

Dear friend

SU Scotland – an urgent appeal for support

We write to ask for your backing at a time when we are facing financial pressures to reduce the scope of our ministry.

What's the challenge?

We need regular supporters who will help bridge a £250,000 gap in our annual finances, arising largely from increased staff costs. We are grateful that one-off gifts plus substantial legacies bridged the gap in recent years. But regular income has not risen to close the gap now that the legacies are largely spent. **We urgently need to grow the team of financial supporters.** We have carefully reviewed expenditure and made non-staff related reductions. However, we can now no longer sustain our present budget – which rightly expends 70% of income on staff costs, the majority on those who work directly with the 10,000+ children and young people we reach each year.

Multiplying opportunities

We are blessed with many ministry opportunities: churches seek our help with missions, schools are open to SU Groups, primary and secondary pupils visit our centres in record numbers, young people want to develop in Christian leadership and SU Holidays remain remarkably fruitful. Indeed, our strategy focus is on growing our ministry.

We saw five young people baptised... they all testified that they had either come to faith on an SU camp, or that SU Scotland had been significant in their journey following Christ.

**Keith Short, Senior Pastor,
St John's Linlithgow**

Our priority is people

We prize 'deepening relationships' highly – it is one of our twin values. In a culture of increasing relationship breakdown, it becomes even more important to have staff and volunteers on the spot, sharing the love of Christ in word and deed. God has given us great places for ministry, including the recent gift of Gowanbank House in Ayrshire. But premises are only valuable if they offer a place where relationships can flourish and the love of God is modelled.

SU Scotland had a huge impact on my relationship with God. I became a Christian at a camp aged 13, and year after year the friendship, kindness, fun and challenging teaching kept drawing me back to God, and encouraging me.

Karen, Former Camper

An unashamed plea

We are calling on you, as someone who values our ministry, to make **a regular giving commitment**, enabling young people to be equipped as confident followers of Jesus and more volunteers to be equipped for mission. Regular donors provide a solid foundation for our work and we are extremely grateful for nearly 2,000 people who already give regularly. Could you please consider a recurring gift, or perhaps increase your regular giving to SU Scotland? We are equally grateful for one-off gifts of any amount.

As we celebrate 150 years of SU ministry, we remain passionate about 'telling the next generation' and doors are still wide open. Please will you consider partnering in this ministry?

Thank you for your support,

Andy Bathgate
Chief Executive

Gordon Brown
Chair of the Board