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The Salvation Army
Canada and Bermuda Territory

Territorial Missionary Focus



February 2013



Container of clothing makes its way to Jamaica

Christmas and Clothing in the Caribbean

Clarence and Karen Ingram's update on Jamaican ministry

As is typical throughout the Army world, the months of November and December were extremely busy. Our days were filled with everything from measuring out flour and rice for Christmas parcels to endless hours of kettle duty to trying to raise enough funds to pay Christmas expenses. Of course our regular duties plus visits to children's homes and the hospital were also squeezed in.

It was difficult to think of it being Christmas without the changing of seasons and it was hotter standing on the kettles here than when we were in Bermuda. There is much less decorating and buying but stores remained open until midnight Christmas Eve. The kettles were out until 10:30 pm Christmas Eve and they were back out again between Christmas and 9:00 pm New Year's Eve.

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The Globe and the Mail

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We are very much enjoying the ministry here and I believe making a positive contribution. I have moved the headquarter books to a computer accounting program. Hopefully I will soon find there are no longer any outstanding bills from 'way back' that I don't know about, that would make it possible to put together a solid financial statement.

The first few months were a bit of a financial challenge, but thanks to clothing donations from Oakville that situation has improved considerably.

Store sales before the shipment were between \$60,000 and \$100,000 (Jamaican dollars) per month. Since the shipment, November and December sales were \$650,000 and \$560,000 respectively. The division's monthly financial outlook has moved from a monthly deficit of about \$300,000 to the place where we are beginning to pay off some long overdue debt.

We distributed some clothing to corps in the division and they have held jumbo sales to assist with their financial challenges.

The bales of soft toys were really popular; we kept enough to give as gifts to the children at the hospital and two youth homes at Christmas. It didn't matter that the toys were used; the children and their parents were delighted to receive them.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy we partnered with Scotiabank to assist affected families in the Western Division. Specifically we provided clothing and soft toys to families in "Pumpkin Bottom" who lost everything due to flooding.

We have enough clothes to last for a couple of more months and the proceeds will help pay the cost of the Officers' Retreat in April.

We are making arrangements to provide clothing to the long-term residents of the mental health floor of the hospital. We are also checking with two other institutions, an 'infirmary' and an 'AIDS' hospice, as it appears both would also benefit from donations of clothing.

Our main tasks for the next few months will be to visit corps on Sundays and do one or two audits a week; that should keep us busy until June. The Great Lakes Youth Band will be here in March and Dirk and Susan Van Duinen are the guests for officers' retreat in April.

Message from the TMF President

Linda McNutt



My sister and her husband have five wonderful children - two daughters and three sons; the girls live in Toronto, one son is in Halifax, one is working in Alberta and one is still at home in Truro. And two are married to loving spouses. I have been so grateful to have lived near enough to my nieces and nephews in the formative years that we have formed strong bonds.

We also have two members of the next generation - Gabriel and Elliott - cousins and wonderful little boys.

I haven't yet met six-month-old Elliott, because he lives in Nova Scotia. We've visited through Skype and I have lots of pictures. He has lovely eyes and an expressive face.

Gabriel, who will be three in June, lives in Toronto, has a ready smile and seemingly boundless energy. In the last 19 months, since I returned to the city, we have become fast friends. In the beginning, he wasn't sure of this new person in his life. Wasn't sure he wanted to give hugs and kisses. Wasn't sure he wanted to share his trucks. But things have changed. We started playing together more, building towers with his big blocks, finding bugs in the garden and reading stories together. When Gabriel first called me 'Aunt Inda' and told me that he loved me ... well, my heart melted.

Is it any wonder that I keep pictures of these precious boys on my desk at work and show them off whenever I can?

When I think back over my growing relationship with Gabriel, I am caused to think of the growing relationships we all have when we move to a new apartment building, neighbourhood, church, city or country.

Perhaps when you are praying for our people serving internationally you would pray for the transitions people make in their new settings. Consider all the changes they may face - new culture (even if it is very similar to Canada), new food, new location, new language and new people. Pray that they are aware of God's wisdom and faithfulness. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide them as they live and work in their country of service.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." ~ Ephesians 6:18

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." ~ Philippians 1:3-6

Philippines

Bev Woodland's Move to Manila



Bev and her mother, Major Maxena Woodland (R), TMF Correspondence Secretary

The eyes smiled at me across the counter, waiting for my answer. A simple question really, did I want to top-up my Tim's card? Well, did I?

In the time of transition between first being asked to take an appointment overseas, the public announcement of the appointment and the departure for the appointment, it seems to me there are ripples of transition that increase in intensity the closer the departure gets. Initially, there is a sense of the unreal – my brain knows this will happen, but it is not now, and there is much to do in life in the present, so I can push it aside. This lasted probably until the announcement was made public, although in my case, a little bit of 'furtive' culling and packing was already in process by that time. Appointments for medical clearance, interviews necessary for the completion of the official application process also took place for me during this stage of transition, injecting little doses of the reality that was to come into the reality of my present life.

Once the announcement of my appointment was made public, it felt more like "now and not yet," where there have been increasingly frequent glimpses of the reality that is to come. Packing is finished, shipping arrangements made, airline ticket purchased, visa obtained and so on. Present and future realities are more blurred now, and I can relate to 1 Corinthians 13:12 "...now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known."

I'm still in the waiting phase of this transition, but reality is coming closer: shortly I will be in Manila, where I have been assured, "It's more fun in the Philippines".

Oh, and the Tim's card? I didn't top it up – I don't think there are any Timmies in Manila!

Italy

Reflections from Ariano Irpino, Italy

Since we arrived in Italy we know that God has brought us here for a purpose and is directing us to work in this community, and country in general. We work hard alongside our Italian colleagues, even though there are small resources here.

Italy is a country predominated by the Roman Catholic Church for thousands of years. With that being said, The Salvation Army has been established here since 1887, with 125 years functioning as a church, with outposts, and some hostel ministries.

We believe God began a good work in the ministry of Ariano Irpino and in Italy in general and He will carry on until the end of time. We have many needs to fulfill within our work but struggle with the limitation of resources.

We pray to God during our short time posted in Italy, to be obedient to our call and be the influence to others with effectiveness, and to serve Him every day of our lives in our ministry. Our strong faith in the Lord leads us to see God's promises to bless us, to encourage us, and instruct us in our path of ministry.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone for always supporting us in sending cards, emails, and keeping us in your prayers.

Deuteronomy 31: 8 said, "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Please continue praying for the Italian command, leaders, officers and the Ariano Irpino Corps.

Angel & Marlene Sandoval



Germany

Gerald and Blanca Dueck are *driving* a new ministry

We are in our nineteenth year serving The Salvation Army in Germany. In 2001, Blanca and I started a brand new work in a town called Meissen, near Dresden. The focus of the work in Meissen has always been, and still is, reaching out to those people Jesus said we would always have with us – the poor and the needy.

Since October 1, 2012, Blanca and I have a new assignment which has been approved by the Army here and which is called KAR. This stands for “*Kirche auf Rädern*” which doesn’t work that well when translated into English. Then it would read COW for *Church on Wheels*!

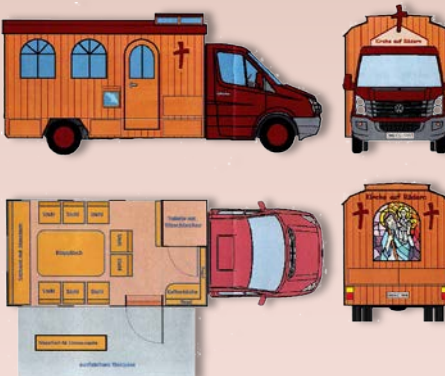
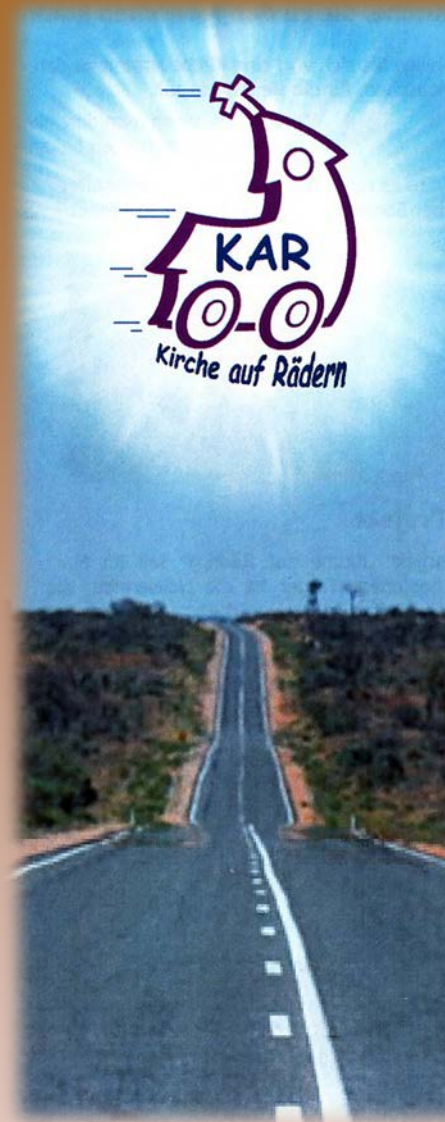
The KAR project has been in my mind for at least two years and has now become reality. The idea behind the project is simple: If the people won’t come to the church then the church must come to the people. And in the part of Germany we live (former communist East Germany), 80% are non-churchgoers and have no contact with Christianity.

Our mobile-church in the form of a custom-built circus wagon will tour the area around Meissen, visiting select towns on a weekly basis to serve a hot meal and coffee. This is not a canteen but a place we can treat the people as our guests. Guests don’t line up outside your house to be handed a meal but are invited inside, which is what we plan to do. There is place for 12 persons to sit around a table inside the mobile-church. In good weather, and depending on our location, we plan to serve outside. For that purpose an awning is built into the vehicle and a serving table comes out from the side so that once again the hosts are on the same level as the guests. Then one can invite individuals inside for a more private conversation or counselling.

The “KAR” vehicle is in the process of being built. Tom, the builder of the vehicle, has lived on the streets and was helped by The Salvation Army. According to him, “KAR” will be the first mobile-church in Germany.

The project is being financed by a private sponsor and The Salvation Army in Germany. “KAR” promotes Jesus Christ first, The Salvation Army second. Wasn’t it Jesus who said: “*Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame ... Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.*”

We start going out in March 2013. If enough towns express interest in our project we plan to form a second team so the vehicle will be on the road seven days a week. But we are focussing on four or five to begin with. Three towns have already given their go-ahead.



Blanca prepares food for guests



Gerry and Blanca receive award of merit from State of Saxony

Thanks for the Christmas Gifts

Thanks ever so much for your prayers and thoughts; they are always welcome. We are often reminded that we are in an active battle and prayer support is most precious! I greatly appreciate the generous monetary gift as well. Thanks ever so much to all donors. This is a great encouragement for me.

I am also encouraged and very grateful for the cards I receive throughout the year from different divisions and corps with kind words and references to prayers on my behalf. This is always very touching, and often my eyes are moistened at the thought that my family in Christ in my home country is taking time to bless me in prayers. Please pass on my warmest greetings and heartfelt thanks to all concerned.

I am very grateful for having such a loving and supportive home territory. And indeed it is a privilege to serve our Father here in Germany and I am truly thankful to be part of The Salvation Army. Thanks to Captain Donna Simms who introduced me to the Army in Thompson in 2005.

By the way I had the great opportunity to attend the Prague congress in October with General Linda Bond. It was a super and inspiring congress!

I return your kind wishes and thank you all again for remembering us serving abroad!

With much love in Him and prayers of blessings upon the territory!

Brigitte Kloosterman



Greetings from cloudy and wet Dar es Salaam! What a wonderful relief when the rains come to Africa!

Please convey our deep gratitude and appreciation to the members of the Territorial Missionary Fellowship who have once again supported us in this brilliant manner through their very generous Christmas 'gifts'.

We were able to spend some much needed time away from the compound during the Christmas break. We were refreshed and renewed in body, mind and spirit during those five days. This was made possible through the love and concern of fellow officers. We do not take these gestures for granted and we are truly thankful for your continued support through prayer and practical assistance.

Mungu awabariki! (God bless you all.)

Lindsay and Lynette Rowe



I write this as the Christmas and New Year festivities are now complete for another year.

It has been an interesting year as we reflect back over what has been accomplished along with the plans for the coming year.

We are humbled by this gift from the TMF which is appreciated and will be well used. The life, culture and daily routine of serving on headquarters is very different from Canada. In this largely Muslim populated country, there are limited public expressions of Christianity which creates its own challenges and opportunities.

Thank you again for this gift, and the special Christmas tree you provided before our departure in early December.

Bill and Donna Barthau

Thanks for the Christmas Gifts (cont'd)

Thank you for this very generous news. As you know we use these funds to add to Christmas in many ways - mostly gifts for the various parties.

You might be blessed to know that this year I was a little concerned as I was going over budget for various reasons, not least of which is the 15% inflation every year. However, I determined it was our last Christmas and I didn't want to change our pattern. It is so true that you 'cannot out-give the Lord' as the increase in the gift will more than cover what we spent.

We are looking forward to our furlough in South Africa and Christmas with family and then back to a busy five months before we return to Canada. We look forward to being part of the giving of these gifts!

Bob and Marguerite Ward



Thank you very much for the gift. We do appreciate the support that we receive from the Canada & Bermuda Territory both formally and informally.

God Bless you!

Colin and Maureen Bain



Thanks for this note and the Christmas Greetings. We send blessings back to the Canada & Bermuda Territory.

It's nice to know that, even though we are out of sight, we are not out of mind.

Please convey our thanks to those responsible for the monetary gift. It's very much appreciated.

Yours in Christ,
David and Marsha Bowles



Thank you so much to you and the TMF for this kind donation. I will see that it goes to a worthy project here in South America East and will let you know how it has been spent.

Sincerely,
Susan McMillan



Wow! That is a very generous gift.

Thank you.

Andrew and Darlene Morgan



Never are we more aware of the blessing of being part of the Canada and Bermuda Territory than when we receive such gifts. It is not the money - it is the thought, prayer and intention that makes my heart glow. We take none of this for granted and so it is always a nice surprise at this hectic time of year.

Many thanks to all of those who have so freely given.

Love and Blessings,
Gerry and Hannu Lindholm



We just got your email regarding a Christmas donation from The Territorial Missionary Fellowship, Canada. We are extremely grateful for the generous support we have received and continue to receive from our home territory. This donation is another example of how well Canada treats its overseas officers and personnel. Please pass on our appreciation to TMF.

Gerald and Blanca Dueck



I am especially grateful for the thoughtfulness of the territory during this Christmas season.

General Linda Bond

Wow, we are very thankful and very humbled by the awesome thoughtfulness and generosity of our fellow officers and comrades throughout our home territory. Please be assured we will continue to spread these blessings around the division. In the last couple of weeks we have assisted an officer couple and their new baby and another couple who have not received allowance for over two months. As the Word says "Freely have you received, freely give."

As is typical in the Army World Christmas in Jamaica is very busy ... the kettles here are out until midnight Christmas Eve and they go out again after Christmas until late on Dec 31.

Our kettles goal is to raise one million Jamaican dollars which should be enough to purchase the food for the Christmas parcels. There are no gifts with these parcels but we do provide small gifts for the children at the hospital ... the adults receive a personal care kit.

We are blessed to receive cards and notes from friends and fellow Salvationists in Canada ... all of which are a source of encouragement and very much appreciated.

Thank you for all you do for us and others on international service ... it is very much appreciated

Clarence and Karen Ingram

Please note...

Because of Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) rules we are no longer able to give receipts for donations given to the Territorial Missionary Focus. These donations go directly to individuals and not to projects. The CRA requires that receipted donations have follow-up and a reporting system. Of course that isn't possible when it is a personal donation (even though some use the gifts for appointment purposes).

Patrick and Valerie Lublink are in SHAPE

Nearly 10 years ago, Valerie and I were seconded to the Canadian Forces as chaplains. In the summer of 2011, we were assigned to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE) in Casteau, Belgium. Our ministry consists primarily of a ministry of presence, pastoral care and counselling to military personnel and their families. In addition to SHAPE, our areas of responsibility also include Brussels (Belgium), Naples (Italy) and Lisbon (Portugal).

My ministry as a military chaplain includes occasionally preaching at the Collective Protestant Service – known as the “1145” service – at the International SHAPE Chapel. This 150+ congregation is served primarily by four U.S. Army military chaplains. The congregation consists of military families from different denominational and national backgrounds and is exposed Sunday after Sunday to various styles of preaching reflecting the chaplain's own denominational ties and own theological distinctives. Valerie is actively involved with the Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) – the equivalent of The Salvation Army's Women's Ministries.

The issues facing our families in Europe are numerous, including isolation and cultural and language barriers. While SHAPE is admittedly a sought after posting, it is not without its difficulties, particularly for spouses. Most of them have had to give up jobs to accompany their husbands and many have left college or high school age children behind in Canada. In addition to her support of the PWOC, Valerie spends much of her time visiting with wives on a one-on-one basis and offering encouragement and, where appropriate, prayer support.

Our ministry is very fulfilling but also very challenging. The expectations from senior and general military officers are very high and the travelling on duty throughout Europe, though enjoyable, can take its toll. We expect to return to a regular Salvation Army appointment on completion of our tour of duty in Europe in the summer of 2014.