

# ELEVATE

## North East Victoria

December 2011

An Update from Kylie Hunter  
Schools Team Leader  
& North East Regional Coordinator



The people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. *Matthew 4:16*

### Dear Friends,

As quickly as it has arrived, I am excited to be in the midst of Christmas once again! Last year I decided to commit to doing a daily advent devotional, and I appreciated the ritual so much I am doing it again this year. It really helps me to focus on the "reason for the season" - to celebrate and look forward to the promised return of Christ, and recommit to placing Him at the centre of my life. One of the themes I have been captured by this year is that of Jesus being a light in the darkness, and the reminder that we are called to reflect that same light - for our lives to be a light to others and a light in situations of darkness. It is challenging to contemplate how we can better respond to this call on our lives.

As we come to the close of another year, it is reflection and evaluation time for the Schools team at SU Vic. At our last team meeting for the year we took some time to reflect on all that has been happening in our ELEVATE teams in 2011. As we listed each team on the whiteboard and the highlights and challenges they have faced, I was encouraged by how far we have come over the last few years - with the number of teams and volunteers having grown significantly. This in turn means an increase in the number of children and youth we are connecting with and schools we are impacting. A couple of this year's highlights include the number of students from different schools ministries represented at MAD Camp, growing depth and breadth in ministries at a number of schools, raising up of student leaders, and students taking steps forward in their faith. A common challenge across all our teams is the continual need for new leaders to step up, as the turnover of volunteers is very high in this type of ministry. *Please be praying for us as we manage this challenge and particularly as teams start to recruit new team members for 2012.*

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, SU Victoria is entering into School Chaplaincy with the new round of Government funding, and I have been heading up the introduction of this new ministry. The past three months have again involved a lot of travelling, as well as quite some time preparing resources for schools as they consult with their school communities about Chaplaincy and begin to write their applications. The first round of school applications are due on the 22nd December - *it would be great if you could be praying for schools as they write their applications, and for us as we give advice through the process.*



Some pics from our time down at Coolamatong for MAD Camp in September holidays!





We have also just started advertising for expressions of interest from people interested in becoming a Chaplain with SU, putting together the application process, and figuring out our training program for Chaplains in the new year. The timeline is a bit later than expected, with new Chaplains not likely to start in schools until Term 2, 2012. *Your prayers for the raising up of SU Chaplains, particularly in regional areas, would also be appreciated!*

Whilst this has been a busy time, and has involved many a learning curve (which I'm sure will continue!) - I have really been enjoying the challenge, and just so thankful for the work God has been doing in me to build my capacity for this sort of role. I am also very thankful for his provision of a great team to be working with - it has been fantastic to be able to work closely with Charlene Delos Santos (Assistant Schools Team Leader) on this project.

The end of the year also brings with it some sadness as we farewell two members of the Schools Team. Rob Wolsely, our Northern Region Coordinator, and Paulina Soto-Fonseca, our Melton Community Youth Worker. We are also saying goodbye to Mark Francis from the Camps Team - who has been with SU since before I started, and Rowan Nash from the SOAR Team. Much is changing as we finish the year and step into 2012! *Please pray for each of these staff members as they move on to the next stage of their ministry journey.*

Amongst all that has been happening on the work front, I have been able to fit in time for fun and relaxation! As many of you will have read, I held a fundraising weekend away down at Coolamatong Lake Camp in November. It turned out to be a very wet weekend, but warm, so we still got out on the water to do some kayaking and swimming, enjoyed the shelter of the Dining Hall for games and a movie, and ate plenty of food! I hope to do this again next year, hopefully with slightly better weather, so stay tuned!

Over the New Year I am heading down to Lorne Theos to be an Assistant Cook for the team! This will be a new experience for me, as I have never been on a Theos mission (outreach mission to teenagers), and I have never been a team cook! I'm looking forward to doing something a bit different though - and seeing an SU Theos team in action. After that I will be on holidays for another week or so. I'd love your prayers for me over that time.

Finally, I want to wish each of you all the best this Christmas and New Year. May you be blessed as you spend this time with your family and friends celebrating the birth of Christ and looking forward to his return. Many thanks for your support over the year that has been, for your encouraging words and interest in my ministry at SU, for your prayers and your financial support. This ministry would not be possible without you.

Wishing you all the best in 2012!

*Kylie*



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**Yes - I would love to help Kylie reach her team support target!**

TSKH

**ONLINE:** [www.suvic.org.au/teamsupport/kylieh](http://www.suvic.org.au/teamsupport/kylieh)

OR Complete and post this slip to the address below.

Name .....

Address .....

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Postcode .....

Phone (Home) .....

(Mobile) .....

Email .....

Church attended .....

- I will pray regularly.
- Please post/email me Kylie's Team Support Letter.
- Please post me an end of year financial receipt.

- Please find enclosed my gift of:
- \$50  \$100  \$200  or \$.....

or debit my  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX

Card No:

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Name on card .....

Signature .....

Expiry date

- With God's help, I will give: Amount \$ .....
- monthly  quarterly  bi-annually  yearly
- Please debit my card regularly as indicated above  
(A unit of Team Support is \$240 per annum,

