

## **NEWSLETTER**

**Ministry at the Margins** 

# **News from Tim**



Care-Experienced

Affected by imprisonment

Additional Support Needs Poverty
Refugee/Asylum Seekers Minority Ethnic

6 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?

7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

I have been drawn time and again to Isaiah 58, where prophetically, Isaiah makes clear God's desires for how his people should act and live. These words resonate so deeply throughout Scripture, and bring such focus to what we desire for SU Scotland to increasingly become – an organisation actively demonstrating God's heart for the marginalised.

I am grateful to you for being on the journey with me, and for your prayerful support.

Blessings Tim

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#### **Additional Support Needs**





I am so delighted we have been able to appoint Elaine Tait to the brand-new role of ASN Development Coordinator. Elaine began in late April and I am thrilled with how quickly she is making connections across SU Scotland and wider. With 34% of children and young people in Scotland having a recognised ASN (Edinburgh City Council state 50% of young people in their secondary schools), it is crucial we understand how to provide the right environments and support to ensure that they flourish within our ministries.

Elaine comes to us with a wealth of ASN experience as a secondary school teacher at Clydeview Academy in Gourock. She commented recently "I want to help us all focus on removing any barriers that might exist, any barriers that might be getting in the way of a young person being able to explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus."

If you'd like to be in touch with Elaine, please do so at Elaine.Tait@suscotland.org.uk

#### **Merkinch update**

In March, we had the privilege of taking the entire P6 year group from Merkinch Primary School for an activity day at Alltnacriche where the children enjoyed zip lining, bushcraft, ropes course and team challenges. It was incredible to have raised the finance from local trusts, resulting in the children enjoying a day out at no cost to themselves.

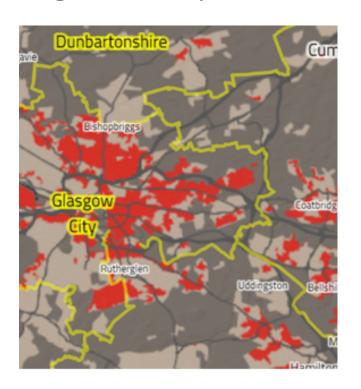
Two members of staff came along and everyone had an amazing day. There was also opportunity to reflect on the wonderful nature and scale of God's creation.

We have also started an after-school SU Group for P6/7s which offers food and drinks as well as games, Bible exploration and craft. We have a handful signed up initially, and I trust and pray that over time this will grow.

I have an additional couple of volunteers wishing to join me develop this SU Group.



### **Glasgow Youth Project Possibilities**



It has been exciting over the past few weeks to begin considering where we may plant a new youth project in Glasgow, maybe akin to Junction 12 (junction12.org.uk) in the east end of Glasgow. We are keen that such a project will have a holistic approach to relational discipleship and journeying with young people, growing in trusting relationships to help them make good positive choices, as well as helping them explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus.

We are commencing a piece of research which will help us consider priority secondary schools across Glasgow and their feeder primaries, as well as asking for God's guidance and wisdom to identify one or more schools and communities where we should focus.

With nearly 36,000 children and young people in Glasgow living in relative poverty, the scope for such projects is huge.

#### **Finance**

As we consider developing new youth projects in Glasgow, the need for financing for such initiatives is very clear. I remain so grateful to people who give money monthly to support Ministry at the Margins.

If you don't currently do so, please prayerfully consider if this is something you would like to do. This can be simply arranged at suscotland.org.uk/timraynes.

#### **Ukraine Refugee Family Holiday**

We are delighted that, for a second year, we will host a holiday for Ukrainian families, this year at Lendrick Muir. After the success of the event in 2023, we are really pleased that most of last year's team can return, offering a week of rest, relaxation, activities and optional family Bible engagement for these families who continue to face much uncertainty and anxiety.



## **Prayer Points**

Please pray for growth in the SU Group in Merkinch Primary School and for wisdom as to when and how to approach Inverness High School regarding how we can support the school.

Give thanks for Elaine Tait's appointment. Pray for her to settle into the team quickly and for her growing sense of God's guidance of how we need to adapt to meet the needs of children and young people.

Please pray for wisdom for the next steps of our strategy for growing youth projects around the city of Glasgow

Pray for wisdom for the SU Leadership Team and Board as they consider how we continue to posture ourselves to children and young people at the margins

I would value prayer for wisdom in keeping the main priorities the main priorities

A huge thank you to those of you who give financially to the work in Ministry at the Margins. If you would like to commit to partnering with us in this way, you can sign up on our website.

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