

Children's Youth & Families Newsletter June 24

Dear Colleagues,

“[1277 Make Them Count](#)” is a network with ideas, resources and support for **Toddler Groups** and each year, they set aside June as their National Month of Prayer.

If you currently have a Toddler ministry, there are lots of ways to [get involved](#). This year's theme is based on Matthew 13:31–32 'From a little seed'. There are JUMP IN and Muddy Church resources, service ideas as well as the Mustard Tree Challenge.

And for us all, the encouragement is to pray 3 ways – in groups, for groups and across groups in the UK.

Maybe you're exploring Toddler ministry for your context?

Did you know research by [ComRes](#) asked practising Christians what age they came to faith, with the results showing 40% before the age of 5 and [Talking Toddlers](#) research stated that 74% of all parents with children under the age of five have attended a church activity in the previous 12 months?

On Thursday 27th June, from 10-11:30am there is a free webinar “celebrating together the wonderful impact toddler groups can have in the life of families and local communities.” To find out more and sign up, click here: [Talking Toddlers Webinar](#).

You'll find some resources for toddler groups on Page 5.

God bless you - and thank you for all you do,

Micki Carey-Slater, CYF Enabler

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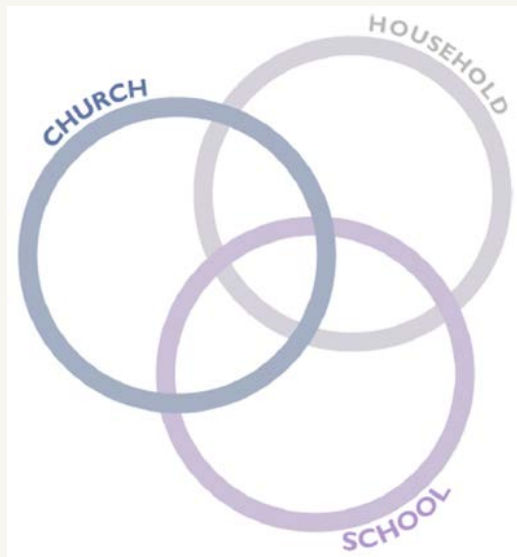
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Networking

The Growing Faith Adventure seeks to put children and young people at the heart of all we do, bringing together the spheres of church, school and community.

Growing Faith promotes a partnership between church, school and household to enable discovery, exploration and growth of faith for all.

The partnership is imagined as intersections of a set of overlapping spheres to find and promote ways to help faith to grow with children, young people and households.



To discover more, watch this Webinar from The Diocese and the Diocesan Board of Education.

**The Growing Faith
Foundation
Research Digest
is out
NOW!**



Look out for our new **Growing Faith Network** launching soon!

Networking

Anglo-Catholic Children, Youth and Family Workers Network

The next meeting of this Network will be held on
Tuesday 1st October at 7.30pm on Zoom.

To join this network, please email Clare Williams
clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com



TELL OUT MY SOUL
Singing God's Praises

MONDAY 5TH - FRIDAY 9TH
AUGUST 2024

Mary was one, lone, pregnant teenager, and because of her humility, and her understanding of what God wanted of her, for the good of the whole world, she sang a song that changed everything! Mary, a young teenager herself, demonstrates incredible faith, humility, and trust in God's plan. Her song serves as an inspiration and guide for us as we navigate the challenges and joys of life.

Join us as we dive into this powerful song together!

The Youth Pilgrimage

The Youth Pilgrimage is a week of lively worship, teaching, fellowship and fun for 11-18 year olds.

Pilgrimage has been taking place in Walsingham since the Middle Ages and the week brings it alive, making it relevant to young people in today's world. The traditional pilgrimage devotions are presented in an up-beat, lively and enjoyable way, so young people can relate to them and take their experiences back to their home parishes. For further information on the Walsingham story, the Youth Pilgrimage and to view the photo gallery and video of last year's event, please visit:

www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk

What to expect

- Daily Mass in the Big Top
- Fantastic music provided by CJM
- BBQ and disco
- Lively worship
- Late Night Liturgy
- The Holy Mile Walk
- Crafts, Sports, Music and Inflatables
- Fun, friendship and football!
- Workshops
- Free afternoons to explore or visit the beach

And lots more!

Here's a video
of last year's
highlights!

Difference for Young People

Last month, I was privileged to be invited to Lambeth Palace to the launch of the Difference Course for Young People.

We explored the three habits at the core of “Difference”
Be curious, Be present, Reimagine,
through collaborative artwork, held penalty shoot-outs and prayed about division through a labyrinth.

Young people shared the issues that concern them, their experiences of the course and questioned Archbishop Welby, challenging him to bring both young and old together.

There was the opportunity to explore the course materials and pray for a generation of peacemakers.

Difference is a free resource that “equips young people with skills to cross divides, navigate disagreement, practise forgiveness and pursue a just and flourishing world as they seek to follow Jesus.”

There are currently courses for Youth Groups and Secondary Schools, with the Primary School course launching in January 2025.

[Discover more here](#)

Micki Carey-Slater



Each session includes:

- Films
- Bible
- Reflection time
- Discussion
- Interactive exercises



Share your stories with us

We want to hear from you about what exciting projects you are working on and what God is doing across the Diocese.

It could be a new group, church service, family event, youth outreach, messy church, holiday club whatever it is we want to hear about it.

Send us a couple of 100 words and some photographs and we'll share it to celebrate, inspire and encourage each other.

How can we pray for you and your ministry?

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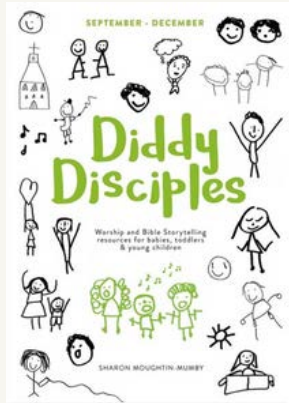
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[CYF Newsletter Sign Up](#)

Follow our Facebook Page for more
resources & training opportunities
www.facebook.com/lincolnyouthandchildren/



Resources



Diddy Disciples are a” programme of worship, prayer, and teaching materials designed particularly for babies, toddlers, and young children.

Each session is based on a Bible story, and has ideas for gathering, saying sorry to God, for receiving the Word, and responding to it.”

Produced by the Church of England this pdf explores what Toddler Ministry could mean for your church and your community.

“Toddler groups provide the church with the opportunity to impact and transform individual lives, families and the entire community.”



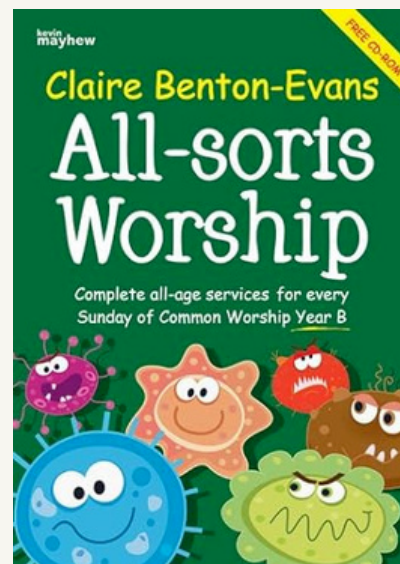
“Bible Buds is a fun packed resource for Toddler and Pre-School Groups.

Bible Buds includes 34-sessions, for babies and toddlers, packed with craft and play ideas, puppet scripts and Bible stories, songs and snack suggestions, downloadable resources and even a parachute blessing! Bible Buds has been carefully designed to share the big story of the Bible through popular calendar events across the whole year.”



“You can't turn a Eucharist into an all-age worship service just by throwing in a children's sermon and an action song. There is an **All-sorts Worship** book for each Lectionary Year, which contain complete services for every Sunday, which are designed to include people of 'all sorts and conditions of life'... Each service has a variety of multi-sensory activities ranging from puppets to puzzles to picnics... This is the ideal book for creative, fun, real all-age worship which creates a sense of belonging in your church.”

Thanks to the Messy Church team from Crowland Abbey for this idea.



Resources

“This amazing pack is FULL of fun activities for over the summer, 50 pages!! There are a range of resources with puzzles, prayers, trails, scavenger hunts, pictures, journals... loads! Designed for packing on a picnic, long journeys, time fillers or rainy day fun. Free activities that encourage getting outside, connecting to God’s wonderful world around us.”



“45 pages based around the five rings of the Olympics as water, fire, earth, space, sun to celebrate this amazing creation of God. Each ring (day/session) has a main page and then a page for snacks, crafts, games, music and even a take home or activity sheet, plus some bonuses! The aim is to connect outdoors but this pack is adaptable indoors or out, with a bible verse to remember our amazing Creator and encourage us to 'run the race'.

This would work ideally as a holiday/ VBS Club or for sessions over the summer and has so many ideas that you can use at different times as well. “



Questions from 16-19 year olds

“Based on her own experience of working in a local Sixth Form College, Lahna Pottle, 16-19s Specialist at SchoolsworkUK, has created a 6 week session plan tackling 6 key questions that 16-19 year olds want to talk about.

The aim of this resource is to open up discussion, encourage listening, and support the students' exploration of faith and worldviews. The key is exploring why they feel or think they way they do, and explore their own influences, bias and beliefs.”



Our Diocesan CYF Padlet board has lots of resources - for the summer, seasonal resources, mental health, and many more.

Please note we have updated the settings so they can be easily accessed.

Please send in your ideas and resources so we can add them in!

Schools



From **Spinnaker Trust**, "Beyond Belief is a collective worship series that speaks the language of schools Values.

This comprehensive, 39-episode series brings a Christian perspective to all the popular and common School Values, encouraging children to look beyond just the idea of the words, and discover how to live them out in a holistic, heavenly lifestyle.

Beyond Belief is designed as a user-led, modular, multi-media worship resource... every episode contains scripture-based stories, reflections, prayers, activities, and follow-up pursuits, all relevant and craft-able to the children's own lived experience of the world around them. There is also an accompanying PowerPoint Presentation for each episode."

OTB Zoom CORE Training

Thursday 6 June 2024, 10.00–1.00 pm

Wednesday 12 June 2024, 10.00–1.00 pm

Monday 1 July 2024, 6.15–8.15 pm

Thursday 25 July 2024, 10.00–1.00 pm

OTB AIR AND SHARE

Connect, share and pray with other Storytellers. Storytelling members are invited to get together and this could be an opportunity for refreshing training.

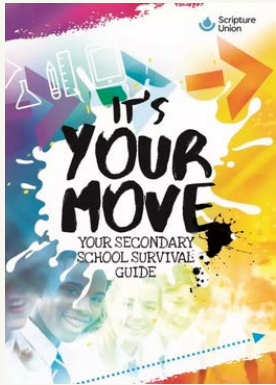
Book your place

"From Creation to crucifixion, this vibrant collection of all-age worship resources has been designed to support you and your community. This dynamic compilation invites a rediscovery of the transformative power of Jesus.

Each Pop Box from iSingPOP contains twelve interactive services which include Bible stories, prayers, games, songs, animations, crafts, and engaging discussion points."



Schools



It's Your Move from Scripture Union.

“This great resource, packed with advice, real-life testimonies and Bible reflections, has been helping children take that daunting step for almost twenty-five years.”

There's also workshop and assembly plans, online resources and student stories.

Save the Date: 27th September

On Friday 27th September 2024 join together “to encourage Christians all across the UK to take some time to pray for schools in their community. Whether that's by joining our online prayer gatherings on the day, using the prayer resources we'll provide, encouraging young people to pray with their peers, or going on a prayer walk around the schools in your local community, we hope that you will join us.”



Training & Events

Date: Wednesday 12 June, 7.30 – 9.00 pm BST

Venue: on Zoom

Cost: £10.00

This 90-minute live and interactive training session on Zoom is for those who already run a Messy Church and who wish to explore and discuss different approaches to reboot or refresh your Messy Church.



Date: Tuesday 25 June, 1.00 – 2.30 pm BST

Venue: on Zoom

Cost: £10.00

This 90-minute training session on Zoom will give an overview of the Messy Church Goes Wild movement, why we're doing it, how it relates to the Messy Church values and what the Bible says about caring for creation. We'll also introduce the new 'Messy Adventures' and how your Messy Church can get the most out of these new resources.



**Book onto these and further Messy Church
Events**

Training & Events



‘The laughter of Godly Play flows out of God’s playful presence.’ (Jerome Berryman)

Come, laugh and learn with us at our Conference on 29 June St Mary DeCrypt Church, Gloucester.

Book here: <https://www.godlyplay.uk/.../godly-play-uk-conference-2024/>

We shall explore laughter together ... as well as opportunities to learn about how Godly Play can help those affected by trauma and how it supports children in schools.

Our main speaker on Saturday is Ian MacDonald, Laughter Enabler, Storyteller and Theologian.”



Celebrating contemporary research in children & family ministry

Online Conference -

Friday 5th July 9.30am-12pm

FREE OF CHARGE TO ATTEND!

“We still have a few spaces to present your ideas or research...Please get in touch if you have some research about children or families you could share with others.

It's been great to have a few interesting presentations confirmed already.

Please submit your paper proposals in the next two weeks so that we can get organised. And you can register to come along to this online conference here.”

ADVENTURE OF A
lifetime



“This year at the **National Youth Ministry Weekend**, we're going to ask perhaps the toughest and most important question of discipleship: how do we make it stick?

So many young people start out on the road of faith, but soon end up in the ditches of doubt, distraction and despair. What can we do to give them the best chance of growing lifelong faith?”

Weekend Tickets £99 until 17th June

Future Youth



Applications are now OPEN for September 2024.

- **Aged 18 – 30 And Want To Explore Your Faith Further?**
- **Feel Called To Christian Ministry But Not Sure Where To Start?**
- **2 places available for those considering working with children and young people!**

What is it?

The Ministry Experience Scheme is an exciting opportunity to live in a welcoming Christian community with other like-minded people interested in ministry just like you. Immerse yourself in the life and works of a city or rural church.

You will be well supported in your development by meeting together with your fellow scheme members and engaging in practical theological study with the College of St Hugh in Lincoln.

How Much Does It Cost And Is There Accommodation?

It is free to do with accommodation and living expenses provided.

When would I start?

The scheme will start in September 2024, so it's best to get your application in as early as possible.

[For more information and application forms, click here.](#)