DATES TO REMEMBER 2011

November 14-December 14: Time Warner Cable’s ‘Holiday Hopes & Happenings’ Toy Drive

November 17-December 24: Bell Ringing

November 17-December 10: Angel Trees at Crabtree Valley Mall, Triangle Town Center & Cary Towne Center

December 3: Winter Coat Giveaway

December 8: Jingle Ball Event at Marbles Kids Museum

December 9: WRAL TV5 “Coats for the Children” Telethon

December 9: Deadline to return filled stockings, angels & toys

December 19-21: Toy Shop/Angel Tree Distribution

More information can be found online at www.KeepTheBellRinging.org.
Give of Yourself THIS CHRISTMAS

As you exchange gifts with loved ones at Christmas, you’ll get to experience the joy that comes with giving (well, receiving too!). But there are thousands of struggling, hungry and lonely people in Wake County who won’t get to experience the joy of the season this year...unless you help.

Christmas is the busiest time of year for The Salvation Army. It is a time when need is great, and we work hard to meet those needs in order to bring the hope of Christ to our community. Our Christmas Cheer programs, ongoing throughout November and December, provide Thanksgiving grocery baskets, distribute toys and clothing and, through our annual Red Kettle campaign, raise significant outreach funds. Together these efforts spread the joy of the season, and they would not be possible without the countless volunteers who donate their time and resources to make these projects a success.

Please give the gift of you this Holiday season. Get involved and help us spread the Joy! Contact Lizzy Adams, Volunteer & Resource Coordinator, if you’d like to signup: 919-834-6733 x207 or lizzy.adams@uss.salvationarmy.org
Ways YOU CAN GIVE

Bell Ringing Campaign
Thursday, November 17–Saturday, December 24. Volunteers stand at various stores in the community ringing the bell to collect donations. A great idea for civic clubs or groups! Visit our website, www.keepthebellringing.org, to sign up online!

"Are you a Y-Guide? This year, you can earn a patch for ringing the bell!

Stockings
7,000 stockings need to be filled with goodies by December 9. A guideline of items to include can be provided, and stockings can be picked up at 215 S. Person St. during regular office hours.

Angel Tree: Crabtree Valley Mall, Triangle Town Center & Cary Towne Center
November 17–December 10. Volunteers register angels that are selected, receive gifts and answer questions about the program. Visit our website, www.keepthebellringing.org, to sign up online!

Christmas Distribution Days
Monday, December 19–Wednesday, December 21; 8:30am-1:00 pm, 1:00pm-5:30 pm, 5:00pm-7:00 pm (restock crew). Help families as they go through our “Toy Shop” and choose toys for their children! Volunteers are also needed to restock and set up again at the end of each day.

Adopting Angels
Individual angels can be adopted from the Angel Tree locations at Crabtree Valley Mall, Triangle Town Center or Cary Towne Center. Should you or your group be interested in adopting a large quantity of angels or a family, please contact us.
Bells! Kettles! Angels! The Salvation Army sure uses lots of iconic imagery to depict its work at Christmas! Bells ring out the sound of joyous celebration and the alarm of community need. Kettles, symbolic of boiling hot stew to feed the hungry, serve as receptacles for monetary donations. And Angels, reminiscent of those that sang “Glory to God in the Highest” at the birth of our Savior, also represent thousands of precious angels right here in Wake County — our Children!

The Salvation Army needs your help to be a Christmas Blessing to all of the Children who have been registered for assistance this year. Hard-working parents are struggling these days to pay rent and utilities and to feed their families. Many have nothing extra to spend on clothes and toys or other essentials this Christmas. At our Christmas Assistance registration in October, 3,491 families applied for assistance. That’s 7,782 children who need our help!

Sometimes the need seems overwhelming, but with your help we can be successful in helping every child. Throughout this newsletter, you will see various ways you can give of yourself to be a blessing to others this Christmas Season. I pray that you will take the time to examine the needs and then respond with compassion to offer yourself as a Christmas gift.

Major Pete Costas, Corps Officer

New This Year: TAKE ACTION ONLINE!

“Shop” Online for a Child in Need
Doing Christmas shopping online this year? Add a child in need to your list! The Salvation Army of Wake County has added a “shopping cart” to its website this Holiday season. Log on to our website at www.keepthebellringing.org and check out this new Christmas donation feature. Or if you’d still rather hit the malls, look for our Angel Trees at Crabtree Valley Mall, Triangle Town Center and Cary Towne Center to purchase gifts for a specific child from the tree.

Sign Up Online to Volunteer
Signing up to volunteer has never been easier. This year you can sign up directly from our homepage for Bell Ringing or to volunteer for our Angel Trees at your local mall. Just go to www.keepthebellringing.org and, using VolunteerSpot.com, you can choose a date, time and location where you’d like to volunteer! We need hundreds of people to volunteer in order to spread joy to thousands of children this year. So log on today and help us give Wake County a very special Holiday season!
Voices of Inspiration

Serving others is a wonderful way to experience Christmas joy. Not only will your heart be warmed by your generosity, but your gift of time also makes a lasting impact on others. Take a moment now to be inspired by some volunteers and staff who give of themselves through The Salvation Army of Wake County...sharing boundless love, spreading infectious laughter, providing priceless hope.

“The reason that I like to volunteer is seeing the faces of all the kids as they are getting a little something for Christmas. It really makes me feel good. Since I am retired, I have some time on my hands and this is helping to put it to good use.”
~Ed Curran, Volunteer

“By volunteering your time, it is amazing how much more of a blessing you can receive than you will ever give.”
~Donna Langley, Volunteer

“Growing up with a strong Christian influence, I was taught that to give is better than to receive — that doing unto those who have little is doing unto Christ. I am blessed to put these teachings into action in my daily work.”
~Carlton Richardson, Staff

“If anyone has the time to volunteer, even if it’s only a few minutes to hold someone’s hand and reassure them that everything is going to be alright, do it. Put yourself in their shoes for just a few minutes and feel their pain — and many times their anger. Volunteering is the most rewarding gift you can ever give anyone in need.”
~Clinton Fogg, Volunteer

“One of the greatest things about working for The Salvation Army is knowing that thousands of children each year will have gifts to open on Christmas Day when they otherwise would not. To meet the need of a child is a very sacred thing. And meeting that need during Christmas is simply magical.”
~Haven Sink, Staff

“The reason we volunteer is because it’s not only a warm feeling inside our hearts, but it’s also very humbling. Times are hard, and the economy seems to be getting worse — so why not give a hand to people less fortunate. Volunteering is an eye-opener and a reality check to the fact that everyone is a paycheck away from being in the same predicament.”
~Olga Aguilar, Volunteer
Spreading Joy WITH NEW BIKES

What does every child hope to see under the tree on Christmas day? A bike! Thanks to Triangle Spokes Group, a non-profit group that raises money to buy needy children new bikes, hundreds of children receive bikes through The Salvation Army’s Christmas Cheer program. As they celebrate their 5th year in 2011, Triangle Spokes Group has a goal of providing 500 bikes this Holiday season.

Ashley Wilson and Jenn Nowalk formed the Triangle Spokes Group in 2007 in order to help provide bicycles for children in the Triangle area. By partnering with The Salvation Army’s Angel Tree and Toy Shop programs, Triangle Spokes Group knew that the bikes would bring smiles to the neediest children in Wake County. The women never imagined, however, that they would raise enough for 200 new bikes and helmets in their first year. To date, over 1050 bicycles have been given to children from the generous donations of Triangle Spokes Group supporters!

The Salvation Army is grateful for this continued partnership, as it’s another way to spread the Joy of Christmas in our community.

GET IT FAST

Be the first to hear about our latest campaigns, events and the stories of hope they inspire. Sign up for our E-Newsletter and have our monthly updates delivered directly to your email inbox.

www.KeepTheBellRinging.org

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GIVING COUPON

YES! I would like to help Do The Most Good by making a gift to The Salvation Army of Wake County.

Name: __________________________

Address: __________________________

Email: __________________________

☐ $20 ☐ $35 ☐ $100 ☐ $ _____________

TO MAKE A GIFT BY CREDIT CARD, please call toll free 1-800-SAL-ARMY or visit KeepTheBellRinging.org. We do not rent, sell, or exchange mailing or email lists.

WINTER NL