

Jenni's News and Prayer Update

March 2026

“Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.” (Psalm 23:6)



2026!

At the start of the year we gathered as a Central Team with LMP workers for a day of retreat, and then a team day.

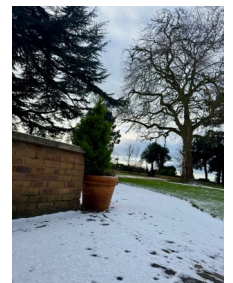
In part of the session that I led, I used Psalm 23 for people to reflect on

what God might be saying to them afresh at the start of the new year. I shared about a Timothy Keller book I had read over Christmas, and how he took one verse and came up with 30 things God was saying through it, how it varies when words are missed, what God is saying in each part, and so on. Keller shared how he had done this at a led activity and all those in the group found the most profound things often came out past point 20 when they sat and wrestled further, listening to God. Maybe you might join that challenge and take the verse above (or a different one!) and see if you can sit with it and find 30 different things God might be

saying to you through it. How amazing that the Bible is still alive and breathing today—inspiring us and instructing us in the things of God. What a blessing and a privilege to spend time in it.

In January I was on the stand at the Limitless Leaders' conference but was also able to join the main sessions. I was struck by Tim Alford sharing about how we can end up on hamster wheels of 'doing' because we are listening to the wrong narratives for our lives. He talked about ways of stepping back and remembering who we are in Christ and what we are called to do – hold on to the truth in each situation rather than relentlessly chasing lies of what you must 'do' to earn God's favour. A great reminder at the start of the year to pray into what opportunities are right to do.

I've got a busy 2026 lined up and am excited to see and be part of many things. But I'm also trying to ensure those 'Selah' moments are there to remember the why behind it all.



Podcast

Have you listened to Scripture Union's 'Mission Sparks' podcast? It's available on all usual podcast platforms – why not give it a listen?

I am on one of the episodes joining a conversation about 'generation alpha'. In reality, it's not a topic you can cover in a short amount of time, but hopefully

the conversation will spark some thoughts and ideas from listeners for what they could do to reach children and young people in their communities.

After listening, why not share it with others in your church/networks who might benefit from hearing about different topics and how these impact ministry and mission today?



Scripture Union's Offer to Churches

I often get asked, 'But what do you actually do day by day?' and in reality this is a very difficult question to answer as no two days look the same! The majority of my time is spent supporting Faith Guides—people who have signed up to SU's Revealing Jesus Framework and are committed to seeing children and young people go on a faith journey for themselves. The offer to those who register for our support (which is free to do thanks to others' generosity!) includes regular training sessions they

can attend, coaching and support from a local Mission Enabler, access to pilot resources and helping shape them, a discount off SU products, help and support in running residentials and connections into a wider network. So, a lot of my time is doing these things! In terms of helping support people—sometimes that's formal coaching styles, other times it's more gentle coaching as we explore what's going on, where the possibilities are and what steps might be needed to get there. Some churches have one person who registers and others whole teams who are keen to journey together. If you think your church might be interested in receiving this kind of support, do get in touch!

Connect – Explore – Respond – Grow

Training

Something else that I have spent time working on over the past few months is the training offer to those who are connected to us as Faith Guides or Local Mission Partners. We have one or two training sessions each month and networking sessions too. So far, we've run sessions on 'Keeping it fresh but rooted in 2026', 'Opportunities in schools', 'Raising young leaders' and 'Introduction to practical and reflective theology'. Other sessions we'll be looking at including are 'Trauma informed approaches to youth and children's work', 'Working in a multi-faith context', 'Experiential Learning', 'Relational ministry in practice' and many more.



Alongside these, we are running webinars that are open to a wider audience to explore some of the new books and resources that we have. We will be running these for *Kingdom Builders* the new holiday club and *Ready to Go* the new book for children who are starting school. These are open to all, so why not come and join us online to hear about the resources and think about how they might be of use for your communities.

As well as offering training to others, I am going to be working towards a 'Level 5 in Effective Coaching and Mentoring' between Easter and summer. Hopefully this will help improve my practice and be a blessing to the SU movement.

After helping at Limitless Festival last summer it was great to input into SU's 'Sporty Young Leaders' initiative – training up young people in sports mission to put into practice in their local context and nationally to serve with SU at festivals. I am going to be getting my sports multi-skills and mission level 2 qualification in March and am hoping it will mean I can help others to grow and develop further for themselves too.



“Your goodness and love will follow me...” Psalm 23:6

What's Coming Up...

2026 started off busy; here are some events coming up this year that I'd love you to prayer for...

3rd March—Introduction to Schools Ministry Training

I am helping to lead the ITSM training online. Please pray for good attendance and engagement, and that even though it's online there will be lots of good connections and takeaways.

23rd-25th March—Multi-Skills Coaching Qualification

I'm going to be up at a conference centre near Nottingham to go through this training with Mark Oliver who heads up the sports team. Please pray it will be a great time and I'd learn all I need to!

29th March—Speaking

On Sunday 29th March I'm speaking at Twynning Chapel's service. Please pray for the preparation beforehand and for the service to all go well and be a blessing, encouragement and inspiration to all there.

5th April—Speaking

On Sunday 5th April (Easter Sunday) I'm leading/speaking at the all-in meeting at Christ Church Abingdon, Long Furlong. Please pray that this is a great time celebrating the resurrection.

25th April—Training Session

On Saturday 25th April I am running a training session with others involved in youth, children and schools ministry in Ross-on-Wye. Please pray for the preparation for this and that the delivery would inspire action.

27th-28th April—Central Region Gathering

The SU Central Region are running a gathering for Faith Guides and Local Mission Partners across the region. Please pray for the team as we pull this together. I am going to be speaking on opportunities to respond and intergenerational opportunities.

15th-17th May—Church Weekend Away

I am heading to Wales for the weekend to run the kids/youth work for a church who I am connected to in Shropshire. Please pray for the planning of this and that the children who come would be keen to engage with all prepared.

5th-7th June— Faith Guide Holiday

I am helping to run a Faith Guide weekend away for some churches that the Central Team are connected to in Stoke. Please pray for the preparation, and that those who come would take steps of faith and have so much fun.

28th July—3rd August—New Wine

I'll be at New Wine again this year!

5th-10th August—Limitless Festival

I am back at Limitless again this year, but this time heading up the sport stuff for the 7,000+ young people coming, so would value prayers!

Keep up to date Hopefully you have been encouraged to read a bit about what has already been happening in the past few months. Follow the Scripture Union website and Facebook pages to stay up to date with what else is going on. Following these will give you a broader picture of what is happening across England and Wales.

Fundraising Each of us has a fundraising target for the year. I am so, so grateful to everyone who has made a donation towards the work that I do.

My fundraising target has risen again this year. If you could consider making a monthly donation that would make such a difference to what I do. I would love to be able to spend as much time helping people and less time trying to find ways to raise money! If your church gives to charities, maybe you could suggest they could support me in the things that I am doing?! Any kind of donation is a blessing and I'm so thankful for many who do give so generously. Donate online: www.SU.org.uk/JenniW

Telephone 01908 856000 and explain you want to donate to Jenni Whymark's team support.

Another way of supporting the work that I do is remembering me in your prayers. Please do pray for those that I work with and for projects that I am involved with. Pray through this and past news letters. Your prayers make a difference.

Prayer Pointers

- * Give thanks for all God is doing across England and Wales – so many stories of children and young people hearing the gospel.
- * Give thanks for new Faith Guides and new contacts across the areas I cover.
- * Please pray for all the plans in place this year, for times of preparation and for God to lead in each thing I'm involved with.
- * Pray for the Central Team as we grow, welcoming Kate to the team. Pray that there would be great team spirit as we champion and support one another.
- * Pray for all the training plans in place that they would be well received by Faith Guides and Local Mission Partners.
- * Pray for the trainings that I am doing over the next six months, that I would be able to complete them all and put things into effective practice.
- * Pray for the juggle of work and life, family commitments, church commitments and times of rest.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I'm so grateful.

Love Jenni



Get in touch

Jenni Whymark, Mission Enabler

102 Gibson Close, Abingdon, OX141XT

jenniwh@scriptureunion.org.uk | www.scriptureunion.org.uk

If you would like to change how you receive this newsletter please contact the Central Team Support Worker Racheal—rachealc@scriptureunion.org.uk

 Scripture Union

www.scriptureunion.org.uk

Scripture Union, Trinity House, Opal Court, Opal Drive, Fox Milne, Milton Keynes, MK14 0DF

T: 01908 856000 E: info@scriptureunion.org.uk