



Prayer
Network

Prayer
MATTERS

JULY 2026



Dear Prayer Matters readers

Welcome to July's edition of *Prayer Matters*. This is the month when many of our Salvation Army officers will be moving to new appointments and when many of our corps and centres will go through transitions: things finishing, new things in planning and changes to leadership. We give a significant amount of prayer to these transitions, knowing that prayer makes a difference.

In our Justice and Reconciliation prayers, we're focusing on the topic of domestic abuse; and our Care for Creation prayers pick up the challenges we in The Salvation Army face if we are to tread more gently on this planet God has given us.

We visit Scotland for our divisional focus, praying for both the South and Central Scotland Division and the North Scotland Division, and our International Salvation Army prayers take us to Africa, Asia, Europe and America.

Our Sabbath Prayers on Sunday pick up the theme of this month's Deeper Life Journal, as we reflect on what it means to listen more deeply. To sign up for the Journal, [click here](#).

Thank you for praying with us, and, as the Apostle Paul said in his letter to the Corinthians, may you know that your labour isn't in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Lyndall Bywater
UKI Boiler Room Team





WEDNESDAY 1 JULY **Covenant Day**

Today is Covenant Day at William Booth College. Pray for the Keepers of the Covenant cadets as they gather to prayerfully consider and sign their Officer Covenant. Pray for peace, comfort and assurance as they kneel at the Mercy Seat, affirming their commitment and surrender to God's will. Pray too for the 22 officers retiring this year who will be coming to join the community in worship and reflection today. Pray that all who gather will hear God's voice clearly and respond faithfully to his prompting: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight' (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Major Susan Woodgate, Spiritual Life Director, William Booth College



THURSDAY 2 JULY: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY **USA Western Territory**

The USA Western Territory covers 13 states in the USA mainland, as well as Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas. Children's summer holidays are well under way now, and we pray for the summer camps which will run in the territory over the coming months: that they will be places of fun, healing and salvation for every young person who attends.

We pray for the territorial leadership team of Commissioners Sue and James Betts and Colonels Ivan and Jennifer Wild.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



FRIDAY 3 JULY: GROWING IN FAITH **Together 2026 Salvation Army Gathering (4-5 July in Birmingham)**

Lord God, as the territory gathers for Together 26, with its theme 'This is us,' remind us that we are your people - called, shaped, and sent in love.

Draw us together in deep community, whether we are there in person, watching online, or faithfully praying from a distance. Help us to be united in purpose and belonging. Deepen our identity in Christ and renew our shared calling.

Lieut-Colonel Jane Cowell, Assistant Chief Secretary



SATURDAY 4 JULY: CARE FOR CREATION

Net Zero

The UK and Ireland Territory is on a journey to Net Zero by 2040. However, we will reach this only if we all do our bit to reduce our carbon emissions and to care well for creation, treading softly in our ministry. Lord, help me be mindful of the way I live, of the things I buy and the things I waste, thinking each time how it might impact this one precious world.

Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer



SUNDAY 5 JULY: SABBATH PRAYERS

Deeper Listening - Deeper answers

After Jesus fed the five thousand, the crowd wanted more - more bread, more signs, more certainty (John 6:26-35). Yet Jesus led them beyond what was easy toward what was deeper, harder and truer.

Lord Jesus, we thank you that you do not leave us with shallow answers. Draw us beyond slogans and familiar words into the depth of who you really are. Give us courage to seek truth, even when it unsettles us.

- What Christian phrase or idea have you accepted without question? Hold it before God today. Ask what is true within it and what may need to grow or change.

LMajor Gordon Cotterill, Secretary for Spiritual Life Development



MONDAY 6 JULY: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Together 2026 and Beyond

Gracious God, we pray today for all those who attended Together 2026, giving thanks for the blessings received, the lives changed and the relationships forged. As people return to the normal rhythm of their days, we pray that you will remind them of what they heard you say over the weekend, and that the seed of your word will take root in the soil of their lives.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



TUESDAY 7 JULY: SERVING AND CARING **Officers Leaving an Appointment**

Father, we pray for officers who will be leaving an appointment this month, that they will have the physical energy needed for packing, cleaning and organising for moving home and work. We ask that you will bring peace and acceptance as they leave ministries and friendships behind, and that you will give reassurance of the constancy of your presence in this time of change.

Major Carol Young, Bath Prayer Room



WEDNESDAY 8 JULY: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION **The Salvation Army's Response to Domestic Abuse**

Pray that The Salvation Army will increasingly become a place of refuge and safety for those affected by domestic abuse. Pray for courage to recognise abuse, wisdom to respond well, and compassion that listens without judgement. Pray that more corps will become equipped as 'Restored Beacon Churches', ready to speak truth and support survivors and to walk faithfully beside those seeking healing and safety.

Lieutenant Amanda Sewell, Dublin City Corps



THURSDAY 9 JULY: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY **Spain and Portugal Territory**

'Our vision is to be strong in the mission of evangelising to all people, recognising that this is God's time for us to have open minds, spirits and hearts to embrace those who suffer.'

With just 15 faith communities at the present time, the people of the Spain and Portugal Territory have a big vision and a big heart. We pray that God will strengthen them for the work, and fill them with faith to keep believing for what they long to see.

We pray for the territorial leadership team: Lieut-Colonels Rafael and Karina Giusti and Major Sandra Bastos Carreño.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team

(Quote taken from www.salvationarmy.org/territories/spain-and-portugal)



FRIDAY 10 JULY: GROWING IN FAITH

South and Central Scotland Division

Pray for officers taking up new appointments within the division. As officers wave farewell and move away from current responsibilities to new areas and new people, pray that the Holy Spirit will go with them and make the transitions smooth. Pray for the corps who receive them, that they may welcome them with love and grace as they begin this new phase of ministry together.

Major Sarah Price, Divisional Leader



SATURDAY 11 JULY: CARE FOR CREATION

Fuel

As a Salvation Army, our biggest carbon emissions come from our buildings (heating, lighting and household appliances). When this energy comes from burning fossil fuels like coal and gas, harmful emissions are released into the atmosphere. Father, help us to change to renewable energy sources where we can, and protect your living Earth and the people who rely on it.

Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer



SUNDAY 12 JULY: SABBATH PRAYERS

Deeper Listening - Deeper questions

When Thomas doubted the resurrection, he refused to accept second-hand testimony and sought to see and know for himself (John 20:24-29). Jesus did not reject him but met him in his questioning.

Risen Christ, we thank you that you welcome honest doubt and searching faith. Free us from fear of asking difficult questions, and lead us into a deeper, more resilient trust.

- What questions about God or faith have you been avoiding? Gently bring one into the light today and ask how God might meet you within it.

Major Gordon Cotterill, Secretary for Spiritual Life Development



MONDAY 13 JULY: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Leadership Changes

Today we pray for corps who are transitioning to leadership without an officer. We pray for leadership teams, that people will play to their strengths and be encouraged by the way God has been preparing them for this season. We pray that there will be a willingness to volunteer, not just at leadership level but at every level, and that this will be a season when people discover that God has equipped them with so much more than they had imagined.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



TUESDAY 14 JULY: SERVING AND CARING

Officers in Transition

During these days of 'betwixt and between one season and another', we pray that this time will bring opportunities for affirmation, assurance and anticipation rather than anxiety or impatience. Father, let there be relinquishment of what has now gone, and trust in you as we wait to step out in faith into the unknown.

Major Carol Young, Bath Prayer Room



WEDNESDAY 15 JULY: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The Injustice of Domestic Abuse

Pray for all those affected by domestic abuse, and for hidden suffering to be brought into the light. Pray that silence will be broken, that those harmed will be defended and supported justly, and that dignity and identity will be restored. Ask God to help create homes marked by peace, love, joy and kindness, leaving no place for violence, oppression, fear or coercive control.

Lieutenant Amanda Sewell, Dublin City Corps



THURSDAY 16 JULY: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY India Northern Territory

'The present territory was established on 1 June 1991. Serving across 11 states, India Northern Territory remains committed to the holistic transformation of society.'

As the India Northern Territory marks the 35th anniversary of its establishment (though the Army has been there for much longer than 35 years), we pray for the joy of a spiritual 'reset' - that God will send refreshing and renewal; that old hurts and burdens will be lifted; and that a new era of mission and ministry will open up.

We pray for the leadership team of Commissioner Vanlalfela Chawnglut, Commissioner Khupchawng Ropari, Lieut-Colonel Abraham Lincoln Mudda and Lieut-Colonel Mercy Manjula Mudda.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team
(Quote taken from www.salvationarmy.org/india/northern)



FRIDAY 17 JULY: GROWING IN FAITH North Scotland Division

Pray with us for the officers who have received a new appointment to the division: Majors Mel and Steve Scoulding as Community Chaplains to Caithness, and Captain Rebecca Zund as Divisional Mission Officer. We pray that they will soon settle into their new appointments, and that they will feel at home in North Scotland.

David Womersley, Shetland Salvation Army



SATURDAY 18 JULY: CARE FOR CREATION Transport

Transport accounts for around one quarter of global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from energy, which contributes to an ever-warming world. Here in The Salvation Army (UK and Ireland), our mission and business travel clocks up almost five million miles a year, with 80 per cent of our travel emissions coming from road travel. Lord, help us consider the environmental cost of our travel and make cleaner, healthier choices

Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer



SUNDAY 19 JULY: SABBATH PRAYERS

Deeper Listening - Deeper trust

The book of Job resists simple explanations for suffering, refusing to reduce pain to easy answers (Job 38 to 42). Instead, Job encounters God in mystery and wonder.

God of wisdom, we confess our tendency to prefer quick explanations over faithful presence. Teach us to sit with complexity and to trust you even when clarity does not come.

- Where in your own life do simple answers feel insufficient? Stay with that place today and ask what it might mean to meet God there without resolving it too quickly.

Major Gordon Cotterill, Secretary for Spiritual Life Development



MONDAY 20 JULY: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

North Scotland Division

We thank God for the mighty moving of his Spirit throughout the North Scotland Division. It is a joy to see and hear all the wonderful ministry opportunities happening in so many places, and folk coming to know and serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

David Womersley, Shetland Salvation Army



TUESDAY 21 JULY: SERVING AND CARING

Officers Welcomed into New Appointments

We pray for officers moving into their new roles, and for corps, communities and teams as they receive new officers. May they all be ready and eager to make connections and build strong relationships. Protect them from rushing ahead of you; protect them from holding back from the new opportunities which this new appointment and new season bring.

Major Carol Young, Bath Prayer Room



WEDNESDAY 22 JULY: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION **Survivors of Domestic Abuse**

Pray for survivors of domestic abuse, recognising that healing is often a long and difficult journey. Pray that those who have experienced fear will find safety, those burdened by shame will rediscover dignity and worth, and those facing despair will receive renewed hope. Ask God to surround survivors with wise support, loving community and opportunities to flourish, reminding them they are deeply loved and never alone.

Lieutenant Amanda Sewell, Dublin City Corps



THURSDAY 23 JULY: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY **Japan Territory**

We give thanks for the work of The Salvation Army in Japan: feeding the hungry, caring for older people and helping make life fairer and safer for so many people. We pray for those who worship with the Army, that their spiritual lives will go deeper, and that their love for Jesus will go from strength to strength.

We pray for all who work to support what is happening at local level, and particularly for Territorial Leaders Colonels Tamotsu and Kazue Nishimura.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



FRIDAY 24 JULY: GROWING IN FAITH **Territorial Music School (25 July - 1 August)**

Lord, as students and staff gather for Territorial Music School, we thank you for the opportunities a week like this brings. There will be rejoicing, music-making, Bible study, rich fellowship and deep searching as we encounter you in new ways and witness you at work. We offer the whole of TMS to you as an act of worship, and pray that everything that takes place will bring glory to you.

Captains Kat and Jonny Whitmore, Territorial Youth and Children's Secretaries



SATURDAY 25 JULY: CARE FOR CREATION

Food

It's the production of animal-based foods such as red meat and dairy which tends to emit the highest amount of greenhouse gases. Plant-based foods (fruits and vegetables, whole grains, beans and nuts etc) generally use less energy, land and water than animal-based foods. Father, help me to look at my own diet and consider whether there are hard choices I need to make for the sake of your world.

Major Heather Poxon, Territorial Environmental Officer



SUNDAY 26 JULY: SABBATH PRAYERS

Deeper Listening - Deeper engagement

The Bereans were commended because they did not passively accept what they heard, but examined it carefully in the light of Scripture (Acts 17:11). Their faith was active, thoughtful and engaged.

Holy Spirit, awaken in us a desire for truth that goes beyond inherited belief. Form in us a faith that is both humble and discerning, rooted deeply in Christ.

- In what ways have you relied on others' beliefs rather than wrestling with them yourself? Take one step today through study, prayer or conversation to make your faith more truly your own.

Major Gordon Cotterill, Secretary for Spiritual Life Development



MONDAY 27 JULY: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

South and Central Scotland Division

On Friday, the staff team will assemble for Summer Camp, ready to welcome over 90 young people for the week, coming together for fellowship, worship and fun. Pray for the young people to encounter Jesus in a deeper way and that decisions for him will be made. May the staff team be blessed and energised and also led deeper in their own faith.

Major Sarah Price, Divisional Leader



TUESDAY 28 JULY: SERVING AND CARING **Cadets on Summer Placement**

This summer, corps across the territory have the joy of welcoming cadets from the Proclaimers of Transformation Session for their 12-week placements. Please pray that these cadets will feel encouraged, strengthened and deeply aware of God's anointing as they serve in communities. Pray too for welcoming hearts, meaningful connections, and for this season to bring affirmation and confirmation of God's calling on their lives. 'May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had' (Romans 15:5).

Major Susan Woodgate, Spiritual Life Director, William Booth College



WEDNESDAY 29 JULY: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION **Children Exposed to Domestic Abuse**

Pray for children living with the impact of domestic abuse, recognising the deep and lasting effects it can have on their emotional, physical and mental wellbeing. Pray that anxious hearts would be calmed and troubled minds comforted. Ask God to surround these children with trusted adults who will protect, nurture and help them heal, so they may grow free from fear, confident in their worth and secure in love and safety, so that they will flourish in life.

Lieutenant Amanda Sewell, Dublin City Corps



THURSDAY 30 JULY: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY **Congo (Brazzaville) Territory**

'Our mission is to manifest the love of Jesus Christ, meet people's basic needs and be a transforming influence on communities in The Republic of Congo, Gabon and Cameroon.'

We pray for Salvationists in the Congo (Brazzaville) Territory, that God will give them the gifts they need to bring love, joy and peace to people whose lives have been affected by violence or the shadow of conflict. We pray they will have faith for miracles, as they pray for their neighbours, work colleagues and those who come to the Army for help.

We pray for the territorial leadership team: Colonel Jean Laurore and Elianise Clenat and Lieut-Colonels Celestin and Beatrice Ayabagabo.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team
(Quote taken from www.salvationarmy.org/territories/congo-brazzaville)



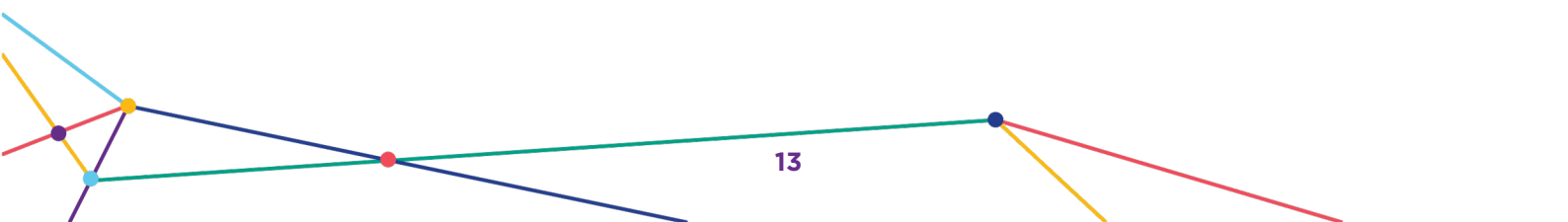
FRIDAY 31 JULY: GROWING IN FAITH

Territorial Music School (25 July - 1 August)

Loving God, as delegates of TMS prepare for their final concert, we pray that they will be able to clear their minds of any unnecessary worry, knowing that all that has been prepared for the concert has been done in Jesus' name. We thank you for everything that has happened in the week, and we ask your blessing on this final part, knowing that your favour rests on those who praise your holy name. May all that we present be a blessing, a challenge, and an encouragement to those who share it, and may your Holy Spirit move among all of us, drawing us closer to you.

Stephanie Lamplough, Assistant Director, Music and Creative Arts

NOTES





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 **The Salvation Army, SA Prayer Network,
1 Champion Park, London, SE5 8FJ**

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 **saprayernetwork@salvationarmy.org.uk**

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