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Editorial Introduction

By Major Stephen Court, editor

Welcome to JAC142- the 142nd issue of Journal of Aggressive Christianity.

Back in 1987, General Eva Burrows produced a **Salvation Army Agenda For The Future**. It set the tone and direction of The Army's mission for the duration of her seven-year term.

In a season of swirling change and on the doorstep of another High Council (mid-2023), it seems appropriate to introduce the Burrows Agenda to a new generation of Salvationists. We are reproducing it here to lead off JAC142. And with it we are offering a considered 2022 response from Salvationists in six territories around the world:

1. USA Southern's Colonel Allen Satterlee, author and historian, responds to the General's first agenda item:

"To emphasise the supremacy of evangelism in fulfillment of the Lord's great commission – 'Go therefore and make all nations my disciples.' (Matthew 28:19)"

2. Corps Officer Captain Jo Brookshaw in Western Australia responds to the General's second agenda item:

"To call the Army to spiritual renewal."

3. Theologian and holiness teacher Colonel Ian Barr in United Kingdom, responds to the General's third agenda item:

"To reaffirm our basic stance on the authority and validity of the Scriptures, both as the basis of our faith and as a guide for Christian conduct."

4. In USA Eastern, Colonel Richard Munn, until recently a director of The Army's International Social Justice Commission, responds to the General's fourth agenda item:

"To emphasise the Christian ethic as the significant influence in establishing a moral society."

5. USA Western's Territorial Social Justice Ministries Director, Jacqui Larsson, responds to the General's fifth agenda item:

"To support efforts for peace in the world, and champion the principles of justice and equity."

6. The Territorial Youth Secretary of Canada and Bermuda Territory, Captain Jason Dockeray, responds the General's sixth and final agenda item:

"To reaffirm the importance of our young people."

This content is worth reflection, prayer, and discussion. When you complete a round of that, then may God help you implement what you learn to accelerate the advance of the salvation war around the world.

Hallelujah. Much grace.

Salvation Army Agenda For The Future

Prepared by General Eva Burrows (1987)

We need an agenda for the future, to make us aware of what we stand for, to direct our thoughts as to where we are heading, to set out our priorities and the issues we really feel strongly about, and to be a means by which we can evaluate our efforts. I have sought the wisdom of the Lord and the illuminating guidance of the Holy Spirit, and now set down in faith and love what I believe should be the basic agenda for The Salvation Army as we move through these final years of the 20th century and into the 21st.

May this agenda help to define our purposes, shape our mission, guide our planning and activities, and direct our prayers as we venture forth with vision and commitment.

1. To emphasise the supremacy of evangelism in fulfillment of the Lord's great commission – 'Go therefore and make all nations my disciples.' (Matthew 28:19)

To evangelise – to share the good news with an understanding of the social and cultural context in the life of those being reached. The message must be free from racial bias and any national prejudice which detracts from the universal truth of Christ as Saviour of all. The central focus of the gospel is Christ – his cross and resurrection, his grace to redeem and transform. And this leads on to spiritual maturity through the power of the Holy Spirit.

To work to the end that every man and woman and child has the opportunity to hear the good news of the gospel, to make a personal commitment to Christ and become his disciple and a member of the Church of God of which The Salvation Army is a part; this is our commission.

To have a vision for growth, and actively work to bring that vision to reality. We must dedicate ourselves and our resources to encourage growth. Evangelism should lead to growth which the Lord requires – both numerical and spiritual, both quantitative and qualitative. Every soldier a soul-winner.

2. To call the Army to spiritual renewal

To re-emphasise the possibility of holy living and spiritual maturity through the resources of prayer, worship, Bible study, sacrificial giving and Holy Spirit power. To teach holiness not merely as a spiritual ideal but as a positive, wholesome, attainable experience to which God calls His people.

To acknowledge the renewing work of the Holy Spirit in the Christians church today and continually to challenge salvationists to claim the Spirit's empowering in their own lives. By the Spirit's fruit we are conformed to the image of Christ, and by the Spirit's gifts we are equipped for effective service. So salvationists should seek to discover, develop and use their spiritual gifts in building up the body of Christ and in service and ministry in their community.

To create a quickened awareness by salvationists of the power of personal influence and witness in the home and work place, in college and school, in the arena of recreation and leisure.

For The Salvation Army to see itself as part of the family of Christ in the world, and to work in ecumenical fellowship and unity of spirit with other church bodies pursuing Christ's mission on earth.

3. To reaffirm our basic stance on the authority and validity of the Scriptures, both as the basis of our faith and as a guide for Christian conduct

To persuade salvationists to study the Scriptures more deeply and to apply them more relevantly to daily life, because the Scriptures are profitable for teaching, reproof, correcting and equipping God's people. We need to love God with our mind as we search and research his word.

To reaffirm the scriptural witness to the Holy Spirit and seek a fresh understanding of his role in the ministry of Christ in the world and in the life and growth of his body, the church.

To deepen our understanding of the truth of our doctrines in experience as well as intellect. To educate our soldiery in the spiritual and experiential basis of our non-sacramental position.

4. To emphasise the Christian ethic as the significant influence in establishing a moral society

To assert the value of marriage and family as God's plan for society, and to underline the importance of the marriage vow. To view marriage as a divinely ordained covenant, and to seek to reverse the increasing trend to divorce and the break up of family life, within and without the Christian community.

To oppose the enthronement of the physical body – the obsession with and glamorisation of human sexuality. To withstand the acceptance of lifestyles postulated as 'alternative sexual preferences'. Whilst declaring such to be against God's moral law, we will seek to provide pastoral care and positive help to such people.

To realise the true dignity of a single and celibate life for those from whom God asks this dedication and to whom God has given this gift.

To emphasise Christian standards in issues raised by medical technological developments such as genetic engineering, in vitro fertilisation, euthanasia, abortion. Whilst praising God for all the progress of modern medicine, we must reject those developments which lower the dignity and individuality of man.

To acknowledge Christ's Lordship in every area of life; in the workplace, the professions, in industry. Where there is lack of integrity, salvationists are

encouraged to stand with conviction and with a courage strengthened by biblical standards.

To understand the powerful influence of the media and their impact on social values. To see how The Salvation Army can more effectively utilise the media in its mission, and at the same time alert salvationists to their right to challenge the often misleading and harmful presentations of violence and so-called 'good life'.

To continue our concern regarding the increase in drug and alcohol abuse, and strengthen our preventative and rehabilitation programmes. To challenge social evils from a Christian conscience.

5. To support efforts for peace in the world, and champion the principles of justice and equity

To stand against the proliferation of weapons of war, and to promote peace on earth and goodwill among men through every possible form of the 'ministry of reconciliation'.

To oppose all forms of man's inhumanity to man, and take even more seriously Christ's call to clothe the naked, feed the hungry and shelter the homeless.

To withstand every form of prejudice – racial, tribal, national, sexist, economic and social.

To encourage salvationists to a new awareness of the interdependence of mankind and of our responsibility for each other. For those privileged to live in affluent communities to accept a simpler lifestyle so that they can contribute more sacrificially to those in need.

To speak out with courage where those in authority deny men and women their basic human rights and exploit the disadvantaged and inarticulate, whilst maintaining our traditional non-partisan political stance.

While mindful that the ultimate solution to these world problems is in God's hands alone, our social action and compassionate service must be seen to be based in Christian motivation and witness.

6. To reaffirm the importance of our young people

To realise that our young people are a great resource of our movement, and the need to show them how important they are to us and to God.

To give them a priority in our Corps programming that they deserve.

To give them a voice in our advisory forums; to allow them scope to express their aspirations and interests.

To ensure that corps life, both junior and senior, is integrated in a total corps concept.

To provide training and education in the Scriptures and in the principles of Salvation Army life, as a sound basis for Christian experience and salvationist service.

To continue to place earnestly before our young people the challenge of the call to officership as the call of Christ himself to full-time ministry. This is a challenge which no young salvationist should refuse to face up to.

Response to Pillar One Of General Eva Burrows' Agenda for the Future

By Colonel Allen Satterlee

“Emphasise the supremacy of evangelism in fulfillment of the Lord’s great commission – ‘Go therefore and make all nations my disciples.’ (Matthew 28:19)”

Few Generals have enjoyed a higher position of influence and popularity than General Eva Burrows. Part of that is rooted in her ability to challenge Salvationists as well as articulate the heartbeat of the Army. One such call is as follows when she called the Army to:

“Emphasise the supremacy of evangelism in fulfillment of the Lord’s great commission – ‘Go therefore and make all nations my disciples.’ (Matthew 28:19)”

She broke this into three parts:

1. *To evangelise – to share the good news with an understanding of the social and cultural context in the life of those being reached. The message must be free from racial bias and any national prejudice which detracts from the universal truth of Christ as Saviour of all. The central focus of the gospel is Christ – his cross and resurrection, his grace to redeem and transform. And this leads on to spiritual maturity through the power of the Holy Spirit.*

General Burrows stated several missional priorities. First, to take the time and make the effort to love the people enough to whom we are ministering to understand and know them in their context. Unfortunately in the past and somewhat in the present, those going to serve a people group have merged colonialism, ethnic elitism and/or conveyed a superiority to the people to whom they are to minister. We need to learn more than a people’s geography, their history or even their language. How do they see themselves as a people? What stirs their hearts? What are their needs?

Sorting through our own cultural bias is not easy. But if our desire is to evangelise and make disciples, it is our duty to the Lord and the people He died to save to rethink our thinking.

2. *To work to the end that every man and woman and child has the opportunity to hear the good news of the gospel, to make a personal commitment to Christ and become his disciple and a member of the Church of God of which The Salvation Army is a part; this is our commission.*

Our evangelism is not complete until every person on the globe has had the opportunity to respond to the gospel. The early Salvationists’ post-millennialism has been dismissed by more recent generations, but what we have lost and not replaced, is the sense of urgency to reach everyone, everywhere. Frankly, I would rather have us a little foggy on this point of eschatology and have people busy soul-winning, than have a more well-defined eschatology and an “Oh, well. I hope the world wakes up before it’s too late” attitude.

The other point about discipleship is key. We want more than a nursery full of spiritual newborns. We want people who grow in Christ, be baptized by the Holy Spirit, and who are students of the Word and committed to reproducing themselves in souls won to the Kingdom.

3. To have a vision for growth, and actively work to bring that vision to reality. We must dedicate ourselves and our resources to encourage growth. Evangelism should lead to growth which the Lord requires – both numerical and spiritual, both quantitative and qualitative. Every soldier a soul-winner.

The practicality of General Burrows is clearly seen here. While calling on us to have vision for growth, she likely had seen (as many of us have), well-crafted mission and vision statements gather dust, destined to become cliches of good intention. No. Burrows will have none of that. We are to “bring that vision to reality.” That involves more than a head nod and a whispered, “Amen.” It demands our dedication, our putting our money where our mouth is, our going after it as the runner presses for the finish line.

And I like that she talks about numerical growth. Again, it has become popular to say that we are going for quality over quantity. These are not mutually exclusive. The book of Acts reports specific numbers of converts, which if number were not important, pray tell why would the Holy Spirit inspire Luke to include them in his narrative? Yes, quality. But also quantity! Bring them in.

Every soldier a soul-winner remains a challenge. Too many see becoming a soldier more like joining a church than enlisting in spiritual warfare. Shame on us if we fail to educate them as to their obligation to take up the fight to win the world to Christ.

Response to Pillar Two Of General Eva Burrows' Agenda for the Future

By Captain Jo Brookshaw

“To call the Army to spiritual renewal.”

How strongly do we feel about spiritual renewal?

Automatically, I respond “I’m absolutely committed. 100%!” But to weigh this more carefully, I would have to admit that spiritual renewal is just one amongst many values I hold, but have not set as a purposeful agenda for living. You see, although I have committed my life to the purposes of winning souls and making their salvation the first purpose of my life, the day-to-day life I lead consists of activities and interactions that do not always lead to these results.

Do I preach the gospel? Yes.

Do I love and care for those in my community? Yes.

Do I witness people being spiritually renewed? Sometimes, but not to the degree I know is possible according to what I have read in scripture!

As General Eva outlined, we need to not only feel strongly about spiritual renewal, but also allow it clarify our stand, direct our thoughts strategically, shape our priorities and become a yardstick for our effectiveness. In other words, our high hopes need to become grounded and engaged in missional purpose.

Are you ready to go deeper?

Spiritual renewal depends on us being a spiritual people, “a royal priesthood, a holy nation” (1 Peter 2:9), a people committed to purity and holiness, both individually and as a movement called by God. In these days, it is tempting to lose an emphasis on holy living, by dumbing down our ideals for soldiers and officers, by chasing after the agenda of the world and calling it Godly. But, it is only by the work of the Holy Spirit that we can truly become holy people.

Yes that’s right, holiness comes not from keeping rigid rules, being a lovely old dear, or looking immaculate in your soldier’s uniform. Holiness is a direct result of the Holy Spirit’s work of continual renewal in a person’s spirit. It cannot be manufactured, or earned as a reward, holiness is a gift available to all who desire the Holy Spirit’s empowering in their life. Jesus himself said, “If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” Luke 11:13

This is news worth sharing – an antidote and a balm to a hurting world who need a solution to their brokenness. The absolute beauty of The Holy Spirit alive and active within us, is that the same spirit empowers and renews other Christians in our Corps and other Churches. We have a life-giving opportunity to connect and work together to grow the kingdom of God as directed and empowered by the Spirit!

This renewal begins in you and can expand to effect spiritual transformation in your family, school, work, gym, community, or even your favourite hobby (the Holy Spirit

renewing people through art? Count me in!). It's time to earnestly seek holiness and intentionally plan for the ripples of spiritual renewal to impact the world that's right now within your grasp. Holy Spirit, quicken our hearts to your voice today!

Response to Pillar Three Of General Eva Burrows' Agenda for the Future

By Colonel Ian Barr

“To reaffirm our basic stance on the authority and validity of the Scriptures, both as the basis of our faith and as a guide for Christian conduct.”

General Eva Burrows was a gifted public speaker and preacher who communicated the Good News about Jesus in plain and easily understood language without minimising the power of the message contained in the pages of the Bible. In this respect, as in many others, she was very much a worthy successor of William Booth. The Founder was also a gifted and plain-spoken speaker and writer, able to speak to the very soul without reverting either to obscure theological language or religious jargon.

General Burrows wrote and presented her Agenda for the Future in 1987. The material I shall quote from the Founder was written and published in 1885.

Burrows' stated aim was agenda was to 'persuade salvationists to study the Scriptures more deeply and to apply them more relevantly to daily life.'

In 1885 Booth took the opportunity of a new translation to encourage study and application of biblical truth to the everyday life of the believer:

'... I should very much like to see a Bible rendered into the English language as now spoken by English speaking people throughout the world.'

Nevertheless, Booth looked beyond access to the Bible, he looked beyond the mere reading of the Bible.

'It (the Bible) gives us everything in the way of a written revelation that is necessary for salvation, holy living and our welfare.'

The two Generals are in complete agreement: the study of Scripture should result in the moral and spiritual renewal, and Holy Spirit empowerment of the individual, and the conversion of individuals and communities

'Every Salvationist should be a living walking, fighting Bible, which can be seen and read, and felt by every soul about him.' (Booth)

Both Generals were open to new thinking and new methods, but neither was a great proponent of biblical criticism or theology or as a field of study for its own sake.

As a relatively young doctrine tutor I recall having a conversation with General Eva about the training of officers.

Asked if she thought our training programmes were too eclectic, she immediately simplified the terminology – 'Do you mean too varied? We train officers for the work they have to do, we don't run theological colleges. Then she smiled, looked me in the eye and said "However, we can call on our theologians when we need them." It was a kindly chastening, but a chastening nevertheless.

William Booth's admonition against what is sometimes called 'bibliolatry' is equally pertinent:

'Great as is the value of the Bible, it is possible to exalt it too highly. Some have put it in place of God. The letter of it rather than its spirit has been held in chief regard. Others have made the mistake of regarding it as the only revelation God has made to the world. It contains the fullest and clearest, but not the only, light He has given us.'

... It is important to notice also that it is possible to underestimate the Bible. That is a danger to which many of our people are exposed.'

The hundred years or so between the two documents saw a massive expansion of scientific knowledge, and a distinct change to a more critical approach to the text and form of Scripture in the field of biblical study. Some Christians have coined expressions such as 'infallible' and 'inerrant' to ward off these influences, seeking to strengthen the foundations of their faith in the Bible as the Word of God. Other Christians have found their faith strengthened by a sense that the Bible is no less the Word of God for being studied in the light of science and scholarship.

As William Booth concluded:

'There seems to be only one thing left to be done with it (the Bible) and that is to give a literal and faithful and understandable translation of it in practice.'

Let us live it; live the real things – live the Christ-life.

Response to Pillar Four Of General Eva Burrows' Agenda for the Future

By Colonel Richard Munn

“To emphasise the Christian ethic as the significant influence in establishing a moral society.”

Since its late 20th century publication there is an immediate sense that this section of the General Eva Burrows international agenda – the Christian Ethic – represents a simpler era. The segment uses words and phrases that would likely not be posted today. Language has evolved, and the matters are politically charged. In its reading we are also quickly conscious of current scarring schisms within the church, and army, on such ethical issues as human sexuality, marriage, gender equity and diversity, racism, the death penalty, abortion, climate change, immigration and refugees.

We also see that in subsequent years same sex marriage is now legal in most western democracies, refugee and asylum-seeking people have swollen to unimagined numbers, multi-cultural community is becoming the norm, human trafficking has emerged as a global scourge and gender equity has become defined by the United Nations as the international human rights issue of the 21st century.

In this 35-year time span Christianity, and the army, has numerically increased dramatically in the global south and declined considerably in western democracies. This shift of gravity has ethical implications. LGBTQ affirmation, recreational use of marijuana, workplace diversity, environmental concerns and secularism are predominant values in the west. In contrast, patriarchy, bride price and dowry, systemic corruption, tribalism and casteism are seemingly ingrained in south Asia and the global south.

What does remain unchanged from the original agenda is the continued need for regular ethical dialogue, unimpeachable integrity, our mission to face social evils and the continued assertion of ‘Christ’s Lordship in every area of life.’

We can be encouraged. General Peddle stated in the 2022 International Conference of Leaders, ‘The worldview suggests we are intolerant, no longer on the right side of history, antiquated in our beliefs and that the moral law of the gospel is no longer acceptable. Legislators are often not Christian, know little of the Bible and care less for its teaching. The result is that in years to come we will find ourselves often at odds with the world. I hear in my heart the words of Joshua: “Be strong and courageous.” If there was ever a time for Booth’s vision of a worldwide One Army to flourish ... it is now.’

Around the same time as the Burrows Agenda John Gowans perceptively wrote: ‘In a world of shifting values, there are standards that remain.’

Your task and mine, it seems, colleague soldiers, is to discern what values should be shifted, and what standards should remain.

Response to Pillar Five Of General Eva Burrows' Agenda for the Future

By Jacqui Larsson

“To support efforts for peace in the world, and champion the principles of justice and equity.”

For those who don't know me, I am writing today from my little corner in the USA West Territory, in response to General Eva Burrows' call for direction, and specifically for her fifth pillar of focus “to support efforts for peace in the world, and champion the principles of justice and equity”. I come to you today as a Salvation Army employee of twenty-three years, currently serving as the Territorial Social Justice Ministries Director and Anti-Trafficking Contact Person, but also as a lifelong Soldier in the Army's ranks. My thoughts come from the seats in the congregation, the twenty-one years I served from the Music/Asst. Program Secretaries office, and my two years within my current role in Social Justice, and although I have learnt more than I could ever imagine in my current role, I acknowledge that I still have a long way to go in this field as I strive to do just as General Burrows exhorts: to support efforts for peace and champion principles of justice.

Scripture makes it clear that this fight for peace and justice should remain at the forefront of our lives as we travel our journey of spiritual formation and strive to live a life like Christ, and I believe that the Army has made this a priority throughout its existence. We are known around the world for our ministries during the War, for our Emergency Disaster response, and for the ways in which we have fed and clothed those in need throughout the years. We have read the Founder's call to “Fight” and heard of his famous memo to focus on “OTHERS”, but how does this translate to our everyday lives as Soldiers as we “stand against the proliferation of weapons of war”?

I have to say that as a Salvationist I had never heard of the stories of “The Maiden Tribute” or the “Match Factory”, or even the campaign to free prostitutes from bondage in early twentieth century Japan, until I started my current role as a Social Justice Director. I was well-aware of the many excellent Programs we had to offer within the church but was unaware of our fight for justice and equity outside of our four walls. Now, does this mean that this fight was not happening in my small corner of the world? No, absolutely not! And is it possible that as a Soldier I was so busy running from one Program to another that I was oblivious to the good work being done around me? Yes, probably! But as General Eva Burrows encourages, the need to “encourage salvationists into a new awareness” is an ongoing battle that needs to be fought.

We have come a long way, and I truly believe that we have made great strides over the past 35 years since this agenda was set before us by General Burrows. I am so encouraged by the amazing work being carried out around the world, the anti-trafficking programs serving thousands of men, women, and children from around the globe who have been enslaved against their will, the shelters set-up to serve our brothers and sisters in the LGBTQIA+ community, the education and awareness being put in place amongst officers and employees as we strive to lift up those who have experienced prejudice and inequity in their lives. However, I also feel the juxtaposition of turning inward and seeking to spend much of our time and energy on

“looking the part” and “creating a performance” rather than turning outwardly toward those in need as we “speak out with courage” and strive to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a world where even the word justice has somehow become politicized. Is it possible to minister to the Salvation Army Soldiers within our four walls, focus on discipleship as we evangelize to those wandering in the darkness, and also fight for justice for the vulnerable being oppressed, downtrodden, and outcast in society? I believe so, and these six pillars are still applicable today as we seek the Holy Spirit’s guiding and attempt to reach that balance.

We, the Army, have been blessed with a powerful voice, a seat at the table, and, compared to many, great resources to do the Lord’s work around the world, so let’s continue to do just that as we act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8)!

Response to Pillar Six Of General Eva Burrows' Agenda for the Future

By Captain Jason Dockeray

“To reaffirm the importance of our young people.”

General Burrows was an inspirational leader, and her writings continue to challenge and encourage us towards mission and the future that God has laid out for us as The Salvation Army. One example of inspirational writing from the General comes as part of her “Salvation Army Agenda for the future.” While it is worth noting that not all of the points in her agenda have aged well, I was overwhelmed and encouraged by the timelessness of her words in section six:

“To reaffirm the importance of our young people.”

To realise that our young people are a great resource of our movement, and the need to show them how important they are to us and to God.

To give them a priority in our Corps programming that they deserve.

To give them a voice in our advisory forums; to allow them scope to express their aspirations and interests.

To ensure that corps life, both junior and senior, is integrated in a total corps concept.

To provide training and education in the Scriptures and in the principles of Salvation Army life, as a sound basis for Christian experience and salvationist service.

To continue to place earnestly before our young people the challenge of the call to officership as the call of Christ himself to full-time ministry. This is a challenge which no young salvationist should refuse to face up to.

In this section General Burrows reaffirms the importance of young people. While the challenge represented in this document is now decades old, the importance and emphasis she enforces is as important today as it was when it was first written.

As an advocate and supporter of children and youth, I frequently hear voices of leaders saying we need to support our young people because they are the future of our Church. While this is true, and I am happy it motivates some to work with and disciple children and youth, what General Eva understood and fully believed is that is our youth are “a great resource” not only for the future, but for today as well. Youth have kingdom value in their homes, their schools, and their churches. General Eva understood that, and her words continue to challenge us to see the potential of our children and youth to lead now.

In my role as Territorial Children and Youth secretary I have the privilege of connecting with youth and children across the territory, and I am excited to say that we have vibrant young leaders across the Territory from the East to the West and

North to South. Depending on where you serve, it may appear that children and youth ministry is in decline. And, while I will admit that numbers and stats have declined over the years, those who remain and those who have recently been called into the mission of The Salvation Army are here and they are passionate. Our young people love Jesus and desperately want to serve Him, they are fully on board with our vision and the mission of The Salvation Army to share the love of Jesus to meet human needs and to be a transforming influence in communities across the territory. I can testify that in many places across this territory our youth are leading the charge.

As such, I would encourage you, the reader, in the words of the General, “to provide training and education in the Scriptures and in the principles of Salvation Army life, as a sound basis for Christian experience and salvationist service.” As we train and develop our young people, we will be making Christ centered others focused disciples, who in turn will make disciples themselves. Many of our young people are well on their way to a life of service and mission. In fact, right now, sitting in corps across the territory we have hundreds of young people who were trained and developed at camps across the territory this summer, who are ready to lead at the local level. I implore you, as the General once did, to listen to the voices of our young people and provide them with tangible opportunities to serve and lead.

Finally, as you engage your children and youth, join them as discernment partners, helping them to see where God is moving and leading in their life as I am as confident God is still calling our young people to a life of mission and service as officers and soldier leaders in The Salvation Army.