

@SU

SUSCOTLAND.ORG.UK

JUNE 2025



SU Scotland

WHO ARE SU SCOTLAND?





Our vision is to see every child and young person in Scotland exploring the Bible and responding to the significance of Jesus.

We are a Christian charity with over 2,500 volunteers and 120 staff working in four contexts: schools, holidays, community-based missions, and training and equipping. Our outdoor centres—Alltnacriche, Gowanbank and Lendrick Muir—welcome thousands of young people every year, and Magnitude events take place year round, with a focus on our annual summer festival.

We work in partnership with churches, SU Scotland Associate Trusts and others to help children and young people across Scotland have an opportunity to explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus.

We offer safe places where they can have fun, meet new challenges, feel valued, accepted and free to express their views and consider their own beliefs as they engage with peers and Christian leaders. We aim to focus on the needs of those from priority areas in all our activities.

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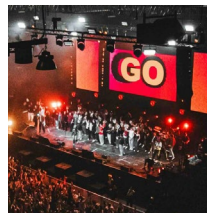
4 PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

Jen Robertson discusses a new joint venture publication from Scottish Bible Society.



6 BUILDING A FESTIVAL TOGETHER

Ali Laing writes about a key relationship that underpins the Magnitude Festival.



10 YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SHARING THEIR FAITH

Jonny Slatter talks about THE SEND and young people sharing their faith.



14 GAP:MARGINS

John Pizzuto-Pomaco shares about his Gap Year experience, based in the Northfield area of Aberdeen.



16 WELCOME ALAN

Alan Scott is the new Young Leader's Development Lead for SU Scotland. He talks about why he's excited about his new role.



20 STAND WITH UKRAINE

Oksana Khimich shares about the continuing challenges for our Scripture Union partners in Ukraine.

I MAKE MY REQUESTS TO YOU WITH JOY, FOR YOU HAVE BEEN MY PARTNERS IN SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT CHRIST, FROM THE TIME YOU HEARD IT UNTIL NOW. PHILIPPIANS 1: 5-6



There's an African proverb that says 'If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.' In this edition of @SU we celebrate some of the partnerships that are so fundamental to sharing faith here in Scotland, that are sustaining our work and enabling it to flourish.

In 2025, we are still working in partnership to spread the good news about Jesus, just as Paul was, around two millennia ago, when he wrote to thank the church in Philippi for their support.

We partner with local churches across Scotland, and with other organisations that share our vision to enable young people to explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus.

Read about our partnership with the Scottish Bible Society (page 4) and the new publication that will be available at Magnitude this summer. Read on about the strong links

with the Baptist Union of Scotland (page 6) that have enabled young people from churches across Scotland to join the thriving event.

A key principle of youth work is that adults and young people partner together to learn and grow, and that's such a key aspect of what happens at SU Scotland. Alan Scott is the new Young Leaders' Development Lead, and he shares about enabling young people to step into leadership (page 16).

Through many of the stories in this edition there is a strong sense of young people exploring faith and responding to Jesus. People across the UK are sharing stories of an upturn in interest among Gen Z.

THE SEND is an international campaign, encouraging young people to share their faith. SU Scotland is a partner organisation, and it is exciting to hear stories of response from the event in Glasgow that attracted over 3,500

young people. Read Jonny Slatter's account (page 10) of how THE SEND Scotland event bolstered young people who had just started a new SU Group in Balerno High School, Edinburgh.

As we head into summer, we are grateful to everyone who supports SU Scotland by praying for the work, volunteering their time and giving towards our costs. We hope to see many of you at the Big Celebration in August. If you'd like to stay closely connected in prayer, do sign up for our Prayer Hotline this summer (page 23) to receive timely updates as needs arise. Your partnership in the gospel is vital.



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PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

The Scottish Bible Society (SBS) has just sent content to the designers for a joint publication with SU Scotland for those attending Magnitude this summer. Jen Robertson, Children's Resources Manager at SBS, shares more about our long-standing partnership.

Each young person and leader attending the festival will receive their own magazine containing three of Paul's letters—Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians.

Alongside the easy-to-read New International Reader's Version of the Bible text will be helpful comments, questions, opportunities to respond, prayers, and space to doodle and write.

We were delighted to create these elements for the magazine, adopting a style

that draws the reader into the content to help them better engage with the text.

As we have delved deep into these three 'prison' letters, we have been struck by the partnership that Paul repeatedly talks about and encourages with his readers.

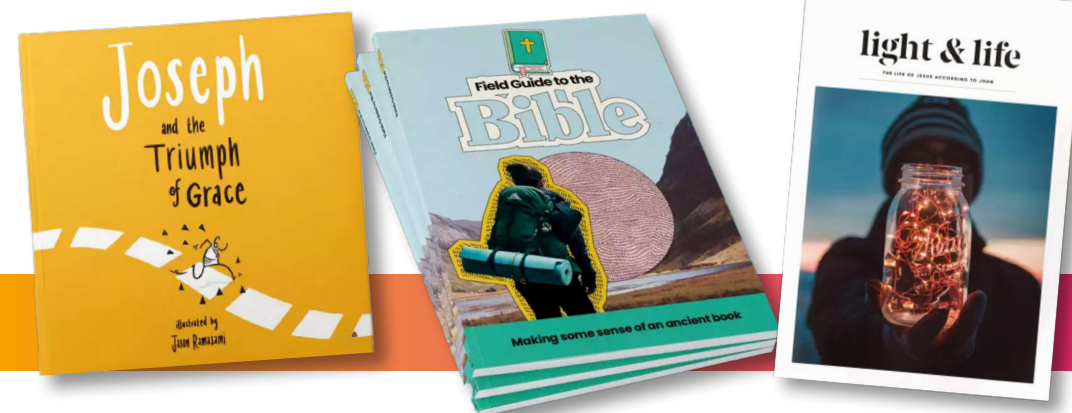
In Philippians 1:5 he says, *'In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.'*

The partnership Paul had with the church in Philippi brought him joy. This is how we feel about our partnership with SU Scotland! We both have a desire to share the Bible—this is the deep root of our partnership. The vision of

SU Scotland is to see every child and young person in Scotland exploring the Bible, and at SBS, we want to share the Bible with all ages. Both organisations believe that in the Bible we encounter God.

This partnership has been a source of joy for over 25 years. In 1998, we created a comic book version of Luke's Gospel together called *Get Real*. The annotations were made by SU Scotland staff, and SBS brought their Bible production skills. *Get Real* helped children read Luke's account of Jesus' life, death and resurrection, with aids to help them interact meaningfully with the text.

In more recent years, we have collaborated on similar projects, creating products that provide access to the Bible for young people attending SU Scotland events.



Dear Theo, is an easy-to-read version of Luke and Acts, and was given to every young person attending SU Holidays in 2019.

Our publication, *Joseph and the Triumph of Grace*, was given out at SU Holidays in 2022. This book contains an illustrated version of Joseph's story in the first half, and the whole text of Genesis in the second half. At SBS, we talk of the need for people to have the Bible in a language they can understand. We usually think of this as being in their heart language—for some young people in Scotland, illustration is a form of translation.

At Magnitude two years ago, we were delighted to give every young person a free copy of *Field Guide to the Bible* which is full of hints and tips to help readers engage with the big story of the Bible.

At last year's festival, working together once again, we were able to give the festival-goers their own annotated version of Matthew's Gospel, which helped them engage with the Bible teaching during the main sessions in the Big Top.

At SU Holidays over Easter, the teaching was based on John's Gospel, and the same focus will continue at events this summer with our *Light and Life* magazine version of that Gospel being used by young people and their leaders.

Both Elaine Duncan, CEO of SBS, and I have previously served on the SU Scotland staff team—Elaine moved to SBS in 2006, and I followed in 2018. We are both still volunteers with SU Scotland and know the importance of the residential event in bringing many young people to Jesus—not to mention the

many other opportunities the ministry of SU Scotland offers across a range of contexts. This makes our commitment to the partnership between SBS and SU Scotland both personal and deeply meaningful.

Paul knew that partnerships in the gospel brought joy, but he also knew that it is in these partnerships that God's kingdom grows and strengthens. As we share our creativity, ideas and resources God can do so much more than we can ever imagine.

“ Jen Robertson

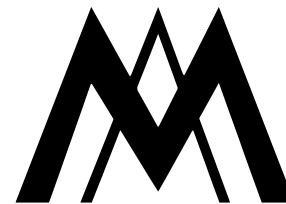
Jen is the Children's Resources Manager at the Scottish Bible Society.



BUILDING A FESTIVAL TOGETHER



Good partnerships are based on good relationships. At the Baptist Union of Scotland (BUS), we are delighted to be a part of the partnership approach that has been so important in making Magnitude a success from the outset.



We caught the vision of Magnitude early on as it felt like the right progression from some of the Scotland-wide events that we had been offering to young people in BUS churches. We particularly wanted to support young people who are part of churches where only a few young people attend.

We sponsor the HUB tent at Magnitude which provides the focus for a BUS Camp within the festival. We offer a sense of belonging which is so important when you're part of something large. The HUB is a place where young people get to meet, share food together, build friendships, talk about faith and have fun. There are volunteers around to support, encourage and—so important—make sure there's something to eat!

We are committed to Magnitude because we can see how it acts as a catalyst, bringing young people together and enabling them to enjoy the excitement of worshipping as part of

a large group, hear great Christian teaching and take part in a wide range of activities and seminars.

Across Scotland at the moment, we are hearing about young people with no faith background coming to our churches to explore faith. We know there is an upturn in baptisms among young adults. We are excited that young people are currently open to exploring faith, and events such as Magnitude and THE SEND are all significant in contributing to this. I hear stories of individual young people searching, finding out about the Christian faith, and of friends—through social media—being invited to events where they are experiencing God for themselves.

The Magnitude Worship Nights that take place through the year are providing a place for young people to connect and build friendships across Scotland. We've seen some lovely examples of young

people from different places supporting each other. For example, young people from Perth did some fundraising to support young people from Orkney to attend an event, while churches in Aberdeen came together to share transport costs for a coach.

In 2022, 86 young people from Baptist churches across Scotland joined the BUS camp at the first in-person Magnitude. That number has grown steadily with each festival, and this year, we will be bringing over 300 young people together—and it's my task to make sure they all get fed! Pray for me!

The Baptist Union of Scotland is supporting Magnitude financially because we believe in a relational God and the transformation that he brings to young people's lives.

“ Ali Laing

Ali is the Younger Generation Lead for the Baptist Union of Scotland.

magnitude.org.uk/2025

FOR THE KINGDOM

K2, the Christian Trust based in Fife, is 25 years old this year. Maureen Clark reflects on the benefits of a strong partnership with SU Scotland as the Trust celebrates the past and looks forward to appointing a new worker.



K2 was set up in 2000 and known as Kingdom 2000. We've always focused on North East Fife, and now we are choosing to concentrate on St Andrews, working in the feeder primaries for Madras College.

The benefits of being an SU Scotland Associate Trust range from the practical through to the reputational.

It can be lonely being a youth worker in a small organisation, so being part of the Associate Trust scheme makes a huge difference. It means there is a line manager from the SU Scotland staff to mentor and support; there are opportunities for networking with others in similar roles around Scotland; and we benefit from HR support, employment law, staff training, the PVG administration for volunteers and access to resources.

In the local primary schools we offer curriculum-based work. Bible Alive has been an important programme and has been very well received. **SU Scotland is widely**

recognised and trusted in relation to delivering in schools, so this helps open doors for the Trust. With the help of an enthusiastic team of volunteers, we've delivered Christmas Unwrapped and the Easter Code—popular resources that help children to understand more about the major Christian festivals. Even when we've been between workers, we've been able to sustain this work, drawing on local church members including students from St Andrews University.

This Easter, a team of 12 volunteers helped deliver the Easter Code, bringing the story of Easter alive for children in P5–P7. One girl's reaction was, 'I hope Jesus comes back again soon.'

Two new SU Groups have started in schools in St Andrews recently, and we would love to see more.

K2 is supported financially by churches in the area, and the management committee and board are busy raising

awareness and helping people to catch the vision for what we are doing. We have focused our work in St Andrews because there is a strong Christian youth programme in the town, Young Life, and the work of the Trust feeds into this. There are 15 churches in the St Andrews area, and we try to keep them all informed about the work of K2 and how they can support and get involved. We run a WhatsApp prayer channel so people can be up-to-date with prayer needs.

We are looking forward to making a part-time appointment in the very near future and continuing to partner with SU Scotland in sharing good news with children in St Andrews primary schools in the years ahead.

“ Maureen Clark

Maureen is chair of the K2 Board of Trustees. She worked for SU Scotland as a regional worker and as part of the training team. She is now retired and lives in St Monans, Fife.

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SHARING THEIR FAITH



◀ **Jonny Slatter, Youth Worker at St Mungo's Church, Balerno, talks about THE SEND, a new SU Group and the impact of SU Scotland events like SU Holidays and Magnitude.**

It seems to me that THE SEND has happened at just the right time. Starting in the USA, THE SEND has expanded internationally, with gatherings in Brazil, Norway, and most recently, the UK and Ireland. The goal is to ignite a new generation to embrace missional living and respond to God's call for revival and action. For us at St Mungo's, it provided a focus for Christian young people to think about mission and to explore faith.



At the end of March, 47 young people from St Mungo's took part in THE SEND in Glasgow. The event, which is touring the UK, brought together over 3,500 people in Braehead Arena for eight hours of worship, Bible teaching and commissioning to share the good news with others. SU Scotland are partners with THE SEND as a ministry organisation that provides young people with ways to share their faith and help others to see the relevance of Christianity for themselves.

There were Experience Nights across Scotland in the weeks before the event where young people and leaders felt very aware of God's

presence and were able to share their faith openly with people in the community.

THE SEND, with its focus on mission and sharing faith, seems to tie in with many other things that are happening for us. For the St Mungo's youth group, there is an important partnership with SU Scotland that runs through a lot of our work and is helping young people to grow.

Just a few weeks before THE SEND, we had the first meeting of a new SU Group in Balerno High School. It's been quite a few years since there was an SU Group there, so it's brilliant seeing it get off the

ground again, especially with young people taking the lead.

Finn, Aimee and Naomi from the St Mungo's group have been key to getting things started. Finn and Aimee were recently elected as head boy and head girl at Balerno High; their new roles are great for the group's profile as lots of people know who they are!

I think what has encouraged everyone recently is that Christian young people have been inviting their friends along, and lots of people have been interested. That is true of the SU Group, of events at St Mungo's and of THE SEND. Once again a large group of our young people

has signed up to attend Magnitude in July. Many also attend SU Holidays.

I've been involved in Christian youth work for 12 years, and now more than ever sense God moving among a generation hungry for him and seeking to be counter cultural in how they live out their faith. The joy for me is in the discipleship journey—seeing how the young people I have the privilege of leading flourish as disciples in the church, their schools and communities, as they live out their commission to be example setters and make disciples of Jesus.

“ **Jonny Slatter**



I THINK WHAT HAS ENCOURAGED EVERYONE RECENTLY IS THAT CHRISTIAN YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BEEN INVITING THEIR FRIENDS ALONG, AND LOTS OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN INTERESTED.



PERSPECTIVE, POPCORN, THE PRODIGAL... AND PARTNERSHIP!



During the last weekend in March, I was at Lendrick Muir helping in the kitchen for a Motiv8 weekend led by Tim Raynes, Ministry at the Margins Lead, SU Scotland. We were catering for around 20 young people who were joining from two locations in Whiteinch, Glasgow and Wester Hailes, Edinburgh.

Being in the kitchen provides a great perspective. You get a sense of what's happening at the event, with just a tiny bit of distance from the real action. I had a lot of fun, working with Chief Cook, Becky, finding my way around the smart ovens, chopping quantities of salad and pushing dishes through the industrial dishwasher.

Of course that meant that I was making food when all the activities were happening, but we weren't disconnected. During the chilly Saturday we took regular orders for hot chocolate to help young people warm up after high ropes adventures and bushcraft activities in the forest. The flexible approach with both the food and the programme was very definitely about responding to each young person's needs as best we could.

We had the meal cleared up on Saturday evening

in time to join a gathering in the Glendevon Lounge where the young people were exploring Jesus' story about the lost sheep. Their random questions might have sounded like distractions, but actually demonstrated how much they were engaging with the ideas in this timeless story.

On Sunday we moved on to the story of the lost son, taking part in planning a party, watching a powerful animated version of the story, chatting it through in groups and then celebrating in style with fizzy juice and popcorn!

For me a highlight of the event was getting to know some of the team and hearing about why they were part of the event.

Jenna is currently a young volunteer who supports the Whiteinch group. **'I see the young people every Wednesday. A weekend like this can have such a positive impact on developing relationships. It's hard work, but totally worth it.'** Next year Jenna is joining the SU Scotland Gap Year programme, continuing to share her faith with young people.

Angus is just finishing high school and planning to go

to university in Glasgow next year to study product design. He helps out at the Whiteinch group on a Wednesday evening. He shares, **'I think it's the fact that we are with the young people regularly that makes all the difference for an event like this.'**

Weekends like this can feel challenging. They are tiring, busy and noisy. Many of the leaders give above and beyond all day, then stay up late to support any of the young people who are unsettled. But these weekends are also deeply rewarding times, where important relationships are built and young people hear about the faith of the adults who are making it all possible.

This Motiv8 event helped build meaningful partnerships at every level—between young people, their leaders, their groups and with SU Scotland. The vision is to see these close partnerships grow, enabling groups to take part in events together more regularly and for young people to benefit in real and lasting ways.

“ Hilary Phillips

Hilary is a volunteer with SU Scotland and Editor of the @SU magazine.



GAP: MARGINS

John is originally from New Jersey, but for the last few years his family has been based in Peterhead, following God's call for them to come to Scotland. He shares with us about his involvement with SU Scotland's Gap Year programme.

I have just completed a degree course in theology and sociology from Aberdeen University, and as I think, pray and explore about what it is that I might do long term, I am taking part in Gap Year.

It's proving to be an exciting, stretching and challenging year, and a practical way to apply some of the learning from the last few years of study.

I'm based at Northfield United Free Church of Scotland and currently work in three local primary schools and a secondary school.

We run SU Groups in the schools and support some community-based work. All of it is about building

strong connections with young people, providing opportunities for them to explore the Bible and respond to Jesus.

A lot of what I do is about creating places where young people feel supported and are able to have conversations. In the high school we offer a weekly lunch-time space where young people can come and chat. It's a safe space within the school and a positive thing that we can offer.

Many young people have no knowledge of Christianity and most of them are not at church, so building places of connection is important as a first step. Young people are in school, so it's important to meet them there!

Over Easter we had two incredible opportunities to share *Easter Journey* with upper primary pupils, helping them to understand the story all the way from the triumphal entry through Holy Week to Jesus' death and of

course his resurrection. This is such a privilege and one of the most exciting things that we do, bringing the story to life with a Passover meal and interactive activities including a tent to recreate the borrowed tomb.

This year has also developed my passion for including young people with additional support needs. We run a cafe in the church and invite young people from a special needs school to join us for snacks and fun. Being able to share a smile, share a story and share faith with them seems to be important both to them and to me. I think of it as a ministry of presence... not always about stating the gospel content, but just taking time to sit together, chat and share the love of Jesus. The young people clearly know that it is a spiritual place. They can experience God, just as I can.

During summer I will be part of a mission trip from SU Scotland heading to

Hungary. We will have the opportunity to work alongside local volunteers to run holiday clubs in rural churches and will be playing games, sharing Bible stories and memory verses, teaching a bit of English, building relationships and sharing God's love... in other words, doing many of the same things as here. To me, it emphasises that God's love is for everyone, everywhere.

This last year, I've been impressed by young people's passion for Jesus. I've seen it at the Go Conference and at Equip events in Aberdeenshire, where Christian young people have come together to worship and develop their faith. It's exciting to see young people looking for ways to go deeper.

“ John Pizzuto-Pomaco

Gap:at-the-margins works with youth projects in priority communities across Scotland, helping to run social and emotional support groups, SU Groups and drop-ins.

WELCOME ALAN

SU SCOTLAND
YOUNG LEADERS'
DEVELOPMENT LEAD

Alan Scott stepped into the role of Young Leaders' Development Lead with SU Scotland in March 2025, following 12 years as the youth worker at Partick Trinity Church in Glasgow's west end. His sense of call to ministry began on a mission trip with OMF in 2011, after which he returned to uni to study Community Learning & Development. We caught up with Alan to hear about his new role.

Q: What drew you to SU Scotland at this point in your journey?

SU Scotland is an organisation I know very well and one which I have always admired. I've been a volunteer for many years, including leading a residential event at Gowanbank. In my previous role, I was involved with SU Groups in schools and with Christmas and Easter workshops through the Wheel Trust. I was delighted to accept the opportunity to join the SU Scotland staff team.

Q: What excites you about leading this programme?

I know young people who have been part of the leadership programme at SU Scotland, and I've seen the impact it can have. Young people today are being described as the 'open generation'. I want to help others to benefit in the same way.

Q: What opportunities does the programme offer young leaders?

I'm here to help young people develop their leadership skills, explore their Christian faith, and develop the skills that will enable them to contribute as volunteers with SU Scotland and in their churches.

Q: Why do you think so many young people choose to take part?

Many are exploring their identity, looking for a sense of belonging and a purpose in their lives. When they open the Bible, they are able to make sense of these big

questions and find meaningful direction for their lives. In addition, often young people want to find ways to stay involved with SU Scotland and give something back.

The young leaders' programme has been thriving in the last few years, with an increase in the number of participants, so it's a significant time to get involved.

Q: What's coming up that you're especially looking forward to?

I'm at Basecamp on Arran this June as one of the team leaders, where we'll be equipping young people to serve as part of teams this summer. I've never been to Basecamp before, so I am looking forward to learning while I lead.

Q: And looking a little further ahead?

I hope to see more Connect Groups established—helping young people to stay

connected with each other and with God, building lasting relationships, and developing a deep trust in God.

In my last role, I helped to facilitate a course called 'Flourish' that encouraged young people to think about identity. Some of that work is influencing my approach to supporting young leaders, helping them to develop a strong foundation, based on their faith in Jesus.

Q: Is there a Bible passage you keep coming back to?

I return to Psalm 23 again and again. God is a shepherd who wants to keep us safe, who fights for us—and he has a plan and purpose for us.

I want to do what I can to help young people understand that for themselves and become people who influence others from that place of trust.

“ Alan Scott

Alan lives with his family in Paisley. He enjoys keeping fit, the cinema and good food.



LONG-TERM PRAYING

Those who pray for schools do so in faith. They may pray for years for a child at church, a pupil in their class or a member of their family—and they don't always find out how God answers.

Here's an encouraging story from one of SU Scotland's younger members of staff that demonstrates God's faithfulness in hearing and answering. We don't know the outcome of our prayers—but God does!

'Last week, I found myself wandering in a shop I don't normally frequent, when a woman came towards me. I immediately recognised her as my Primary 2 teacher. She was a great teacher. In fact, I wanted to train as a teacher because of her. She asked how I was doing, and where I was working. I told her that I now work for SU Scotland, and she was amazed! It turns out that she had prayed for me when I was a wee girl in her class, and she still owned the necklace that I had given her as a P2 pupil! I didn't even know that she was a Christian—nor that she had been praying for me. My heart melted.

'It is obvious that God has answered her prayers for me in incredible ways. My school is in an area of deprivation. I grew up in a non-Christian family which brought lots of challenges. God heard and answered, using the loving care of a local church to bring me to Christ. Isn't that fantastic?'

So, persevere in prayer. God is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine!

2024 SU SCOTLAND SUPPORTER SURVEY



suscotland.org.uk/

GIVE

Thank you to the 642 brilliant supporters who took part in our Supporter Survey last year. Our dedicated team are reviewing all of your feedback which will be used to make improvements.

We want to share a small flavour of your helpful feedback and questions from the survey. In response to the question, 'What has stood out to you in your experience as a supporter of SU Scotland?' here is a glimpse of the responses. These words reflect your encouragement, insight and appreciation—and we are listening.

PASSION FOR THE MARGINALISED
JOYFUL HUMBLE GOOD REPUTATION
OPEN DUE DILIGENCE WITH FINANCES
CONSISTENTLY ILLUSTRATING JESUS' RELEVANCE
OUTDOOR FUN COMBINED WITH GOSPEL
INTEGRITY STUDY MATERIALS AND EVENTS
REGIONAL WORKERS' MINISTRY
FUN DEDICATION SERVING THE LORD
VIGOROUS 'CAN-DO' APPROACH INNOVATION
CORE VALUES ENGAGING PRAYERFUL VISION
INFORMATIVE SERVANT-HEARTEDNESS
YOUNG PEOPLE COMING TO KNOW JESUS AS SAVIOUR
ADAPTABILITY PERSISTENT COMMITMENT

YOUR Q'S ANSWERED

Q: What area of ministry is best to support, and what is the easiest way to donate?

We have so many areas of ministry, we appreciate it can all seem a bit complex as a donor! Whilst we are immensely grateful for all donations to all areas of our work, the best way to give is by Direct Debit to 'where the need is greatest'. Regular giving helps us to plan for the future and ensure the sustainability of our ministry. Direct Debits are more cost effective and require less administration for us as a charity than standing orders. Giving to 'where the need is greatest' allows us to use the funds where they are most needed.

Q: Could I link regular donations with a particular worker / place / scheme?

Some of our donors choose to give to specific aspects of our ministry like our Holiday Sponsorship Fund or our Local Ministries work. And some supporters sign up to receive prayer news from their local Regional Worker. We are working on improving the links between our amazing supporters and the work they give to, so that you feel

very much part of what is going on, and can see the impact of your donations.

Q: Is there an easy way to update my monthly donation online?

You can update online if you give by Direct Debit. If you give by standing order, updates need to be made through your bank.

suscotland.org.uk/regular-gift-change

Q: Can you stop sending duplicate mail to the same household?

Duplicate mailings will occur if two members of your household are signed up to receive them. We try to reduce instances of this by sending only one copy of a mailing where two or more people at an address have the same surname. If you are receiving duplicate mailings, get in touch at mailings@suscotland.org.uk.

Q: Postage is expensive—can't you email appeals?

SU Scotland receives a postal discount as we send high volumes of mail. For example, when we send out an appeal, it only costs 29p per letter. Whilst email saves money, people respond more generously to letters than email campaigns.



Thank you to the incredible **18%** of our supporters who have pledged a gift in their will to SU Scotland. Legacy giving helps to launch new projects and reach many more children and young people with the good news of Jesus.

57 supporters said they would like to receive a free Wee Celebration Fundraising Pack. Thank you for helping to raise money for SU Scotland!

6% of supporters would like to hear more about the impact of their donations.

We're currently working on a project to improve our donor communications, but we're encouraged to know the majority of you feel well informed!

74% of supporters said they are most passionate about SU Holidays and **70%** said schools work.



Oksana Khimich is a member of staff at Open Bible in Ukraine and part of the SU Global staff team. She shares about the continuing challenges for our Scripture Union partners there.

So many good people have left Ukraine because of the war or have been drafted into the army. As a result, our churches do not have enough leaders or volunteers, so we are working to provide encouragement and support—particularly to young people in smaller churches.

It can be especially hard for young people in these churches. They may be the only one attending, or maybe part of a very small group. By bringing young people together at Open Bible events, we provide them with an opportunity to make friends, nurture their faith and begin to develop the leadership skills that we need in our churches.

I find it so encouraging when we see young people taking on responsibility. We are offering leadership training, and they are bringing friends and younger siblings—we can be flexible about their age to include those who want to learn and grow.

We see young people taking their faith seriously, participating in discussions

with adults and building strong relationships. All of this is so positive! As a result, teenagers are stepping into roles in their churches. I can even think of a 12-year-old who wanted to serve and now plays the piano in her church.

By bringing young people together, and offering camps and support to churches, we are doing what we can do to make a difference in Ukraine.

We have been living with the constant threat of attack for several years now, and it has impacted us all. Around 40% of people are facing mental health challenges. We don't have trauma-informed training to offer this type of support, but we are doing what we can.

Back in January, we had a winter break event at Vorzel with young people from churches and from the local community. This June we are offering a similar event. Please pray as the different groups of young people come together.

We are deeply grateful for the faithful prayers of the Scripture Union community across the world. Knowing that you are standing with us here in Ukraine is a great encouragement. Your ongoing prayers mean so much. Please pray for peace—that is a hope we all share.

“ Oksana Khimich



GUIDING A GROWING MINISTRY

The ministry of SU Scotland is all about young people—our vision is to provide opportunities for every child and young person to explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus. That is only possible because thousands of individuals volunteer their time, gifts and experience in a whole variety of different ways.

For some that will involve working directly with young people, others help support the charity behind the scenes, including within the governance structure. SU Scotland's ministry is overseen by a Board of Trustees and a number of Board Committees. The Board ensures that the charity is well run, meets all of its legal requirements, and is responsive to the leading of God's Spirit.

This is a period of growth and amazing open doors for SU Scotland ministry. There is an opportunity for new Trustees to join

the Board and be part of leading the organisation forward. There are many areas where the Board would value expertise—fundraising, digital, media and communications, working with those at the margins, education and youth work, to name a few.

Do you have a heart for the young people of Scotland? Do you have skills and expertise which could help support the development and growth of SU Scotland ministry? Would you be interested in exploring the possibility of serving as a Trustee? Over the next 18 months, the Board will work through the process of selecting a new Chair. Would you have the skills and experience to consider that role?

The Board meets seven or eight times a year and Trustees normally serve for an initial period of five years,

with a possible extension of a further three years. Meetings are usually in the evening, a mix of in-person and online. No previous experience is necessary, Trustee training will be provided on an ongoing basis.

Over the coming months there will be an informal interview process, including the opportunity to attend a meeting as an observer, with a view to making appointments at the AGM in August. If you would like an opportunity to discuss things further before applying, contact info@suscotland.org.uk.

If you would like to apply for consideration to serve as a Trustee or as our new Chair, an application pack can be obtained from our website.

**Application deadline:
Friday, 27 June 2025**

**[suscotland.org.uk/
governance](https://suscotland.org.uk/governance)**



GRAB THE LATEST EVENT DETAILS ONLINE: suscotland.org.uk/events

PRAYER HOTLINE

Register now to receive weekly prayer information, prayer letters from Team Leaders prior to their events, and updates as needs arise.

suscotland.org.uk/prayerhotline

SU MISSIONS

Missions and holiday clubs provide a fabulous setting for children to have fun and learn about Jesus. Find resources and a list of holiday clubs running this summer online.

suscotland.org.uk/missions

SU HOLIDAYS

To find out about and book spaces on an SU Holiday, visit the holidays website:

suholidays.org.uk

MAGNITUDE 2025

19–23 July
Lendrick Muir

Magnitude is an annual Christian youth festival for young people aged 11–18. Based at Lendrick Muir, you'll find space to encounter God, enjoy community and experience nature together.

magnitude.org.uk/2025

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Emergency First Aid
5 June
SU Scotland, Glasgow Office

Allergy Awareness (online)

Food Hygiene (online)

Training courses are open to SU Scotland volunteers. Book online or contact the Volunteers Department.

suscotland.org.uk/events

**BIG CELEBRATION 2025
SAVE THE DATE**

23 August
Lendrick Muir

Join us for main sessions, seminars, activities, and an evening ceilidh. Our guest speaker is Fiona Stewart, who is an experienced event speaker, delivering thought-provoking messages with wit and warmth. She has a long-standing connection with SU Scotland.

suscotland.org.uk/bigcelebration



SPOTLIGHT & EQUIP

Equip Dundee (S1–S6)
7–9.00pm
Hillbank Church, Dundee

All Equip and Spotlight events will return for the new term in September.

suscotland.org.uk/equip

**EQUIP PUPIL
LEADER TRAINING**

In-person training
21 June, 10am–2.00pm
The Mission, St Machar Drive
Aberdeen, AB24 3RX

Online training
June/Aug/Sept/Nov

Are you in S3–S6 and interested in starting an SU Group in your school, or helping to lead an existing one? Join us for our next series of training sessions and take up the baton of leadership!

suscotland.org.uk/equiptraining

GO CONFERENCE

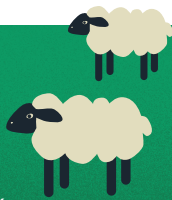
10–13 October
Lendrick Muir

SU Scotland's national youth conference for S4–S6 pupils who want to grow in their relationship with God. Bookings open from June.

suholidays.org.uk/go


BACK TO SCHOOL
→ with God ←
suscotland.org.uk/bsg

ALL I NEED—Explore Psalm 23 and discover how God, our Shepherd, is all we need. This resource includes everything for an all-age church service or children's talk, plus prayers and activities for Sunday or midweek clubs. Find out more and register online.



Lendrick Muir

**23 Aug
2025**

BIG CELEBRATION

**Join us for the day to celebrate SU Scotland ministry,
with worship and Bible teaching!**



suscotland.org.uk/bigcelebration