



AFRICA NEWS & PRAYER BULLETIN
SCRIPTURE UNION AFRICA
Volume 25, Issue 22 April - June 2008

Our Vision: Children and youth following Jesus, filled with hope and transforming the families and nations of Africa.

And it came to pass

In my recent message at Nairobi Baptist church I observed the following remarks while considering the story of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30:

There is limited time to use the talent one is given. The chief went away but for a limited time. No idea when he will return, but return, he did. We have limited time within which we are to make the best use of our given talents. We often behave as if we will have the talents forever, especially those given the talent of power. No! The power (talent) we are given has expiry date.

Consider our past heads of state, e.g., Mobutu (Congo), Abacha (Nigeria). They ruled as if their kingdom will never end. They ended, often with ignominy. Many like them are holding on to their powers today as if these will never end. No way, it will come to pass and that sooner than we expect.

And so our ministry as Regional Director of SU Africa will come to pass. The story started end of August 1993 when we resumed in the SU Africa Regional Office. The Master gave us some talents to trade with. It is hoped he has found us to be "good and faithful servants", worthy to share in our Master's happiness. We realize that the final rendering of account is to the Lord. Thank God he is gracious and will write off those areas of unworthiness.

As we bid SU Africa farewell at the end of June, we want to thank the Master for the opportunity to serve him. We are sure that this will not be the end of our ministry with SU. SU is US. It will only be a change of title, Regional Director to Volunteer. We came from that end and there we return. The task remains the same.

Many thanks to all for the support we have received from every quarter within and outside SU. Our prayer is that the Lord will grant special grace to David and Miriam Gichungwa as they continue from where we are ending.

Bye Bye.

Olaniyi Daramola

God @ Work in a Muslim School

As the wind of revival blows in The Gambia, the Leadership of Scripture Union in a Muslim Secondary School organized a rally in their school hall on Friday, 25th January 2008.



Students from various S.U groups participated in their school uniforms.

Eleven of them students present surrendered their lives to the Lord. One of the new converts, Elizabeth Mendy when asked

to testify of her new experience said "I want to live as Jesus lived on this earth."

This has therefore encouraged the few Christians students in the school to be bold in declaring their faith in a Muslim dominated community.

Equipping the Saints

In obedience to the Great Commission, The National Director of S.U Gambia organized a six-day training seminar on discipleship from Monday 7th to Sunday 13th January 2008 the participants who were ten in number included student leaders, school leavers and a few pastors.

Participants who were filled with passion are now determined



to raise at least one disciple, before the year ends. This has subsequently led to faithfulness in attending bible studies and greater awareness of the impact of S.U ministry in the lives of Children youths

and church leaders in The Gambia.

One of the Pastors namely, Joseph Musa, when asked the week after training, commented: "The training and materials are so good, that, I have begun a discipleship class in my Church using these materials."

(Lawrence Jah is National Director of SU Gambia)

KUDANEWS

Wotz Happening in the South

I have managed to visit 6 countries so far during my familiarisation exercise and am both encouraged and greatly challenged at the same time.

Encouraged because I meet men and women sweating it out in the Lord's vineyard with lots of enthusiasm and a determination that would crack rocks! They meet daunting situations but trust the Lord to get through and so they keep going. Some go without full salaries, some with small salaries and yet the work goes on and on.



Perhaps the highlight of my familiarization tour so far has been the chance to see the Prime Minister of Swaziland. I was surprised that he saw us at 7 O'clock in the morning having arrived the night before from a week-long foreign tour. I was not surprised to see that he loves the Lord deeply and has a



very soft and warm spot for children. He was very happy to hear what SU is doing in the country and asked us to be ready to meet

him in his office with a few more ministers of government so that more government leaders could hear from the horse's mouth what we are doing. He said, "Education without Jesus

is a bunch of demons". He is convinced that hope for the human race lies in giving children a Christian-based education. This poses a great challenge for us as SU. Are we ready to satisfy that hunger effectively? Let us pray that the Lord sends more funds to employ more workers to do this great work. We need to be fervent in prayer to God to make us effective and relevant life educators wherever we find ourselves.

(Kudakwashe Gwemende is our South Sub Region Director)

SU GHANA – AUGUST VISITOR

(John Dean, former Regional Secretary of SU Africa and retired SU International Training Consultant came back to Africa in January on the invitation of SU Ghana. An extract from his report – an external assessment!)

I was invited to be facilitator at SU Ghana annual Staff Conference/Retreat. There were 36 participants altogether – all the face to face ministry staff and a handful of office folk. It was nine days in length, the first three being semi-fasting, just water and a porridge supper each day. (I was only present for the final seven days!)

Compared to many countries with their disillusionment about materialism and 'independence' of various sorts, it is refreshing and exciting to visit and see Ghana at this time. Ghana has its problems – but less than many. There is a smile on people's faces, an energy, an entrepreneurship and a growing economy. Accra has a comprehensive road development scheme which is well enough developed to be promising

I was very encouraged with regard to SU Ghana as a whole:

- They are involved in the traditional SU ministries of Bible Reading promotion (over 100,000 copies of DP & DG Notes), schools work (with 92% of Secondary Schools having an SU group, and with up to 3 Senior Advisors as the norm for most of those groups). They organise evangelistic camps and training conferences.
- They have a good staff with a mixture of mature established staff, and younger ones who have joined more recently. About 25% are ladies, including three with their own teenage children. Such ladies are valuable role models to young female students.
- *They have a good leadership structure with Jude Hama (National Director) delegating successfully to his Admin Sec), two Ministry Coordinators and 8 Regional Coordinators.
- They have necessary support from volunteers serving as School Senior Advisors & Camp Officers, as people who pray and as people who give. This support is greatly helped by their adult Community SU Fellowships and Prayer Warriors Groups.

They have their challenges. These include:

- The fact that SU Ghana is now over 50 years old and a big organisation. 'It has become fashionable to be born-again'. The distinction between believers and unbelievers is blurred.
- *Post modernism and contemporary youth culture – the negative impact of globalisation (Internet and Mobile Phones), pornography, and openness to the occult. .
* The rise of denominational groups in schools. In the earlier days SU was the only Christian group in schools. (These other groups are recognised as a challenge to quality in SU ministry.)
- The division of Secondary Schools into Junior SS and Senior SS means that the former are more dependent on regular adult help. This is not always available.
- Lack of resources - especially vehicles

All in all, SU Ghana in its 50+ years are a testimony, as are so many other SU's & churches, to the fact that the Gospel is the truth, it is international/inter-ethnic & it changes people.(Col 1:5b &6). The challenge is to continue such a ministry.

MINISTRY AT A TIME OF CRISIS

(Rev. David N. Gichung'wa)

The civil unrest that engulfed our country, Kenya, following the disputed presidential elections called for a special ministry by the church and para-church organizations. The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ needed to be heard and seen as it touched broken lives of our people in a practical way. The people were in need of practical help – shelter, clothing, food, and security as well as spiritual enrichment to help them overcome the agony and deal with deep wounds inflicted on them.

As a ministry, we desired to scratch where it was itching. We desired to be relevant and practical and so we joined other Christians in ministering to the internally displaced people in the different camps. We had teams of volunteers and staff working in Nairobi's Jamhuri Park, in Mombasa, in Nakuru and in Eldoret. Our staff and volunteers focused on children in the camps. They organized special games for the children and having developed rapport with the children, they engaged in valuable discussions on life skills and individual counseling. The aim was to help the children release tension, resentment, anger and bitterness and to give them hope to enable them continue meaningfully with life. The staff and volunteers worked closely with churches and other organizations that were supplying food, blankets, clothing and other physical materials.

Our bookshops joined other Christian publishers and booksellers and donated useful books to the internally displaced people. One useful element of literature is that it

lingers and can be read when the person is ready. It is our prayer that through the books that have been given, the Lord will minister to the individuals in a unique and special way.

In their ministry in schools, our staff have identified the need of school uniforms for some of the boys and girls that have moved to new schools after the civil unrest. We are



Before

aware that uniforms give a sense of belonging. It is our desire as a ministry to help these children settle in their new schools and concentrate with their education. We have identified needy boys and girls and have decided to buy full school uniforms including shoes and socks and to give a Bible to each of the children that have been

selected. It costs Ksh.2,800/= (\$45) to buy full uniform for a girl and to also give them a Bible. For each boy, we will need Ksh.2,450/= (\$40) for the full uniform and one Bible each. This month, we received enough funds to give uniforms and Bibles to 250 children. The children have been identified by our staff, Christian teachers and social workers in Kisumu, Eldoret, Nakuru, Kiambu and Nairobi.



After

We will do more as the Lord enables us.

In its first meeting this year, the National Executive Board strongly condemned the post election violence, tribal animosity and hatred that had been spreading

in various parts of the country. The Board further noted that the church needs to play a bigger role in national reconciliation, peace and harmony.

(Rev David Gichinga is the National Director of SU Kenya and the Regional Director Designate.)

Praise & Prayer

APRIL 2008

Africa Region

Tue 1 We have prayed that God may send us three missionaries for Namibia, Mozambique and Tchad. Thank God for answering our prayers for Namibia. Pray for Graeme Aldom as he relocates in April from Australia to lead the ministry in Namibia. Pray for God's protection and good rapport between him, the staff and volunteers he will be working with. Pray for the right leaders for Mozambique and Tchad.

NEWSFLASH

Sam Ojowu Udanyi has been appointed Ministry & Training Consultant (Aid for AIDS & Family Ministry). He has been acting in that capacity since the departure of Hubert. He becomes the substantive head of the department from 1st April.



Zimbabwe

Wed 2 Zimbabwe faces another round of elections. Poor leadership has led to the rundown of the once buoyant economy. Pray that God may bring a change in the leadership of the country, giving the country a leader that is concerned about the welfare of the populace. Pray for peaceful campaigns and successful election.

Kenya

Thu 3 Thank God for the peace that we now have in the country after the signing of the power sharing agreement. However, the internally displaced persons are still staying in camps as their security is still not guaranteed if they were to return to their former homes. Sadly, many do not have homes to go back to. Pray for a practical solution to help these Kenyans who have been destabilized.

Fri 4 Staff Orientation Courses are scheduled for East Sub Region (14-19 April) and South Sub Region (4-11 May). Pray particularly for Kudakwashe who will be leading that for the South for the first time. Mike Smallbones will be involved in both. Pray for wisdom for him. Thank God for safe trips for Kudakwashe as he familiarized himself with all the movements in the sub region during the last two quarters.

Sat 5 We praise God for Sharai, Kudakwashe's daughter, who is wedding on the 5th of April 2008 at Tynwald Gardens in Harare. Pray that Sharai and Norman start their home under God's guidance.

SU International

Sun 6 April 6-10: The Forum of Bible Agencies International is holding its annual meeting this week near Amsterdam, with a special emphasis on Scripture Engagement. Janet Morgan and Pauline Hoggarth ask us to pray that Bible agency leaders will respond thoughtfully to speakers and panel discussions. Pray for wisdom for the FOBAI board and for deepening relationships among members.

Mon 7 Wendy Strachan asks us to pray for her during April and May as she does further work on *Shaping for Service*, the training resources being developed for the worldwide movement. Pray too for Wendy as she works with a multi-national steering group planning for the 1st Forum of Global Children's Agencies to be held in July

Tue 8 An early reminder to help us get ready for the Worldwide Weekend of Prayer for Children at Risk! This will be held on June 7-8. You can find resources for this unique event at www.viva.org.

Britain & Ireland Region

Former Soviet Republics (FSR)

Wed 9 FSR staff and volunteers have their annual conference 10-15 April at Vorzel near Kiev, Ukraine. Please pray that this will be a time of mutual encouragement and building relationships as well as of sharing experiences and receiving training.



Children Camp @ SU Rwanda Centre

Republic of Ireland

Thu 10 The new Talbot Street bookshop in Dublin opened in March. It's a lovely building in a great location. Thank God for his provision and pray for the development of the shop's ministry.

Israel

Fri 11 John Woodhead will be visiting Israel in May for discussions with church leaders about the needs of the churches and the future development of Scripture Union.

Africa Region, The Gambia

Sat 12 Thank God for successful Easter Monday Jesus Match co-ordinated by S.U Gambia. Pray for plans to go on mission trip in the interior of The Gambia in April 2008

Europe Region - Belgium

Sun 13 Please pray for a good transition as a new director is appointed. Let us pray that he will be well accepted by our volunteers. For some of them, he is the fourth director they will be working with. Let us pray that he will have "fresh" ideas to encourage Bible reading in Belgium. Year after year, the number of subscriptions to our notes is decreasing. This has a significant impact on our finances.

Kenya

Mon 14 Thank God for the people who have generously supported Scripture Union of Kenya to supply school uniforms and Bibles to more than 250 boys and girls affected by the civil unrest.

Tue 15 The recruitment process for a new National Director for Scripture Union of Kenya is ongoing. Please pray that the person who will be appointed will be a person of integrity and character and with a passion for the SU aims, Vision and Mission.

Africa Region, Zambia

Wed 16 Praise God for the School of Arts for children aged 3-12 has seen an increase in the number of enrolment and they have moved to bigger premises.

Britain & Ireland Region

Northern Ireland

Thu 17 Please pray for Spy Kidz, a major event for children from primary school SU groups around Northern Ireland to be held on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th April 2007. Between the two nights we hope to have around 1000 children present. The evening will be set in the secret headquarters of the spies who helped Joshua in the conquest of Canaan. Children will be invited to join the spies on their mission, discovering what it means to live by faith in God along the way. They will also have an opportunity to take part in high-energy praise and in a

number of interactive challenges designed to test their skills as spies. Pray that through this initiative children will be encouraged to enter into and live to the full the new life that God has for them in Jesus.

Europe Region

Slovakia

Fri 18 This quarter is very important for Camps preparation. Building a team, prepare details of programme and checking organisational side of camps. We are very thankful for **young leaders** who are willing to take part of responsibilities. Especially pray for Natalia, Lea and Andrej – the core team for camps preparation.

France

Sat 19 Our Holiday Centre - Le Rimlishof, experienced some financial difficulties at the end of the year 2007. We want to thank the donors who helped us to get through this. With Daniel Besse who is also Editor for 'Le Pain du Jour' (reading guide for Africa), we continue our considerations about the possibility of having an on site chaplain at Rimlishof.

Spain

Sun 20 Godly Play For the whole of this week (20-26),



David Pritchard is in the UK receiving training to become an accredited Godly Play trainer himself. This means that some of Unión Bíblica's courses in the future will then be able to offer Godly Play teachers in

Spain an internationally recognized certificate. On 29 April, David has been asked to present this imaginative approach to Bible storytelling to the team of editors working with SU England & Wales, and to take part in discussions aimed at exploring possible links between methods like Godly Play and SU printed materials. Recently, David has also been invited to serve on the International Advisory Board to the Godly Play Foundation in the USA. Please pray about these developments, as well as the preparations under way for the second European Godly Play Conference – this will take place in Madrid next September.

Hungary

Mon 21 We are grateful for our new staff member: *Tamás Daxner*. He started working with us mid-February as a programme-coordinator. His main responsibility is facilitating our camping and holiday programmes, but he is also involved in some other aspects of the work (like maintaining our website). Please, pray that he would "learn the ropes" quickly, and soon feel at home in the SU Family.

SU International

Tue 22 April 23-27: Terry Williams is working with SU English-speaking Canada to plan strategies that will encourage better follow-up for SU's existing sports ministry and camps. Please pray for this visit.

Africa Region, Mauritius

Wed 23 Praise the Lord for the Transformational Discipleship seminar held in March. Praise the Lord for the regular counselling sessions to married couples, ladies and young people. Fruits are being borne in their lives. We will coordinate the Global Day of Prayer to be held on Sunday 11 May. Pray for a successful programme.

Europe Region - Estonia

Thu 24 We thank God that the second group of facilitators (the picture of the last training session) of Fellowship of the White Rose have completed the training and started their



White Rose Fellowship facilitators

work with young people in orphanages. However many of them are quite young also as Christians burning very much to the work. Please pray that they would be protected from different spiritual attacks, that they would really experience the providence of the Lord in sharing the good message with young people. And that the reception in various places would be truly blessed and open. That this whole experience could strengthen their journey with Lord and also their faith. Both teams will be active at last till June. In June our funds for White Rose will end please pray for additional funding as well as blessings upon the projects and applications our project leaders Argo and Hanna are writing.

Britain & Ireland Region

Regional Office

Fri 25 The Regional Council will be meeting at Luton in England on April 30 and May 1.

England and Wales

Sat 26 *LightLive* Scripture Union's new online resource for children's and youth leaders, launches at the end of April. James Burden, Head of Publishing Operations and the team of editors and technical staff are under pressure to ensure the website is ready and working

Kenya

Sun 27 Pray for funds to develop the Isinya Campsite. The drawings and initial estimates have been received and the property has been fenced ready for construction as funds become available. The National Council is very keen on this project.

Germany

Mon 28 Due to popular demand we are holding two Children's Day Celebrations in our Camps Centre on 26 and 27 April. We expect about 400 children on each day. Please pray that the children will be open to God and his Word. Pray too for warm and dry weather. This year's Beach Missions begin on 1 May on the North Sea coast. Please pray that everything will run smoothly and that we will be able to reach people with the gospel right from the beginning of the season.

Africa Regional Office

Tue 29 We commenced work on the staff housing scheme for the Regional Office late last year. We have at hand about half of the total amount we need to complete the project. Pray for the contractors and consultants that may do a very good job and for provision of the balance.

Africa Region, Zambia

Wed 30 Council members and staff will be meeting from 1st -3rd May to work on the Strategic Plan. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit during this meeting and for the unity of purpose and mind.

MAY 2008

SU International

Thu 1 May 1-3: Please pray for Terry Williams at Global Community Games leadership meetings in Florida, representing KidsGames. Pray for this group as they make plans for development, resources and training.

Fri 2 Pauline Hoggarth says thank you for praying for the meeting on January 22 with Peter Hoppler to move forward the planning for our leadership training conference in South Africa in November. It was enjoyable and productive! Please intercede as we make known the funding needs. Give thanks that the translation team is gradually coming together.

Africa Region

Central Sub Region

Sat 3 Congo DR has taken the responsibility of promoting the revival of our ministries in Congo Brazzaville and Central Africa Republic. CDR is preparing to send one of her staff to Brazzaville while Mpona (SR Director) will be visiting CAR to train the leaders and seek to appoint a new staff. Pray that these efforts may yield good fruits.

South Sub Region

Sun 4 Pray for our Sub Regional New Workers Orientation Course 4 - 11 May 2008 at Stoney Ridge Camp site.

Britain & Ireland Region

Mon 5 Republic of Ireland (ROI)

We have now obtained planning permission for the extension and development of Ovoca Manor. Please continue to pray as the planning continues and we seek the funds to pay for this major project.

Northern Ireland

Tue 6 From 9th – 11th May 2008, SUNI is running a Schools Camp for P6 and P7 pupils in the North Coast district. Its purpose is to give children the opportunity to spend time together in a fun, safe environment outside of school; to laugh, grow and learn together and to encounter God in a fresh way.

FSR

Wed 7 The team in Tyumen, Siberia, is holding a holiday club in early May - postponed from the winter holidays because of severe weather. Please pray that the club will be a good model for SU and the churches in Tyumen to develop in the future.

England and Wales

Thu 8 Holiday and mission volunteer teams get together at this time for training and preparation days. These are important team-building times when leaders and team can pray together, prepare Bible teaching material, plan games, outings and activities.

Scotland

Fri 9 Richard and Katherine Scarffe left the staff recently having been managers of our Allnacriche Centre since 1988. Give thanks for their faithful ministry and pray for the work at the Centre to be even more fruitful in the future.

Regional Office – Bible Ministry

Sat 10 Praise the Lord for the thousands of Bible reading materials we have distributed this year. Pray that the remaining copies may be completed sold during this quarter. Pray also that these materials may help their users to growth in the knowledge of God's word and increase in their love for God.

Sun 11 Thank God for our members who invest their money and time to ensure our materials are produced and distributed. Pray that they may have every reason to continue in this missionary service in the coming years.

Mon 12 Praise God for the 1000 copies of Lecteurs printed in Algeria. Thank God for their immediate distribution. Pray that those who purchased them may increase in the knowledge of our Lord. Pray for wisdom for those who are behind this project and funds to produce 2009 materials.

Tue 13 Pray that God may enlighten the hearts and minds of the writers and editors of our different materials and help them persevere as they work on the materials for 2009.

Africa Region, Lesotho

Wed 14 Thank God for the appointment of Teko Seboko. He will be mainly responsible for the Tertiary Ministry. He came at the right time when the National Director felt that work was becoming too heavy on him as he had to look after the ministry in the absence of a full time staff. Please pray that the Lord will give him wisdom so as to help students to get transformed through the Word and follow Jesus and serve the world in need.

Thu 15 We will be embarking on a Lifeskills program funded by the Government of Lesotho soon. This time we are focusing at the Tertiary institutions. Pray that the Lord may give us strength to lead many to him through this programme.



Widows' session @ SU Rwanda Conference

Africa Region, Ghana

Fri 16 Pray that the Executives of the SU National Council will lead with wisdom and be clothed with power from on high for service: Prof. Emmanuel Frempong (Chairman), Lawyer Morgan F. Asiedu (Hon. Secretary), Rev. Anthony Cobbah (Hon. Treasurer), Jude Hama (General Director)

Sat 17 We desperately need to recruit more Travelling Secretaries and Administrative Secretaries for all the Regions. Pray the Lord Jesus Christ to send us the appropriate candidates for appointment.

Sun 18 Pray that the National Schools Committee will succeed to bring to birth a National Christian Teachers Fellowship this year which will be launched on the 4th July 2008.

Mon 19 Pray that the new curriculum and the new structures for running the Prayer Warriors Healing and Deliverance Workshops this year will succeed and serve the needs of deliverance workers and counselors.

Tue 20 Pray for a successful fund raising campaign in support of SU work across the country. Pray that God will give more regular consistent and generous donors to SU Ghana. We very much need funds to carry out our 2008 programmes and projects.

Wed 21 Pray for the effective distribution and sales of the SU Daily Bible Reading Notes: Daily Guide and Daily Power. Pray for regular use of the Daily Guide and the Daily Power and that people who read the Bible regularly will experience transformed lives.

South Sub Region

Thu 22 Pray for Cebisile and her committee in Swaziland as they make fresh efforts at fund raising for the work in the country. Thank God for the spiritual and moral support that they enjoy from the country's Prime Minister.

Fri 23 Pray that the Lord will show us the way forward for SU work in Mozambique that has been halted for now.

Sat 24 Pray for Kudakwashe as he settles into the new position, that the Lord may give him wisdom to handle the many challenges in the sub-region the chief of which is insufficient funding in member countries.

Sun 25 Praise the Lord that Kudakwashe and family have finally got a house after a 5 months hunt.

Mon 26 Pray for Peter Thobea, the National Director of Lesotho, that the Lord gives him wisdom to handle the misunderstanding that developed between SU and the Lesotho Evangelical Church that led to the church banning SU activity in its schools. Almost 90% of the country's education system is in the hands of churches of which the LEC is one of the chief players.

Zambia

Tue 27 Pray for the completion of Phase 2 of the Kakolo Campsite Development, so that it can be fully functional. So far the borehole has been sunk, Solar Panels to pump the water are being installed, the tank to store water is being erected and Caretaker's house is under construction. The heavy rains have been a hindrance to steady progress of the work. Pray that we will achieve our goal on time.

Wed 28 We are planning to hold a National Conference in August. Pray for a suitable venue to be found, provision of financial resources to subsidise the conference and for the speakers.

Thu 29 The study of God's word among young people has gone down. We would like to stimulate their interest by conducting Quiz Competitions. Pray for the organisation of this activity and provision of funds to purchase prizes.

Fri 30 Thank God for Tearfund which has partnered with us to conduct Life skills programs in the Northern Province. Pray for the success and effectiveness of this program

Sat 31 Pray for the SU staff for good health, wisdom and provision of their financial needs

JUNE 2007

Africa Region

Sun 1 Thank God for 15 years of ministry of Niyi Daramola in the Africa Region. Handover to David Gichungwa is during the month of June. Pray for special grace, strength and wisdom for David as he takes over leadership of the region and for God's guidance for Niyi and his family.

Americas Region

Regional Office

Mon 2 International and Regional leadership of the Americas met last November for strategic review and planning for the Region, specially focusing on the years to come. Please join us in prayer as we implement the plan and as we share the vision with leadership in the different national movements.

Tue 3 The literature ministry in Latin America is one of the strategic tools SU is developing, specially focusing on resources for churches. The need is great and urgent. Please pray for the Regional Team as they develop the editorial capacities and train writers and editors, and the funds that are needed for this project.

Mexico

Wed 4 SU Mexico continues struggling with financial problems. Ministry challenges and opportunities are present everywhere, especially in the south, near the city of Chiapas, where there have been important floods in the past months. Staff and volunteers have gone twice to the disaster area to support suffering children and provide them with basic needs and the Word of Life. Please pray that the movement will overcome its struggles and focus on building sustainable ministry.

Honduras

Thu 5 SU Honduras is mentoring the development of ministry in SU Guatemala in school and Bible Club ministries. Let's pray for SU Honduras and specially Orlando Japas, the national director as he seeks to develop new ministry in the city of Guatemala, and Eduardo Marroquin, director of SU Guatemala.

USA

Fri 6 SU USA has developed an excellent programme to engage people in Bible reading within the Latin American population within the USA. Based upon Whitney Kuniholm's book 'The Essential 100' and the 'E100 Challenge' now available on the web and in printed brochures and in Spanish. Please pray that this project will impact the Spanish-speaking community in the USA.

SU International

Sat 7 Today and tomorrow: join in prayer around the world for children at risk and pray for the VIVA organization. Remember before God those SU movements who work with marginalised and abused children.

Sun 8 From June 9-12, the SU International Executive and Team/Executive are meeting at SU Germany's centre in Marienheide. Please pray for the staff and Executive members as they consider issues related to our ministry, and work at strategic planning. Pray especially for chairman Colin Sinclair.

Africa Region

Mon 9 We have made much progress with our strategic plan. We, however, cannot execute a few critical activities due of lack of funds. Pray for the Regional Team as they prayerfully seek ways to raise the required funds.

Tue 10 Mike Smallbones has been working on a Child Protection Guide for SU Africa. We are keen to ensure as much as we can that SU activities are safe places for our children and young people. Please pray that this will be a helpful document which will achieve our objective.

Africa Regional Office

Wed 11 Thank God for the support many of our staff receive from World Link. Pray for God's blessings upon the lives of those who give these helps and the ministry of World Link. Pray particularly for God's grace upon Jack Nelson, the President and Peter Bowersox and their families.

Gambia

Thu 12 Pray for the Lord's provision to make it possible for S.U Administrator- Harry Stevens to attend ISLT level three training in South Africa from 25th July- 17th October 2008

Zambia

Fri 13 Heavy rains have displaced a number of people in the country. Pray for provision of relief materials for them.

SU International

Sat 14 Each year, from June 14-21, the SU International staff meets for a week of planning and team building. Please pray for the team (staying on at Marienheide) as they consider ministry and development priorities.

Britain & Ireland Region

Scotland

Sun 15 We are involved with others in presenting a play, The Life of Jesus Christ, in Kelvingrove Park, Glasgow on 16th June. This is a special production aimed at school groups. Pray it will be effective in presenting the good news.

Republic of Ireland

Mon 16 Our summer programme of camps, holidays, missions and clubs starts this month. Pray for God to be at work in every part of them, and that many young people will look back on this summer as the one when they met Jesus for the first time.

Northern Ireland

Tue 17 Give thanks for SUNI Camps and Missions. Last summer may have been a bit of a washout weather-wise with more rain than we ever imagined but at SUNI Camps and Missions we saw more children than ever coming to many of our events... God is good. We look forward to another great summer.

Former Soviet Republic

Wed 18 This is a time of intensive preparation for summer camps ministry in the FSR countries. Please pray for the continued recruiting of children and young people as well as volunteers to lead and that their hearts will be open to learn and serve.

Americas Region

Bolivia

Thu 19 Carlos and Sandra Jáuregui have recently visited SU Peru and received an intensive training in various ministry areas. Carlos will be working with a number of very enthusiastic volunteers in school ministry. Please pray for Carlos and Sandra as they make contact with school principals and prepare the volunteers for the work in schools and camps.

Regional Office

Fri 20 A new Regional Leadership Team has been appointed to lead the reorganization process of the Americas Region. The initial meeting took place in November and with a pioneer spirit and great effort they are helping their neighboring countries to develop healthy ministry and movements.

Sat 21 A Regional Youth Ministry Committee has started to work on the development of Youth Ministry activities and tools for the Latin American movements. We are very encouraged with the first results and would request your support in prayer as the team seeks to identify needs and provide creative proposals for church leadership training and resources.

Ecuador

Sun 22 A very promising ministry has been established in the south of the country with the support of SU Peru staff and volunteers. The doors have opened to new schools and the excitement is spreading. Pray for the development of new leadership within the Ecuadorians who are receiving training and encouragement, and authorities of the schools in the south of Ecuador.

Costa Rica

Mon 23 The movement is celebrating their tenth anniversary. Pray for their Board, staff and volunteers as they look at the future with new vision and desire to extend their ministry in other cities.

East & West Asia

Timor Leste

Tue 24 The SU East/West Asia Regional office has been making contacts with various groups of people to explore possible SU Ministry in Timor Leste. Pray for wisdom in decision making: i) Should we move into Timor Leste? ii) Which group should we work in partnership with if we should move in? Pray for the Regional Director, Koh Gim Lam, as he plans a visit there.

Myanmar

Wed 25 In the midst of the social and economic challenges in Myanmar, SU continues to function and move forward quietly. Our current staff, Ms. Christobel retires at the end of June. Thank God for the appointment of Ms. Lavender to replace Christobel. Lavender will start work with us in May. Pray that she will be able to settle into the ministry smoothly. Continue to uphold our local SU Committee in Myanmar and thank God for their commitment in the ministry.

Regional Council Meeting (RCM)

Thu 26 This year's RCM would be held from 27 May - June 2 held in Indonesia so that we would be able to join SU Indonesia to celebrate their 39th anniversary. Thank God for the faithful ministry of SU Indonesia all these 39 years. Pray too for a combined training event with local pastors on June 2nd on *"Reviewing the Aims of SU in the midst of the current challenges in Asia"*

Beijing Olympics

Fri 27 The Beijing Olympics will be from 18th ~ 24th August 2008. Many Christian agencies have made plans to use that occasion to share the Good News. Scripture Union has decided not to be involved in any projects during the Olympics. Pray for wisdom for the leaders of SU Hong Kong as it seeks the best way to relate with the local authorities of China in any ministry she is engaged in.

Sarawak, East Malaysia

Sat 28 SU Sarawak has just purchased an office space and is also seeking for a piece of land to develop a camp-site. Pray for the funds necessary to develop these 2 projects.

Indo-China

Sun 29 Inflation and cost of living is sky-rocketing in Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam, Laos and China. The Regional Office is totally responsible for the expenses of the SU ministries in these movements. Pray that the Lord will provide us with the necessary funds, at least to pay our

staff basic wages and that they are able to cope with the inflation.

Africa Region

Mon 30 Mike and Elaine Smallbones are coming to the end of their four year stay in Nairobi. They are moving back to South Africa during July. Mike will continue to fulfill the role of Ministry and Training Consultant (Children Ministry) but based from their home in Pietermaritzburg. Please pray for the adjustments involved for both Elaine and Mike and the Regional Office.



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