

# Parksville Salvation Army Staff/Volunteer Newsletter

August 2017



Giving Hope Today

**All that we do is based on the following 10 core values:**

**Salvation** – We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all our ministries

**Holiness** – We are shaped by the Bible and the example of Jesus through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit

**Intimacy with God** – We commune with God through worship and prayer

**Compassion** – We embody God's love, reaching out to others and caring for them

**Respect** – We promote the dignity of all persons

**Excellence** – We are innovative and effective

**Integrity** – We are honest and trustworthy, accountable to God and each other

**Relevance** – We seek to understand and meet the needs of people in our communities

**Co-operation** – We encourage and foster teamwork and partnerships

**Celebration** – We are thankful to God for blessing The Salvation Army



## Emergency Disaster Services Training

For 125 years The Salvation Army has been on scene and served whenever there has been a need, hardship, natural or man-made disaster or instances of emergency. We are ready to assist locally, nationally or internationally by providing mobile feeding, shelter, spiritual ministry and support along with the distribution of necessary supplies. We respond to requests from fire, police, search & rescue and other agencies during local or provincial emergencies. We arrive fully prepared and operational in a timely manner; we are one of the first to arrive and stay as long as we are needed. Our assistance is long term, through the disaster phase and into rebuilding communities, families and lives.

The Salvation Army's first major disaster response operation in North America was in 1900 after a devastating, unnamed hurricane hit Galveston, Texas. The city, sustaining extensive property damage, was virtually destroyed. Salvation Army officers from across the country were sent to the disaster site to provide comfort, counselling, practical aid and to help in any way they could. In Canada, The Salvation Army's Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) program began in 1917 in response to the Halifax Explosion disaster on December 6. The Salvation Army dispatched personnel from across the country to assist with relief efforts which lasted for months. In addition to providing for the practical needs of those impacted, such as food and clothing, Salvation Army officers provided emotional and spiritual support to responders. "We do not know how we would have gotten along without them", wrote R.T. MacIlreith, Chairman Relief Committee.

We are planning to hold Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) Training for our staff and volunteers who are interested in being part of this ministry area on **Wednesday October 18, 2017** here in Parksville. Topics covered would include: Disaster Food Services (preparing and distributing meals from the mobile feeding units pictured above), Incident Command, Meet and Greet and Emotional and Spiritual Care. For more information, or to indicate your interest in taking this training and being part of our EDS team, please contact Earl Blacklock our Community Ministries Manager at: 250-248-8794 or [earl\\_blacklock@can.salvationarmy.org](mailto:earl_blacklock@can.salvationarmy.org)



Did you know that you can keep up with us on Facebook? Even without a Facebook account, you can search and view our page to find events and happenings within our local ministry units as well as The Salvation Army at large that will be encouraging, challenging and informative. To find, us search Facebook for: "[@PKSalvationArmy](https://www.facebook.com/PKSalvationArmy)" and watch our separate [Thrift Store page](#) under "Parksville/Qualicum Salvation Army Thrift Stores."

## First Aid Training

On the topic of being ready for emergencies, we want to ensure that we have sufficient personnel trained with First Aid on all of our shifts in case any medical emergency should happen. We have scheduled First Aid training for September 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:15am to 4:30pm in at our church in Parksville. Please speak to Joan, Trina or Dave if you are interested in being one of our First Aid attendants



## On-Site Volunteer Training

You've spoken and we've listened! The consistent feedback that we received from the volunteer experience evaluations was that volunteers would like more structured, in-depth training for their volunteer duties. In response to that, we are planning to hold once-a-month on-site volunteer orientation days at our different locations to give us the devoted time to spend orienting our volunteers on their volunteer duties and other important information that they need to be aware of at each site. All volunteers will be requested to attend one of these training events to ensure that we have consistent standards and best practices across both our long standing and new volunteers.

We are going to begin with the monthly **Soup Kitchen Volunteer Orientations**, the first of which will be held on **Thursday September 21<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm at The Soup Kitchen (187 Alberni Highway in Parksville)**. If you volunteer at the soup kitchen, please plan to attend this training. If you are unable to attend this event, we will be offering the training again in October.

We will be working towards arranging similar monthly training for our Food Bank and Thrift Store volunteers in the coming months. Stay tuned!

## Make a Difference to One

One day a man was walking along the beach. It was low tide, and the sand was littered with thousands of stranded starfish that the water had carried in and then left behind as the tide receded. As he walked, he came upon a child on the beach who was throwing one starfish after another back into the sea. The man stopped and asked the child, "What are you doing?"

"I'm saving the starfish," the child replied.

"Why waste your time?... There are so many you can't save them all so what does it matter?" stated the man.

Unaffected by the man's words, the child continued picked up another starfish and tossed the starfish back into the water and gently replied... "It mattered to this one."

Sometimes our work may feel like only a drop in the ocean of suffering humanity, but know that if our efforts make a difference in even one life, it is worth it. Thank you for investing in the "this one."

## Expired Discount Cards

Upon expiry of your thrift store discount cards, please return the cards to your manager/supervisor. Thank you!

## Volunteer Picnic!

All active volunteers and their families are invited to our volunteer appreciation picnic and BBQ on **September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at Rath Trevor Park Site #2 picnic shelter. We'll be providing the hot dogs. If you don't eat hotdogs, bring something you do eat and we'll throw it on the BBQ for you. Bring a salad to share and pray for some great weather! Please RSVP so that we know numbers! Email [volunteers@parksvillesalvationarmy.ca](mailto:volunteers@parksvillesalvationarmy.ca) or call the office at 250-248-8794.



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