

POPLAR WORD

*Women's Auxiliary of
The Salvation Army of Greater Charlotte*

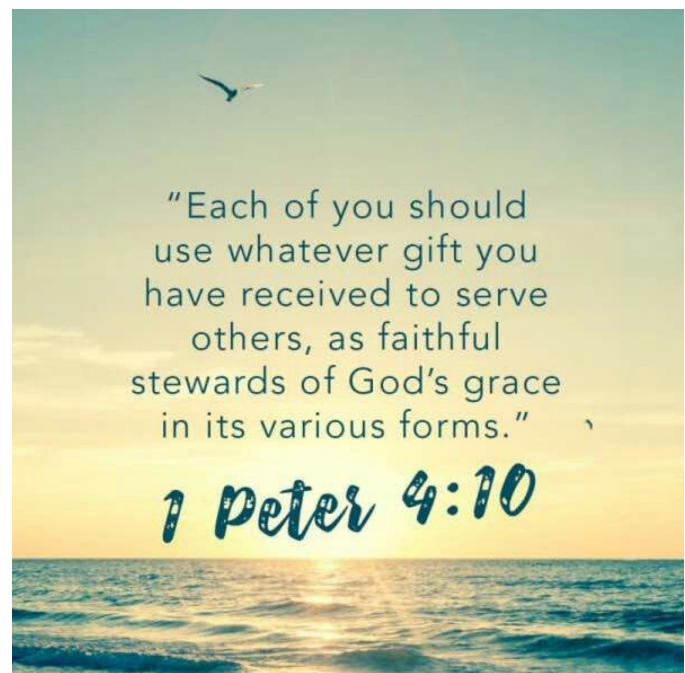
September 2025

As this summer comes to a close, it's time for us to prepare for our year of service. We have been working to find ways to make the most impact with our service in the community to be a beacon of hope in times of need. The belief that we can make the world better through acts of compassion and kindness will carry our mission forward. We will capture The Salvation Army's mission and use our God given talents to help those in need.

The Women's Auxiliary serves many facilities within The Salvation Army. Currently we provide meals to the Center of Hope. There will be additional opportunities to serve, which include story time for pre-school children. Jewelry sorting at the Adult Rehabilitation Center is a great way to connect and meet members while providing volunteer service. We love to host parties for the seniors at the Belmont Corps. We raise funds for scholarships, mentor young people through their education, and sponsor camperships for Red Shield Club members. The new Workforce Development program will help high school graduates focus on career paths that don't require a four-year college degree.

I'm looking forward to strengthening our presence in The Salvation Army through the Women's Auxiliary by using our talents to join efforts to help great causes in our community. It will be a pleasure to meet everyone at the September meeting. Let's have an amazing year by Doing The Most Good!

Annetria Lattimore
President, 2025-26



Join us for our next meeting

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 16th at 11:30 am**, the board meeting will be held immediately before at 10:30 am. If you are planning to join us you must **RSVP FOR LUNCH BY Wednesday, September 10th to: Connie Liles at: cliles704@gmail.com**.

Member Dues and Directory

The deadline to pay your 2025-2026 membership dues is September 30th. An application was included with your July newsletter. You can mail in your completed application and dues or bring it to our September meeting. Anyone who has not gotten their photo taken for the directory can have it taken at Area Command after our September meeting or you can Email a copy of a recent photo to Beth at beth.butchino@uss.salvationarmy.org. The updated Auxiliary directory will be available at our October meeting for all members who choose to renew.

Membership Committee Update

Welcome back to SAWA ladies! 2024-25 was one of our best years ever as far as new members are concerned. I hope all of you had a good summer and are ready to get back to helping "Do the Most Good" in 2025-26!

Thanks for everyone who brought guests that became members last year. I know all of you are ready to get started in service. Jane Truesdal has stepped away from her job of sending sympathy and get well cards this year so we need someone to take her place. Also if you join the membership committee this year please sign up to send out birthday cards at least one month during the year. Everyone really appreciates receiving those. If anyone would like to help Barbara Johnson and I at the front table to collect lunch fees your help would be greatly appreciated.

I know we are all looking forward to an exciting new year!!

Jennifer Moore and Barbara Johnson

September Birthdays

Please wish the following members a Happy Birthday and blessed day!

Amy Esterhay
Thomasena Drummond
Sally Williamson
Judy Galit

Sept 7
Sept. 12
Sept. 14
Sept 14

Pat St. Clair
Susie Norris
Betty Thalinger

Sept. 19
Sept. 20
Sept. 24



Scholarship student updates

How exciting for all of us who support our scholarship students through fundraising and mentoring to see them head off to college. Almost like sending our own children off on the first day of school!

During the 2025-2026 academic year we will have fourteen scholarship recipients that we will fund and mentor. Our seniors are Bayla Felton (Elizabeth City State), Eryn Coe (Fayetteville State), Xavier Hall and Jonathan Wade (UNCC). The juniors include Kennedi Chambers (NCA&T), Kendal McNeil, Anijae Funderburk (UNCG) and Jasmine Higgins (Winston-Salem State). There are three sophomores: Jailyn Lewis (Southern Texas University), Hope Moore (NCA&T) and Jayla Cohen (CPCC). Both of our freshman were Students of the Year at their respective clubs: Briana Higgins (University of South Carolina) and Yassmine Moujahid (Queens University).

In addition to mentoring these students who received four-year scholarships, the committee will be focusing on Workforce Development and Career Readiness, working with Red Shield Youth Center students in grades 7-12 who are hoping to have training and achieve certification in careers that don't require a four-year degree.

Diane Minsker

Photos T to B: Kingsley Ifedi and his wife Shae w/Diana, Jade Jones and mom Shonda w/ Charlotte, Kennedi Chambers w/Diane.



Red Shield Youth Center

Ladies, I hope you had a fun summer! As we come into the fall season I need to ask for your help. My gracious co-chair Mildred Sturdivant stepped down as co-chair to deal with family issues. If you are interested in being co-chair please give me a call at (704) 226-6909. This year we have two craft days already scheduled: November 6th at Marsh Road at 4:45 and November 13th at Belmont Center at 4:45. I'll put out a sign-up sheet at the meeting. It's an easy craft and the kids are so much fun so come join us!

Susan Jones

Community Care Committee

Our first Belmont Corp party will be on October 7th. We will have the birthday gifts, door prizes and goodie bags as usual. Our Lunch will be Hurricane Chicken, rice and green beans, etc.

The guests will also have the opportunity to make a Fall craft.

We would appreciate it if anyone would like to bring a bag of candy to the September meeting for the goodie bags. We will be asking for volunteers to assist us on that day.

Marilyn Withrow and Terry Pope

Adult Rehabilitation Center

Come one, come all to the ARC on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month to help sort the wonderful jewelry donations received by the Salvation Army. Beginning in September, the ARC has relocated our group to the large conference room. With this spacious setting, there is now plenty of room for everyone interested in joining this enjoyable and rewarding activity.

Have a Blessed Day.

Cindy Polshak and Linda Franklin

Social Services Committee

We are kicking off a new year with a **new** volunteer opportunity. The staff at the Center of Hope would like SAWA to start a program for preschool children in addition to serving lunch twice a month. We will be supporting Storytime previously sponsored by another organization. The Center of Hope had thirty children under five as of July. We would like to start this year by having this Storytime activity right before we serve lunch twice a month. This is so we can share resources if needed. I know we have many ladies with backgrounds in education and early childhood. We are calling on you to step up and help kick off this program. We need your expertise; in return we can provide funding for other activities for these children as well.

When: 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month

Time Commitment: "StoryTime" would be 1 to 1 1/2 hour commitment from 10:00 or 10:30 to 11:30. Lunch is 1 to 1 1/2 hour commitment from 11:15 to 12:30.

Where: Center of Hope in the lunch/activities room

Please consider one or both activities.

The Center of Hope is always in need of any of the following items: Adult diapers (Depends) and bed pads; sensitive soap of any size; underwear for children, youth, teenagers and adults; large diapers sizes 4,5 and 6 (Pull-ups); bras for female youth, teenagers, and women; socks for children, youth, teenagers, and adults. If you bring items to the monthly meeting, they will be distributed to the Center of Hope the following Thursday.

Please contact Suzanne Duncan to volunteer, duncansv@att.net or 704-650-5392.

Everything you do is greatly appreciated!

Suzanne Duncan and Sandra Wilson

Fundraising Update

As kids head back to school and we enter the cooler days of autumn, it's not too early to start thinking of spring fashions. The planning for our fourth annual Women of Distinction Fashion Show fundraiser has begun, we should have a date to share with you soon. The location will again be Quail Hollow Country Club. We are looking for volunteers to step up to spearhead this fundraising effort and chair the following committees: Venue, Sponsors, Fashion, and Silent Auction. It takes the whole teams' support to make these events as successful as they have been, netting \$90,000 this past year alone! Please consider one of these roles as you decide your level of involvement this year in Auxiliary activities.