Central Vic Salvos

7th January 2024

THE TIME IN BETWEEN:

A New year Reflection by General Lyndon Buckingham

At the time of writing this short reflection I am enjoying the days between Christmas and New Year. It's vacation time and the pace is much slower than normal. I am looking out over beautiful, rolling green hills and it is so quiet and peaceful. I can feel my mind and body going, 'aaaaahhhh'. Thank you, Lord, for days of rest and restoration. It is a perfect time for reflection. I thank God for his grace, mercy and love in my life and the lives of my family. I acknowledge his faithfulness to all his promises. I can see his hand throughout the events of 2023. I acknowledge, without hesitation, the impact of his sustaining grace during a year full of challenges and possibilities. God is good. I reflect on the power of prayer, the vitality of God's Word and the joy of fellowshipping with his people. I recognise the privilege of being engaged in the mission of God as expressed through my service in The Salvation Army. I also give thanks for the impact of Salvation Army ministry around the world. I am thankful for Salvationists globally who have served faithfully throughout 2023, many in extremely difficult circumstances. Your faithfulness and dedication is an inspiration to me. It also makes a difference in our world.

GOD'S PROMISES FOR A NEW YEAR.

The time 'in between' prompts some thought about the New Year. I know there are many people who face the year with a degree of anxiety, fear and uncertainty. The world is very troubled at present. Our news is full of reports that increase our concern and cause us to wonder what the year might bring for us all.

I have been reflecting on some Scriptures I find both reassuring and motivating as I prepare to embrace 2024. Zephaniah 3:17 (New International Version): 'The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.' Lamentations 3:22-23: 'Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.' Isaiah 41:10: 'So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.' With promises that include his presence, salvation, love, strength and faithfulness, I am ready to embrace the challenges and the opportunities a new year offers. How about you?

READY TO GIVE A REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT IS IN US.

Whilst the world may be full of uncertainty, our mission in the world as The Salvation Army remains very certain. Let's continue to be a people who love God supremely, always looking for opportunities to give him praise and credit for who he is and what he has done for us in Jesus. Let's always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us. We need a global Army bursting with people ready and willing to communicate the difference Jesus has made in our lives; that salvation is possible for the whosoever through faith in him.

I want us to continue to demonstrate our love for God by loving others, especially the unloved, the vulnerable and those forced to the margins of society. Finding ways to care for others becomes a practical demonstration of the values of the Kingdom of God.

THE POWER OF A HOLY LIFE.

I encourage all of us to be very intentional in our discipleship journey in 2024, pursuing holiness in every area of our lives. Please do not underestimate the power and influence a holy life can have on those around you. A life lived to the glory of God and with a genuine desire to be the aroma of Christ in the world will have impact. Our individual contribution may be small, but the collective impact can, and will be, significant.

The world needs the contribution we can make. We may be small in number, but we can and will be a mighty force for good when clear about our mission, empowered by the Holy Spirit and willing to get involved. Count me in! Grace and peace.

God bless you.

Bendigo/Eaglehawk



Craft, activities, food, exploring faith in God together in a relaxed, fun atmosphere



Bendigo Banking Details

Account Name: The Salvation Army BSB: 033-688 Number: 811 119

WEEKLY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

SUNDAY 10.00am - Celebration Service

65-71 Mundy St, Bendigo *School terms only

BENDIGO THRIFT SHOP

2B Thistle Street, Golden Square Ph: 03 5441 7608 **Open Hours:** 9am-4:30pm Monday to Friday 9am-2pm Saturday



Eaglehawk Banking Details Account Name: The Salvation Army BSB: 033-688 Number: 803 234

WEEKLY PROGRAMS & SERVICES SUNDAY

10.00am - Celebration Service

51 Church St, Eaglehawk *School terms only Progrma's in recess until Feb 2024

EAGLEHAWK THRIFT SHOP

4 Marong Rd, Ironbark Ph: 03 5446 7928 **Open Hours:** 9:30am-5pm Monday to Friday 9:30am-4pm Saturday



INSTALLATION of Major Karen Armstrong

Sunday 21st January 2024 at 10.00am followed by a BBQ Lunch

We wish to welcome Karen to the CVS team with the responsibility of Eaglehawk. Please pray for Karen as she gets ready to move and settle into her new position

CENTRAL VIC SALVOS MONTHLY

Prayer & Worship Night

5-6pm Sunday 28th January 2024 Maryborough Corps 27 Wills St, Maryborough

Please bring a plate of food to share following the meeting





Thank you Ken for everything you have done this past year

🖉 Castlemaine / Maryborough



CASTLEMAINE THRIFT SHOP

46 Forest Street, Castlemaine Ph: 03 5470 5636 **Open Hours:**

Reopens 8th January

10am-4pm Monday to Friday 10am-3pm Saturday

WEEKLY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

SUNDAY

9:45am - Band Rehearsal 10:30am - Celebration Service 11.00am - Audio Service | 105.0FM

programs resume Feb 2024 47 Kennedy St, Castlemaine *School terms only

MARYBOROUGH WEEKLY PROGRAMS & SERVICES SUNDAY

9:15am - Prayer Meeting 10.00am - Celebration Service (Pancake church 1st Sunday, Bible Discussion and corps lunch 3rd Sunday)

> Programs resume Feb 2024 27 Wills St, Maryborough *School terms only

CASTLEMAINE DOORWAYS

Resumes Wednesday 10th January



Fhuay 20th at 6.50ah

Station Domain Crn Nolan & Burke Street Maryborough

Serving Our Community Tea, Coffee and Breakfast

ST ARNAUD THRIFT SHOP

70-72 Napier Street, St Arnaud Ph: 03 5459 0503

Open Hours: 9:30am - 3:30pm Monday to Friday 10am-2pm Saturday

AVOCA THRIFT SHOP

114 High Street, Avoca Ph: 03 5459 0502

Open Hours: 10:00am - 3:30pm Mon, Wed, Fri

Bible Discussion

Worship and Bible Discussion together followed by a bring and share Corps lunch. 10.00am 3rd Sunday of the Month





THE SALVATION ARMY CENTRAL VIC SALVOS

BENDIGO

Corps Officers: Maj. Andrew Walker

Capt. Ashir Morris and Hummera Ashir 65 – 71 Mundy Street, Bendigo | 03 5440 8431 corpsofficer.castlemaine@salvationarmy.org.au

corpsofficer.bendigo@salvationarmy.org.au

EAGLEHAWK

CASTLEMAINE

Corps Officer: Capt. Amy Jones

47 Kennedy Street, Castlemaine | 03 5470 5389

MARYBOROUGH

Corps Officers: Capt. Amy & Ronald Stobie **Corps Contact: Maj. Karen Armstrong** (17th Jan) 27 Wills St, Maryborough | 03 5459 0500 51 Church Street, Eaglehawk | (03) 5446 8135 corpsofficer.eaglehawk@salvationarmy.org.au corpsofficer.maryborough@salvationarmy.org.au



Doorways is our Community Support program. It is the entryway through which those experiencing hardship and/or disadvantage can take proactive steps to find the support they need to overcome life's challenges and find long-term solutions. We offer a range of services from emergency relief to case management and more.

If you are experiencing hardship or financial difficulties, please call the Salvos Phone Assistance Line (PAL) on 03 8873 5288. This service operates Monday to Friday between 9am and 4pm.

Please be aware no assistance interviews will be conducted from our local sites. Community members presenting to any of our Central Vic Salvos sites will be invited to contact Salvos PAL.



The Salvation Army Central Victoria acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung Peoples of the Kulin Nation, the Traditional owners of the land on which we meet and work and pay our respect to Elders past, present and future. We value and include people of all cultures, languages, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions and intersex status. We are committed to providing programs that are fully inclusive. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of people of all ages, particularly children.