



# Ramsgate Salvation Army


## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Love God  
Love Others

A warm welcome as we gather as the family of God today,  
especially if you are not normally with us on a Sunday.

May we all feel the welcome of God and each other.

**We meet at The Salvation Army Hall Sunday 10.30 am.**

**Also Sunday worship** is livestreamed on  **YouTube**

You can find a link on the Ramsgate Salvation Army Web page.

[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ramsgate)

*“‘Not Called’ did you say?  
‘Not Heard the Call’  
I think you should say”*

**— William Booth**



The Salvation Army. 167 High Street **Ramsgate** Kent CT11 9TT

Corps Leaders Carl Whitewood 07900497326 Heather Whitewood 07747 004950

[Carl.whitewood@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Carl.whitewood@salvationarmy.org.uk) [Heather.whitewood@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:Heather.whitewood@salvationarmy.org.uk)

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## What's happening at Ramsgate Salvation Army?

Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 Prayers 10.30 Sunday Worship 4.30pm Screening of a film about the Dunkirk evacuation with tea & sandwiches.
Monday to Friday (6.30am-9am)	Breakfast Drop-in
Monday (9.30 am – 11.30 am)	No Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler group) No ACES 1pm
Tuesday	No Prayer Meeting 9.30am (Upper Room) No Food Parcel preparation No The Well 10.30 – No Light Lunch 12 noon Ukrainian Community Hub 12 noon No Bible study 1pm No Junior Soldier's Lessons 4.45pm No Youth Music Practice No ZOOM bible study 7pm (8651865167) (No Marriage Preparation Classes)
Wednesday (from 11 am)	No Friendship club and Lunch club No Kids Club Music Lessons No Adult Music Practice (7pm)
Thursday	Forward Trust Drumming Workshop 6pm
Friday	Food Bank Ukrainian Language Class & Choir 1.30pm No DofE and School volunteering 4pm No Kids Club 5.30 to 7.00pm, No Youth Fellowship from 7.30pm
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	CTiR Prayer Breakfast St Marks Ukrainian Coach Trip 9am -
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Sunday Worship 10.30am Café Church 4.30pm
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Hall Development Meeting 6pm

On the back page is a letter from Major Mark Herbert with a statistic that makes for disturbing reading. 101 officers will retire in the next two years – with only 20 likely to complete officer training to replace them.

If you have been in The Salvation Army for some time this is not a new trend. Just ask retired officers in the Corps how many cadets were in their sessions? It will be in the 100s. This year there may be less than 10.

We will show some clips of a film made about The Salvation Army Training College in 1952. The number of cadets is staggering. The sight of them marching in the open air is a reminder of how much has changed.

Is this an existential threat to the Salvation Army? In one way yes. Simply there will be corps that will have no officers.

Does this mean that God has finished with the Salvation Army? Definitely not.

We want to expand upon what Major Mark writes.

Firstly, we do believe there are people in this Corps that God is calling into full time ministry – a ministry where they will leave this corps, their homes, their families and follow God’s call wherever it takes them.

This remains an important part of Salvation Army spiritual leadership. Men and Women who are free from any restrictions and can serve wherever they are called.

Yet it is not the only way.

We also know there are people in the corps who can continue to be part of this corps’ ministry or to offer themselves in new ways to serve

this corps – or other local corps. Moving to another part of the country is not an option for them – because of family commitments, health, or age. But God has a unique plan for their life.

You will remember the Bible reading.

***Readily recognise what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it.  
(Romans 12:2)***

We believe that we are priesthood of all believers.

It is certainly a privilege that we, Carl and Heather, can minister full time. But that is not the only way. Indeed, almost all ministry in the church is by those who juggle with full time work, study, care for others and other factors that restrict the time they have. Without them, this corps would be much the poorer.

So today, on candidates Sunday this is our challenge to the whole church.

What is God calling you to do?

Is he calling you to something new?

Is God calling you to Full time spiritual leadership?

Is God calling you to Local Leadership at Ramsgate Corps?

Is God calling you to become part of our existing work, service, worship or even to start something new?

Pray about these questions and seek confirmation

Some areas of our ministry to consider:

Care for the building: cleaning, decorating, DIY, gardening, display/notice boards

Care for others: pastoral care, visiting, helping, counselling

Administration

Audio/visual Technical Support

Catering: cooking, refreshment team, serving, washing up, shopping

Children's work

Community Work: foodbank, community support, administration, form-filling, advice seeking, teaching skills,

Driving

Family Support

Fellowship Groups

Finance Team, Fundraising

Flowers

Health and Safety

Inclusion

Mission and Development (Healthy Church)

Outreach: War Cry selling, evangelism

Prayer Ministry

Safeguarding

Bible Teaching: Bible Studies, House Groups,

Welcome Team

Worship: Music ministry, singing, worship group, band, reading scripture, preaching, displays,

Youth Work

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Maybe complete this box and pass on to Carl or Heather today or in the weeks to come. We will then speak with you about your call.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I feel God is calling me to ....





Thanks to Maggie for the flowers.

Birthdays this week

Kelve	Regha	Sunday 26-May
Olena	Avramishyna	Monday 27-May
Charlie	Hollick	Tuesday 28-May
Alexandra	Neale	Friday 31-May

We continue to pray for Kate and recognise the power of prayer as she has made good progress. She is now in Canterbury Hospital but still needs much prayer for a full healing. Prayers too for David.

For Isobel who has now undergone an operation for her broken hip after a fall.

For Sheila who has a bad cough and resting at home, likewise for Maggie who is recovering at home after breaking toes following a fall.

Lord we pray for Ivor who is very unwell and ask that you reveal yourself to him.

Lord give him eternal hope. Prayers too for Tracy and the family.

We uphold Lynda in our prayers as she recovers from her operation.

We pray for Mick, Angela's brother-in-law diagnosed with a tumour. Angela lost her sister, Teresa, Mick's wife, last year.

We continue to pray for Amie (a good friend of Ellie's) and thank you for your the birth of a healthy girl last week. We give thanks too for the birth of a daughter to Jasmin.

We pray for Marilena.

We continue to uphold Pauline's daughter Karen. We continue our prayers for Pauline's sister Doreen. Be near dear Lord.

For Natasha's mum Debra, and for Nick's father, John. We continue to ask protection and hope for Jess as she has had to move out of area. Meet her needs, Lord.

We pray for Emma. For the treatment she requires and for your protection on her life. For Steven undergoing throat cancer treatment.

We also bring to you Russell's mum as she faces tests for suspected cancer.

We pray for peace across God's words, with particular concern for Ukraine, Gaza and Israel.

## **Dear South-East Divisional Family,**

'Yesterday you said Tomorrow – Just Do it' (With thanks to Nike!)

I greet you in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

You may well have come across the above quote from a Nike, the sportswear company's advertising campaign. It challenges us to move beyond the excuses for not exercising (and buy some expensive trainers,) to start running. In our context as a Salvation Army, tomorrow has now arrived in terms of the need to respond to the growing number of leadership opportunities there are within our movement. In terms of The Salvation Army across the United Kingdom and Ireland, during the next two years, 101 officers are due to retire with less than 20% of that number anticipated to be Commissioned. At the January 2024 Appointments Conference there were 39 officer units available for 83 appointments. From a South-East Division perspective, we have a growing number of leadership opportunities. Tomorrow has now arrived in terms of the need for full-time leaders.

There are many ways to fulfil a calling to full-time leadership through The Salvation Army. God is still calling people to Officership and Territorial Envoyship and we celebrate this truth. In our Division, we also have a number of people employed to lead Fresh Expressions of Salvation Army and as Mission Leaders in established Corps. These leaders have a variety of experiences and have been able to bring them into their new roles. We are blessed to have our colleagues as part of our Leaders fellowship.

I now write to you personally. Is there a ministry that God is calling you to? If there is, don't let the detail stop you from making contact. There is the possibility of great flexibility to help you move into the ministry that God has laid upon your heart. Tomorrow has now arrived. Is there a new season of service that God is calling you into? If there is I would love to hear from you. Please drop me a line; [mark.herbert@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:mark.herbert@salvationarmy.org.uk)

Thank you for who you are and for all that you are doing for the Kingdom of God, it does not go unnoticed.

These days bring great challenges but also wonderful opportunities.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mark Herbert, Major, Divisional Commander