



## Welcome to our Fall 2025 edition of our Candidates Newsletter!

For many of us, it isn't New Years that brings about the need for starting fresh, it's the beautiful fall season that offers a timely opportunity for a spiritual refresh and reset.

After the busy, and sometimes spiritually disjointed, pace of summer, the change of seasons serves as a natural invitation to slow down, reflect, and reconnect with God. Here are some thoughts as to why fall is the perfect time to reflect, reset and refresh.

### *The changing rhythms of life.*

Fall brings a change in the season and routines. The return to school and more structured schedules can help you reestablish healthy habits for prayer, Bible study, and reflection that may have lapsed during vacation or summer activities.

### *A cue from nature.*

The natural world shifts from summer's vibrant growth to a period of shedding and letting go. This provides a powerful visual metaphor for us to shed spiritual clutter, let go of past sins, and prepare our hearts for renewal.

### *An invitation, not a guilt trip.*

Rather than viewing a spiritual reset as a need to make up for "lost time," we can see it as an invitation from God to simply draw near.

God's mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23), and He waits with grace for those who desire to reconnect with Him. Our prayer for you this season is that you embrace this opportunity to reflect, reset and reconnect with the One who makes all things new.

In this  
newsletter  
you can expect:

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MPP News

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Explore Your  
Call

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Candidates  
Connect  
Snapshot

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Call and  
Commitment

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Call to Prayer

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Dates for  
your diary

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For your  
information

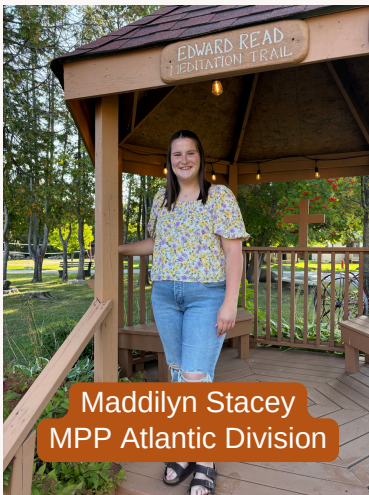
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## Ministry Placement Program 2025



Territorial Candidates Team with MPP Participants and Divisional Candidates Secretaries from the Atlantic and PNT Divisions.

This year's Ministry Placement Program cohort gathered together with the Territorial Candidates Department and Divisional Candidates Secretaries in September for orientation week at Jackson's Point Retreat and Conference Centre. It is a beautiful space to be together and spend time in God's presence.



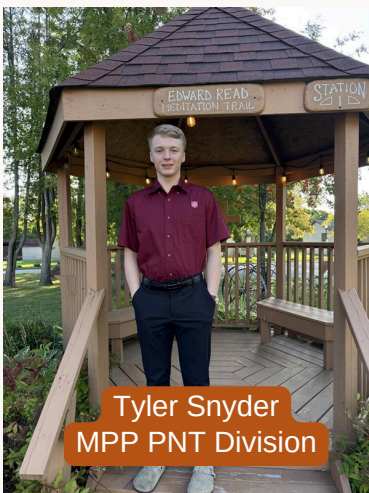
Maddilyn Stacey  
MPP Atlantic Division



Kelsie Wheeler  
MPP Atlantic Division

Our week together consisted of learning, personal reflection and sharing, and prayer, preparing participants for a year of ministry at their placements throughout the territory.

Please pray for these participants as they take time this year to discern God's call on their lives while engaging in hands on ministry.



Tyler Snyder  
MPP PNT Division



Ana Lavie  
MPP PNT Division

You can learn more about this year's participants by visiting our Facebook and Instagram pages!

For more information on this program, please visit  
[www.sacandidates/ministryplacement](http://www.sacandidates/ministryplacement)





We had an amazing time at Explore Your Call! The Holy Spirit definitely moved, and we all felt God's presence.

We are grateful to all those who helped make the weekend go so smoothly as well as for all those who gave their time leading worship and sessions.

For those who aren't aware, this weekend is open to individuals who are exploring/discerning God's call on their life. It is a time of spiritual reflection, meaningful connection, and learning about what full-time ministry in The Salvation Army could look like.

We ask that you continue to pray for all those who attended as they reflect on all that they heard.

If you are interested in learning more, reach out to your Divisional Candidates Secretary. The date for Explore Your Call 2026 is October 2-4, so mark your diaries!



Pastor Appreciation Day is Sunday, October 12th, 2025. Why not spend some time praying for your pastor(s)?

The International Spiritual Life Development department has created a prayer resource you can use to pray over your pastor and leaders in the church. Visit this link to download it today!

<https://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/praying-for-leaders>



The purpose of the Candidates Connect is to create a community of like-minded people who feel a sense of calling to full time ministry, and to allow opportunities to learn about different aspects of what full-time vocational ministry within The Salvation Army could look like. Candidates Connect gatherings center around the three pillars mentioned below, as well as create space for discerning God's call.

### **PILLARS**

The foundation and mission of the Candidates Connect have been captured in the following three pillars:

#### **Building Character**

Candidates Connect will actively develop spiritual maturity, practical faith, and holiness of life and witness of the members.

#### **Building Capacity**

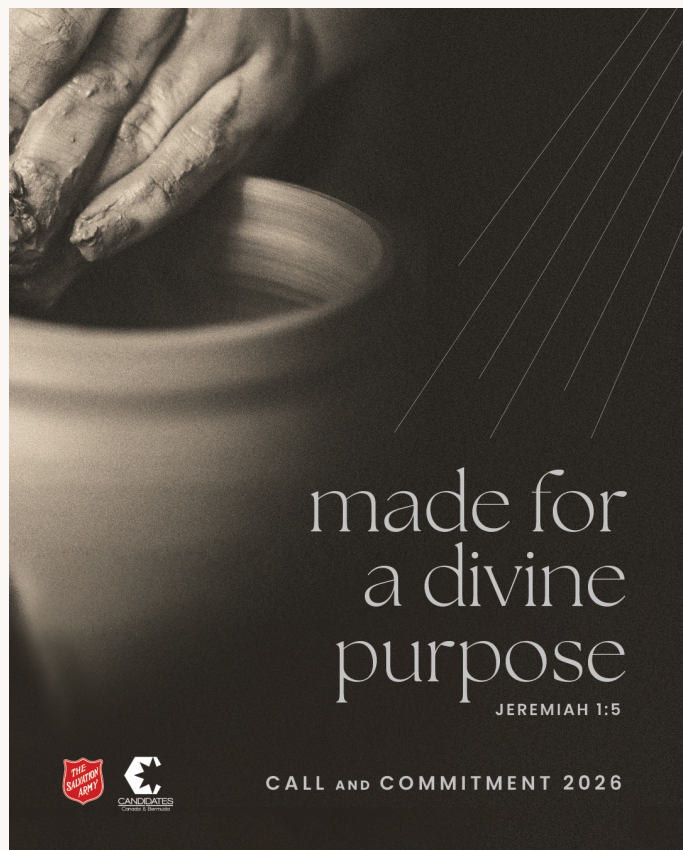
Candidates Connect will actively develop the practical, academic, and leadership skill and knowledge base of the members.

#### **Building Community**

Candidates Connect will actively develop comradery and fellowship amongst members through their shared experience of exploring God's call on their lives.

Anyone interested in being a part of Candidates Connect should see your Corps Officer or contact your Divisional Candidates Secretary for more details.

You can also visit our Candidates Connect page at [www.sacandidates.ca/](http://www.sacandidates.ca/) for more information.



## Call and Commitment 2026

Our theme for Call & Commitment 2026 is: Made for a Divine Purpose, based on Jeremiah 1:5 (from The Message paraphrase):

"Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you: A prophet to the nations - that's what I had in mind for you."

This year's resource package will include worship ideas, videos, prayer guide, teen bible study, children's Sunday School lesson, as well as resources for personal reflection. These resources will be available to download from our website in both English and French.

Mark your calendars for Call and Commitment Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026!

We are nearing the end of our Call to Prayer focus, and we are so grateful for our Salvation Army family who have joined us in asking the Lord of the Harvest for harvest hands (Matthew 9:38).

This has and continues to be, a prayer for individuals to respond to God's calling to full-time ministry as Salvation Army officers, as well as lay ministry opportunities and ministry in the local corps setting. All doing their part to love and help others.

The resources for October, November and December are as follows:

- October: A Prayer Breakfast guide, written by Major Debra Blackman
- November: A video prayer with Major Carson Decker.
- December: An online prayer meeting on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm EST, hosted by the Territorial Candidates Department.

All resources from this prayer initiative can be found here: <https://salvationist.ca/candidates/call-to-prayer/>

Let us pray and pray again. Let us never stop seeking the Lord. Let us trust God to raise up people to join Him in this important work.







## Meet the team!

"We create space for people to discern God's call on their lives"

### Purpose Statement Candidates Department

IMPORTANT DATES  
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#### October

12 Pastor Appreciation Sunday

#### November

9 Territorial Candidates Connect (6:00 pm via Teams)  
30 Advent begins

#### 2026

##### February

1 Call and Commitment Sunday  
8 Territorial Candidates Connect (6:00 pm via Teams)  
18 Lent begins

##### May

3 Territorial Candidates Connect 6pm via Teams

##### June

20-21 Commissioning Weekend

Major Carson Decker, Territorial Candidates Secretary

*Top row, left to right*

Shona Burditt, Candidates Project Coordinator, Territorial Candidates Department

Lieutenant Jen Thompson, Divisional Candidates Secretary, BC Division

Major Louise Pond, Divisional Candidates Secretary Atlantic Division

Lt. Amy Patrick, Area Candidates Secretary, Bermuda (Atlantic Division)

*Bottom row, left to right*

Janah Vitalicio, Administrative Coordinator, Territorial Candidates Department

Major Ashley Bungay, Divisional Candidates Secretary, PNT Division

Lts. Miya Bradburn and Jeff Robertson, Divisional Candidates Secretaries, Ontario Division

Major Indira Albert, Area Candidates Secretary, Quebec (Atlantic Division)



For more resources, information and inspiration, please visit us at



[www.sacandidates.ca](http://www.sacandidates.ca)



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[facebook/sacandidates.](https://www.facebook.com/sacandidates)



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