

# Bulletin



SU Europe Region News and Prayer Bulletin  
January – March 2010

## Editorial

### Walking with Jeremiah

Daily news is full of evil - wars, famine, acts of violence, unjust and oppressive systems, hurricanes, social problems, accidents, local crimes, political mistakes... No wonder we need a sunshine story now and then!

In September and October I had to face evil – in my own life as well as in the world. Following the Scripture Union European Bible reading plan I was spending several weeks in the book of Jeremiah. Some find the prophet too negative and his book too long, but I think we all have a constant need for some biblical realism. And the God-spoken criticism was mirrored in the life of the Jewish people (and other peoples!) many centuries ago, which makes it easier to accept than a word directly aimed at me.

Still, I could find many similarities with my own life and situation. God is still condemning all forms of sin and evil. And his Word is also full of unexpected promises of grace and a new future. The promises are linked to a Davidic King, who will reign wisely and be called "The Lord our Righteousness", Jeremiah 23:5-6. So the serious news is that there is a need to repent, and the good news is that repentance is possible. In this way, reading the Old testament can bring us into a deeper dependence on Jesus and his cross.

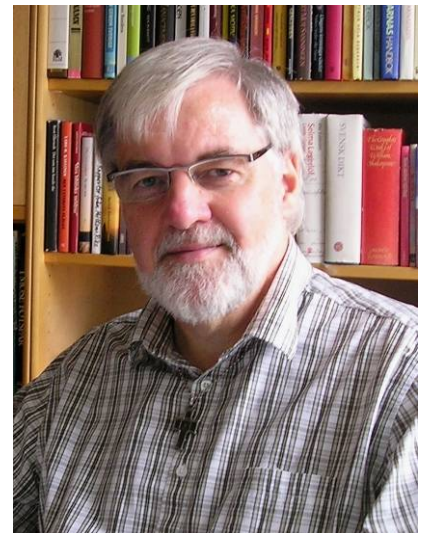
This is very much in harmony with sound Evangelical theology and praxis. From my own background I recall Martin Luther's discovery of the need for a believer's whole life of repentance and faith. A similar insight is expressed in different ways in different traditions.

This stands in sharp contrast to post-modern thinking, where everybody is said to be okay in himself, without any need for forgiveness or renewal. Is there then any need for a Saviour? And what about the cross? And is the analysis true?

Two virtues in present-day leadership are transparency and a willingness to change. These qualities will grow in the honest Bible reader. God uses his Word as an instrument to help us realise our situation and to live by His grace. It will keep us humble and open to other people with all their strengths and weaknesses.

Who will, alluding to a movie title some years ago, take part in the "Dead Prophets' Society"?

Hans Lindholm  
Chairperson (SU Sweden & Europe Region))



## History of Europe Region part six 1986 - 1989

*The History of Europe Region series may not be the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel but it does make fascinating reading of how some great men of God received insight to help shape and mould God's Kingdom in Europe – Just as many of you reading this now are doing!*

### Council Meeting 1986

One of the basic questions at the European Council was the ministry in Eastern Europe. It was decided that an SU strategy for this part of Europe should be worked out by the European ExCo, for the European Council 1987.

Nigel Sylvester, the International Secretary, reported that since the first International Conference held in 1985 in Harare a new sense of interdependence between the many national movements has developed, replacing an independent attitude. For the first ten years of his office he tried to help the Third World to develop. Now he puts more emphasis on helping the First World to cooperate.

It was furthermore decided to increase the national contributions to the European Council from German Marks DM 45'000 to 130'000 until 1989, to make the appointment of Karl Schäfer as first full time Regional Secretary possible. This appointment was decided for a term of 6 years, for two years as a part-time Regional Secretary, and full-time from 1 January 1988.

Also the Regional contribution for the International Council was increased by 100 % as requested, to be done in four steps. All these important changes showed the growing willingness to work together, also as an outcome of the International Harare Conference.

Another topic was the very serious financial crisis of SU Netherlands, needing support and advice from the Region. This was accepted. And finally, discussion took place again about the Bible reading plan for adults. The question was raised whether emphasis should be put on the concerns of each national movement to fit the local needs, or on the international unity of having the same plan. Nigel Sylvester answered that the national need was more important.

### Council Meeting 1987

The working plan for Eastern Europe had not yet been done as Joseph Riffert was not well and could not participate in the last two ExCo meetings. The financial situation allowed the Region to build up a reserve of DM 31'000 in view of the increased expenses in 1988 with a full-time Regional secretary.

The big task of the revised Aims of SU International (started in 1985) had come to an end and it could be accepted by the European Council.

As the Region had grown in the last years with more staff workers, it was decided that the next European Staff Conference would be organised for 1990, taking place only once in 3 years. In the years in between common language conferences as well as a General Secretaries conference might take place.

A big problem was again the late arrival of the details for the International Week of Prayer, held as always in November. As a result it was not possible to put it into the Bible reading notes.

### Council Meeting 1988

The following expectations were expressed for Karl Schäfer who took up his position as Regional Secretary as of this year:



Karl Schäfer 1988

- We expect personal and spiritual support from him, and we would also like to get his advice in practical important questions.
- Through coordination between the individual movements and with indications how to develop our work in the best possible way.
- He should be coordinator of ministries at European level, but not interfering in the autonomy of the autonomous movements.
- We expect that the Regional Secretary could, in the future, train all new staff workers at a European level.
- Through being an actual link between the International Council and the national movements.
- The visit of the Regional Secretary once a year is important so that he can directly appreciate the work that each national movement does.
- Yearly visit at the National Council meetings.
- Offering training for our staff and a regular introductory course for new staff members.

Due to Joseph Riffert's heart surgery in 1987 the work in Eastern Europe had not been further developed and our future ministry in this part of Europe had become uncertain. Until now it had been possible to publish some simple Bible reading notes and books for Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia.

In the elections Fritz Hoppler was re-elected for second term of 3 years, Oystein Reinsberg was elected for a first term of 3 years, replacing Philippe Decorvet. The other members, Claude Gaasch and Peter Hoppler are also re-elected.

The situation of SU Netherlands had become even more serious, needing more help and advice from Europe Region. Concerning the contributions it was decided, that they should be based on 13 % of the staff expenses of the national autonomous movements, and 2 % of the non-autonomous movements. These 2 % would be increased to 5 % in three steps leading up to 1991.

### **Council Meeting 1989**

No progress in our ministry in Eastern Europe after the departure of Joseph Riffert, but suddenly open doors in Central and Eastern Europe presented a huge challenge for the Europe Region. Therefore, the offer from SU England and Wales to receive David Blair as associate Regional Secretary (75 % of his

time) as their gift towards the new possibilities in Central and Eastern Europe was gratefully accepted.

Daniel Poujol, Director in SU France, was elected as new ExCo member, representing the Latin part of Europe. There was some discussion about Italian-speaking Switzerland: Could they become a new non-autonomous movement in Europe Region? This question was to be prepared for the European Council 1990.

With new International aims also the new Working principles were accepted by the European Council, after being worked on for 3 years. The Regional constitution was also revised ready to be proposed in detail to the European Council in 1990.

A contribution of 13% of staff expenses towards the Regional Budget was considered to be too great a financial burden on national movements and so it was motioned to reduce this and rely on gifts to make up any discrepancy in the Budget. In fact, the system of basing Region Income on a percentage of staff expenses was questioned and alternatives were considered, e.g. basing the movement's contribution on its income, part of its income or a combination of factors. Figures were to be prepared for the following European Council in 1990.

The situation in the Netherlands had become so dramatic, that the Region had to arrange a loan from French-speaking Switzerland to avoid bankruptcy. This meant that SU Netherlands would be under Regional control until the loan was repaid.

A computer system (computer, software and printer) was bought for DM 10'000 for the Regional secretary.

A proposal from Peter Hoppler to arrange a regular training for new staff workers was welcomed in general and the help of John Dean as International training consultant would be available. Unfortunately, this didn't get off the ground in the time of Karl Schäfer as Regional Secretary.

A second International conference was planned for 1992 when Scripture Union would be celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Peter Hoppler  
European Director

## Profile on European Leaders

From time to time we focus in on a European leader. This time we want to get to know more about [Kirsi Smeds](#)



### **Tell us something about yourself, Kirsi: Where did you grow up?**

I grew up in a Christian home in a small town with a population of 5,000 in the southern part of Finland about 50 km from Helsinki.

### **What did you train as initially?**

Although I wasn't planning to go into the ministry or to teach religion, I studied Theology at the University of Helsinki. And I'm sure it is not just coincidence that my previous studies come in very handy now in my present job at Scripture Union.

### **Tell us something about your family!**

I married my husband, Sakari in 1993 when I was 22. This meant moving from Helsinki to my husband's home town, Valkeala which is north east of Helsinki near Kouvola. We still live in this very beautiful lake-land countryside and moved the SU offices here in 2007 after taking over from former leader Anneli Fanta.

Sakari works in a bank and we have two children, Oskari, 13 and Elina, 11.

### **What are your favourite hobbies or pastimes?**

I enjoy being in the outdoors, pursuing outdoor activities, and like many Finnish people, taking saunas, especially at our lakeside holiday home which is in the middle of nowhere. It is here that we spend many weekends and holidays as a family and I appreciate being able to get away from the everyday hectic and finding peace and quiet and renewal.

Of course, it is also a great place to entertain family and friends – another favourite pastime! I am also very active in the governing body of the Church Council but since this is very intense and time-consuming I am considering giving this up in order to devote more time to my Scripture Union duties.

### **When did you become a Christian?**

As I mentioned before, I grew up in a Christian family so attending Sunday School and being present on my mother's lap during Bible group studies was a natural part of my upbringing. However, when I was about 13 I often wondered what life would be like without God and without Jesus and I began to seriously question the meaning to life and the Christian faith which I had hitherto taken so much for granted. Even so, I didn't have to dwell on this long. The picture of what a life without Jesus would be like made the choice to follow him incredibly easy and brought great relief and I could only weep in repentance that I had ever doubted him or considered a life without him.

### **What was your first experience of SU?**

As a very young girl, I observed my father reading Scripture Union Bible Reading Notes at his desk. Not in my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would be editing these myself 25 years later!!

### **What did you do before you came to SU?**

For many years my priority has been in being a housewife and mother. In addition, I managed a Christian bookshop, worked in the governing offices of the Church Council and began editing notes for SU before becoming National Leader in 2007.

### **What are your immediate goals for your movement?**

Reaching young people is our next big challenge for the future. Our BRN for youth was revised in 2009 and we are now working on a special Bible Information and BRN for confirmation candidates. Please pray for

efficient marketing and that they will be well received.

### **Do have long-term visions?**

Please pray that the Lord will reveal his vision for the way ahead for us. We would like to work on the strategy and vision of SU in Finland. I would like to broaden our ministry beyond Bible Reading Notes to include ministry with Children and Youth. However, our council membership is made up of representatives of other Christian Organisations and Churches who are, in some cases, already involved in these fields. We want to be very sensitive in this area.

### **How can the SU Europe family help you?**

Just being part of the larger fellowship of Christians with common goals and vision in the SU family is a great source of courage and strength.

### **Have you got a specific prayer request?**

We have had a quick turnover of staff in the last year. Finding and instructing new staff meant that just holding the fort and routine work needed a lot more energy than usual. Please pray that we will quickly recover to be a dynamic new team. Pray especially that new staff will be protected from ill health and fatigue and quickly get used to their new duties and feel at home in the team.

Kirsi Smeds  
National Leader  
SU Finland

**New Staff Course,  
Marienheide, Germany  
10 – 14 November 2009**

***New Staff training is now a well established Regional event which, in recent years, has also expanded to include new staff from the Britain and Ireland Region with Former Soviet Republics. About 40 new staff met together with senior Regional staff members and SU International Director Janet Morgan to learn more about the background and vision of SU. Oliver Kohler from SU Switzerland wrote the following report:***

**“Meeting SU Europe**



From November 10 – 14, I attended the New Staff Training of Scripture Union Europe in Marienheide, Germany. Together with about 40 colleagues I spent 3 days in getting the bigger picture of SU.

### **Getting to Marienheide**

When I joined Scripture Union last June I was informed that I would participate in the New Staff Training in November in Marienheide, near Cologne. But this was far away then. As the event approached I got more and more excited, as this was a welcome change to my daily routine.

On Tuesday morning I met my two Swiss colleagues, Marc and Franco at Zurich Airport. After a short flight and a longer train ride we arrived in Marienheide, where we were warmly

*Michel Siegrist talking to an attentive audience welcomed by Klaus-Peter Klammroth (Manager of the SU Germany Camps Centre), Peter Hoppler (SU Director Europe), and a very delicious apple pie. :-)* One by one of the participants joined in and I had many interesting talks which did not end until well after midnight.

The centre is situated a little outside Marienheide surrounded by trees, almost in the woods.

I had a hard time getting up in the morning (as every morning); my bed was just too comfortable. After breakfast we usually started with a Bible study, i.e. discussing Bible passages in English, which was rather challenging, but nonetheless stimulating

### **Lessons**

During the three days we got, among other input, lessons about the history of the Scripture

Union, the aims, beliefs and working principles but also help for our personal and spiritual development or how to engage with the Bible.

Probably the most interesting part for me was the workshop about the SU Ministry around the world. Janet Morgan, the International Director, gave insight on the many different ministries in over 120 countries worldwide. SU has a wide range of ministries which are customised to the country's needs, so they may differ from one to the other. Did you know for example that SU runs an elderly home in Greece?

Especially interesting for me as an Economist was the comparison of the success factors for visionary companies (like Coca Cola or McDonalds). There are three factors that made them successful; being the first in a specific field, having a long history (average of over 100 years) and having a great impact with their products etc. So, looking at Scripture Union starting with pioneer children's work, over 140 years ago and the impact it continues to have with its work, we can proudly say that it is a very successful corporation.

Janet named a couple reasons why SU has survived this long; first and foremost is our dependence on God; further aspects are being biblical and working with Churches and other organisations.

This workshop was essential for me in understanding the vision of SU. The other workshop I attended was about „Being effective and Time Management“. It was relieving to see that there are other people struggling with the same or similar issues in their working life and what ways there are to overcome these.

### **Leisure**

We did not work all the time, of course. On Wednesday after lunch I took the opportunity to visit the German Offices of Scripture Union and to meet some of the German Staff. On Thursday afternoon most of us went on a trip to Cologne. There we meandered through the shopping streets and some actually went up the many stairs of the Cathedral Tower.

### **Conclusion**

The event was a great success, in my opinion, starting with the organisation to the motivating speakers and interesting workshops as well as the timetable (break after lunch).

It is pretty difficult to find something negative about the Training though it would have been

interesting to exchange a bit more with the German Staff.

I felt that there was a really great fellowship among the participants and it was enriching and inspiring to meet people from various



countries and share our vision and our thoughts. All in all, it was a very rewarding experience which I hope will flow into my daily routine. Not least of all, I was able to brush up my English again, which I don't often get a chance to do in my job. I hope to meet SU Europe again sometime. :-)"

Oliver Kohler  
SU Switzerland

**Sinnorama –  
Experiencing the Bible Exhibition:  
10'000 visitors!**

**Continued interest is maintained in „Sinnorama“, a panoramic guide through the Bible using all 5 senses. The project was developed by Scripture Union in Winterthur, Switzerland where Project Manager, Magda Wassmer, recently welcomed the 10,000<sup>th</sup> visitor. The number of visitors exceeds all expectations by far!**

The exhibition, a guided tour through the most important stories of the Bible, uses multimedia and sophisticated technical devices to ensure that this trip through Bible times is a pleasurable experience. The concept of reaching both young and old through all the

senses has met with the public's approval, even those who previously knew nothing of the Bible.



*Magda Wassmer (left), Project Manager of Sinnorama, with the 10,000<sup>th</sup> visitor, Elsbeth Stahl, from Busswil (right).*

Since its opening in August 2008 well over 10,000 have visited *Sinnorama*. Organised groups make up 55% of the visitors. These include Religious education teachers, catechists and clergy who want to reinforce their lessons with this impressive visual aid. Two-thirds of this group come from state churches and one-third from the free-church segment. 45% of our visitors are families, individuals and mixed groups. Particularly popular are the various thematic birthday parties for children of all ages.

Jürg Hochuli, Director  
SU German-speaking Switzerland



### **Communicating the Truth in France**

In our media and information obsessed society, touching hearts is a real challenge, and encouraging people to regularly meditate on the Bible is a great concern. Without a doubt, communication is a major tool in accomplishing our ministry, whatever the media involved.

The emergence of the Internet has vastly increased the number of opportunities as well as the mass of information we all receive. Based on this assessment, we launched several important communication projects and more specifically a project reflecting our visible identity.

Its aim is to motivate new people, to combine the strength that they receive from the Lord, to answer the call received by "La Ligue". There are many opportunities to serve with "la Ligue", be it through doing, giving or praying. It also seeks to extend the boundaries of our resources and activities by making them more widely known so that more people can benefit and the Gospel can touch the lives of many more.

Up to now, we have endeavoured to communicate better using traditional methods. The reduction in printing costs and improved working methods, have, on the whole, enabled us to more or less keep to the usual budget while improving the quality of this work. We think that it is necessary to do even more in order to meet the challenges that are facing "la Ligue" in the present situation, in order to travel further, longer and in a more appropriate way with our contemporaries. Thus we are looking for new ways and means.

In 2009, for instance, we launched "Caféine", the magazine of "La Ligue pour la Lecture de la Bible" in France. Thanks to its in-depth articles, news articles and reports, "Caféine" tackles topics that are of interest to Christian churches, groups and individuals, while all the time showing how God is using "la Ligue" for His Service.



Previous issues can be seen on  
[www.laligue.net](http://www.laligue.net)

We need your prayers to help us undertake all these things with wisdom and discernment.

Marc Deroeux, Director  
"La Ligue" France

### KidsGames Training in Rimlishof, France

## Leaders' Conference

9th-11th November 2009  
Le Rimlishof, France



**SU France hosted the recent European KidsGames training in its camps centre "Rimlishof" in Alsace, France.**

Terry Williams, Scripture Union International Children's Ministry specialist, organised the European KidsGames training at the strategically placed SU camps centre in France. Children's Ministry workers from various organisations and churches throughout Europe took part in this vital training to stage the popular KidsGames outreach sports programme.

About 50% of the participants were from Scripture Union.

The two delegates from Slovakia give the following enthusiastic comments:

*"The conference was great! I met a lot of new people that have the same values that I have.*

*In addition to the KidsGames Training, I also learnt a lot about SU that I didn't know before.*

*I got a lot of new ideas for my future work in SU and learnt a lot how to become a good leader.*

*And of course, who could possibly forget playing the new brutal game "Bramboráček" that the Polish guys taught us!!"*

Zuzka Bozikova

*"It was an enormous privilege that I could be on Kids Games Europe Conference in France. Not only did I get a better understanding of the bigger picture of what Kids Games is part of, and collected many practical hints and ideas that will be very useful in my ministry, but I was also touched by the attitude of humbleness which shone through lives of Terry Williams and Roy Meredith, the main speakers.*

*They shared with us their love and passion but not for **their** work, **their** projects, **their** ideas but for the building of God's kingdom. They both really are servants in everything they do and through their example we all were blessed and encouraged to grow in our ministry. I really want to thank God for everything I could learn there.*

Lea Laurovicova



*SU and representative of other organisations with a heart for the children of Europe*

## **DATES FOR DIARIES EUROPE REGION NEWS 2010**

### **Directors Conference**

In alternate years to the European Council meeting, the European Directors' Conference is held in Vennes-Lausanne, Switzerland. Please remember this important from **5-8 May** in prayer.

### **International Week of Prayer**

As you plan activities for 2010 please give due thought to the International Week of Prayer which is always in Week 45 or this year from **7 – 14 November**. Prayer topics, a power point presentation and Sermon will be available to help give this week special focus to your regular prayer groups, church visitation and special events.

### **Ministry Network Forum**

At the May 2009 Council Meeting it was decided to make changes to the Region's structure. The traditional geographical linear structure (e.g. local movement, sub-region, region) had the advantage of some cultural and language overlap, however there was no strategy in place to facilitate a sharing of know-

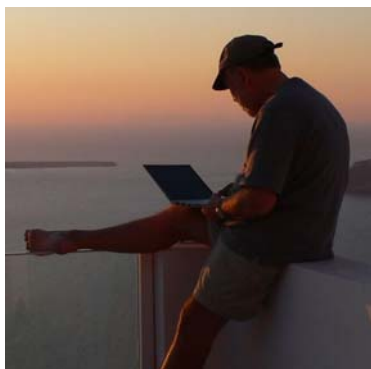
how and experience outside the geographical boundaries. The new matrix structure is based on common ministries across the Region. The

plan is to appoint three coordinators from the Europe Region to give about 24 days a year (10%) for three key ministry areas: Children, Youth and Bible Ministries. They would head up work within the Region and liaise with the corresponding Coordinator at International level. David Rossé from SU French-speaking Switzerland is Coordinator for Youth Ministry and hopefully Coordinators for the Children's and Bible Ministries will be found for the first Ministry Network Forum **9-13 November 2010**. Please pray that the right people for the Coordinator positions will be recognised

### **Subregional Meetings**

Although the Ministry Network Forums are the new regional event, this does not mean that subregions can no longer meet together. In fact, this can continue to be just as beneficial as in the past but it is the responsibility of the subregions to organise these as the need and opportunity arises. Subregion North will hold its subregional meeting from 7-10 October 2010.

## Week beginning 3 January



### Peter Hoppler's Diary

*As you know, Peter's job requires a lot of travelling which takes him to SU work all over the globe. However, he is rarely to be seen without his laptop and a pile of work to do. Here are some of the events which will take him out of the office this quarter. Please pray!*

18 January

Leading Staff Development  
Course preparation meeting,  
Amsterdam NL

24-30 January  
Winter holiday

9 February  
EEA Leaders meeting,  
Amsterdam NL

22 February  
Public holiday-

27 February – 15 March  
LSDC 2010, Nairobi EAK

16-17 March  
Days off

18 March  
International ExCo phone  
conference

29 March  
General Assembly SU German-  
speaking Switzerland,  
Winterthur CH

30 March  
EA Leaders meeting,  
Schaffhausen CH

## Europe Region

### Estonia

Fellowship of the White Rose, (the Aids prevention programme for schools in Estonia), is looking for a new project leader who will lead the teams in 2 towns and continue to develop the project. Pray that there will be clear guidance from God. Pray for additional finances and effective fundraising.

Camps: We thank God for being able to send 8 people to the SU International youth camp in Rougemont (Dec 27, 2009 – Jan 3rd 2010). Pray God's presence and synergy that will strengthen camping ministry in all participant countries.

Pray for the first camp of the year – 12-14 February, a choir Bible-reading camp. Pray for open hearts, humble spirits and God's Spirit to bring change in people.

Pray for first seminars for summer camps, that we would be ready with the whole team to listen and receive from God.

### Finland

We thank our Lord for His guidance last year and for new staff members. Please, pray especially for our very new editor of adult notes, Sari Paavola.

We start a new year with many open questions for the future and we need to prepare the vision paper for 2011-2016. We have been blessed with extra resources and need direction to know where this should be put to use and possibly, with whom. Please pray for the board and staff members that our hearts would be open to hear God's voice and guidance and that we will all recognise how God is leading us.

SU Finland will host the subregion north conference (Subinor) in October 2010. Pray with us for God's help and His wisdom for the extra work in helping with the planning and organizing of this event.

## Week beginning 10 January

### Focus on other Regions

#### Africa Region

**Angola:** Pray for the political leadership of our nation. Thank God for the fruitful meeting we recently had with the Ministry of Education. As a result we have been granted authority to minister in schools. We hope to start by January 2010.

**Bible Reading Notes:** Pray for all the people that are spearheading the Bible ministry in Africa. Most of the notes are annual and so last month was a busy month for the distribution of the notes. Pray for the people who have received the notes that they will read the Bible faithfully and that they will live in accordance with God's Word.

**Zimbabwe:** Please pray for us as we organize a campaign to highlight the need for responsible behaviour. We would like to challenge children and young people to make a commitment of abstinence till marriage.

**Namibia:** Schools in Namibia open on 13th January to start the year. Give thanks for many open doors in schools, and pray for committed Christian teachers to run SU Groups in 2010. Thank God too for the work permit that was granted to Graeme Aldom, the National Director, recently. Pray for a lasting solution on this matter.

### Europe Region

#### Croatia

Second issue of materials for teens called Sinergija is being published just after the New year. It is our desire that churches use these materials in their youth groups and also for starting a youth work in their fellowships. Please pray that the second issue would be as well received as the first one and that many young people will be inspired by stories and articles written for them, and be encouraged to make a step forward in their relationship with Jesus.

Pray for the process of forming a new board with dedicated and experienced Christian workers. The new, but temporary, chairperson, Anica Kerep, will aid us in this difficult task over the next two years. Please pray for this new beginning and that the period of transition will go as smoothly as possible.

Over the past several years, youth work in Croatia has become more and more difficult. We are facing a new generation of both church and non church youth which is hard to reach. They are not easily motivated and it is hard to get them to attend any activity. Many churches are facing the same problem as we are. Please pray for open hearts and God's moving in this generation, as well as wisdom for youth workers.

#### Poland

Please pray that God would reward and strengthen our volunteers for their faithfulness in the past camps season and give them renewed vision and vigour for the coming season.

We are planning to hold our first Youth Training in the spring and would value your prayers for the right people to take part and wisdom in training them. Motivated and well trained volunteers are as vital a part of our summer events as our other resources. Please pray we will have an abundant measure of both!

We especially need new board members who are prepared to discover and carry the vision of SU in Poland. We are hoping that new board members will come from a large variety of church denominations. Please pray that the right people will hear God's prompting to join our Board.

## Week beginning 17 January

### Focus on other Regions

#### SU International

**January 16 to 22:** Over the next week, young SU leaders from across the Pacific Islands as well as New Zealand and Australia will be meeting at SU's Campsite in Vila, Vanuatu for a week of fellowship and training. Clayton Fergie and Sam Emery will be leading the daily Bible engagement times, Terry Williams will be leading children's ministry workshops, and there will be many others taking workshops and other sessions. Pray that the week will be rich, encouraging and significant for the future growth of the movements in this region.

**International Staff:** Ross Henshaw, Business & Development Manager, leaves the staff in January to return to teaching. Pray for him in the transition and also for Janet Morgan as she inducts a successor into this role. Pray also for Pauline Hoggarth who retired in November from the post of Bible Ministries Coordinator.

**Egypt/Middle East:** Clayton Fergie visited Egypt last September. This was his second visit to assist with the development of youth ministry people for the High School Youth Committee of the Synod of the Nile. Pray for the continuing development of this very significant relationship and the emerging role of SU in the region. Give thanks too for the time that Clayton, Janet Morgan and Wendy Strachan spent connecting with various agencies and churches with whom we have worked in the past and pray that this will lead to fruitful collaborations in the Middle East and Gulf States.

### Europe Region

#### German speaking Switzerland

For German speaking countries in Europe, 2010 has been designated as **Jahr der Stille** which literally translated means the Year of Stillness or Reflection, with a sub-heading "Discovering the heart-beat of God". In cooperation with other Christian organisations, we have committed to making this theme known through our literature and activities this year. Please pray that this initiative will encourage people to take time out to consciously seek God's presence and to meet with God through regular Bible reading.

Our Hotel **Casa Lumino** in Tessin opens its doors again for the new season on 6 March. Pray Roberto und Regula Calvarese and their team that God will give them new joy and strength every day for this taxing ministry and that he will protect them and their guests from harm. Pray for a good team spirit that will help guests to have a relaxing and refreshing holiday and go blessed and enriched on their way.

As every year, we are already looking for hundreds of volunteers to lend their support, above all, in our camps ministry. Pray that we will make contact with the right people who will take up our vision with enthusiasm.

#### Special events:

9 January: Materials Trade Fair for Children's Ministry

23-24 February: Meeting of German-speaking leading staff (Austria, Germany, Switzerland)

6-7 March: Thank you event for camp volunteers

12-14 March: Staff retreat

29 March: AGM German-speaking Switzerland

## Week beginning 24 January

### Focus on other Regions

#### **Britain & Ireland Region Former Soviet Republics:**

Vladimir (Volodya) Strellov started as the new Director of SU in Moscow in September. Pray for him and the volunteers as they develop the work, particularly that with teenagers. Developments in St Petersburg include a new Adult Bible Club and increasing opportunities to work in children's homes in Volkhov. Pray too for Michael Rowe as he travels to these movements, and especially for a visit to Tajikistan with Emlyn Williams, Regional Director, planned for late January/February.

**Scotland:** Give thanks for the marvellous increase in registered prayer for schools through the Schools Prayer Network. There are approximately 2,700 Scottish schools, and 1,080 now registered on SPN. Pray that God would impact teachers, staff and pupils as people lift them up in prayer.

**Northern Ireland:** Behind all the staff work and endeavours of countless volunteers on the ground, is the Council who steer the work of SUNI. Please pray for these men and women as they respond to local needs and continue to lead SUNI forward.

### Europe Region

#### **Bulgaria**

Very promising things have been happening in SU Bulgaria in the past three months. We have been able to organize meetings in different schools in Bulgaria. The main goal is to teach children about Christianity. We are very grateful for this opportunity, because the kids respond very well, and we are very optimistic, but we ask you to pray that this ministry will continue to bear fruit.

Please pray for a new project for our teen group. "Youth in Action" helps serve the community, e.g. old people who need help in cleaning their homes, cleaning parks, and many other activities. Pray our young people will be willing to show their servant hearts in these practical tasks.

In March the sequel course for Sunday teachers will take place in Sofia entitled 'Interactive methods of working with children and youths'. Please pray for our Sunday' schools to be enriched through this seminar.

Please pray for Lilly, one of the children from the orphanage in Dolna Bania, who wants to study at Sofia University. We are very happy about her ambitions to do something with her life and are ready to help her prepare for her exams!

This year SU Bulgaria is the host of TeenGames and we are very excited about it. But we value your prayer support that the finances needed to realise the event will be met.

We are grateful for each blessing of our dear Lord. We ask you to pray for all of our needs, and we are assured that they will be heard!

## Week beginning 31 January

### Focus on other Regions

#### Americas Region

**Ecuador:** Join us celebrating a very good year. After a long process the movement is fully incorporated. The schools ministry in Huaquillas, on the border with Peru is growing and now well established. Tim Pawson and his family are also actively developing the schools ministry in Quito and the distribution of Bible notes for adults has doubled.

**Chile:** Let's rejoice together and thank the Lord for His provision and blessing this past year with the teen ministry. Over 1000 teens received spiritual and professional attention through the Pro-Family programme, in collaboration with school and church leadership. Join us in prayer for this summer's youth leadership training camp as we invest time and resources in the next generation of SU leaders.

**Jamaica:** Please pray for Wendy Strachan, SUI Children Ministry Coordinator, visiting Jamaica in February. She will run training courses and workshops with staff in Jamaica as they prepare to work in schools with children. Pray that they will be successful in the implementation of this new ministry. Pastor Percival Palmer, National Director of SCFSU, would also appreciate support in prayer as he seeks the Lord's guidance in the campsite development project.

### Europe Region

#### Norway (requested week)

Our financial situation is fragile, and we need wisdom and courage from God to know how to continue in a healthy way. Pray for our board and their meeting on 8. February.

Pray for the election committee responsible for finding candidates for our Board and Council (chairperson for the Board, 3 Board, 5 Council members).

Our Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on 15 March. Pray for the topics we have on our agenda and the elections. We also meet with several of our key volunteers on this day.

Thank God for the service of the outgoing board and council members, and pray that the new members will settle in quickly, be encouraged by the challenges and be devoted for service.

9.-11. April board and council members meet with the staff for strategy talks and times of prayer. Pray for openness to one another and to what God wants to say to us.

#### Germany (requested week)

**Teenager Ministry:** We have been in the process of rebuilding and restructuring this area of ministry for some time. Please pray for good ideas and the strength to carry them out. In addition, we are also looking for two new staff members who will take our Bible Shuttle to schools and churches to reach teenagers with God's Word.

**Children's Bible Weeks:** In February and March we will be holding holiday Bible clubs in many places throughout Germany. Please pray that God will speak to the hearts of the children taking part in these events. Pray too especially for our Children's field staff that they will experience God's protection as they are often on the road driving in dangerous winter conditions.

**Ministry Seminar:** On 15 March our Children's ministry staff will come together to consider this work. Pray they will be led by God's spirit in all their consultations and decision making.

**New Products:** In 2010 we plan to publish several new books for both children and adults about the Bible and how to read it. Pray for wisdom in decision making.

## Week beginning 7 February

### Focus on other Regions

#### Africa Region

**Africa Leadership Summit:** SU Africa is organising a leadership summit for the National Directors and National Chairmen to be held from 18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya. Pray for the funds needed for travel and accommodation for these dear people who will come from the different parts of the Africa Region. Pray for a valuable time at the summit and for a lasting impact.

#### Francophone Movements:

Some of the Francophone movements in Africa have a weak SU ministry. We have a desire to strengthen the movements through leadership training. A major training programme is planned to take place in February 2010 in Cameroon for SU leaders from Chad, Niger, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. Pray for the facilitators from the Regional Office for safety as they travel and for insight on how the ministry could be strengthened and grow in these Francophone movements.

**Benin:** We are grateful to the Lord for a partnership we have with SU Switzerland through which we have now developed Bible reading notes for young people for the French-speaking countries in our region. The notes are called "Your Appointment with God". This is a 4-year project and is funded by SU Switzerland.

### Europe Region

#### Belgium

We praise the Lord for our volunteer team (see pictures) They are actually a team of professionals.



SU is their ministry and they all love coming work for the Lord through the SU structure. Three new people have joined us since the beginning of 2009.

A new training session for children ministry will start in February 2010 in ARLON (south of Belgium). Please pray many people will be interested in this important training. Pray also for the teachers that they will be full of the Spirit as they teach these important subjects.

At a meeting of prison chaplains SU Belgium was able to offer free subscriptions of a Bible guide in French or in Dutch to any prisoners wanting to read the Bible. Please pray that this will bear much fruit.

#### Greece

Please pray for this year's programmes and camps. We are going to organize camps for children and teenagers at Easter and Summer time, we will continue the rehearsals of our kids' choir and we are going to offer our services to many groups that will come from abroad. Pray to find the appropriate volunteers to help us with these projects.

Also pray for the completion of the renovation of "Lois", our Home for Elderly. The project that we have to complete this year is the construction of our new bigger elevator, the renovation of the old small one and the purchase of an electric generator.

We need your prayers for the Board, the staff and the volunteers of Hellenic Scripture Union. Pray God give everyone strength, patience and wisdom to serve the children & the elderly.

## Week beginning 14 February

### Focus on other Regions

#### East/West Asia

**New Regional CEO:** Continue to uphold the newly appointed Regional Chief Executive Officer of Scripture Union East/West Asia in prayer (his name will be formally announced after the necessary formalities are done). Pray that the Lord will enable him to quickly settle into the work.

**Regional Secretary:** Continue to uphold Gim Lam in prayer as he prepares for the CEO to take over and to introduce him to all the key contacts of SU in East/West Asia.

#### Camping training: SU

East/West Asia is planning a Camping Ministry training course and consultation in May. Pray for all the preparations and contact work to carry out the project.

**Indo China:** We're grateful for the definite movement of God in all the countries of Indo-China. Pray especially for wisdom for our staff serving these countries that they will effectively serve within the restrictions. Inflation hits these countries hard. Pray that the Lord will graciously provide us with all our needs.

**Olympics follow up:** The project "ON THE MARK" for children and young people in response to the Olympics in Beijing is moving along very well. Pray for all the necessary funds to distribute the materials effectively.

**Indonesia:** Thank God for the Bible Ministry carried out through the printed page, radio and direct teaching. Pray for the Staff team that as they travel throughout the huge country they will be able to minister effectively to such a wide spectrum of needs and challenges.

### Europe Region

#### France

Change is in the air... For "La Ligue" in France, 2010 is all about expanding its mission field by adapting its tools to do even better.

The camp season has already been launched for 2010.

Our approach to camps for children, youth, adults and families has evolved compared to previous years.

Last November, Marie-Agnès Van Peuter left her job at "la Ligue". For the last 6 years, she had been the Secretary for Camps and the Management Secretary. We thank her for her devotion and commitment in fulfilling these responsibilities and pray for her future professional endeavours. On the other hand, Gilbert Joss, the current Camps co-ordinator, has been devoting more and more time to training and organising Children's activities. Consequently, we had to restructure the Camps department by considering the creation of a position that would encompass the administration, activities and educational management.

For the second consecutive year, a special St Valentine Day Event will be held in our Rimlishof Centre, in Alsace. On February 14th, married and engaged couples will have the opportunity to share a festive meal and Bible based activities.

Over the last few years, Bible based activities for adults have become a major challenge for "la Ligue". Laurence Belling provides this particular service to churches by offering weekends organised around Bible passages or Bible topics, and by also organising training courses aimed at leading Bible based activities. A web site wholly devoted to Bible based activities is now available ([www.animationbiblique.org](http://www.animationbiblique.org)), in partnership with the Bible department of the "Fédération Protestante de France".

## Week beginning 21 February

### Focus on other Regions

#### Britain & Ireland Region

**England and Wales:** Please pray for the newly restructured staff team across the movement to quickly settle into their revised responsibilities and roles. Also pray for the growing effectiveness of drawing and motivating volunteers in the many ministry opportunities SU provides across England and Wales. We also have a fresh opportunity, partnering with other organizations to help youth and children's workers in their church ministry of reaching and discipling the younger generation. Please pray for a greater awareness of our Light and LightLive resources, and for their ongoing development, to contribute significantly to the needs of this ministry.

**Republic of Ireland:** Please pray about the significant financial difficulties faced as a result of the decline in book sales. At the same time however we are greatly encouraged by the openings for school retreats in Secondary Schools. Pray for the Authentic Youth Team – Jude Barry and Jonny Somerville. Pray for their encouragement and wisdom as they minister to thousands of students over the coming months.

**Scotland:** Online booking for Easter and summer camps began in October. Last year there was a downturn in numbers for Easter camps; please pray for this trend to be reversed, and particularly for senior pupils to book up for Study Camps.

### Europe Region

#### Czech Republic (requested week)

Next Saturday we will start the first of our regular three ski camps for high schoolers. This, together with the second, will be held in the CR with the third taking place in the Austrian Alps. Please pray that God will draw more youth group leaders to come with their young people and friends and that He will prepare their hearts and that we as leaders will be faithful in communicating the Gospel.



From the beginning of this year we have a new Czech SU Board and a new chairperson. This team is much younger and we hope that they will be more involved in our work. In this quarter we plan several regular planning and preparation meetings with this new Board and camp leaders responsible for the training of the junior leaders this year and the running of the Summer camps. Please pray for God to give us clear vision and unity for the future development of SU CR.

We are grateful for the opportunity to hold a Craft weekend in the Baptist Church in As (town in the west of the CR) and regular work in a number of schools in and around Prague. We look forward to good cooperation with this Church and schools during this period and in the future.

#### Hungary

Our new BRN for women was launched in January 2010, based on the German notes *Atempause*. We are working together closely with the German SU movement. Please pray for good working relationships, good distribution ideas in Hungary, and also for enough money to kick-start this project. But above all, that it would bring a real blessing to the women who read God's Word with its help!

We are so grateful for the steadily increasing number of churches (more than 50 now) that are using *Christianity Explored*. Your prayers have a lot to do with this! ☺ Please, continue to lift up this project – our greatest desire is to see people turning to the Lord Jesus through this course!

Thank you for praying for our follow-up activities at churches and schools we had summer clubs with. We organize reunions time-to-time for the children who we met in the summer, and in some of the churches we run weekly Bible clubs. May God use these events in the lives of the children to bring them closer to Him!

## Week beginning 28 February

### Focus on other Regions

#### SU International

**LSDC 2010:** Please continue pray for the preparation for the Leading Staff Development Course in Nairobi in March. Pray particularly for the organisers as they bring it all together; for the speakers as they prepare; and for Ruth McIntosh and Sue Stott as they oversee the many administrative details, particularly the writing, translation and production of LSDC materials.

**March 17 to 22:** Clayton Fergie will be visiting SU Korea and SU Japan during this week. The week will involve a combination of consultations with staff teams as well as training events. Pray that the time will be fruitful and significant for the development of SU youth ministry in each of these movements.

#### Cooperation and Partnership:

The Global Children's Forum 2010 will be held in Lebanon from **March 23-26**. Our focus is the development of strategies and resources that can easily be made available to local churches around the world. Pray for Wendy Strachan as she is very involved in its planning.

### Europe Region

#### Spain

Pray that we will be on target with regards to the work plan we established a year ago. In particular, that our National Leader, Francisco Mega, may be freed of many of the routine administrative tasks in the office and be able to visit churches and key leaders in Spain to promote SU's ministries. Finances continue to be a constant concern. Pray that God will supply not only material and economic resources, but even more importantly human resources – committed volunteers to share in the ministry of SU Spain.

#### Godly Play

Pray for the different commissions appointed at last October's national meeting for Godly Play teachers who are working towards a more permanent GP organization in Spain, including the introduction of accredited training.



*David Pritchard teaches Godly Play in Malaysia, Oct. 2009*

#### Sweden

We have moved office and have also engaged a new accountant - and all went very smoothly, thank you for prayers - but still, this is a temporary solution. So please pray that God will guide us through this period.

In a small movement like ours every new book-project is a big thing. In the autumn we produced a bible study guide on Philippians. Pray that this will reach the attention of churches and groups needing to reawaken Bible interest. Now in the spring semester we are planning on a joint production with the Bible Society, "21 Ways to Read the Bible". We appreciate your prayers for guidance and protection.

In Sweden the trend of famous people (on TV, in the music scene and in the cultural arena) coming out as professing Christians is continuing, which is rather amazing. The best in many fields are now known to be Christians. Many have gone through conversion. Do pray that the Holy Spirit will roost over our land so that more people are born again.

## Week beginning 7 March

### Focus on other Regions

#### Pacific Region

**School Chaplaincy:** State School chaplaincy received a very significant boost with AUD20,000 being given by the Federal Government per school per year (subject to approval). This has seen an explosion of growth over the last two years. The current Australian government will decide in the next few months whether to continue this funding, reduce it, or open it up to other types of pastoral support such as professional counsellors. Please pray, especially for the Prime Minister (Kevin Rudd) and Deputy PM (Julia Gillard) as they influence the decision for the next budget. This affects SU in Queensland, Australian Capital Territory, Tasmania and potentially the Northern Territory. (The service is provided by different organisations in other states/territories.)

**Bible Engagement:** This continues to be a major focus, with SU in both Australia and New Zealand developing plans to roll out the E100 Challenge program to churches in 2010. Pray for Daniel Hardie (Aust) and Maurice Roberts (NZ) as they head up these initiatives.

**Pacific Islands:** Please pray for Sam Emery as he spends time travelling to the Pacific Islands movements. He needs wisdom and energy to serve the SU staff and key volunteers well

### Europe Region

#### French part of Switzerland

We praise God for the variety of activities we can offer again this year. About 30 camps for children, young people and adults are planned.

It's a challenge for us to find all the people we need (about 200 volunteers) to help the camp-leaders in their task!

We pray for dedicated young people, ready to serve and to be Spirit filled models for the participants. Thank you for joining us in prayer and asking God to send us the people of his choice.



#### Latvia

In the end of December we had our first winter camp. Please pray for the teenagers who were in the camp, for their hearts to be bold and their faith to be strong. Please pray that some of them may become leaders in SU camps.

Please pray with us for God's guidance in our plans – we want to serve in Latvia in the best possible way.

Please pray for practical issues – enough money for all our activities, to know how many camps to organize. Please pray for those camp leaders who will join SU camps for the first time – to feel welcomed on our team, to be ready to learn, to meet God in our training events, in their everyday lives and in camps. Please pray for our committee and the new member we need to find for the next term of office.

## Week beginning 14 March

### Focus on other Regions

#### Pacific Region

**Northern Territory:** The Northern Territory is a small but vital region for SU to serve the churches. The grant funding to support the Director, Glen Simpkins will diminish this year and needs to be replaced by funds generated locally. Pray as the Council works to increase the funding base so that the excellent work commenced by Glen will continue and grow.

**Resources for Ministry:** Pray for the SUA Resources For Ministry team under Kevin Hooper as they work hard to supply SU's quality Bible Guides and ministry resources at a time when print media is on the decline and new technologies are required, often with very limited resources. Some exciting initiatives are being developed. Please pray for wisdom to produce resources and media that will genuinely help nurture spiritual growth and for the resources required.

**Regional Strategy:** The Pacific Regional Council is planning to develop a new Strategic Plan. Pray for an effective process and an outcome which will see the work in the region, and especially in the Pacific Islands, strengthened and supported.

### Europe Region

#### Serbia

Thank God for His leading during last year. We had special times with many SU activities: International Teengames, teens camps and conferences and children camps.

We ask for pray for both our regularly activities and our new activities. We particularly need wisdom for new activities such as the camp for children with special needs and the new contact with non government organizations in northern Serbia - Vojvodina.

Pray for our volunteers. We have more than 100. Many of them are young people with new ideas and new potential to serve God. Please pray for our training programme and also that our trainers would present it with enthusiasm and authority, so that our volunteers are equipped to serve, lead and present the gospel to our campers.

We thank God that the possibility of having a second staff worker is close at hand. Pray especially for guidance for National leader, Olga Dega and SU National Board in Serbia in this decision and for wisdom in the division of the work load.

#### Romania

Please pray for our new campaign starting this spring "A Clean City Needs a Clean Heart". We want to demonstrate our serving hearts by cleaning the parks in Timisoara, our local city.



*Our core of young volunteers*

Please pray for:

- Motivated kids and teenagers, many of whom we will recruit from our other activities
- Sponsors
- Cooperation with the authorities to allow us to do this project

## Week beginning 21 March

### Focus on other Regions

#### Americas Region

**Honduras:** Please pray for Orlando Japas, National Director, who is also the Central America Sub-Regional Coordinator, as he assists a new group of volunteers in the city of Tipitapa, Nicaragua, with the preparation of school ministry and sports ministry with teens. Pray for Karline and her husband who are heading the new development in Nicaragua.

**Colombia:** Please pray for Joe and Gloria Mendoza and the Board who are all very active with the ministry to children on the streets of San Felipe, Barranquilla, where every week they meet with over 200 children on the streets. They are part of a large community of African slave descendants, in extreme poverty and all sorts of abuses. Joe and the Board have been very faithful over the years and they are now seeing several of these kids being transformed into loving and caring young people, studying in University and committed to the Lord.

**Costa Rica:** As with many movements in the Americas Region, the financial crisis has been a time of challenge and opportunities. The distribution of Bible notes has increased a hundred percent; the school ministry continues to receive invitations and the campsite to host churches. The big success story is the children feeding programme in the poor areas of the cities of San José and Alajuela. Please pray for Arturo Molina and his team as they develop their fund raising programmes to keep these ministries ablaze.

### Europe Region

#### Austria

Our Bibel Mobil Team is preparing for a new season of outreach. The Computer-Hardware needs to be replaced and the programme needs to be updated. Pray for creative ideas, sponsors and supporters so that God's Word can be effectively spread throughout our country. Pray for good contacts in schools and churches that will invite us with our great Bibel Mobil outreach programme and thereby reach many school kids.

The Lego-Town project has proven to be a great success in Switzerland and we are planning to integrate it into our programme in Austria. Kids in schools, church weekends, camps, holiday clubs, etc. can build a 12m big town with homes, schools, churches, etc. out of thousands of Lego pieces and learn how Jesus is relevant to us where we are in our community. Already great interest has been aroused as various people recognise its potential. Pray for us as we work on our concept and pray for many bookings so that we can reach many kids and their parents.

Pray for our new staff worker, Stefan Hüttenmeyer who started work in January. He is responsible for the schools' work and at the same time will oversee the new Lego-project. Pray that he will quickly settle into his new duties. Pray especially that his financial support group will come together and that we will all work together as a team with our complementary gifts. The team is made up of Hans Widmann (Leading staff), Manuela Kirchschrager (office), Andreas Trinker (Bibel Mobil), and Stefan Hüttenmeyer (as above).

#### Lithuania

Please continue to remember the work in Lithuania under the guidance of chairperson Arturas Rulinskas. Even though SU Lithuania has no staff at present, the Board and volunteers are going ahead with preparing the camps programme for the summer. May the Lord honour their dedication and commitment and bring about much fruit in his name.

## Week beginning 28 March

### Focus on other Regions

#### South Asia Region

**Pakistan:** Pray for SU Pakistan Director Mr. Danishmand Wasti and his team and their efforts to implement the Strategic Review for enhanced ministry amidst instability in the country. Pray also for financial stability. Pray that SU Pakistan will be able to find additional staff member to serve in Peshawar, beginning in January 2010.

**Staff safety:** Astifnus (Staff in Karachi) was kidnapped in May this year and released after a week. Pray for his recovery from trauma and for the safety of other SU staff and volunteers.

**Bangladesh:** Thank God for the successful meetings in Dhaka of the Regional Director and CEO SU International with SU Board in Bangladesh in October. Please pray for the SU Bangladesh Board and the Regional Director as they seek to re-organise and forge ahead in building SU ministries in Bangladesh. Also pray that the SU Board will find a suitable leader to spearhead the ministry in Bangladesh.

**India:** Pray for SU India National Director Pankaj Sahu and his team who are involved in the process of implementing the Strategic Review of the Movement. Thank God for the ministry growth in the north.

**Nepal:** Pray for SU Nepal-National Director Dhruba and staff Dinesh, Sabitha and the volunteers who conduct Vacation Bible Schools in different parts of Nepal.

**Sri Lanka:** Pray for SU Sri Lanka National Director Julia Kassimatis and staff, Manori and Phillip as they plan out new strategies and plan of action for the New Year in venturing into new ministries.

### Europe Region

#### Slovakia

Training young leaders is a key part of our work in Slovakia. With the expansion of possibilities we understand the importance of using the gifts of as many people as possible. That's why we sent Lea and Bohuslava for **Kids games training** in France and Miriam and Zuzka for **New staff training** in Germany, both in November 2009.

Alongside that, we are running our own training programme, which is focused on young volunteers using different types of non-formal methods of teaching, including workshops, games, role-plays, creativity and practical ministry. We do appreciate your prayers on following training weekends: Jan 22-24; March 19-21; May 28-30

We have organised a nation-wide seminar for Sunday school teachers and children's workers, and have invited **Brigitte Hoeger** from Austria, to lead a workshop on the "Tabernacle" in the Old and New Testaments. We pray that this meeting will be blessing for many teachers in Slovakia.

#### Denmark

We are very grateful, because we have hired an editor for our new online Bible reading website. Her name is Anne Sofie Bitsch Nielsen. She is 25 years old, studying anthropology, ethnography and communications. Please, pray for Anne Sofie and our online bible reading project.

We are working on this project in cooperation with 3 other Christian youth movements in Denmark, to be able to reach out to more people with new tools for Bible reading. We hope to launch the website in August 2010. Please, pray that this project may help many people to open the Bible and to meet God in their lives.

We are working on a replacement for our BRN for teenagers, Sporet. Please, pray that the new product will be a great blessing for many teenagers in Denmark. And pray that we may find the right person to be in charge of the project and to edit the BRN.



*Lea (left) with National leader, Natalia*