

#### SPRING 2025



We are grateful for each season as they have their own unique gifts but we do believe that Spring is a favourite of many. Emerging from winter to lighter days, warm breezes, plants re-emerging and the return of birds singing in the trees, everything seems a little more hopeful.

It is also the season of Lent, the 40-day period before Easter.

This is a quote from Annie F Downs

"It is a time for us to step away from our distractions and comforts to make space for God to speak. It's about slowing down and remembering that while we are dust, we are deeply loved by a God who is so much bigger than we can comprehend. It's a season where we can learn again how to listen, how to pray, how to fast and how to lean into the God who is already here, waiting for us to come closer."

Our prayer for you is that you are able to do just that, step away from distractions and allow God to speak to you, remind you of how deeply you are loved and how He has a plan for your life.

Enjoy all this season has to offer, the contemplative time of Lent, the celebration of Easter and the return to longer, brighter days!

Your friends at the Territorial Candidates Department.

In this newsletter you can expect:
Call to Prayer Focus
Candidates Connect
Ministry Placement Program
Resource Highlight
Dates for your diary
Meet the team!

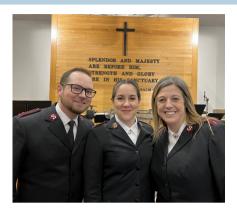






# Call and Commitment Wrap up 2025













The month of February was such a busy one!

We are so grateful to everyone who set aside time to create space for individuals to discern and explore God's call on their lives. Major Carson Decker (TCS) and the Divisional Candidates team travelled to corps and held events across the territory, speaking on our theme for 2025, Harvest Hands. We are praying to the Lord of the harvest and trusting that He will raise up people to join Him in this important work.

Did you know? The Atlantic and PNT Divisions held Design for Life events, using the refreshed material put together by the Territorial Candidates Department as part of their Call and Commitment ministry. Watch this space for details of Design for Life events coming to you!







CALL to PRAYER

# on your knees and pray for *harvest hands* MATTHEW 9:38

SA Candidates is designating 2025 as a Call to Prayer, inviting our Salvation Army family to join us in asking the Lord of the harvest for harvest hands (Matthew 9:38) - people who see the harvest through His eyes ... but who aren't content to merely see it, but to enter it, take up the plow and share the truth about the abundant and eternal life we have in Christ.

This is 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.

Here are the planned activities for March, April and May

## March

Online Prayer Meetings - March 6, 13, 20, 27at 6:00 pm (EST), via TEAMS \*Hosted by the Territorial and Divisional Candidates team with invited guests.

**April** Prayer Stations

### May

24 Hour Prayer 6pm Friday - 6pm Saturday, May 9-10, 2025

Links to all Call to Prayer resources can be found at <u>https://salvationist.ca/candidates/call-to-prayer/</u>













Are you discerning a call from God? Whether you are well into your discernment journey or just starting out, joining Candidates Connect is a great step to take! You will be in community with other like-minded people who feel a sense of calling to full time ministry, as well as having opportunities to learn about the different aspects of what full-time vocational ministry within The Salvation Army.

As a member, you will have the opportunity to attend both Territorial and Divisional Candidates Connect gatherings, gain access to spiritual formation resources geared towards discernment as well as journey with others on a similar path.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please connect with your Corps Officer or your Divisional Candidates Secretary. For more information about Candidates Connect, please visit our website <u>https://salvationist.ca/candidates/explore-ministry/</u>



#### <u> Ministry Placement Program - 2025/2026</u>

Applications for our upcoming cohort will be open March 14th!

The Ministry Placement Program is a nine-month internship opportunity to encourage individuals to consider God's calling on their lives. Program participants will be placed in a corps setting and will work side by side with the corps officer(s) in gaining firsthand ministry experience and learning the day-to-day life of a Salvation Army officer. Throughout the duration of this program, there is also an intentional focus on spiritual, character, and leadership development. Visit https://salvationist.ca/candidates/explore-ministry/ to find out more!





## **Resources Highlight**

We have some helpful resources for you to consider if you are in a space of discerning God's call on your life. The Shape of Calling is a self-guided discernment reflection created by The Salvation Army in Australia. SHAPE is adapted from the SaddleBack church in California and What's Your God Story is a guide to discovering your testimony. All these can be found at <u>https://salvationist.ca/candidates/resources/</u>

#### From The Salvation Army International Headquarters



This Lent, we invite you to adopt a simple rhythm of gratitude, to acknowledge and reflect on the goodness of God. With an intentional practice for each day, we hope you will cultivate a grateful heart and a rhythm that will last when Lent is over. <u>https://salvationarmy.org/ihq/lent-2025#download</u>



#### Take the Lent generosity challenge

Brought to you by Stewardship, 40acts is a generosity Lent challenge that has become a movement of thousands of people on a mission to impact their communities by creating moments of radical generosity.

For more information and to sign up, head to <u>https://www.stewardship.org.uk/40acts</u>



5th

14th

April

18th

20th

May

4th

June

14th

October

September

# Dates for Your Diary

Territorial Candidates Connect 6pm EST

An Evening with Sarah Bourns Crosby

Ash Wednesday - Lent begins

MPP Applications open

Good Friday

Easter Sunday

21st/22nd Commissioning Weekend

Welcome Weekend



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

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www.sacandidates.ca



instagram/sacandidates.

facebook/sacandidates.



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3rd-5th Explore Your Call