

Editorial

Welcome to this edition of articles and book reviews from The Salvation Army's William Booth College (WBC). The articles reflect some of the areas of research engaged by Salvationists whose work has been sponsored by The Salvation Army through WBC's School for In Service Training and Development (SISTAD). It is hoped that this journal will raise peoples' awareness, inform their thinking and inspire them to delve more deeply into the subjects presented.

In this edition:

Jane Alton (pages 4-21) considers if the *Anamchara* (Celtic soul friend) could be used as a model for mentoring officers within The Salvation Army. Whilst Jane acknowledges that the *anamchara* is not wholly applicable in the context of The Salvation Army, she suggests that there are features which are helpful and which could be used for officer mentoring at a time when research indicates that many officers are suffering unhealthy levels of stress. A working definition of a soul friend and a framework is proposed.

Tom Dunham (pages 22-37) provides the reader with an introduction to the Salvation Army's 'Soldier's Covenant and Rule of Life in new monastic communities. These frameworks of discipleship are compared and contrasted whilst, as the title of the article suggests, critically examining the place of the Soldier's Covenant within a contemporary context in The Salvation Army in the United Kingdom as a new monastic Rule of Life.

Lisa Goble (pages 38-55) uses the mission statement of UK and Ireland Territory (prior to changes in 2021) as a basis to consider how ecotheology might inform the organisation in the current context of climate change and environmental degradation. In her conclusion, Lisa acknowledges that ecotheology cannot be integrated into the mission statement without a rewrite but suggests it could serve as a basis to identify areas where integration might occur.

Timothy Lennox (pages 56-71) makes the case that an intercultural spirituality is an imperative for churches in Ireland. The article summarises the outcomes of action

research carried out at Dublin City Corps in 2019 which identified a sense of *rootlessness* as the main challenge of the corps. The reporting of these findings is followed by a theological enquiry into the concepts of Stephen B. Evans and Roger Schroeder. 'prophetic dialogue' and the image of 'entering someone else's garden'. In his conclusion, Timothy argues that Irish churches must develop an intercultural approach to missiology and ecclesiology.

Leanne Wallace (pages 72-93) investigates Salvation Army music making in the UK today. The article reflects on the historical context of Salvation Army music making before moving on to consider contemporary Salvation Army music and its place within the movement. The results of her research are presented and suggestions for practical ways forward for Salvation Army music making are proposed.

Two helpful book reviews intended to inspire are provided by **Emma Knights** and **Jonny Whitmore**.

Gooder, Paula. *The Parables (Biblical Explorations)*, Norwich, Canterbury Press, 2020 ISBN: 978-1786221537

Sunberg, Carla. *Why Holiness?: The Transformational Message That Unites Us*. Kansas City: The Foundry Publishing 2019 ISBN: 978-0834138070