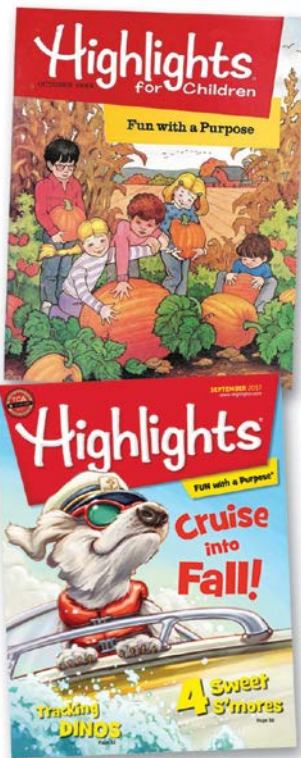


SU News

An inside view of Scripture Union

Fun with a Purpose



My love of magazines began in elementary school. Each month, I enthusiastically welcomed the new edition of *Highlights for Children*, which has been published since 1946. I couldn't wait to pour over the full-page picture to discover "What's Wrong with this Picture?" or to find the "Hidden Pictures" on another. I loved to read the short stories, riddles, jokes, and poems. I would often discover a craft to try in the "You Can Make This" section. I was captivated by the tales of Aloysius Wolf and was always disappointed by the choices that Goofus

would make, while Gallant always set the standard with the best and most respectful behavior. If you read *Highlights* yourself or shared it with your own children, you, too, may be experiencing some feelings of nostalgia as you read this.

One aim of *Highlights* is to encourage children to read, and its slogan is "Fun with a Purpose." Surpassing one billion copies in print, the magazine has lived up to its vision and

mission, helping to educate generations of children. Without their ever realizing it, the magazine is not only great fun; it is actually helping children learn.

In this issue of *SU News*, you will read about the launch of *Timelanders*, a new children's magazine we are producing.



One of our aims is to help children engage God's Word as they travel through time with the main characters, discovering fun facts, collecting passport stamps and solving puzzles. We want to help them develop a love for God's Word and the tools they need to discover for themselves the main narratives in Scripture. Wouldn't it be amazing to be able to say in the future that more than a billion *Timelanders* copies were published for children around the world...and they were helped to engage with God and experience his love for them as they read each page? I hope someone will write about it one day.



Gail A. Martin
President,
Scripture Union

TIMELANDERS

NEW children's magazine for ages 8–11

IMMERSE CHILDREN IN AN EXCITING JOURNEY
THROUGH THE BIBLE WITH *TIMELANDERS*!

Ignite a lifelong habit of learning from God's Word! *TIMELANDERS* offers children 8–11 a unique 3-year journey made up of 12 quarterly issues, each filled with 13 trips that explore Bible texts. Beginning in the life of Jesus and systematically working through sections of the Bible, children are helped to understand God's big story and their part in it.

With passport in hand, children will take trips to different locations in the Bible where the scripture passages take place. Each trip will use creative activities to explore and understand the Bible text while including cultural and historical facts about the place. Special features include a comic series, augmented reality for an interactive 3D experience, and side trips for extra investigation.

Order the FREE "Pilot Journey" sample for the children in your life to explore (pay shipping charges only). The *TIMELANDERS* Pilot Journey will take children on four trips and introduce them to the *TIMELANDERS* characters. *TIMELANDERS* magazine officially launches in 2025 with its first 13 trip adventure. Don't miss out, order the free *TIMELANDERS* Pilot Journey from our store today!



Scan this QR code to order
your free sample now!

Pay shipping charges only



Scripture Union-USA is part of SU Atlantic Continental, a group comprised of movements in Australia, Canada, Ireland, northern Ireland, New Zealand, Scotland, New South Wales, England, and Isle of Man. Just over a year ago, the directors from many of these movements met together in person to discuss areas of common need and potential collaboration.

One felt need was unanimous among each of the movements—we needed something to help children ages 8–11 develop a regular habit of engaging Scripture. Each one of us had anecdotes of Bible guide readers who are now in their 60's, 70's, 80's, even 90's, who testify that they began their habit of reading Scripture as young children.

We discussed the fact that Bible literacy across our countries is at an all-time low, with the Bible often used out of context, if at all. The full story of God revealed for humanity has been lost for many—especially children. Together, we agreed to address this need, and as a result, *Timelanders* was birthed. Our plan is to make this available to other non-English speaking movements for translation and use in their context. SU-USA is delighted to share the pilot version with you!

Please join with us in prayer that:

- Children around the world will use this resource to guide them in their Bible reading and prayer, and will share it with other children
- Children will develop a lifelong habit of reading and reflecting on God's Word as a primary way to grow in their faith and follow Jesus.
- Children will develop a strong foundation of biblical literacy for finding meaning and purpose in their lives



SU Partners are part of a treasured group of people who pray regularly for our ministry and give monthly to expand the work of Scripture Union in the United States.

As an SU Partner you will receive valuable benefits including:

- Free Automatic Bible Guide Renewal
- Free Extra Bible Guides for Sharing with Others
- Monthly Mailing with exclusive SU Updates and Prayer Requests

The effectiveness of Scripture Union's ministry depends on people who earnestly pray that the work of SU will help individuals and churches come alive through God's Word. SU Partners also faithfully contribute each month to SU's ministry



Testimonies from current SU Partners:

My pastor introduced me to Scripture Union devotionals in 1998. I was attracted to their comprehensive plan and the 2 bonuses included: The Scripture Memory Verse of the Week, and the Through the Bible in a Year passages intended to encourage a deeper dive into God's Word each day. I began a long and steady Bible reading journey; for 14 years I read Discovery and then, wanting more, I began to read Encounter with God. There have been times when the only connection I had with God was through reading my SU daily Bible Guide, a well-established daily habit that had formed in me over the years.

I have been thankful to SU for being there for me through the changing seasons of life. I decided to engage with SU a little deeper becoming a SU Partner, regularly praying for and contributing to Scripture Union. God is so faithful to connect with me through his Word. It changed my life!—James C.

The daily Bible guides published by SU have been a powerful resource in my spiritual development, a tool that supports a disciplined daily encounter with the Word of God—systematic and user friendly.

I greatly appreciate that the authors are international and reflective of the global community of believers, sharing cultural context, in addition to well-grounded biblical context that reflects knowledge and ministry. Another feature are the prayers that are included in each reading. I frequently save them. Each of these features reinforces personal application, be it challenge, encouragement, or reflection. As the Reflection in EWG 6/12/24 referred to prayer as Christian's "vital breath," so they have been. I use both the digital and print formats.— Constance C.

I am the son of missionaries who served in Pakistan. I was introduced to Scripture Union over 65 years ago when a CSSM staff worker visited our school. As the result of his talk, I was sure that I had a personal relationship with Jesus. He also introduced me to the practice of a daily quiet time using Scripture Union materials. This daily time in God's Word and prayer has been an important part of my life ever since. Scripture Union Bible Guides have been an invaluable aid in this journey.—Bob T.



THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO SIGN UP TO BE AN SU PARTNER: online at ScriptureUnion.org/SUP, call the Scripture Union office at (800) 621-5267, or fill out the enclosed form and mail with the enclosed envelope.

SUTRIVIA

In what year and where was Scripture Union formed?

Submit your answer to:
Trish.McFillin@ScriptureUnion.org

Last quarter trivia winners:
Betty Purchase, Isom Herron,
Kim Schneider

IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THE
KIDZMATTER CONFERENCE
IN INDIANA, PLEASE STOP
AND SAY
HELLO!
SEPTEMBER 23–26



Scan code for more information

IN HONOR OF:	GIVEN BY:
Gail Martin	Anonymous
Sharon Sacks	Asher Martin Phoebe Martin
Mary Sutton	Tim Woodruff
Marion Avis Thomas	Ruth Withee

IN MEMORY OF:	GIVEN BY:
Ronald Beidelman	Mr. and Mrs. James Arey-Schank Skylar Brown Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Farias Gail Martin Trish McFillin Sharon Sacks Lana Swanson
Gordon and Nancy Haresign	Anonymous
Bill Miller	Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bowman

GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT



AUSTRALIA

Embracing asylum-seeking families with God's love

Scripture Union Australia hosted their first-ever Sanctuary Family Retreat, a camp designed to empower asylum-seeking families and support local churches fostering communities for displaced people.

Over 50 campers from various cultural communities, including families, couples, and individuals gathered at Camp Coolamatong to share language, culture, meals, activities, and fellowship. Some of the families had arrived in Australia only weeks before, and others who were still adapting to their new lives after fleeing their homelands years ago, joined as translators and cultural connectors, bridging gaps for those facing language and cultural challenges.

One camper described the retreat as “a piece of heaven,” while a father, witnessing his family sail for the first time, tearfully exclaimed, “This is freedom like we could never have experienced in our home country.”

Over six days and five nights, the community shared language, culture, meals, games, and activities like karaoke, soccer, and volleyball. A theme song, “Welcome, we’re welcome here,” was crafted in five languages, alongside a mural composed of calico squares from each participant. The retreat was profound and challenging, pushing individuals beyond their comfort zones. Yet, within this temporary community, participants discovered Christ in one another, experiencing God’s transformative love.

ABOUT AUSTRALIA

Population: 26,708,150

Religion: 44% Christian, 40% 'no religion', 16% other

Population under 15: 19%

