

# Connecting you

Winter  
2023

## IN THIS EDITION

- Say hello to the Grumpy Owl!
- Holidays and missions highlights
- Multiplying mission – stories from our partners



Scripture  
Union

# Contents

.....

4

## 'Their faith is awe-inspiring!'

Tabz and Hettie Taberner were among the first people to sign up as Faith Guides in 2020. Three years on, their work with schools is flourishing and they now have three Grow Communities!

10

## Grumpy Owl brings festive fun and faith

Read about our new Christmas storybook, *The Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas* – a story of joy written by Local Mission Partner, Artless Theatre Company.

16

## Holidays and missions memories

We've highlighted just a few of our favourite moments from this year's holidays and missions to warm your heart on even the chilliest winter's day!

24

## 'The best of both worlds!'

Sarah Horne from Local Mission Partner Reach in Reading tells us about their work and why they value the relationship with Scripture Union.

## Did you know?

**Did you know that we have 57 Local (and 2 national) Mission Partners joining with us in mission across England and Wales? Working together massively increases the opportunities for children and young people to explore the good news of Jesus! You can read about how God is working through just a few of those partnerships in this edition of *Connecting You*.**

### More about Scripture Union

Scripture Union is a Christian charity, providing opportunities for children and young people to explore the Bible, respond to Jesus and grow in faith. With an estimated 95% of under-18s in England and Wales not part of a church, we help churches to step out and take the good news to them in exciting and culturally relevant ways. Visit [www.scriptureunion.org.uk](http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk) to find out more.



**Scripture  
Union**

*Connecting You* is Scripture Union's supporter and prayer magazine, keeping you up to date with what God is doing through the work you support.

*Connecting You* magazine is also available online at: [www.su.org.uk/connectingyou](http://www.su.org.uk/connectingyou). If you have a

story for *Connecting You*, or a suggestion on how we could improve our service to you, please contact the editor: [eddien@scriptureunion.org.uk](mailto:eddien@scriptureunion.org.uk)

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Published by Scripture Union, Trinity House, Opal Court,  
Opal Drive, Fox Milne, Milton Keynes, MK15 0DF

# Together in mission



**“In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.”**  
Philippians 1:4-5

Dear friends



Once again it is a joy to share this edition of *Connecting You* with you. We are so grateful for your prayerful support as we continue to work at the mission to which God has called us here at Scripture Union. This time you'll find stories from some of the organisations we partner with in mission, those working locally and nationally to help the 95 to explore the Bible in so many creative ways.

Our Local Mission Partners (LMPs) benefit from the expertise that Scripture Union has gained over 153 years of running a mission organisation, while maintaining independence to meet the needs of their local communities. We provide practical advice, support and training – both in mission and in charity governance – as well as prayer and celebration together. Many LMP workers are also Faith Guides, using the Revealing Jesus mission framework in their context and demonstrating just how strategically aligned these organisations are with our missional aims.

It's a joy to see God at work through these organisations and to hear the stories of children and young people hearing and responding to God's invitation. We rejoice that, through these partnerships, the opportunities for children to explore the Bible, respond to Jesus and grow in faith are hugely increased, and even more of the 95 are given the chance to enter into a life-changing relationship with Jesus because of them.

Please do continue to pray for the Mission Partners and for us as we share the gospel with the younger generations.



**Myles MacBean,**  
National Director







READ MORE  
ABOUT REVEALING  
JESUS, FAITH GUIDES AND  
GROW COMMUNITIES:  
[SU.ORG.UK/  
REVEALINGJESUS](https://su.org.uk/revealingjesus)



## ‘Their faith is awe-inspiring!’

.....

David (Tabz) and Hettie Taberner, who work for SU Local Mission Partner SASW Trust in Southport, were among the first people to sign up as Faith Guides in 2020. Three years on, their work with schools is flourishing and they have three Grow Communities!



‘We were already connecting with young people in schools and helping them to explore faith,’ recalls Tabz. ‘But we wanted to help take them further on that journey. Being Faith Guides, using the Revealing Jesus mission framework and having support and advice from SU have all helped. And the schools want more and more of what we’re doing – we’ve got waiting lists!’

‘Yes, things are really happening,’ Hettie says, ‘For example, we host a wellbeing initiative, “Safe Space”, at five different schools on consecutive lunchtimes. Pupils can come and talk about life and faith, which is how we connected with three particular Year 7 girls. They then joined our After School club at that school to further explore faith.’

## JOURNEYING TOGETHER

‘Then they started helping out at Hero Academy Kids Club, an after school Grow Community for younger children which we hold at a local church. I’d say that was their response to faith. Finally, they joined our

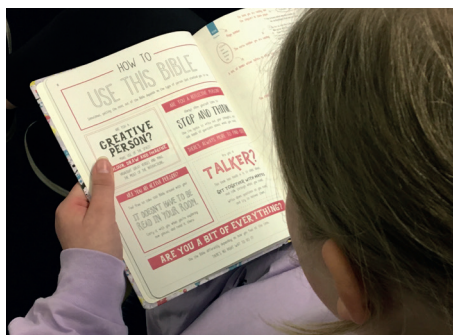
“ They’ve also started to invite their friends. Now we get up to ten young people a session! ”

evening Youth Group at the same church – it’s a Grow Community for young people, mostly without church backgrounds, who have come to believe in God. So we’ve journeyed with them through all four stages of faith formation!

‘Youth Group starts with us all sitting down together for a meal, cooked by some lovely church volunteers. We ask the young people how their week has been, and they’ve really started to open up – it feels like a proper family catchup! Then we worship together, we pray together, we do Bible study – they read their Bibles at home too.’

‘They’ve also started to invite their friends. Now we get up to ten young people a session!’





“ This generation don’t carry any baggage about spirituality ”

‘One week, our theme was the Holy Spirit. We played some calm music and invited the group to sit and ask the Holy Spirit to come in. Afterwards, I asked if anyone wanted to share anything. A girl who was there for the first time said, “I was feeling really anxious, so I asked the Holy Spirit to fill me with peace – and he did!” Several of the group experience anxiety, so we regularly allow time for the Holy Spirit to move. They say they do that at home too now.’

## A SIMPLE AND SINCERE FAITH

Amazing things have been happening too at Hero Academy. Tabz says, ‘These younger children have such a simple and sincere faith – it’s awe-inspiring. They have prayed for healing and been healed. They’ve asked God direct questions and he’s

answered them. One girl asked what his favourite animal was, and said God told her it was the eagle. She had no idea how prominent the eagle is in the Bible!’

The third Grow Community, Sweaty Church, is an after school club at a church primary school. Hettie says, ‘Recently, some Brazilian missionaries visited. The children asked them questions – how they became Christians, what their favourite Bible verses were, how to say phrases in Portuguese. Then the children gathered round these missionaries, put their hands on their shoulders and prayed out loud for them. It was so moving that the head teacher was almost in tears.’

‘This generation don’t carry any baggage about spirituality – and what God is doing through all these children and young people is amazing and so beautiful!’

## WE’D BE GREAT TOGETHER!

We love supporting amazing Faith Guides like Tabz and Hettie and we’d love to support you too! To discover more about becoming a Faith Guide, visit [su.org.uk/faithguides](https://su.org.uk/faithguides) or if you’re not quite ready to take that step yet, sign up for Free Mission Support at [su.org.uk/missionsupport](https://su.org.uk/missionsupport).





WEEK  
BEGINNING  
NOV 26

# Prayers

Please pray for all our partners – local and national mission partners, churches and Faith Guides – as they share Jesus with children and young people.

## SUNDAY 26

John 4:35. Give thanks to God for Tabz and Hettie and the SASW Trust, and how their faithful sharing of the good news is leading non-churchgoing children and young people to Jesus.

## MONDAY 27

Please pray for the children and young people in the two Southport Grow Communities, that God will bless them for their strong faith in him and deepen their spiritual understanding.

## TUESDAY 28

Pray for SU's partners in the gospel using the words of Philippians 1:3-6: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

## WEDNESDAY 29

'Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in

fact you are doing' (1 Thessalonians 5:11). Praise God for providing opportunities for SU and our local and national mission partners to meet, encourage and inspire one another!

## THURSDAY 30

Give thanks to God for the work of Reach in Reading (see page 24) and ask him to bless Sarah and Ann and all the young people they are helping to introduce to Jesus, and to sustain and build strong relationships with schools.

## FRIDAY 1

As the season of Advent begins, please pray for our staff and our partners including NMP Artless (see page 10) as they prepare to help children and young people discover the true joy of Christmas and, with it, life in all its fullness.

## SATURDAY 2

Ephesians 4:16. Praise God for bringing together SU and a wide range of partners to support one another in sharing Jesus with the next generation!



# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
DEC 3

## SUNDAY 3

Between 5 and 16 December SU New Zealand is running E3, four 11-day expeditions for 60 young people aged 17–18. The four expeditions will run across Central North Island, Bay of Islands, Canterbury, and Otago. Pray that in the midst of their adventures the young people will meet Jesus.

## MONDAY 4

SU Mission partner **ICE** in Exeter praise God that they could run their Narnia project again this year. It was wonderful to have hundreds of children coming through the interactive experience and getting a sense of the wonder of CS Lewis's world and the truth which inspired it.

## TUESDAY 5



Zoraida Ali-Smith, PA to SU's Director of Mobilisation, asks us to pray for the development of a new 'Welcome Pack' for new supporters.

Pray that the stories of God at work through the movement will inspire people to get further involved.

## WEDNESDAY 6

Bookings for the 2024 holidays will open soon. Pray that children who went on our holidays in 2023 will be keen to sign up, and that new children will discover what the holidays have to offer too.



Pray for the Mission Events team as they work on the website and the brochure.

## THURSDAY 7

Pray for churches and organisations who will use our new booklet *The Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas*; pray that the children they make contact with will glimpse something of who Jesus is.

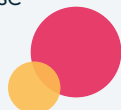
## FRIDAY 8

Mission Partner **Lightspace** in Grantham is thankful for Jennie Fytche, Schools Worker, and asks us to pray that the resources needed will be provided, and that the work will have an impact. Pray too that they will see growth in volunteers, links with churches, the pastoral base and the schools' worker team.



## SATURDAY 9

Pray for Marketing Officer Claire Baines as she continues to build relationships within SU and beyond to ensure that our products and activities are as widely known as possible. Pray that the Christmas resources she's promoting will have a great impact on many children and young people.



# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
DEC 10

## SUNDAY 10

SU Scotland give thanks that Lendrick Muir, one of their three outdoor residential centres, received a Quality Badge from the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom. Pray for those who work at their centres, asking that they will shine for Jesus and see the value in the work they do. Pray that God will add to the team, particularly bringing in more outdoor activity instructors.

## MONDAY 11

National Mission Partner Soul Children UK praises God for 12 youth choirs up and running around the nation. Please pray for all their Christmas performances this month, asking that many families will be introduced to Jesus through music and songs they can relate to.

## TUESDAY 12

Pray for Emma Price as she provides administrative support to the Amplify Young Evangelists Academy residents. Pray that these will be times of great encouragement to the young people, as they are equipped and empowered to share their faith.

## WEDNESDAY 13

Give thanks for all our Faith Guides across the country, for their passion and commitment to the Revealing Jesus framework. As we approach Christmas, pray for all the seasonal



activities and events they will be leading around England and Wales to celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

## THURSDAY 14

In this season of Advent, we give thanks for our supporters, for their generosity, love, faithfulness and passion. Pray that God will bless and encourage them at this special time of year.

## FRIDAY 15

Please pray for the leadership of Mission Partner Farne Christian Youth and Families Outreach. Pray for direction in the work of reaching young people and families in this area of north Northumberland.

## SATURDAY 16



Pray for Database Manager Gill Russell as, with the supporter database firmly bedded in, the team explore the possibilities

of all the new functionality and technology available to us. Pray that they'll find ways to improve the way we serve our supporters and thereby increase our reach to the 95.



# Grumpy Owl brings festive fun and faith

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Our Christmas book this year, produced through your support, is *The Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas*, a story about a grouchy owl living alone in a barn who finds his peace shattered when two people and a donkey arrive. He goes in search of solitude, but his journey ends how he least expects it to – with Christmas joy!





The book was written by Chris Poch and Jon Maltz of theatre company Artless, one of our National Mission Partners. Jon explains, ‘It’s a nostalgic, beautifully illustrated retelling of the nativity story aimed particularly at children without a church background. Through it, we hope they will get to understand the true message of Christmas, perhaps for the first time.

‘The book can be used on its own – but we’re also touring a play, “Amos and The Grumpy Owl”, which we’ve written to wrap around the story. The play involves two people who seek shelter in a woodland cabin during a Christmas Eve snowstorm. To help pass the time, one begins to tell the other (whose name is Amos) the story of the Grumpy Owl. The character of Amos is rather similar to that of the

owl – he’s cranky, lives on his own and doesn’t want anyone to come and disrupt him. So there’s a parallel between the book and the play, and both of them also have parallels with the nativity; the core messages are of redemption and forgiveness, of a Son coming to reconcile a stranger, an exile, back into a family. It’s a real feel-good festive story that children and families will love.

“It’s a real feel-good festive story that children and families will love.”

‘Churches around the country are hosting performances of the play as a way of getting to know children and families in their wider neighbourhood and helping them to connect with the nativity story in a new way. They will also give the children copies of the book so they can continue to enjoy the story at home.

‘We hope that the Grumpy Owl will ultimately lead to many more children discovering the real joy of Christmas for themselves!’



## GET THE GRUMPY OWL

To get copies of *The Grumpy Owl* and *the Joy of Christmas* and to download the free accompanying church Christmas resource pack, visit [www.su.org.uk/grumpyowl](http://www.su.org.uk/grumpyowl).

# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
DEC 17

## SUNDAY 17

Pray for Bible reading promotion and distribution in schools, colleges and universities being undertaken by SU Tanzania. About 6,500 Bibles have been distributed recently.

## MONDAY 18

Many of the Faith Guides and Local Mission Partners in the north will be involved with Christmas activities in schools, clubs and churches. Please pray for a lasting impact from these activities and that many children and young people would want to find out more about Jesus.

## TUESDAY 19

Pray for Mission Partner **The Bus Stop** working in York and Scarborough. Having had a challenging year, they need to appoint a new Chair, more Trustees, and a lead Youth Worker. Pray for them as they seek God's will in their ministry to reach young people in deprived urban and more isolated rural areas.

## WEDNESDAY 20



Please pray for Richard Shaw as he leads the three teams that make up Mission Development (Mission Events, Regional Mission and the Development Hub). These teams are responsible for Scripture Union's direct mission to the 95 through the Revealing Jesus mission framework.



## THURSDAY 21

It may be nearly Christmas, but many of our volunteers are already working on our Easter holiday programme. Please pray for the leaders of our Easter holidays as they prepare, and for more team members to come forward to serve.

## FRIDAY 22

Please pray for Jill Warren, Content Assistant in the Development Hub. Pray particularly for her as she works on an online 'magazine' called *Easter Matters* to help anyone looking for activities, resources, ideas and inspiration for celebrating Easter at church, school, in the community or at home.

## SATURDAY 23

*Be More Micah* – *Environment* is a resource which tunes in to the desire of young people aged 14–18 to change the world and shows them that this is God's desire too. Please pray that through these resources many young people will meet with the One who created everything and discover God's heart for justice.



# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
DEC 24

## SUNDAY 24

Pray that the Education Department of the Government of Papua New Guinea will endorse and recommend SU to all schools in the country. Pray too for more volunteers to carry out and support the work of SU in the four regions of PNG.

## MONDAY 25

Create some space today not only to rejoice in the birth of the Saviour, but to remember the thousands of children and young people in England and Wales who know nothing of his love. Pray that in the coming year they will encounter someone who will share the good news.

## TUESDAY 26



The Digital Solutions team, working closely with the Finance team and our new Financial Controller Craig Macpherson, are

investigating ways we can make our finance systems more efficient and secure. Please pray for insight and wisdom as decisions are made.

## WEDNESDAY 27

Pray for Chris Clark, the worker for Mission Partner **Coniston Christian Fellowship**. He asks for wisdom on how best to run a holiday club next Easter, for finding storage space for his resources, and for running children's clubs while also finding time for adults.

## THURSDAY 28



Pray for Safeguarding Manager Rachel Settatree as she develops new safeguarding materials for leaders

to use with new or younger team members that are more appropriate to their level of understanding. Pray too that children will understand how safeguarding works on our activities and events.

## FRIDAY 29

Pray that God will give vision to Faith Guides to start new Grow Communities around the country and that the 95 will come with open hearts to these Grow Communities to connect and hear the good news of Jesus.



## SATURDAY 30

Give thanks for God's direction over recent months as we have refined the Revealing Jesus strategy to widen its reach and impact – providing a new level of **Mission Support** to local churches in their journey alongside the 95 in their communities.



# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
DEC 31

## SUNDAY 31

Praise God for the publication of the SU Canada *Family Prayer Calendar*. It provides a daily scripture and a prayer, as well as a monthly five-minute adventure to encourage families to grow in faith together.

## MONDAY 1

Give thanks for the opportunities that the South West team has had during 2023 and pray for God's direction as they plan for new missions, Faith Guide holidays and growing the partnership with the South West Youth Ministries residential in 2024.

## TUESDAY 2



Pray for Rob Steward as he leads the SU team in the north of England. Pray that he may have renewed wisdom

and creativity for the year ahead as he works alongside churches, Faith Guides and Local Mission Partners.

## WEDNESDAY 3

Pray for Mission Partner **Hunsley Christian Youth Trust** at the start of this new term; pray for the schools they serve and for their youth workers as they go into these schools.

## THURSDAY 4

In just over a week's time we will be running the first of three gatherings for our holiday and mission leaders. Please pray for those who come that they will be excited and inspired to share the good news with children and young people in the coming year.



## FRIDAY 5

Pray for Database Officer, Meri Suokas. She asks for wisdom as she works with the wider Digital Solutions team to ensure that our supporter and customer system serves the needs of the movement in the most effective way in the face of increasingly sophisticated threats in the online world.

## SATURDAY 6

Mission Partner **The Great Open Door** assembly team in Harlow are halfway through their Making a Difference programme in primary schools. Pray that the team will remain focused, fresh and inspired and will enjoy the familiarity of the script without losing dynamism and infectious joy.

# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
JAN 7

## SUNDAY 7

Join SU South Africa in praising God for funding to appoint a deaf staff member who will focus on translating their resources into South African Sign Language. Please pray for this process and for open doors at the schools for deaf children.

## MONDAY 8

As IT systems that improve our effectiveness and efficiency become more complex, Technical Services Assistant James Gregg would appreciate prayer for wisdom and understanding in the changing world of online security and the tools for managing it.

## TUESDAY 9

As a new year of Bible reading guides begins, pray that each day will inform, challenge, encourage and equip all those who use them, whether online or in print.

## WEDNESDAY 10

As a member of the Finance team, Alicia Wallace requests prayer as the team are introduced to new challenges with the appointment of a new Finance Controller. Pray that the team will work productively together, each fulfilling their respective roles.

## THURSDAY 11

National Mission Partner **Sports Factory** asks us to pray for the schools' sports work going on daily around Norfolk; pray that they would connect well with young people and teachers and that more would come to the sports activities where they can explore the truth about Jesus.

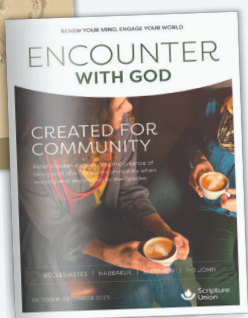
## FRIDAY 12

Pray for the ongoing development of SU's resources for Easter this year. Pray that each member of the team involved in the process will know their value and worth and will have insight and creativity as they work on content.

## SATURDAY 13



Director of Mobilisation, Rachel Warwick asks us to pray for SUM which we hope to launch online this month. This includes new content and social media channels designed to help us build connections with younger supporters.



# Holidays and missions memories

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During 2023, your support helped thousands of children and young people have fun and fellowship and learn more about God through our holidays and missions. Here are a few favourite moments to warm your heart on even the chilliest winter's day!



Our holidays and missions now stretch from **March to November** each year



We ran **53 holidays** (including online reunions) in 2023



We ran **11 missions**



**1,270 volunteers** helped on SU holidays and missions in 2023 – thank you!



**1,350 children and young people** went on SU holidays and many more attended SU missions – Minnis Bay alone had over 800 children registered as taking part!

You provide wonderful role models for the young ones to look up to. You edify, encourage and bring hope. The legacy you leave in them and all of us will last forever.

**Parent**

God was there and he built up my courage to talk to new people, pray for new people and overall make new friends.

**Young person**







Becky\* seemed to be very interested in everything and participated in lots of the youth sessions. We linked her up with a Faith Guide near her home and now she is helping at a Christian club he runs.

**Event team leader**



\*name changed





It was really nice to be around people who were openly talking about God. I learned a lot about Jesus and his life and it definitely brought me closer as we learned that Jesus went through the same emotions we do... The residential really opened up my mind and gave me experiences that will forever stay with me.

**Young person**

Had a message yesterday from a lady at my church – all six of the children they sent to SOLID gave their lives to Jesus, including her two daughters!  
**SU staff member**







A 12-year-old girl from a non-churchgoing family made a commitment – now both mum and daughter are really keen to get involved in a church.

**Event team leader**



\*names changed



Thank you for giving Woody\* and Donna\* such an amazing time. As they come from a non-Christian family I was not sure how it would work; I have been the Christian influence in their lives but as their grandmother can only do so much. They are buzzing and have offered to share at the family service next week.'

**Child's grandmother**

## CAN WE COUNT YOU IN?

We couldn't run our holidays and missions without amazing volunteers like you! If you'd like to find out more about getting involved, visit [su.org.uk/countmein](https://su.org.uk/countmein). Alternatively, contact Jo and the Mission Events team by email ([countmein@scriptureunion.org.uk](mailto:countmein@scriptureunion.org.uk)) or on 01908 856177.





**WEEK  
BEGINNING  
JAN 14**

# Prayers

Please pray for our holidays and missions – for the children and young people who come on them, and all those involved in organising.

## SUNDAY 14

Give thanks to God for the holidays and missions that took place last year, and for all the volunteers and SU staff who gave their time, energy and skills to make them happen.

## MONDAY 15

Please pray for all the children and young people who came on SU holidays and missions last year. Ask God to spur them on to learn more that they might grow in their understanding of how much he loves them and how they can know him personally.

## TUESDAY 16

Bookings have opened for our holidays and missions which restart in March 2024. Please pray that young people, children and their families will be excited and eager to book a place.

## WEDNESDAY 17

Give thanks to God for those who will be leading SU holidays or missions

for the first time in 2024. Ask God to give them the insight and wisdom to know how best to share Jesus with the children and young people they encounter.

## THURSDAY 18

Please pray for Jo Morley and our Mission Event Operations team as they finalise the holidays and missions programme for 2024, including some exciting new events!

## FRIDAY 19

Praise God for raising up such inspiring and dedicated volunteers to lead and serve on SU holidays and missions. Pray that they feel energised at the prospect of what God will do in the lives of the children and young people that book onto all the events.

## SATURDAY 20

Give thanks to God for his faithful provision, year after year, releasing the funds and raising up the volunteers that we need to run a full programme of holidays and missions.

# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
JAN 21

## SUNDAY 21

SU in German-speaking Switzerland is developing two new projects. One is a new children's week that involves parents and family members. The other is two adventure hiking trails in tourist regions. Pray for the development of these two projects, for the right contacts, the necessary permits and the finances.

## MONDAY 22

Please pray for the South East regional team as they prepare for a regional gathering in the spring, asking that it will enhance their continuing work with local churches and will lead to more children and young people coming to know Jesus.



## TUESDAY 23

Pray that Mission Enabler Jenni Whymark will have wisdom in managing time as she supports Faith Guides and works with others to look at effective ways to reach children and young people for Jesus.

## WEDNESDAY 24

Every month, more and more children download and start to play the Guardians of Ancora Bible app. Give

thanks for the 1,500+ players who will be beginning their Ancora adventure this month and for the way that the app keeps bringing new players to explore the life of Jesus in this child-friendly way.

## THURSDAY 25



Please pray for Gemma Willis in her role as Head of Development Hub. Ask God to give her wisdom, inspiration and clarity as she

balances competing priorities and plans for the future of Scripture Union's content ministry.

## FRIDAY 26

Pray that more volunteers will be called to start their Journey as Faith Guides this year and begin to connect with the 95. Pray that we will have wisdom in knowing how best to support them and encourage them to go and make disciples.

## SATURDAY 27

Mission Partner **Stort Valley Schools Trust** gives thanks for deepening relationships with schools, staff and students, particularly those championing the work from within. Praise God for the permanent Soul Spaces now established in several schools and pray for more opportunities for this in other schools.

# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
JAN 28

## SUNDAY 28

Thank God for the holiday camp for children, adolescents and young people run by SU Togo which took place in July and was a resounding success. Pray that those who came will continue to think about what they learned.

## MONDAY 29

Thank God for the various printing companies who produce our printed resources. Pray that in their interactions with the SU staff and in the content they process they will meet the risen Christ and respond to him.

## TUESDAY 30



The Supporter Care team is usually the first point of contact for Scripture Union supporters. Pray for Jim Winning (Supporter Care Lead) and the team as they engage with those who contact Scripture Union to donate or order resources. Pray for the team today as they meet to reflect and plan.

## WEDNESDAY 31

Please join the team in the central region in praying for the planning of

their regional gathering of Faith Guides and Local Mission Partners. They ask that it would be a time to encounter God, discern his direction and to be equipped to share his love with the emerging generation across central England.

## THURSDAY 1

Mission Partner **The Pimlico Foundation** asks for prayer for the expansion of the current team; that they will be able to recruit the right people to grow and develop the vision of the Pimlico Foundation.

## FRIDAY 2

Pray for the Board of SU England and Wales as they meet today. Among other items on the agenda will be the annual review of the Safeguarding Policy and a review of the draft budget for the next financial year. Pray for direction and faith as they look to the future.

## SATURDAY 3



Toby Chant, Mission Enabler in the south-west, became part-time this month and is now working to new weekly rhythms. Please pray that

during this time of transition he will be able to continue serving the Faith Guides he supports and make wise decisions about how to use his time.



# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
FEB 4

## SUNDAY 4

Pray for all those who read SU Portugal's devotional publications including *Today*, *TribUB*, *Day by Day* and *Bread from Heaven*, that the Lord will bless each one and help them grow in faith.

## MONDAY 5

Please pray that the leadership of Mission Partner **Trobwynt** (working in and around Criccieth, Wales) will have a clear sense of God's leading as they seek his direction for the future. It has been hard to get back into schools after Covid and there are funding issues.

## TUESDAY 6



Mission Enabler Pete Croall asks us to pray for those connected to Scripture Union who will be sharing the good news with thousands

of children and young people in Berkshire, Essex and Hertfordshire in the run-up to Easter. Please pray that God will guide their preparation and give them energy.

## WEDNESDAY 7

Our final gathering for holiday and mission leaders takes place this weekend, and we are also planning a series of online



workshops to equip leaders and volunteers

for the events this year. Please pray for all who are delivering these, that they will be able to encourage and inspire our wonderful volunteers for the work in the year ahead.

## THURSDAY 8

Pray for churches and other groups running the *Deep Sea Divers* holiday club during February half-term. Pray that as the children explore the stories from Matthew's Gospel they will meet Jesus, perhaps for the first time.



## FRIDAY 9

Pray that Mission Partner **Southampton City Mission** will find more volunteers to lead their Question of Faith sessions in Southampton schools. Pray too for energy after February half-term, their busiest season in schools with many Easter themed Question of Faith days and assemblies.

## SATURDAY 10

The Digital team spent much of 2023 focusing on the security of our systems in an increasingly challenging world and are now approaching the first reassessment of annual tests. Please pray for the team as they continue to deal with constantly changing technology.



## ‘The best of both worlds!’

.....

Sarah Horne leads SU Local Mission Partner Reach which shares Jesus primarily with secondary school pupils in and around Reading. She tells us more about their work and why they value the relationship with Scripture Union, made possible through your generosity.



SARAH  
HORNE

‘We lead RE and PSHE lessons, mentor pupils and provide pastoral care to school staff to bless them – they are so thankful that someone values what they do.

‘We also train and support young Christians to lead Christian Unions (CUs) in nine Reading schools. We launched one last year at a big comprehensive – it’s led by two young people from my church. Lots of their non-Christian friends come to it every week. Nobody else tells them about God and they’re really interested and ask deep questions.

“ Lots of their non-Christian friends come every week. ”

‘These young leaders will, by God’s grace, become the preachers and church leaders of the future. We’ve just had a town-wide prayer meeting at which some of those CU leaders stood on stage and shared what they want us to pray for their generation. It’s a great experience for them.

“ We love partnering with SU. ”

‘We already use the Revealing Jesus framework to guide our plans and are about to become Faith Guides. We love partnering with SU. It gives us credibility with local churches, and access to high-quality resources, training and support. Pete (Croall) our SU Mission Enabler is always ready with advice and guiding us to resources we can use. Also, SU helps our Trustees with HR issues and does our DBS checks for us. And it’s great to come together with LMPs doing the same as us in other towns, to learn, pray for and encourage and inspire one another.

‘Being an LMP feels like we’re part of a bigger team, but with the freedom to work in a way that supports the local spiritual situation and need. It’s the best of both worlds!’



## FIND OUT MORE ABOUT SU LOCAL MISSION PARTNERS

If you’re involved with a charity that shares Jesus with children and young people, find out if being a SU Local Mission Partner would benefit you – visit [www.su.org.uk/partners](http://www.su.org.uk/partners).



# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
FEB 11

## SUNDAY 11

SU Nepal is publishing a daily devotional Bible guide in Nepali. They recently printed and distributed 1,500 copies of the guide for the new year. Pray this will help people to meet God daily.

## MONDAY 12



Pray for Communications Officer Chloe Shivraj and the rest of the Communications team as they seek to engage with supporters in a way that is relevant and meaningful, with the hope of encouraging them to increase support for the work of SU.

## TUESDAY 13

Give thanks for all the Grow Communities and emerging Grow Communities, and for all the children and young people who attend and are growing in their relationship with God. Pray for those who lead them and that SU will be able to support them in the work that they are doing.

## WEDNESDAY 14

Please pray for the Wales team as they work alongside consultants Meleri and Rebekah to develop research around Generation Alpha, looking at who they are, how they see the world and how they engage with faith; they are using questionnaires and focus groups

and piloting new events and groups based on the research.



## THURSDAY 15

Pray for mission partner **Hope Pembrokeshire's** upcoming programme of events including Lego club, family arts and crafts, family services and after school clubs. Pray that through these events, and through their support of the Brownies group and Army Cadets children, young people and families might encounter Jesus.

## FRIDAY 16

Please pray that the connections Tracy Jassal (Support Worker in the south-west) has with Faith Guides, Local Mission Partners and supporters will be strengthened and that she can be a valuable support to them.

## SATURDAY 17

Pray that all young people who visited the Rooted tent at Luminosity will continue to explore and to grow. Pray too for the launch of the Rooted hybrid, which will create online communities for young people who are involved in Rooted across the north-west.

# Prayers

WEEK  
BEGINNING  
FEB 18

## SUNDAY 18

Pray for teams engaging in mission with young people in countries where Christian work is restricted in some way as they offer vital engagement with the Bible and the way God's Big Story can have an impact on young people's lives.

## MONDAY 19



Pray that Young Leaders' Enabler Rachel Blake will have God's wisdom and discernment as she develops resources and training to help

equip young leaders who take part in SU's holidays and missions.

## TUESDAY 20

Join with us in celebrating the faithfulness of God in providing for our needs. Pray that we will continue to be blessed with all we need to grow the ministry so that more children and young people may come to know Jesus.

## WEDNESDAY 21

Please pray for strengthened relationships with our Mission Partners across England and Wales. Pray that we will be able to offer the Revealing Jesus framework in relevant ways for them to join with us in that vision for children and youth.

## THURSDAY 22

Please pray for Guardians of Ancora



clubs in the weeks before Easter. Pray for the children discovering the stories of Jesus' death and resurrection, perhaps for the first time. Pray too for club leaders as they seek to provide opportunities to explore the meaning of these events – and what it means for each person in the club.

## FRIDAY 23

Work has already begun on *Daily Bread* and *Encounter with God* for 2025. Thank God for all the writers, editors, designers, proofreaders and others who work tirelessly behind the scenes on these notes to ensure that they enable all our readers to grow closer to Jesus and live for him.

## SATURDAY 24



Supporter Care Assistant John Cartwright asks us to pray that the different types of computer software and hardware that

the team use every day will function well together so that we can continue to serve supporters and customers effectively.



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.....

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**WE'D BE  
GREAT  
TOGETHER**

