

# Children's Youth & Families Newsletter Jan 25



## Happy New Year!

I hope you had a blessed Christmas, and were able to take time to celebrate the coming of Jesus.

At the beginning of a new year, as we consider our priorities, I am drawn again to the need to listen. Firstly, of course, to God, but also to those around me, and intentionally to our children and young people.

The Church of England have launched a new listening resource that may be useful to you, on this topic, or in inspiring ways to engage and hear their voices.

## Hearing what young people value in their leaders : A new listening resource for schools, churches and community groups

'We Hear You' is a listening resource that is easy to follow and fun to do. It aims to learn what children and young people value in their leaders and what they believe makes a good leader. The concept is simple – school, church and community leaders run the four ready-to-use activities and then feedback their findings (with a chance to win a £100 voucher!). The findings will help us all understand what children and young people value in their leaders and what the next generation of school and church leaders could look like.

The online survey for feedback will run for the whole of 2025. The findings will be shared with dioceses and fed into future Children's and Youth Ministry Training and Ordination Training.

'We Hear You' has been developed by the 30k Project, in collaboration with the Growing Faith Foundation.

'We Hear You' can be found here: [churchsupporthub.org/all-resources/why/](https://churchsupporthub.org/all-resources/why/)

Thank you for all you do.

God bless,

Micki

07483 410204

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



Networking  
Page 1

Resources  
Pages 1 - 3

Training & Events  
Pages 4-6

Events & Info  
Page 6

## Networking

# Growing Faith

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.

Whether exploring, just starting out or well on your way, everyone is invited to join our half-termly zoom meetings to connect with others on their Growing Faith journeys.

## Join the network



11th Feb  
7-8pm

20th Mar  
7-8pm

20th May  
7-8pm

1st July  
7-8pm

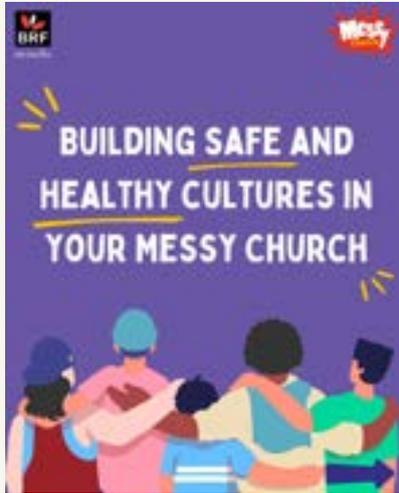
Discover more about Growing Faith, watch our webinar and listen to their podcast via our [Digital Learning Platform](#).

## Resources



Looking for resources for schools, households or churches? For Candlemas, Lent and Easter Find some inspiration on our [Padlet Board](#) - and please share your great ideas to help others, too.

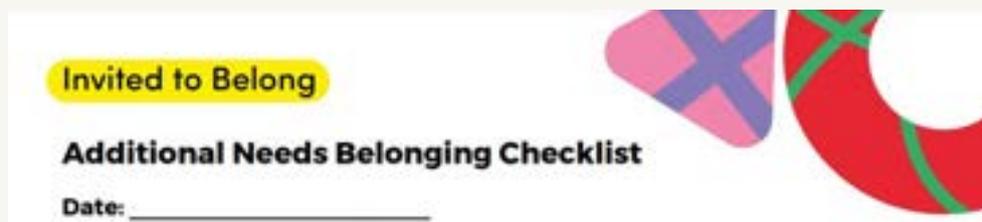
## Resources



At The Children's Ministry Network Conferences last year, leaders were offered **6 top tips** to build safer, healthier culture and systems.

“Happy New Year! It's that time of year that offers us an opportunity to take stock, review what we do, and make changes to improve or develop what we are providing. How about thinking about whether our children's and youth work, as well as our church provision as a whole, meets the needs of children and young people with additional needs and their families?”

**Download this checklist** from the Additional Needs Blogfather



Looking for training for your young leaders?

**Young Leader Essentials** (YLE) helps younger leaders explore what leadership looks like by following the example of Jesus.

Each of the sessions will explore an insight into the leadership example of Jesus, a practical youth work skill to build their confidence and ability, and a personal reflection to help develop character and fuel faith.

## Resources

### “Welcome to The Resources Cupboard

We are passionate about supporting the local church in their work with children, young people and families.

Based in Bedfordshire, we work both locally and nationally, resourcing the local church to make young disciples.

Our free members area gives you access to all the resources in The Resources Cupboard, to fill your kit bag and resource you for your children’s, youth and family ministry; from curriculum to activity sheets, training videos and more.”



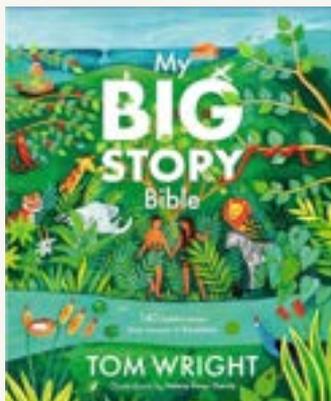
### “Why join Urban Saints Energize?

Thousands of engaging and adaptable biblical sessions, training articles and support resources. Available for every leader and helper in your church or group. Start your free trial today and discover why over 10,000 people use Energize

Every group is different. You choose the topic, faith-level, style, age range, group size and venue – and we provide the session!

Articles, videos and courses help you grow in your role – building strong relationships, making disciples and equipping your young leaders.

New volunteers love the games, activities, Bible-based discussions and videos – ready in minutes and instantly shareable!



“My Big Story Bible takes the adventure of reading a children's Bible to a new level. Perfect for readers aged 9-11years, My Big Story Bible not only offers a faithful and vibrant retelling of all the major Bible stories of the Old and New Testament, but theologian Tom Wright invites children to discover the many surprising ways in which the stories link to one another, and how together they form the BIG STORY of God's plan to make everything right and bring heaven and earth together when Jesus returns.”

**ISBN-13 : 978-0281085613**

# Training & Events



OutoftheBox  
Online  
Training  
Course

Six Tuesdays 7:00 - 9:00pm UK time on Zoom  
25 Feb, 4 Mar, 11 Mar, 18 Mar, 25 Mar, 1 Apr  
Book now on: [outoftheboxstories.org](http://outoftheboxstories.org)

“**OutoftheBox** helps individuals and groups find wholeness and wellbeing through story and play.

It enables good dialogue and strengthens our understanding of ourselves and each other.

OutoftheBox is transformational.”

**Wisdom** – we take time to breathe, trust and listen to our inner wisdom and the wisdom of the community.

**Wonder** – we engage with how we feel and allow ourselves to wonder in a way that connects with our hearts.

**Wellbeing** – we allow ourselves to be playful to find an evolving story of love for our lives and work.”



“**Getting Started in Bible Storytelling** is an Introduction to Bible Storytelling to Young Children. There are four short videos packed with practical ideas.

Why a course?

I’ve been telling Bible stories to toddlers in baby and toddler groups for over 10 years and over that time I’ve learnt a lot. Being part of a team and listening to other people telling stories has been really helpful – we can learn so much from others. This mini course is really just what I’ve learnt so far!

Who’s it for?

Use the course as a refresher if you’ve been telling Bible Stories to Toddlers for years or as a starting point if this is something you’ve never done before but would like to have a go. It is lots of fun to tell stories to young children and very rewarding.”

[Watch these FREE videos online](#)



## Training & Events

“We recognise the huge struggles that many of our teen girls are facing at the moment and are aware that access to support can often be slow and hindered.

But we want to feel equipped to be helping these girls to grow their self-esteem as much as we possibly can and we’re here to help support you with that too.”

Catch up with their  
**“Know Your Worth”** webinar.



Join us on January 21st at 10 am for our upcoming webinar - ‘Lessons in Missional Design’. Hear from Canon Esther Prior - and learn how to define your church’s vision and mission, set clear values, and create pathways that will help your church community grow in their faith. **Register your place today.**



Join the Messy Church team and gather with other Messy Church leaders to share ideas for Lent and Easter. There will also be an opportunity to discuss the joys and challenges of Messy Church, and time to pray together.

### **Messy Church links**

Tuesday 28 January 2025, 7.30 – 9.00 pm  
“This live and interactive training session on Zoom will give you a great starting point for finding out about what Messy Church is (and isn’t!), the Messy Church values, resources you need to start and how to make it a disciple-making community from the very beginning.



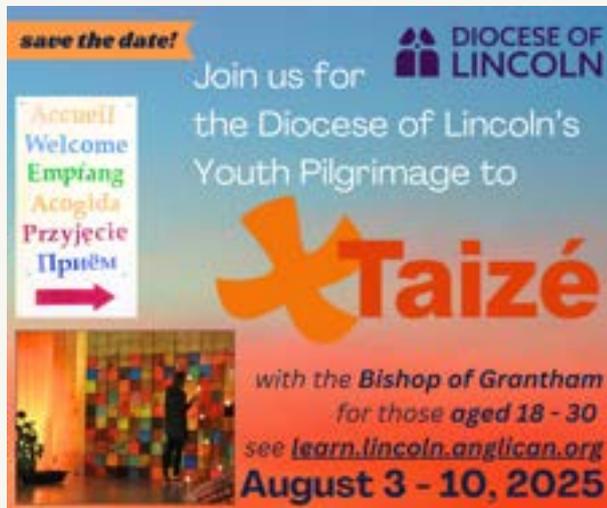
## Training & Events

Book your place & equip your team at the National Hand in Hand Children and Family ministry Conference 2025 in Birmingham.

Come and join hundreds of volunteers and ministries as they join together as one family to be equipped for helping this generation to know more about Jesus.

Come along and book at:

[www.handinhandconference.com](http://www.handinhandconference.com)



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.

## 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.

