutter by fastening the top of a condensed milk can and

camphor-ice tube to a wooden block. Later, all sorts of other inventions were employed, such as the lid from a baking powder can or a lamp chimney to cut the doughnut, with the top of a coffee percolator to make the hole.



Ensign Stella Young of Everett, Massachusetts rolls dough.

The soldiers cheered the doughnuts and soon referred to Salvation Army lassies as "doughnut girls," even when they baked apple pies or other treats.

*(Part IV will be in October's newsletter.)*

**THE SALVATION ARMY**

**2901 N. CLINTON ST.**

**FORT WAYNE, IN 46805**

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

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**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**

6:00 pm Adult Bible Study  
7:00 pm Women’s Ministry and Band  
7:30 pm Praise and Worship

**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)

**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.



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.

*An inspiring event to inspire change*



*The Mad Hatter’s Tea & Charity Auction  
September 28, 1:00 pm*

I imagine many of you have attended a silent auction. Perhaps it was in a pleasantly decorated dining room. You may have had good food, either chicken or beef, though it was something you could have fixed at home.

Now it is time for you to attend a silent auction, benefitting those in need in our community, that will knock your socks off.

For only \$10.00, you will walk through the key-hole into Alice’s world. You will be transfixed by the attention to detail of the decorations. There will be a face painter for children so they can feel a part of the fun. Local Tea Houses and caterers will be dishing out delicious samples as our guests wander through a Wonderland of auction items, donated by local businesses.

Proceeds from this event will provide support to programs such as The Salvation Army’s food pantry, community youth center and various other programs the community relies on.

For information on tickets, email [Jama\\_Smith@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Jama_Smith@usc.salvationarmy.org)

A big thank you to the Chick-fil-A restaurant at 1725 Apple Glen. They generously provided lunch at no cost, to The Salvation Army volunteers who helped at the Tools for School distribution.

The original restaurant scheduled to provide lunch had to back out at the last minute. It was absolutely no problem for Liz at the southwest Chick-fil-A restaurant to jump in and feed out volunteers.

The next time you are in their area please stop in, buy your lunch, and give them your thanks.

