



Quarterly Prayer News October to December 2016

Dear Praying Friends

The prayer points below are a guide. As you pray, God may lead you to pray in a different way for the situation - or bring to mind other needs as you hold up the countries and people before Him.

God has given us such wonderful promises.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. (Psalm 32:8)

...the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. (Romans 8:26)

Prayer is a deep mystery. Why does God ask us to pray? Why do our prayers make a difference? Why is *The prayer of a righteous person...powerful and effective* (James 5:16b)?

Perhaps one day we will know the answers to these questions, but for now Jesus simply calls us to *always pray and not give up!* (Luke 18:1)

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mark 11:24

2 - 8 OCTOBER

- **ACT, Australia:** (26/9 to 7/10) Please pray for the two holiday programs, Zone 40 and SUPA Sports coming up in the school holidays.
- **Nigeria-FCS:** 1 October is Nigeria's Independence Day. Please pray for true independence from corruption, religious intolerance and political exploitations for all Nigerians. Please ask for a genuine faith in the lives of those who profess Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Pray that political and religious leaders at all levels will continue to walk on the path God has designed for Nigeria.
- **Congo Brazzaville:** Thank God for the success of the July Bible Camp for children and youth.
- **Taiwan:** (3-4) Please pray for the Staff Retreat - for safe travel and a powerful time of empowerment, sharing, unification and discussion of the Annual Work Plan for 2017. Please pray for the recruitment of new volunteers to assist SU's work.
- **Malawi:** Please pray for the Board, key volunteers and staff of SU Malawi as they meet in early October to review the new Strategic Plan. Pray for wisdom and guidance as they take time to listen to God and seek His way for the work in Malawi.
- **NSW, Australia:** Please pray for the many camps continuing to be run through early October - Cricket Camp, Bike Camp, Boys Agricultural Camp, Reboot Computer Camp, North Coast Junior Ag Camp, Junior Bike Camp and Girls Agricultural Camp. Please pray that the young people will have fun, make new friends in a variety of contexts, and come to know and follow Jesus!
- **Uganda:** From 1 September - 10 October, SU Uganda staff and volunteers are undertaking a 40 Days' period of prayer and fasting in preparation for the 2017 planning process and to seek spiritual renewal. Please pray that this will be a time of refreshing and refocussing as they wait on the Lord. Pray against the spiritual forces of darkness. From 11-15 October, SU Uganda staff will gather from across the country to plan for 2017. Please pray for clarity and that the plans drawn will be inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- The **East West Asia** Transition Leadership Team meet 7-9 October in Bangkok, Thailand, to discuss the next steps in the development of Movements and ministry in this part of the world. Pray that the team will have clarity and unity of mind as they seek to serve the needs of the Movements they are responsible for supporting.
- **Central Asia** - a group are planning to meet this week (6-10) to work through the possibilities of developing SU ministry in Central Asian countries. Pray for wisdom as the group think through the challenges of ministry in this part of the world.

9 - 15 OCTOBER

- **Nigeria-FCS:** 5-11 October is the FCS National Week of Sacrifice. Associates, Students, Supporters, Friends of FCS and staff give sacrificially of their time and resources towards FCS work. Pray that people will be moved to support students, staff and FCS.

- **Nepal:** (9-13) Please pray for God's guidance in all the preparations for the Children Camps being held in five locations. 200 children and 20 teachers are expected to participate in each camp.
- The **Africa** Transition Leadership Team meet 14-16 October in Nairobi, Kenya to discuss the next steps in the development of Movements and ministry in this part of the world. Pray for wisdom to know how best the African Movements can be supported to become stronger and self-sustaining. Pray God will lead us to the people needed to enable this to happen.
- **Canada – (Français):** (13-16) Please pray for the booth at the Book Fair Estrie (Eastern Township for Translation Book Fair) with Bible reading guides and publications. Pray for the team of volunteers involved at the booth, and for opportunities to present the Gospel to exhibition visitors.
- **Scotland:** (14-17) Please pray for 'Go Conference', a significant discipleship event for senior pupils, with teaching from the book of Daniel. Pray for the impact of God's Word on the young people, particularly the challenge to prayerfulness and bold witness at school.
- **Norway:** (19) Please pray for the national exhibition for church leaders - that many children and youth workers will discover how SU's resources can make their work more fruitful.
- **South Australia:** Praise God for three youth camps being held in October: GENTS (for boys); Study (for High School seniors); and JEWELS (for girls). Please pray for leaders and the organisation of the brand new JEWELS Camp.
- **Uganda:** Praise God for the successful two week Annual Schools' Gospel Mission that reached more than 37,000 students in 123 schools in 8 districts of Mid-western Uganda earlier in the year. More than 4,000 students committed their lives to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Please pray for their steady growth and spiritual nurture through the discipleship programs within SU Clubs in schools.

16 – 22 OCTOBER

- **Austria:** Please pray for SU Austria's annual celebration and the opening of the new SU headquarters. Pray that God will give new strength and the necessary funds for further construction.
- **Hong Kong:** In October, as celebrating Halloween becomes more and more popular, SU Hong Kong will launch 'The Most Fearful One' evangelical program. Please pray for the team as they go to local schools and churches to explain the danger behind this culture and preach the Gospel that brings peace to the children. Please pray for a good response to the program.
- **Egypt:** Each year a Church-wide Bible Competition encourages systematic Bible Study, deliberately challenging 100,000-150,000 primary students, aged 9-12, to study God's Word. Children will study the Gospel and the Epistles of John. Please pray for a deep spiritual impact on the children and that the Bibles distributed during October will be a blessing to students and their families.
- **Queensland, Australia:** (4/10 – 9/12) Please pray for chaplains and chaplaincy field support staff in the fourth (and final) school term of 2016. Pray that they will finish the year strongly, providing care and support for as many students as possible.
- **Romania:** As a new academic year starts, please pray that God will provide need new volunteers to help run the activities. Also please pray for the new staff member Lidia, that God will give her wisdom to do His work through SU Romania's ministry.
- **Northern Ireland:** Give thanks for the SU Pupil Leadership Training weekend 'Making Your Mark' held earlier this month. Please pray that God would continue to strengthen and make His mark on all the pupils who attended, as they in turn, make their mark in the schools where He has placed them.
- **Togo:** Please pray over the next three months that the Lord will regenerate and renew the twelve city committees to serve and support SU's ministry.
- **Peninsula Malaysia:** (18-20) Please pray for the annual Staff Consultation when the staff team will meet to discuss strategies, directions and issues related to our ministry. Pray for prayerful discernment, clear vision and good planning for the programs that will achieve our mission and goals. Pray also for the staff to be renewed in vision and encouraged in spirit.
- **Northern Ireland:** Give thanks for the recent 'Together Conference'. Speakers from all over the country shared and engaged with hundreds of employed and volunteer youth workers seeking to inspire and equip them for great youth ministry. For more information go to www.youthministrytogether.com
- **USA:** Please pray for the new Board Chair, David Young, that he would be blessed with wisdom.

23 – 29 OCTOBER

- **Philippines:** Please pray for the SU Philippines AGM to be held this month. Pray for a great time of praise and thanksgiving to God for what He has done through SU Philippines.
- **South Sudan:** Please pray that despite unrest in the country, all schools are able to stay open so that weekly Bible studies can take place.
- **Japan:** Please pray for preparation for the 7th International Students' Camp for young people from across Asia to be held later in the year. Fifty people from Japan will participate.

- **Scotland:** Please pray for Christian teenagers. Many don't attend SU groups in their school and keep their faith in Jesus hidden for fear of ridicule. Pray for an increase in pupil leadership of SU Groups in high schools and also numbers attending such groups. Also pray for the identification and support of potential leaders.
- **Uganda:** The political situation in nearby South Sudan is very fragile with many refugees flocking into Uganda. Please pray for the resettlement process, and for resources to feed and shelter them. Pray for the launch of Gospel outreach activities in the displacement camps. Please pray for favour and grace.
- **Latin America:** this week (24-28) the Movements from across SU Latin America are meeting for their first Community group gathering in Peru. Pray that this will be a time of strategic conversation and learning, and community building.
- **Wendy Strachan:** (28 – 3) Please pray for the Global Children's Forum (GCF) Leadership Team as they meet. After this gathering, people from the various GCF Work Teams will continue to meet to write resources for the local church. Pray for creativity, wisdom and productivity.
- **Indonesia:** Please pray for all initiatives scheduled for October: planning sessions for 2017; training for *Daily Notes* writers; and preparation of the special Christmas edition.
- **Pakistan:** Please pray that there will be many trainees who will participate in the 10 week Sunday School teacher training being conducted in Lahore.

30 OCTOBER – 5 NOVEMBER

- **Vietnam - Hanoi:** Please pray for the second Leadership Training Course in 2016, that participants will be energised and equipped to serve the Lord in His ministry.
- **England:** During October and November SU England hope to be moving into their new mission centre/office. Please pray that this new building will be a valuable resource to support the effective ministry of sharing the Good News of Jesus with the next generation.
- **Kenya:** Thank God for the approval of 'Program for Pastoral Instruction' (PPI) materials by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD). Please pray for the successful implementation of PPI – for a workforce of Christian teachers and churches to rally around the spiritual nurture of the primary school children through PPI.
- **Canada (English-Speaking):** While SU Canada is successfully leading many children to faith in Christ, there are significant difficulties and challenges in discipling children. To address this problem, SU Canada is embarking on a four year action plan to understand the problem. Please pray for SU Canada as they develop a robust Discipleship Strategy to connect un-churched children/ families/ communities with the local churches.
- **Zimbabwe:** Please pray that God will provide enough money to pay their staff and other costs. The economic situation in the country is making the financing of the work more difficult by the day.
- **NSW, Australia: (4-6)** Please pray for the launch of a new camp for disabled adults called 'Worthy'. The camp is by, for and with disabled people as they share the love of Jesus together.
- **Wendy Strachan: (3-5)** Please pray for the Core Planning Group for the GCF Leadership Experience as they meet to review the curriculum for the Residential. Please ask God for the group to make wise changes that will challenge learners.
- **South Sudan:** Praise God and thank Him for keeping all SU South Sudan staff safe in the week of shutting down in South Sudan. Praise God for the success of Value Education class training for 34 volunteers from the Western part of South Sudan held earlier in the year. Thank God for the trainers, and pray that those who attended will continue to serve God in this ministry.
- **Republic of Ireland:** Please pray for the new Youth and Community - Ministry Leader recently appointed to develop youth ministry through camps, schools and community work.

Scripture Union Global Week of Prayer

7-11 November 2016

6 – 12 NOVEMBER

- **Wendy Strachan:** Please pray for the decisions regarding successful applicants for the 2017 GCF Leadership Experience, being considered October to December. Please pray for successful visa applications for all attendees of the Residential Course in South Africa, and for the successful participants as they begin their Community Research Assignments. Pray for adequate funding as many participants are expected to come from Africa.
- **Honduras:** Please pray for social peace, so that the church can make its important contribution in the midst of corruption, impunity, poverty and violence.
- **Nigeria-FCS:** The brutal acts of some groups, kidnapping and spreading terrorism in Nigeria is putting the country at risk of more violence. Please pray for God's intervention and for peace for Nigeria.
- **England:** Plans are underway to produce thousands of children and youth mission Gospels to be given away during the Jubilee year. Please pray for the planning and implementation of this project.

- **Ecuador:** Please for the provision of volunteers for new schools in Huaquillas. Also pray for the life and ministry of current staff and volunteers in Ecuador: Jessica Gonzaga, Javier Jaramillo, Amy Carlson, Cristian Aponte and Tanya Gonzalez. Please pray for Ecuador - that God will send a good president in the next presidential election year.
- **Uganda:** Please pray for a holistic ministry with youth and children: for the resources needed for the work, especially in schools. Pray for God's leading as work is done on the new five year Strategic Plan. Please pray for guidance from stakeholders across the country and for the provision of funds to accomplish it.
- **Togo:** Please pray for the provision of a National Director for Togo before the end of the year.
- **Europe:** the Europe Region are holding a conference for staff from all Movements, in Frankfurt, Germany 7-10 November. Pray that this will be a special time of equipping for the staff as they come together to learn and share ideas and fellowship. It is expected staff from the Former Soviet Republics and Britain and Ireland will also join in the conference.

13 - 19 NOVEMBER

- **Hong Kong:** SU Hong Kong needs to buy a new office as the lease of one of the offices expires at the end of 2018. Soon a fundraising project called 'Light to My Heart' to raise over USD\$1m will be launched. Please pray that God moves many hearts to support this project.
- **Congo Brazzaville:** Please pray that God provides the means to build a centre for SU to minister from.
- **Canada (English):** Praise the Lord for the opportunities to connect with children, youth and families with 'Jesus and His Story'. Bubble Soccer is a tremendous 'hook' to facilitate relational environments for sharing the Good News. Please pray for indoor and outdoor Bubble Soccer events run throughout the year.
- **South Australia:** Please pray for increased fundraising that will enable part time staff members to have increased paid staff hours.
- **Philippines:** The 'My Quiet Time with Him' (Youth Devotional Treasure Hunting Workshop) held earlier in the year taught youth how to write reflections based on response to their quiet time notes. Please pray for funds to publish their work. Also pray that young people who attended will continue spending time regularly meeting with their Lord.
- **Taiwan:** Bible Ministry: Please pray for the SU Team as they prepare teaching materials for the seminars being held this month. May they be endowed with divine wisdom, strength and insight. Pray that the attendees' hearts will be open with new desire for God's Word, allowing the Scriptures to transform their hearts and minds.
- **Global Assembly:** 2017 sees not only the 150th Anniversary of the start of Scripture Union ministry but also, the very first Global Assembly gathering under our new structure. Pray for the Assembly Planning Team as they meet 13-17 November, that God will give them a clear vision of what He would want to accomplish through this gathering.

20 - 26 NOVEMBER

- **Bulgaria:** Please pray for the children and teens who attended summer camps - that SU can keep in touch with them and their parents. Pray that the Word of God will grow in their hearts and lives more and more during their everyday life in school.
- **Queensland, Australia:** (19-26) Please pray for the SU Queensland Schoolies camp directors, volunteer leaders and campers as they meet. Pray this is a transformational time for all involved.
- **Indonesia:** Please pray that God will provide a National Director to lead SU Indonesia.
- **Malawi:** (21-25) Please pray for the field staff of SU Malawi as they meet for training for their work with schools. Pray that this time will be encouraging and fun, and that staff will be effectively trained in how best to support the children's work.
- **Singapore:** Please pray for the 2017 annual planning - for God's wisdom and guidance. May what is planned fulfil His purpose as SU continues to serve churches, schools and organisations.
- **South Korea:** (28-30) Please pray for the three day 'Theology Training Course for Ministers'. Input will focus on deepening Bible reading understanding and insight. Pray that God will give the speakers wisdom. Also pray that participants will be inspired to care for their neighbours and the world beyond.
- **Honduras:** Give thanks to the Lord for the team of workers and volunteers who serve in weekly classes in schools, reaching more than 20,000 children and adolescents.
- **Pakistan:** Please pray for the Christmas rallies for children and youth being conducted in December in Lahore, Rawapindi and Peshawar.
- **NSW, Australia: (18-27).** Praise God for our Schools ministry program in Vanuatu. Please pray that all involved will be encouraged by their time away and that they will glorify God in all that they do! Pray that the young people will be bold in the sharing of the Gospel. Pray for them as they form friendships and undergo an immense transitional time in their lives.

27 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER

- **Lithuania:** SU Lithuania is rejoicing in a record number of 60 children registering for camps. Praise God that there are several strong and godly male camp leaders - an answer to prayer!
- **Japan:** Please continue to pray for the financial needs of SU Japan.
- **Macau:** Please pray for God's leading as they plan for ministry in 2017.
- **Kenya:** Please pray for the education system in Kenya - that God may bring peace in the schools. Pray that SUK may take its rightful place in addressing the issues. SUK, among other stakeholders, is having conversations with the Ministry of Education (MoE) on the need to establish a Chaplaincy Program in Schools. Please pray for good outcomes.
- **Philippines:** Please pray for Corie and Revie, SU Philippines' two faithful staff workers - for God's strength in their everyday work.
- **Zimbabwe:** Praise the Lord! The Ministry of Education has reaffirmed our continued operations in schools.
- **Ecuador:** There are currently only two volunteers in Quito. Please ask God to send more volunteers to the team. There are many varied ministries including: values classes, sports tournaments, monthly evangelistic outreach days, teacher/staff training, young women's prison ministry and evangelism ministry in the area affected by the earthquake earlier in the year.
- **Vietnam - Hanoi:** Please pray for attempts to start the first Children's Community Clubs (CCC).
- **Western Australia:** (3) Please pray for all those attending the Summer Missions Training Day in preparation for the mission programs to be held in January around Western Australia. Pray that people would be inspired and trained for effective mission.
- **Pakistan:** Praise God for the very successful ministry among high school children - over 35 vacation bible schools sharing the Word of God with over 3500 children.

4 – 10 DECEMBER

- **Macau:** (5) Please pray for the SU Macau AGM - that God will unite and inspire all members to serve Him through spreading the Word of God.
- **Singapore:** Resources for Ministry: please ask God to raise up more donors and volunteers to partner with SU Singapore.
- **Victoria:** 18 Family Missions, 8 Theos (Young Adult) Missions, 3 Age Group and 3 Family Camps are being held this summer. Please pray for the Directors as they build, prepare and lead these teams. Pray that God's love and Good News will be shared by these teams and that God will work through them to impact the lives of children, young people and families. Pray also for the SU Missional Communities Team as they resource and support them.
- **Chile:** Please thank the Lord that despite the economic problems, many adolescents continue serving children and parents in Santiago and Concepcion.
- **Portugal:** Please pray for spiritual results in the lives of those who attended our summer camps at both campsites.
- **Former Soviet Republics:** the FSR Directors meet this week for training in strategic areas including sustainability. Pray for the trainers, that they will be able to provide relevant and practical training.
- **Western Australia:** Please pray for: the holiday camps for children in foster care; for more volunteers skilled in working with children with these backgrounds for these camps; and for specific programs for young people in foster care.

11 – 17 DECEMBER

- **Hungary:** Please pray that the new Sunday School material to support the 'Big Bible Challenge', gets into the hands of the right people through a wise and effective strategy.
- **South Korea:** Ministry teams have been structured based on the targets of ministry. Please pray that each team will be equipped with the necessary knowledge, information and ideas to work intensely and professionally.
- **Switzerland (German-Speaking):** The projects 'WhyNACHT' and 'A Different Advent Calendar' focus on the meaning of Christmas. Please pray for staff, volunteers and visitors who are part of this project, which enables reaching people from different church backgrounds, as well as those who do not have a personal relationship with God as yet.
- **Kenya:** Thank God for the commitment of staff members, volunteers and partners of SU Kenya's ministry.

- **Portugal:** SU Portugal needs a National Director and a Publishing Coordinator. Please pray for the people God would have appointed to these positions.
- **East West Asia:** (26 – 1) Please pray for the preparations, planning and fundraising for the 7th International Student Camp to be held in Indonesia. Pray for the expected 175 campers and speakers from 15 countries who will attend.
- **India:** Please pray for continued freedom to preach the Gospel, and for the spiritual wellbeing of the staff.

18 – 24 DECEMBER

- **Finland:** Please pray for our new website: that it would serve well those who are interested in reading the Bible. Also pray for the health of our staff during the long, dark Finnish winter.
- **Singapore:** Please pray for another fruitful and impactful children's SUPA camp being held this month.
- **Kenya:** Pray that God will provide resources to enable the effective programs and asset development projects in line with the Strategic Plan. Please also pray for open doors and new markets for dated materials and other resources.
- **Taiwan:** Christian Organisations' Corporate Prayer Meeting & Pastoral Meeting: Praise God for opening doors to enable ongoing missional partnership with churches and other Christian organisations. Please pray that this will be an effective and strategic platform to share with the leadership about Bible engagement.
- **Nigeria-FCS:** FCS has adopted the Inclusion of Special Children in programs with the physically challenged. Please pray for favour and open doors of ministry in the Special Schools in Benue State, Nigeria.
- **Ecuador:** We praise God for recent opportunities in hosting day-retreats & seminar events for the school staff of government schools where Biblical values classes are taught. Please pray that the open door will continue throughout the year.
- **India:** Please pray that God would raise up committed full-time workers for the North Indian region.

25 – 31 DECEMBER

- **Switzerland (French-Speaking):** Please pray for the creation of a new publishing house called 'Pretext'. It will be 'neutral' (i.e. it will not bear the title 'evangelical'). This will enable six books being published to be made available in non-Christian bookshops.
- **South Korea:** Earlier this year SU Korea held a retirement ceremony for Rev. Mi-yoel Yoo and Rev. Jeong-Guen Yang who had served for more than 25 years. Praise God for their sincere dedication and pray that God will bless them in the years to come.
- **Denmark:** The celebration of SU Denmark's 50th anniversary is coming to its end. Pray that this celebration will spread the vision for Bible engagement to more people, and that more will let the Bible be a source of spiritual growth.
- **ACT, Australia:** Thank God for the seeds planted at the LEAD leadership conference. Please pray that God would help those who attended grow in Him.
- **Slovakia:** SU Slovakia is very excited to have published a Bible Timeline (youth edition). Please pray for its effective distribution around the country.
- **Taiwan:** Small Churches Sponsor Program: this program, which started a year ago, has been well received by many readers. They continue to give generously, sponsoring 29 churches with a regular supply of daily Bible notes (586 copies have been given away). Please pray for spiritual growth as people feed on the Word of God daily.
- **Madagascar:** Please pray that God will lead the development of the Women's Department across the regions.