

# Children's Youth & Families

## Newsletter March 25

Over the past few weeks I have been thinking a lot about culture, particularly youth culture, but also my culture, and that of the churches I minister with and for.

What are the values and needs that underpin the activities and traditions that we hold onto?

While our young people's culture might seem so different, I'm sure I can remember conversations about my generation, the things we said and did and treasured, that stood in contrast to older generations, too.

I have been reminded about Paul, in Athens, being present with the people there, allowing their questions. Paul used the altar to "an unknown god" to reveal to them the God who wants to be known, who came to earth, to die for them, so that He **could** be known.

He was aware of their culture, and used their poets to help them relate to God, who sees people as his own children. (Acts 17)

As we are often present amongst culture that might be so different to our own, what can we learn from being present with our Children, Young People and Families?

Where can we see Jesus? How can we help them to relate to our God?

In times of speedy change, of speedy cultural change, it's good to remember that **Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.**

As we reflect this Lent, we remember that the gospel, the good news of the God who wants to be known, who came to earth, to die for us, so that He **could** be known, that doesn't change either.



Thank you for all you do,  
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# Networking

growing  
**faith**

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

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

20th Mar  
7-8pm



**Register**



20th May  
7-8pm

This month, join us as we speak with **Rev. Matt Rodgers** from St Mark's Church, Grimsby and hear about plans for the region and what is already happening with a local CofE primary academy.

1st July  
7-8pm

Discover more about Growing Faith, watch our webinar and listen to their podcast via our [Digital Learning Platform](#).

 SPRING  
HARVEST  
2025

10th  
Apr

I will be at Spring Harvest for the day and would love to meet for a cuppa and catch up.

If you will be there, please do get in touch:  
[micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org](mailto:micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org)



# Networking

## Toddler Ministry Networks

### Lincoln Archdeaconry

March 20th 12.30 to 14.30pm at  
St Michael's Church, Waddington, LN5 9RF

### Boston Archdeaconry

March 25th 12.30 to 14.30pm at  
St Anne's Church, Grantham, NG31 9ED



**Do you lead or support a baby / toddler group?**

**Join us as we:**

- share stories and ideas
- encourage each other
- forge links in your local area
- celebrate what God is doing
- be inspired for the future

**Feel free to bring your lunch.**

**We'll have tea and coffee ready to welcome you.**



**Scan the code to sign up**

In North and North East Lincolnshire?  
Contact Nay at [littlelions@stmarksgrimbsby.org.uk](mailto:littlelions@stmarksgrimbsby.org.uk)  
for the latest date for the **Grimsby Archdeaconry**



## Networking



As part of growing links through the network, we have been planning events to bring Choirs together, over the summer and autumn, for Choirs and for Junior Choirs, too.

Watch this space (and our Facebook page) for more information!

**Our next meeting will be online at 6pm  
Tuesday 20th May. Do join us!  
Email [Nick.Brown@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:Nick.Brown@lincolncathedral.com)**

This is for anyone - laity or clergy - involved in voluntary or paid positions, who are involved in ministry with young people.

To register your place, email  
Clare  
[clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com](mailto:clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com)



 **The Society**  
under the patronage of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda

## Anglo-Catholic CYF Workers Network

### ZOOM CONFERENCE

### MUSIC & LITURGY

### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### IN AN ANGLO-CATHOLIC CONTEXT

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 10:00 - 14:00**

If you are interested in developing music and liturgy with children and young people don't miss this FREE Zoom conference.

**Morning session - Tom Haggett - Choir Church**

Tom will introduce 'Choir Church' - an exciting model for new worshipping communities and offer practical tips on this growing initiative.

**Break 11:30 - 12:30**

**Afternoon session - Jo Boyce - CJM Music**

Jo will talk about developing effective liturgy, worship and music in an Anglo-Catholic context, as well as answering questions from delegates.



# Linc In



Have you seen the stories we've been sharing from Christmas & Lego Bible Club? You can find them on our [Facebook page](#) and the [Diocesan website](#).

We would love 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?

[micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org](mailto:micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org)

## Please let us know about your ministry

The QR code below will take you to a simple form to let us know what's going on with children, young people and families in your LMP.

Messy Church, Open the Book, youth groups, choirs, drop ins, all age services... whatever the project, help us to hear about and celebrate what's going on across the Diocese.

Thank you to everyone who's already been able to complete the form.



## Sign up to receive this newsletter via a short form:

[CYF Newsletter Sign Up](#)

We're still seeking our **"Godly Play"** resources! At one time, the Diocese had kits that could be borrowed by churches and ministers. We would like to be able to offer this again, but we need find them first!

If you have some of these resources, or know where they are, please get in touch, thank you.



## Resources

# Truth *Be* Told

Truth be Told are an "intergenerational storytelling charity, tackling loneliness and isolation with the hope of the gospel."

They seek to "help you tell stories for life. Stories for joyful life. Stories for family life. Stories for full life."

They "equip you with everything you need to share parable-style stories, making it really easy for all ages, cultures and abilities to belong together."

Their material has been used with toddler groups, in schools, with children with additional needs, in all age services and more.

"Learn to Listen offers a wide variety of resources, ideas, suggestions and practical advice to help you take the first steps towards listening to the children and young people in your church community and beyond.

The good news is that you don't have to be an expert, or a youth leader, or a teacher. Anyone can listen - we'll help you learn how."



## FoundationStones RESOURCES

"Our range of Sunday School Materials are all designed to be used alongside a Bible Timeline so that children get a real understanding of where the stories they are studying fit in God's Big Plan.

Each week contains a story, discussion, craft, game and an activity to connect with Holy Spirit."



# Resources



Looking for resources for schools, households or churches?  
For Lent and Easter?  
Find some inspiration on our **Padlet Board** - below are some of the ideas posted there.



Wonder Walks from The Bible Society in Scotland.  
8 all age walks to explore the Easter story.



Easter booklets for toddlers and primary age, activities, outreach ideas and an all age plan - from The Bible Society.

## buildingfaith

A Lego Challenge for each Day of Holy Week



Journey into Easter through paintings, craft and reflections



Song ideas - including this great song from Awesome Cutlery



A great way to engage children as they colour, think and notice.

Please send in your tried and tested resources, too, to inspire and support others



# Training & Events

"Easy Learning to get you going in ministry  
How to videos for Youth and Children's Ministry"

Topics include:

- Encouraging children to worship
- Ideas for praying with young people
- Working well with parents
- Creating a space for listening to C&YP



## Recruiting volunteers for children's and youth ministry

**Monday 31st March, 11am**

Would you love to offer more for children and young people in your church or community group, but just can't find enough volunteers? If so, this webinar is for you! Come along and hear all about the JOIN resources and how they can help you recruit volunteers. We will guide you through how to use the resources and share stories of churches that have used the JOIN toolkit successfully. Come along, ask your questions and be encouraged.

**You can catch up with previous CofE webinars, too.**

Tuesday 25th  
March 2025  
8-9pm

Supporting  
Your  
Teenage Girls

**Are you  
supporting  
teen girls  
at home?**

We've got a webinar for that!

**FREE  
WEBINAR**



## 'Supporting Your Teenage Girls'

Tuesday 25th March 2025, 8pm-9pm

Online

For Parents, carers or anyone wanting to support the teenage girls who live with them.

"We will be sharing more about what we are learning in our line of work with teenage girls, and some helpful ways to support your girls at home."



# Training & Events



## 'All Inclusive?' -

### Supporting Children & Young People With Additional Needs

**Wednesday 19th March**

**7:30 - 9:30pm - Online**

There are many different kinds of special or additional needs, and each one, each child, needs thinking about and planning for carefully.

It is hard for children's and youth workers to navigate the right path through this sometimes difficult and complex area; being caring, inclusive and supportive to each child (and their families), while not losing focus on the needs of the rest of the group.

How can parents, churches and children's/youth workers not only understand more about the children we are working with, but also change the way we work with them so to be more inclusive and create belonging for all?



## Embracing Differences

**Thursday 22nd May 2025 .**

**Grimsby Baptist Church, 246-248 Laceby Road, Grimsby, DN 34 5DW  
(Tea & Coffee on arrival at 6:30pm).**

"To embrace means to love, to accept and include someone.

During this seminar, in addition to gaining more awareness about the autism spectrum, you will be able to have insight into how far the church has come from welcoming people in the building, to allowing them to belong and supporting their spiritual needs wherever they are.

You will learn strategies and ways in which your church can move forward and become a place of worship for all, and a community of God's children who accept each other just as they are."



# Training & Events



## Godly Play Core Training Course

**Date:** Thursday 24 April – Saturday 26 April 2025

**Place:** St Andrew's Church, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PN

**Trainers:** Andrea Harrison and Eona Bell

Godly Play is a Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality. It recognises childhood spirituality as an instinctive and profound capacity that includes a natural sense of God's mystery and presence. It promotes open, creative ways to explore Christian story and practices, and offers a well-tested alternative to seeing children as empty vessels, and to the stressful societal cultures of consumerism, measurement and achievement.

It is hoped that a network for Godly Play Storytellers in South Lincolnshire & Peterborough will be launched after this training.



**Monday 17 March 6.00 pm**  
on Zoom

Do you have young people aged 10-17 as part of your Messy Church? Then this is for them!



You can register for these events, discover more and check out the Messy Church blog [here](#).



**Thursday 27 March 7.30 – 9.00 pm**  
on Zoom

