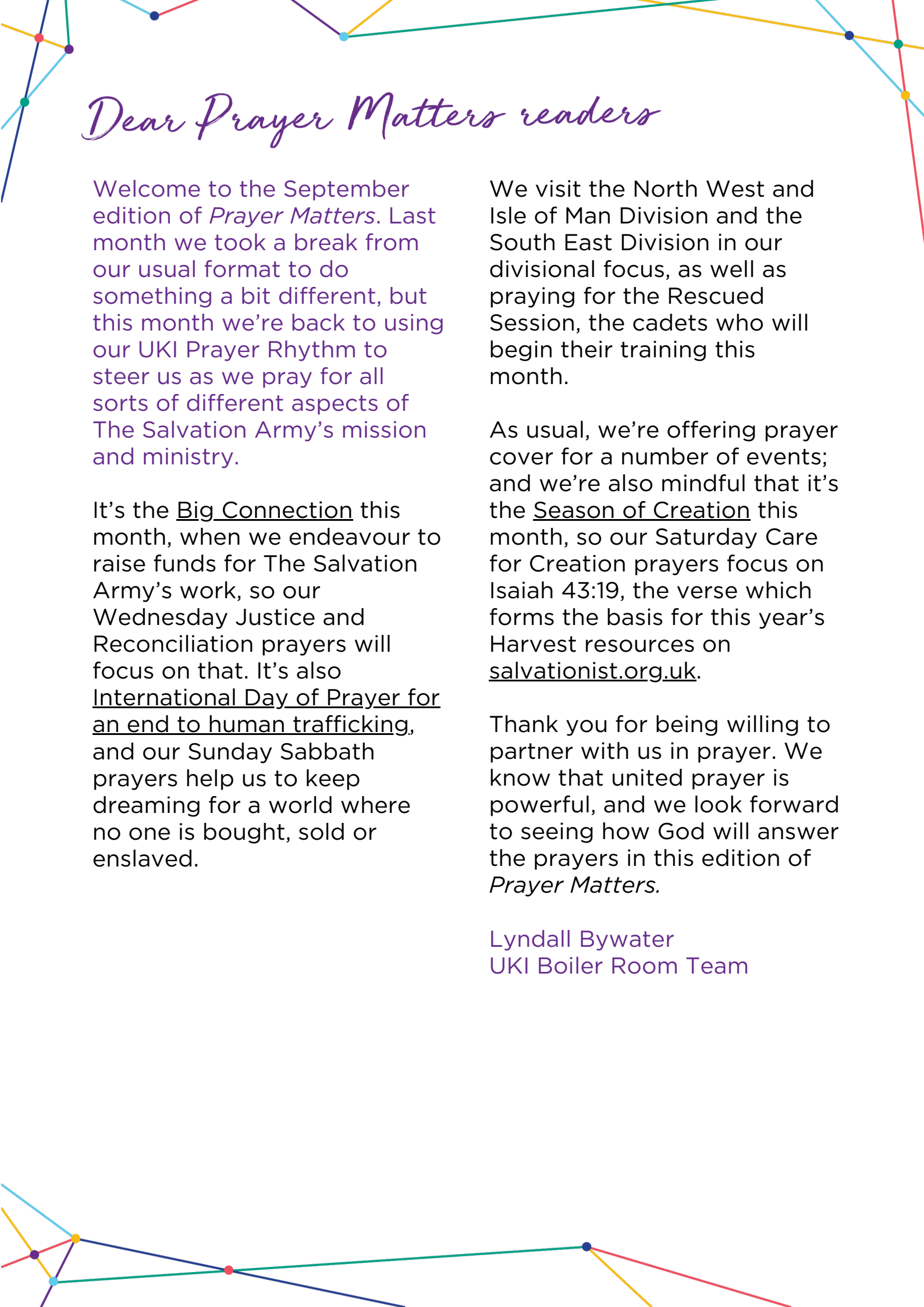




Prayer
Network

Prayer **MATTERS**

SEPTEMBER 2026



Dear Prayer Matters readers

Welcome to the September edition of *Prayer Matters*. Last month we took a break from our usual format to do something a bit different, but this month we're back to using our UKI Prayer Rhythm to steer us as we pray for all sorts of different aspects of The Salvation Army's mission and ministry.

It's the Big Connection this month, when we endeavour to raise funds for The Salvation Army's work, so our Wednesday Justice and Reconciliation prayers will focus on that. It's also International Day of Prayer for an end to human trafficking, and our Sunday Sabbath prayers help us to keep dreaming for a world where no one is bought, sold or enslaved.

We visit the North West and Isle of Man Division and the South East Division in our divisional focus, as well as praying for the Rescued Session, the cadets who will begin their training this month.

As usual, we're offering prayer cover for a number of events; and we're also mindful that it's the Season of Creation this month, so our Saturday Care for Creation prayers focus on Isaiah 43:19, the verse which forms the basis for this year's Harvest resources on salvationist.org.uk.

Thank you for being willing to partner with us in prayer. We know that united prayer is powerful, and we look forward to seeing how God will answer the prayers in this edition of *Prayer Matters*.

Lyndall Bywater
UKI Boiler Room Team



TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER: SERVING AND CARING

**Get SET! Day for parent-and-toddler groups
(5 September at William Booth College)**

After Sunday worship, parent-and-toddler groups are the most-attended activity within The Salvation Army in the United Kingdom and Ireland Territory. Every week, these groups open doors for families to experience welcome, community and God's love – making them one of our most significant areas of mission. Pray for this day to celebrate and equip parent-and-toddler groups, that it will be an oasis of encouragement and joy for all who attend.

Taken from www.salvationist.org.uk/events/get-set-conference



WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The Big Connection – Coming Together

We pray for the success of this year's appeal, not only in terms of donations but also in a growing interconnectedness between our corps, and between corps and their local communities. We pray for an increase in those corps willing to take up the Big Connection Appeal. May their labours bear fruit, touching hearts with the saving grace of Christ.

Rob Collins, Appeals Officer



THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY

Democratic Republic of Congo Territory

The DRC Territory has almost 500 schools across the country, where the love of God is shared and local communities are served. Pray for children attending these schools, often in the midst of conflict, that they will be given a grounding from which to build a healthy, hopeful life, and that they will leave with a deep experience of Jesus in their hearts. Pray for the territorial leadership team: Colonels Dieudonné and Philippine Tsilulu and Lieut-Colonels Ayami and Mangituka Mabundu.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH

Cadets of the Rescued Session

‘For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.’ (Colossians 1:13, chosen as the key verse for this session)

Pray for me and my fellow cadets, that we will be sensitive, obedient and dependent on the Lord throughout this next season of training for officership. Pray that we won’t take what was started in the Spirit and try to finish it in the flesh (Galatians 3:3). We know that there is academic and practical training to be undertaken, but pray that we won’t want to let practical demands distract us from what the Lord wants to continue to speak to us in this next chapter.

Cadet Samuel Taylor



SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION

Season of Creation – Dry lands

‘I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it? I have put roads in deserts, streams in thirsty lands.’ (Isaiah 43:19, *CEV*)

Creator God, we give you thanks for the changing seasons which remind us of your faithfulness. We hold in our hearts those places where desert dryness has turned to wildfire over recent months, asking you to send water where it is so desperately needed. And we own our part in doing what we can to help the natural world to flourish.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYERS

Dreaming of Freedom

‘The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey ...’ (Exodus 3:7-8, *NIV*)

Lord, you are the God who hears our cry when we are suffering. You are the God who rescues us, time and time again, and no matter how trapped life may feel, you are the God who keeps alive in us the dream of freedom.

We pray today for individuals who are trapped in exploitation and slavery, just as your people were in Egypt. Hear their cry, we pray, and bring them to freedom in a new promised land.

Rach Boyes, Head of Integrated Mission, Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery;
Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

South East Division – Remembering summer camps

Today we pray for those who have attended summer schools or camps over the summer months. May they remember that they are seen, known and loved by God as they go back into their everyday lives at corps across the division. May God give their corps ears that are ready to hear from the young people as they share their experiences and all they have heard from the Holy Spirit.

Shelley Gallagher, Divisional Intergenerational Worker and Prayer Coordinator



TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER: SERVING AND CARING

South East Division – Rest and retreat

As women from across the South East Division meet together for their first divisional Riverbank, and as spiritual leaders share in a time of retreat this month, pray that they will find time to rest in God's presence. Pray that they will be able to step away from the noise of the world to meet with God.

Shelley Gallagher, Divisional Intergenerational Worker and Prayer Coordinator



WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The Big Connection – Fundraising as mission

We pray for those who have decided to take up the challenge of the appeal, and to invite others into the sacrificial act of giving, so that they too may experience its transformative effects. Let us pray for everyone who gives, that they will discover the freedom and joy that come with generosity. May they know the truth of Jesus' words about the lilies of the field who neither toil nor spin (Luke 12:27), that as they give to others to further the work of justice in our world, God will provide what they need.

Rob Collins, Appeals Officer



THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY **Canada and Bermuda Territory**

As the largest non-governmental direct provider of social services in Canada, The Salvation Army is involved in helping to make millions of people's lives better. Give thanks for all the good work being done, and pray that the Army will realise its vision for being 'an innovative partner, mobilised to share hope wherever there is hardship, building communities that are just and know the love of Jesus'. Pray for the territorial leadership team of Commissioners Lee and Debbie Graves and Colonel Margaret McLeod.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH **Cadets of the Rescued Session**

'For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.' (Colossians 1:13, chosen as the key verse for this session)

I pray that our session will bond quickly with one another as friends and companions in the gospel. I pray that this time together in college will be marked by increased spiritual zeal and insight. I pray that the college will become a greenhouse for our growth, and that our expectations for what we will learn will be blown away. I pray that intellectual accumulation will give way to heart transformation.

Cadet Samuel Taylor



SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION **Season of Creation - Renewal**

'Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands. Wild animals will say 'Thank you!' - the coyotes and the buzzards - because I provided water in the desert, rivers through the sunbaked earth, drinking water for the people I chose, the people I made especially for myself, a people custom-made to praise me.' (Isaiah 43:19-21, MSG)

Read these words a few times over, noticing all the ways in which God promises to bring renewal, not just in a spiritual way but in physical, social and ecological ways too.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYERS

Dreaming of Rebuilding

'You'll use the old rubble of past lives to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of your past. You'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.' (Isaiah 58:12, *MSG*)

God our Redeemer, in you nothing is wasted. You are the God who holds us as the walls come down, and you are the God who shows us how to build again, but better. Even when all we see is rubble, you teach us to hope.

We pray today for those whose lives have been ruined by greed, exploitation and cruelty, that you will help them find strength to build from what has been broken, and that you will give them hope.

Rach Boyes, Head of Integrated Mission, Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery;
Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Partnership Trophy (16 September)

The Partnership Trophy is an annual five-a-side football tournament organised by The Salvation Army for individuals experiencing homelessness. It brings together teams from various Lifehouses, supported housing, outreach programmes and drop-in services. Pray for this year's event happening on Wednesday, that each person taking part will feel valued for who they are and the experiences they bring. May it be a space of encouragement, connection and celebration, and may it make a difference for those within our Homelessness Services.

Nathan Slinn, Deputy Director, Homelessness Services



TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER: SERVING AND CARING

Territorial Leaders Conference (15-18 September)

Jesus, thank you for our Salvation Army leadership who will gather to conference together. Thank you for their obedience to your call on their lives. Thank you for their desire to spend time listening to you and we lift them to you as they endeavour to envision our mission in the current landscape. We pray these days will bring nourishment, clarity and renewed vision.

Commissioner Jenine Main, Territorial Leader for Leader Development



WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The Big Connection – Fundraisers

We pray for those individuals taking up fundraising challenges, that God will bless their endeavours, comforting them when they face rejection and inspiring them through their successes. We pray especially for those taking up the appeal for the first time and engaging with some of the new transformative activities, such as digital abstinence and community projects.

Rob Collins, Appeals Officer



THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY

Switzerland, Austria and Hungary Territory

Pray for The Salvation Army across Switzerland, Austria and Hungary: for the corps, which are often small, seeking to share the love of Jesus in their communities; for the social projects bringing help and comfort to the lives of so many people; for each worshipping community, as people gather to connect with each other and with God. Pray for the territorial leadership team: Commissioners Heidi and Daniel Imboden and Lieut-Colonels Joël and Karen Etcheverry.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH

‘Design for Life’ (18-20 September at William Booth College)

More and more people around the territory are hearing the ‘9:38’ call – the invitation to pause for prayer at 9:38 every day to ask the Lord to send workers into the harvest fields (Matthew 9:38). We give thanks that God is answering our 9:38 prayers, which is why a group of people will gather this weekend to explore God’s call on their life and where it might take them in terms of leadership within The Salvation Army.

Lord, as people gather for ‘DFL’, speak to these workers who are offering themselves in your harvest fields, and show them what fullness of life in your service might look like for them.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION

Season of Creation - New ways

‘Watch closely: I am preparing something new; it’s happening now, even as I speak, and you’re about to see it. I am preparing a way through the desert; waters will flow where there had been none.’ (Isaiah 43:19, *VOICE*)

God of wonders, we step gladly into this harvest season, giving thanks for your provision. We remember with gratitude the moments when we have had more than enough, and we hold in our hearts those who rarely have enough; those who live in parts of the world where harvests are unpredictable and resources scarce. We pray for the people you have raised up to do new things there: teaching new agricultural methods and providing equipment to help people farm sustainably.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYERS

Dreaming of Justice

‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away. And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.”’ (Revelation 21:4-5, *NRSV*)

Creator God, you are the one who made us and who remakes us; the potter who can take even the most misshapen piece and rework it into beauty. Today we welcome the truth of your coming Kingdom and the restoration of all things.

We pray for survivors of human trafficking and modern slavery; for justice and lasting freedom; for opportunity and belonging; for courage to trust that you can make all things new.

Rach Boyes, Head of Integrated Mission, Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery;
Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

North West and Isle of Man Division - Settling in

Give thanks for the officers who have recently taken up new appointments across the North West and Isle of Man Division. Pray for them as they learn names, find their feet and begin to love the communities they have been sent to. Pray too for their children, starting new terms at unfamiliar schools/colleges, that friendships will come quickly and that each family will begin to feel at home.

Major Steve Fripp, Divisional Mission Officer



TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER: SERVING AND CARING

Food Poverty

A recent report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation showed that almost half of the families living on a low income in the UK have gone hungry, cut down the size of their meals or skipped meals altogether over the period of a month. This equates to about 5.6 million households. 1.5 million households have also used a food bank in that same period of time.

Gracious God, we pray for all those who don't know how they will feed themselves or their family this week, that they will find the help they need, and be able to access it without feeling shame. We pray too for the hundreds of Salvation Army corps and centres which are working to feed people. Guide them as they seek to know how best to help those in food poverty.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The Big Connection - Engagement and impact

We pray that the appeal will touch the hearts and minds of local people who have not experienced the saving grace of Christ. We pray that these encounters will become like mustard seeds which will grow into a forest of Spirit-inspired initiatives that will champion justice and reconciliation, bringing transformation to our communities.

Rob Collins, Appeals Officer



THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY

India South Western Territory

Pray for the India South Western Territory, stretched across the region of Kerala, where The Salvation Army is involved in a whole host of social work, as well as gathering for worship and sharing the good news of Jesus in local communities. Pray for protection and provision for those who serve as officers in the territory, and pray that they will hear God's voice clearly among the demands of their ministry. Pray for the territorial leadership team of Colonels Prakash Chandra Pradhan and Raniphula Pradhan and Lieut-Colonels Jacob John Joseph and Sonia Jacob.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER: GROWING IN FAITH

**Welcome Meeting for the Rescued Session
(26 September at William Booth College)**

‘For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.’ (Colossians 1:13, chosen as the key verse for this session)

As the cadets of the Rescued Session are welcomed formally into training, we pray that God’s Spirit will rest on each of them in a new way. We pray for the Central, Southern and Channel Islands Divisional Youth Chorus and everyone else who will be taking part in the meeting. We pray that the cadets’ friends and families who attend will be reached and blessed by the worship, the preaching and the love of the community they find themselves in.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER: CARE FOR CREATION

Season of Creation - Looking and learning

‘Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already – you can see it now! I will make a road through the wilderness and give you streams of water there.’ (Isaiah 43:19, *GNB*)

God of love, you call us to watch; not to turn a blind eye and hope for the best, but to choose to see what you are doing. Give us courage to open our eyes, to see not only the problems but also the new solutions you are teaching us. Give us faith to believe for a healthier world, and determination to partner with you in working towards it.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER: SABBATH PRAYERS

**International Day of Prayer for
Victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking**

‘Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honours God.’ (Proverbs 14:31, *NIV*)

God of salvation, on this day of prayer for those who have been trafficked or sold into slavery, we pray that you will help us to open our eyes and not to turn away in fear. We pray that you will raise up people in our local communities who recognise the signs of exploitation and have the courage to speak out.

We pray that you will give us discerning, sensitive hearts, so that we notice the people who most need our kindness and our help.

Rach Boyes, Head of Integrated Mission, Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery;
Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

North West and Isle of Man Division – Towards winter

Pray for the division's Lifehouses, food banks and community projects as they look towards winter. Requests for help usually increase from September onwards, and those who give the help carry a lot. Pray for the staff, officers and volunteers who will sit with people in real hardship this autumn: for compassion that does not run dry, and for the resources to meet what comes.

Major Steve Fripp, Divisional Mission Officer



TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER: SERVING AND CARING

Colonels Peter and Julie Forrest

Saturday's Cadets Welcome Meeting at William Booth College was also an opportunity to recognise and give thanks for the years of faithful service which Chief Secretary Colonel Peter Forrest and Territorial Secretary for Leader Development Colonel Julie Forrest have given to God in The Salvation Army. They both leave their current appointments tomorrow, and as Colonel Peter steps into retirement and Colonel Julie takes up new responsibilities as Deputy Director for Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery, we pray for them both: for a smooth transition and a sense of joyful anticipation for all that God has for them in the future.

Lyndall Bywater, UKI Boiler Room Team



WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER: JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The Big Connection – Care for the broken and forgotten

We pray that the appeal will be an opportunity for people in our local communities to see the often unsung but essential everyday work of The Salvation Army – the toddlers' groups, the after-school clubs, the employment, addiction and literacy support, and so much more. We pray that all those who need our support, the isolated and those who simply feel ground down by life, will be able to access our services. We pray too that others will feel inspired to support our work.

Rob Collins, Appeals Officer

NOTES





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