



## Ministry to Displaced Persons

Recently in the newspaper, a picture of a huge banner held up in a makeshift camp for refugees in Idomeni, on the Greece-Macedonia border appeared. It read ‘Help our kids. Our kids are dying slowly’. These refugees live with ongoing uncertainty – will they be sent back to Turkey?

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), displaced peoples are now the single-greatest cause for concern in many parts of the world. The news is filled with the ‘Migrant Crisis’ in Syria, Greece, Turkey and other countries. The newspapers carry distressing pictures of refugees and of those displaced internally (those who have fled their homes, but not their country because of war, persecution or other violations of human rights). The radio paints a similar picture. We hear voices that rarely matter, yet have now gained significance.

*What do we do? How do we address this issue? How can we be Jesus with ‘skin on’ to these people?*

Among them are people in Darfur in Sudan, Nauru near Australia, Calais in France and Lesbos in Greece – tragic examples of people who have fled for their lives. There are Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh, Vietnamese in China, Iraqis in Jordan, and Sahrawi refugees in Algeria. Asylum-seekers, returnees, stateless people – the branding is endless.

Parliaments are debating the number of refugees they can take in... or even whether they should. Fences have been erected along some borders within the European

Union. Is a safe passage really safe? What awaits them at the end of their journey?

I’m reminded of the little boy in a red shirt and blue jeans, whose body washed up along the Mediterranean about 8 months ago. Aylan Kurdi – a 3 year old whose life held such promise – paid the price for having to leave war-torn Syria, via Europe, for Canada. A 13 year old stowaway lost his life as he clung to the wheels of a truck making its way out of Calais to the UK. He wanted to seek asylum there as his aunt lived in Manchester.

Knowing that there are Scripture Union movements near or not far from the camps, many questions loom large. What do we do? How do we address this issue? How can we be Jesus with ‘skin on’ to these people?

*Continued on page 8*

## A lasting movement that is *vibrant and growing*

**Next year SU will celebrate 150 years since God called Scripture Union into being.**

It began with the vision of a young man named Josiah Spiers who was an office clerk. In 1867 church services were not suited to children – they were expected to simply sit still and be quiet. At that time there was a growing ‘Sunday School’ movement providing basic education for children who could not afford it. Child labour laws had also been introduced to improve the general welfare of children working in factories and mines.

Josiah believed that children could have a living and vibrant relationship with God and could understand the Bible if it was presented in a way suited to them. Inspired by a visiting children’s evangelist from the USA, Josiah started special meetings for children in a friend’s home. The first was held on 2 June 1867 with 15

children. The meetings grew so fast that soon they had to use a local church schoolroom. By 1881, census records show that Josiah listed his occupation as ‘children’s evangelist’. He called the ministry CSSM, Children’s Special Service Mission. CSSM would spread across the world and one day be called ‘Scripture Union’.

2017 will be a year of celebrating what God has done and is doing through the ministry of Scripture Union around the world. It is a Movement that has not just *lasted*, but is *vibrant and growing*.

In this issue of *SUI News*, you will read about SU Movements responding to one of the challenges of our time, displaced people. Just as Josiah was a man of his time responding to one of the major challenges of his time, so must we respond in our time as God calls us to minister in His name.

**Janet Morgan**  
*SU International Director*

### 2017 – a year of celebration

Soon you will receive information about plans for 2017. The year will focus on:

- **Telling the SU story**
- **Celebrating what God has done through SU ministries**
- **Sharing our vision for the future**

Special graphics are being designed and multi-media resources prepared. A new global website will be launched in 2016 that will help us tell our story and share resources. A small group is also working on guidelines for running special events in your country to raise support for the local and global Movement.

Get ready to celebrate by marking 2 June 2017 in your diary. SU England & Wales are planning a special day of celebration on the day in the location where the first children’s meeting was held on 2 June 1867. We are making plans to ‘join them’ for a day of prayer and celebration around the globe.

**Put it in your diary now! 2 June 2017**

## Biblical Reflection – Working with Displaced People

**While spending time with the SU Global Team in Athens, I reflected on Jonah 3 and was struck anew by how radical and challenging the book of Jonah is.**

This is the book that no one wanted to read, with a message that no one wanted to hear. This is almost the only time in the Old Testament when an evangelist was specifically sent to preach to a bunch of foreigners, many hundreds of miles away – and not just any foreigners! These were sworn enemies of the Jews.

No wonder Jonah didn’t want to go and, when he eventually did go, he seemed to get malicious pleasure from his one sentence sermon. ‘You Ninevites are all doomed. There is no escape!’ This was a sermon of damnation with no possibility of hope. Just what those nasty Ninevites deserved.

And yet..... God’s Word is horrifyingly powerful. The story raises many questions. Why did God show mercy this time, but not in the time of Nahum? Why did He have mercy on the enemies of the Jews?

Jonah’s story also challenges us about the place of community repentance, rather than simple individual repentance.



Do we place too much emphasis on the individual (consider Vincent Donovan’s insights in ‘Christianity Rediscovered’)?

It all leaves big questions. What happened next? No discipleship classes! No churches established! Nineveh was given God’s Word and then left to get on with it. What a monumental risk. How dangerous. What did Jonah think he was doing? What did God think He was doing?

Jonah is a story about the awesome nature

of our God... who cares about the most unlikely and least likeable people on earth – and wants us to do the same. A God who sends us out of our cosy ghetto to declare His love to the most needy.

And who are the Ninevites today? Who are those who threaten our security, our peace, our safety, our security, our wealth and our families? Who are these foreigners that we don’t want God to have a message for?

*Tim Hastie-Smith*

# Developing Bible Ministries



## SU Switzerland (German-speaking) and SU Germany – b next – an exciting new App platform

Have you ever wanted to create an App for your youth and church group, but time, effort and expense made it impossible? Ever wanted to offer such an App to churches, other ministries, and other events? Now **b next**, developed by SU Switzerland and SU Germany, makes it possible! **b next** is a digital container you can fill with your own material – Bible texts, notes, pictures, videos, audio material, questions or chat facilities. Your App can be used for large or small events – and follow up work. **b next** users receive a Bible reading prompt direct on their smartphone or tablet every day.

**b next** is an international tool, available in English, French and German. SU movements around the world can become licensees, offering **b next** for churches, ministries, events. Go to <https://vimeo.com/162519128> for more information or contact Michael Matter on [bnext@bibellesebund.ch](mailto:bnext@bibellesebund.ch)



## SU Hong Kong – Promoting Bible Reading through Global Connection

SU lives in a global community and is entering into a global structure... and the Chinese community has immigrants in nearly all parts of the globe. This means that encouraging Chinese Christians to meet God daily involves SU movements around the world.

SU Hong Kong is seeking partnerships with SU movements to promote Bible reading among Chinese communities. Our vision is to provide Chinese Bible notes to help Chinese Christians grow in personal faith and spirituality.

SU movements are welcome to contact Matthew Wong, General Secretary of SU Hong Kong ([matthew@hksu.org.hk](mailto:matthew@hksu.org.hk)). View an introductory leaflet in English, French, Spanish or Chinese at <http://bit.ly/1NjHsXr>



MAY 7 Himmelske dage – #spokenbible

## Denmark – Developing Bible Ministries

On its 50th Anniversary on 3 April, SU Denmark released video and study material that draws the big picture of 'God's Story'. The story of the Bible is told in 11 short videos, with questions and activities to help people see themselves in God's story and to grow more into the story of God!

#SpokenBible is another anniversary initiative. Some young guys have added music to readings of Scripture. #SpokenBible will be

published via social media through the year. The aim is to give people a new experience of well-known words such as Genesis 1, Psalm 103 and 1 Corinthians 13.

Enok Vindum Fredensborg began as a volunteer 'Bibleinspirator' in late 2015 and will visit youth groups and teen clubs, inspiring young people to read the Bible. Please pray that he will find joy in this new role, and see more and more of the beauty of the Word of God!

## SU Africa – Daily Guide 2016 on Android and Apple

An SU Nigeria volunteer with a passion to see Bible reading notes on as many online platforms as possible has worked with others in SU to see this happen. The SU Africa 2016 Daily Devotional Guide is currently

available for a small cost from the Apple Store for iOS devices (search 'Daily Guide 2016') and the Google Play Store (search 'Daily Guide Jukem Technologies') for Android devices. People around the world can now use the Daily Guide of Scripture Union Africa.



# Ministry to the Displaced



## Refugees in Croatia

**SU Croatia** – Thousands of people from the Middle East and Africa are fleeing war, famine and destruction. As Media reports conjure up fears of the Islamisation of Europe and of terrorists possibly joining those migrants, many people live in fear. SU Croatia has been reaching out, giving aid and seeking to address immediate practical needs. We want every person to hear God's voice and feel God's love, not only in words but also in deeds.

Malena Brnic, SU Croatia staff worker, wrote:

*...we came to volunteer in a winter transit camp. Volunteers from many different charity organisations were placed in a huge tent at different 'stations' with supplies to give out... warm drinks, lunch, hygiene materials, special packs for children and many other things. At our station, clothes were given out to the migrants. Even though there were migrants from many different ethnic groups, there were no incidents... they were disciplined and calm. The most beautiful thing was seeing the happy faces of the migrants... when we smiled at them and tried to communicate regardless of the language barrier... there is no greater joy than to feel human in these horrible circumstances.*



## Work Among Refugees

**SU Greece** – It is estimated that there are about 50,000 refugees in Greece. About 15,000 are in the Athens area, where SU Greece is located. The enormous humanitarian need has been met by the Greek government, the army, international NGOs and private initiatives of all kinds.

The people of Greece have begun to accept that this crisis will continue for some years; that thousands of refugees will need to stay indefinitely. SU's work with refugees is two-fold – meeting basic needs and spiritual needs.

The Port of Piraeus has become a new focus. Hundreds of hot meals are cooked for those fleeing war. Refugees from Syria continue to visit the Bethel youth hostel to see a doctor, learn hygiene or household skills, to play, and hear the Gospel.

SU Greece believes it is time to move into a new phase, providing more than immediate basic needs or a quick Gospel presentation. It is important for refugees to integrate. SU plans, with the assistance of social workers, language teachers and others, to help these people prepare for life in Europe: in Germany, Greece or elsewhere. This approach takes more time, but opens new doors for the Gospel – the core of SU's ministry.



## Camp for Earthquake-Affected Children

**SU Nepal** – In the 7.8 magnitude earthquake on 25 April 2015 in Nepal about 9,000 people lost their lives; more than 22,000 people were injured, leaving many handicapped; and about 500,000 families were left homeless. Many children were traumatised, without food, clothes or shelter, some without mother and/or father.

SU Nepal has brought some happiness to the children through holiday camps with lots of fun, singing, dancing, playing and eating, and the life-giving Word of God. SU friends around the world have sent generous gifts through SU International.

Local leaders in Gorkha, the earthquake epicentre, helped SU Nepal organise a VBS (Vacation Bible School) Camp in November 2015. A total of 538 children from 33 churches attended, learning that God cares for us, even in the midst of natural calamities. The children were also given blankets to take home for the approaching winter. SU Nepal praise the Lord for giving them the opportunity to work with so many needy children, introducing them to 'life to the full' in Jesus.

## God at Work in Chaos

**Central African Republic (CAR)** – God has been at work in the midst of the military and political crisis which plunged CAR into chaos and has badly affected the work of SU since March 2013. The SU office was burnt down; several SU members lost their lives or possessions; and the SU Committees could not function. But throughout this devastating crisis, God has allowed SU to continue to support the badly shaken body of Christ and even widen its activities.

SU has continued to: distribute Bible study guides and meditation cards; train children, young people and adults; visit churches when possible; and hold monthly meetings for volunteers. In February 2015 a major conference for preachers was organised, focussing on proclaiming God's Word to a nation in turmoil.

Despite the SU office and its contents being destroyed in the militant turmoil in September 2015, over 1,500 Bibles have been distributed in camps for internally displaced people (the target is 20,000). The Good News has been proclaimed in

the camps via: Christian films for children and adults; Bible training sessions for tent leaders; toys and games; spiritual / psychological help for children; and clothing. A Bible camp for 120 displaced young people was organised in late December 2015. We are grateful to World Link for funding provided to purchase equipment, Bibles, clothing, toys and medical assistance.

Challenges remain. Please pray for: peace and development in the CAR; workers full of love and zeal for God's work; land for an SU centre; Bibles; and ongoing funding.



## Harbour of Tears

**SU Nigeria** – The north east region of Nigeria is a heartland of violent insurgency. It is estimated that over 613,700 Nigerians have been displaced in the last year alone and are now living in various camps.

The region has a mixture of religions, including Christian and African Traditional. Christians have been ostracised, not allowed to attend school and had promotions denied or delayed. Horrific experiences include maiming, destruction of properties, abduction, forceful change of faith and children forced to be soldiers. There is much resulting trauma, fragility, and loss of livelihood.

FCS has brought succour to over 4,000 internally displaced people. Hope has been restored to many who were traumatised. FCS has helped provide medical aid, food and clothing, and psychotherapy. Over 400 children have been given support.



## Displaced Families

**SU Colombia** – Sex tourism is rife in some Latin American countries and countless children on the north coast of Colombia are its victims. Six million people in Colombia are displaced by terrorism, violence and drug trafficking – second only to Syria. For the past 16 years, SU Colombia has gone to where people live, offering love and care to children and families in San Felipe. The dream is to build a base where Bible teaching, health clinics, courses for mothers and nutrition can be offered.

## Vavuniya Camp – Rebuilding Lives

**SU Sri Lanka** – In the last couple of years, SU Sri Lanka has received funding for a number of special camps. One of these has been for children displaced and left destitute after the long drawn-out war in Sri Lanka. Vavuniya is a Government-granted piece of land allotted to displaced/destitute war-affected families. It is in a dense shrub jungle.

The main focus of the annual camp program at Vavuniya, alongside games and singing, was to reassure the children that, whatever difficulties they have experienced during the war, they can turn to the Lord Jesus for help in all situations. They desperately need reassurance as they have witnessed violence, death, child abuse and other atrocities. The theme, *Faith Mountain*, used Hebrews to assure them that God's power will help them face challenges in their hostile environment. Sometimes these children only eat once or, if fortunate, twice a day, so

they were very happy to be given three meals and snacks.

It is difficult, because of the isolated location, for SU Sri Lanka to visit Vavuniya and keep in touch with the children on a regular basis. It is hard to develop meaningful relationships. This has inspired Pastor Asoka, the Pastor in charge of the war-affected children in Vavuniya, to visit this area as often as possible to share the Gospel and help people rebuild their lives on a firm Christian foundation.



## Offering Friendship... and the Gospel

**SU Switzerland** – Cabes shares the love of God with foreigners who come to Switzerland as asylum seekers or fleeing economic insecurity. Swiss Christians are encouraged to offer friendship and the Gospel message. Joël Bussy, who heads up the work, says to people, 'Tell me what your gifts and your passions are and I will tell you what you can do'. A man responded, 'I would like to do something with sports. It's what I love'. As a result, Cabes has started weekly football games with refugees. They are popular. Joël says, 'They leap into our cars when we come to pick them up!'

A summer day camp was held for children in an asylum seekers centre, with games, crafts, stories and snacks. The children come with huge smiles. Regular meetings for children, teenagers and adults, with music, games, a message of hope and a warm meal are held in other towns.

Asylum seekers are regularly visited in their homes. One day Cabes visited a single mum from Algeria and her three children. With tears in her eyes, she said that her son was struggling with a maths problem. The team was able to help him and share the love of the Father.

## Displaced, but not without Hope!

**SU Ukraine** – There are many displaced people in Ukraine due to conflict in the East. SU Ukraine doesn't need to devise special programs to reach out to them – they are in the schools SU visits, in SU camps, among SU volunteers... One of them is Leonid\*, a young artist who draws miniatures.

When the conflict started, Leonid (18) was sent to live with relatives in Moscow as it was dangerous for a young man to stay in the occupied territory. Life was hard. Leonid had never been so far from home or lived in a city with relatives who were not Christians. Then Leonid made a friend at a camp in Kiev and started to go to her church. His friend at work laughed about Leonid's 'Church Club', but Leonid asked his friends in Ukraine to pray for this guy. When Nikita invited his workmate to the camp in Kiev, he came with an open heart and became a Christian.

Many young people like Leonid have had their dreams about the future broken; but have not fallen into despair. They are bringing hope and a future to others.

\* not his real name

# Ministry Impact



## Fiji Cyclone Work

**SU Fiji** – It is hard to take in the utter devastation wrought by Tropical Cyclone Winston in February 2016, reported to be the second most severe ever recorded. Whole villages, schools and farms were destroyed. While there is a mammoth effort underway to repair and rebuild, the damage is so extensive and widespread it will take a long time.

Many are interpreting these events as either judgement or trial, and people are very open

to the Gospel – the Good News of God’s love. Volunteers from New Zealand have rebuilt a primary school and funds donated by friends in Australia have provided much-needed food and hygiene supplies for struggling widows and single mums whose subsistence farms were destroyed. Thank you so much for your help.

Thank God for all He is doing to restore Fiji. Keep Fiji in your prayers as SU shares God’s love with those whose lives have been severely challenged by recent events.



## God’s Blessings

**SU South Sudan** – God has blessed the work of SU in South Sudan in many ways over the past year:

- VEC Training: 26 volunteers were trained in running Values Education Classes (VEC). In 2015, VECs were given to 756 young people in 57 schools all over South Sudan.
- Printing: 1,500 daily guides and 2,000 Shukuru Yesu hymn books were printed 2015-16.
- Camps: were organised in a number of towns for many campers.
- Audio Bibles: these were distributed to believers.
- Discipleship Class: training was given in talking to other people about Jesus.

Please pray for the work we plan for 2016 which includes:

- Reach Clubs: new Bible clubs to commence in 10 secondary schools and 10 basic schools.
- Bible Competitions: for many schools.
- Camps: for new towns.
- Training: VEC training and club leader training has begun and is scheduled for many towns.
- Campsite: improvements to the SU Campsite and fundraising for further building.



## Rebuilding in Vanuatu

**SU Vanuatu** – The rebuilding of the SU Vanuatu campsite is off to a great start, thanks to the many donations from across the SU family and teams of hardworking volunteers. The new dormitories will be built using shipping containers as the base, providing a solid foundation against further natural disasters (and an on-trend look). A team visited in February to lay the foundations, while the volunteer architect and team have been sourcing the materials needed, to be packed into shipping containers and sent to Vanuatu. Three more teams will arrive in July to do the actual building. It is exciting to see this rebuild take shape. We look forward to see how God will use the new campsite in years to come.



## Holiday Club Summer Camps

**SU Slovakia** – One way in which SU serves children and young people in Slovakia is through a one-day holiday club held in early February. These clubs started about 15 years ago and are much appreciated by parents.

Although many children knew a lot about Paul, they were less familiar with the people around Paul – Barnabas, Mark, Luke and Lydia. SU volunteers found out more and prepared activities.

Thirty-five children attended the holiday club this year. Some who attended for the first time want to come on summer camp. After a day full of stories, activities, games, music and craft, some found it hard to leave!



## Life Changers

**SU Madagascar** – We praise God for the ‘Behind the Pornography’ Conference held on 17 October 2015. About 1,900 people attended, 70% of them teens and young people. Please pray for the approximately 350 people who received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.



## Appointments

**Andreas Klotz** was appointed the new National Director of Bibellesebund Germany in October 2015. Andreas was a pastor for 22 years and then leader of his denomination. His vision is to further the missionary mindset and evangelistic aims of SU Germany.



**Liga Cepurite** was appointed as the new National Leader of Bibeles Draugu Liga Latvia (SU Latvia) in June 2015. Liga's background is in communications and project management.

Her vision is for SU Latvia to provide new ideas and professional skills for work with children, youth and families in Latvia.

**Driton Krasniqi** is the new National Leader of SU Kosova. Driton is a pastor married to Halide. They have three children.



**Nacanieli Tikoduadua** is the new National Director of SU Fiji. He has served extensively with SU and other Christian organisations and brings

a wealth of passion and commitment to the cause of Jesus Christ.

**Pastor Penisimani Tonga** is the new National Director of SU Tonga. He has been involved with SU since childhood, serving as a leader and chaplain. His vision is to see more young men and women living for Jesus.



**Jean-Daniel Linsig** has been appointed by SU France the Director of the Publication Department – *LLB Editions*. Jean-Daniel has managed Christian publishing houses in France. His role covers commercial publishing activities and Bible notes.



**Mark Brown** is the new President of SU USA. Mark has a long history with SU, previously serving as National Director of SU New Zealand. His vision is 'to see SU grow its capacity

to fulfill its mission in the States'.

## SUI Global Team

**Rebecca Swamickan** and **Emmanuel Todjo** have recently been appointed to the SUI Global Team: **Becky** as a **Ministry Specialist**, and **Emmanuel** as **Field Development Director – Francophone Africa**. Please pray for Becky and Emmanuel as they take up these new roles.



Becky has served with SU India for over 25 years and has extensive experience in children, youth and adult Bible ministries. She has served SU globally as a volunteer in Shaping for Service, Bible ministry, children's work and LSDC. Becky will have a broad role sharing resources and building teams of people to develop ministry.

Emmanuel has served faithfully over many years in SU Cameroon, in the West Central sub-region and as trainer in the Africa Region. We are grateful for the experience, gifts and skills Emmanuel brings to this position and look forward to seeing many of the movements he works with becoming more self-sustaining.



**Oksana Khimich** has also commenced her new role of Field Development Coordinator – FSR (Former Soviet Republics). Oksana has been on SU Ukraine staff for many years and also served as Trainer for the FSR Movements.



## Farewell

SU Zambia has said farewell to National Director, **Amos Mwasapa**.



## Condolences

After a long history of working with SU Tonga, **Ms Fusi Lesieli Laukau Vaki** became National Director in 2010. Ms Fusi Vaki had a great passion to reach young people through school ministries and to engage them in employment opportunities. Ms Vaki passed away on 14 February 2016. She will be long remembered as a devoted Christian mother to the SU Tonga family.



## Farewells



*John Kiarie, Janet Morgan (SUI), Sam Udanyi, Mary Mwangi, David Gichung'wa, Emmanuel Todjo, Jenny Stewart (SUI) and Richard Onyiaso (Regional Chair). Peter Milimo was at a family funeral.*

As SU continues to move towards a Global structure, we take this opportunity to say thank you and farewell to the dedicated staff of the **Africa Region**, who are finishing their roles in June. **Regional Director, David Gichung'wa**, has served for 8 years. He has been a great support to the sub-regions of the Region and an important member of the Global Team. David has been ably supported by team members based in the office:

**Peter Milimo** (6 years), **Mary Mwangi** (28 years) and **John Kiarie** (22 years), who have faithfully served God and the wider SU family. They are currently undertaking

various tasks involved in closing down the region and office.

**Sam Udanyi** and **Emmanuel Todjo** are also finishing their contracts on the Regional Team. Sam has been the driver of the Aid for Aids program and more recently has promoted and provided training in Family Ministry. Emmanuel has been the trainer for the region, providing much support in English and French speaking countries.

We praise God for their work for the Kingdom and thank them for their dedicated service.

# PRAYER DIARY

Please pray for these key events...

## ▶ August 2016

- 21 Official Opening of SU Nepal's new building, Kathmandu
- 26-28 Africa Community Group 4, Cameroon

## ▶ September 2016

- 22-24 Field Development Directors meeting, London, UK
- 25-28 SUI Executive, London, UK

## ▶ October 2016

- 1 SU Papua New Guinea's 50th Anniversary Celebration
- 7-9 East West Asia Transition Team meeting, Bangkok, Thailand
- 14-16 Africa Transition Team meeting, Nairobi, Kenya

## ▶ November 2016

- 7-11 Global Week of Prayer
- 7-11 Europe all staff conference

## ▶ February 2017

- 14 Australia/Zealand Community Group

## ▶ March 2017

- 9-12 Africa Transition Team meeting, Nairobi, Kenya
- 22-25 SUI Global Team meeting, venue TBA
- 25-28 SUI Executive, venue TBA

## ▶ November 2017

- 10-14 (provisional) Global Assembly, venue TBA

## Giving to Scripture Union

We are grateful for the prayer, financial and other practical support from so many around the world who join us in ministry partnership. If you would like to give a gift to any of the ministries mentioned in this edition of *SUI News*, or to any other SU ministry around the world, it is easy to do.

**Australia:** Scripture Union International Council, BSB: 032-523, Account No: 213677

**UK:** Scripture Union International Council, Sort Code: 405 240, Account Number: 00006064

From other countries, by credit card, or by other means, please see: <http://su-international.org/donate/>

[www.su-international.org](http://www.su-international.org)

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## Ministry to Displaced Persons – continued from page 1

– people who have lost addresses, families and entitlements – some even their identities. Have we learnt lessons from our temporary communities that we can hold out to the world?

What can we say about security? How about identity? What about hope? Where does faith come from? And, more importantly, what about tomorrow?

In Greece alone, 152,137 migrants arrived between 1 January and 4 April 2016, adding to 853,650 arrivals in 2015. Of these, 53% arrive in Lesbos, 37% of them children. Scripture Union Greece, in collaboration with other agencies, has been reaching out to these refugees, at times even providing a hot bath and food.

SU Movements in the Central African Republic and South Sudan, and FCS in Nigeria, risk their very lives as they reach out to those internally displaced people, particularly children in need.

In a world where there is discrimination based on race, religion and nationality, it seems as if the certainty of God's love is pitted

against the certainty of the world's law. They appear to be in opposition to each other. How do we as a movement work out in practice the truth that 'There is no Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus'.

The highway is getting fuller by the minute. There is traffic across borders like never before, and, if we believe predictions, there is more to come. Ministering to displaced people will be inevitable. In the words of Martin Luther King Jr, 'When evil men plot, good men must plan. When evil men burn and bomb, good men must build and bind. When evil men shout ugly words of hatred, good men must commit themselves to the glories of love'.

Are we ready? Half of the world's refugees live in urban areas. Every four seconds someone is forced to flee their home ([www.unhcr.org/54aa91d89.html](http://www.unhcr.org/54aa91d89.html)). Look around you!

[www.refugeehighway.net/news.html](http://www.refugeehighway.net/news.html)

Becky Swamickan

## Ministry Impact – continued from p6

### Good News!

**SU Solomon Islands** – 2015 SU Student School Fellowship ended with about 250 students and volunteers enjoying worship, dramas, action songs and testimonies. Those present reflected on Deuteronomy 31:6 and were reminded that, as we face the uncertainty of our future, God has promised to always be with us. We thank God that in March and April 2016 God touched and changed lives at two school holiday camps.

