

Children's Youth & Families Newsletter May 24

Dear Colleagues,

As we continue to celebrate our risen Lord and the life He brings, my thoughts are turning towards his ascension and the precious gift of His Holy Spirit, at Pentecost.

I am looking forward to the time of coming together, of peoples from different tribes and nations to worship, to hear the word of God and then be sent out changed, empowered and excited!

I hope I am willing to be surprised by God, as those first believers were, and to live out, and share the life, encountering Him brings.

Our Pentecost Padlet board is live and being updated - please share your ideas, too. You can find it here: Pentecost Padlet

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

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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?

micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org

Sign up to receive this newsletter via a short form:

<u>CYF Newsletter Sign Up</u>



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







Networking



Anglo-Catholic Children, Youth and Family Workers Network



The next meeting of this Network will be held on **Tuesday 21st May** at 7.30pm on Zoom.

For a link please email Clare Williams <u>clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com</u>

Look out for more networking dates coming up - in person and online!



Networking



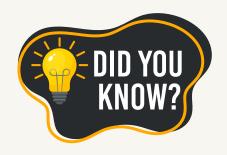
National Network of Church-based Toddler Groups

"On average a UK child has just 1,277 days between birth and starting nursery education.

Together, we want to 'make them count' for the children, for their families and for the toddler groups that they attend.

This Group is for people who are passionate about Church based toddler groups and provides the opportunity for people to share ideas, good practice and support one another through chat and prayer."

Discover more on their <u>facebook page</u> or <u>website</u>.



June is the National Month of Prayer for Toddler Groups!

Find out about 2023's "Welcome One, Welcome All" theme and how you can get involved with your toddler group this year.

NMOP



Explore the possibilities of outdoor Worship in your community with an online webinar by the **Churches Environmental Network** on Wednesday 8 May (7pm - 8.30pm) - this is especially helpful to those who help run a church.

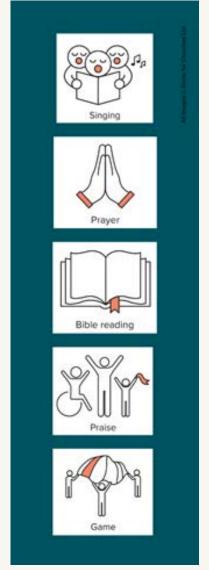
You'll meet Revd Kate Mitchell (**Mossy Church & Orchard Church**) and Melanie Caroll (**Forest Church & Contemplative Fire**) who will help deepen our understanding and help us all explore outdoor worship ideas.

It's also a good time to share your story and celebrate all that is going on!

<u>Sign up to reserve your place today</u>



Resources





Roots on the Web have produced a visual timetable, to help people to see:

what's going to happen
what's coming up next
what they might need to do.

"This can reduce anxiety, decrease frustration and increase general comprehension and communication.

Many schools already use visual timetables with great success. Now Roots has developed a visual timetable for churches - depicting many common activities in Christian services and groups."

Read more about using a visual timetable

"Available as 50 image cards featuring 45 different scenarios - with some activities (eg singing) repeated so that you can make a full timetable

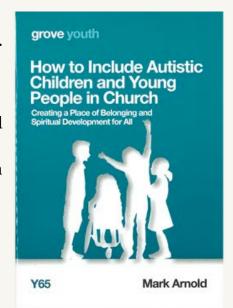
Also available as a digital download that you can project, or print at the size you choose.

This visual timetable has been developed in collaboration with Mark Arnold, Additional Needs Ministry Director at Urban Saints. If you have a roots subscription (or use a free trial), you can also read his article, "Going beyond inclusion."

"Without considered and intentional measures, many aspects of church life can pose challenges for autistic children and young people.

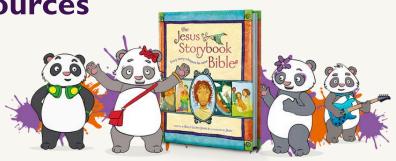
This practical guide provides useful advice on how to make church a space where autistic children and young people can thrive. It urges children's, youth and families' workers to be agents of change within both their own ministries and the wider church community, building a better place of inclusion, belonging and spiritual development for all.

Available from <u>Urban Saints</u>









"In a new project between **Cheeky Pandas TV** and the award-winning **Jesus Storybook Bible**, we hope to empower and equip families to support their children's faith Journey.

Throughout the episodes, we will explore the Bible's most well-loved stories.

Each episode will start with a 3-minute section of Cheeky Pandas animation and then flow into a story from the Jesus Story Book Bible, narrated by celebrities such as Mary Berry, Bear Grylls, and using the illustrations from the book itself.

All our episodes are free to watch, and every episode is accompanied by free activity packs, assembly plans, BSL episodes, and widget packs for neurodivergent children.

The first 6 stories are available now! Cheeky Pandas

The Children's Society have produced six new FREE Church Youth Group Resource aim at young people between 11 and 18. These six sessions can be led by youth workers, teachers, parents or family members.



"The sessions help young people increase compassion and understanding for others affected by poverty, mental health, exploitation and brokenness and encourages faith in action and show young people that their prayers and actions can create positive change. The resources can be viewed and downloaded on the links below"

Session 1 Poverty Session 2 Young Carers

Session 3 County Lines Session 4 Young Refuges

Session 5 Missing From Home Session 6 Emotional Health and Wellbeing

If you are interested in trialling the resources with your youth group,

Jane would be really pleased to hear from you - do get in touch with her: <u>jane.foster@childrenssociety.org.uk</u>

For more information on the work of The Children's Society please see our website www.childrenssociety.org.uk





Thy Kingdom Come



"The Way" is a series of videos produced by young people for young people looking at big questions such as:

WHY AM I HERE?
WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?
IS THERE A GOD?
DOES ANYONE LOVE ME?
DO I MATTER?

Follow on Instagram <u>@thewayuk</u> TikTok <u>@thewaytv</u> YouTube <u>/TheWayChannel</u>

There are also 2 youth group session plans and 2 assembly outlines

Find out more, here:

https://www.thykingdomcome.global/new-2024





Training & Research



'Will our children have faith in post pandemic times?' Catch up with the recent webinar

Investigating models of children's faith formation in a world changed by pandemic experiences.

In this recorded webinar from May 2024, Sarah, Mimi and Sue will summarise and discuss their recently published paper (<u>Journal of Beliefs and Values</u>). They will examine the role of faith communities in nurturing a child's faith today, and consider the implications for ministry practice.

CYM Research Webinar



"Involved in ministry amongst children, youth or families? Please spend 4minutes completing this online survey and share with others to capture as many voices as possible: <u>Survey</u>

We will share your collective voice with the local and national church, as we seek to enhance these key ministry areas. Everyone who participates has the opportunity to win a £50 Amazon voucher."

Parenting for Faith Facebook Live.

14th May @ 8pm

"We'll be joined by Rachel Turner, the founder of Parenting for Faith, who will share her incredible wisdom!

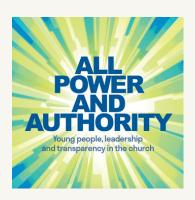
These Facebook Lives are designed for parents and carers to watch individually or as part of a group. You provide the coffee and we provide the content!







Training & Research



Young people, leadership and transparency in the church

The St Mellitus and Youthscape Annual Lecture Monday 13th May 2024

"We live in the intersection of a generation of young people who instinctively distrust traditional authorities and a church rocked by regular scandals involving abuses of power by leaders.

This year's lecture will explore a vision for leadership that seeks to hold power and authority differently, not as assumed but through deep attentiveness to the other, acknowledging that the humanity of each person bears the image of Christ.

Informed by the Christian tradition of non-violent practice this will encourage those who lead in the youth ministry space to consider reframing leadership as a spiritual practice of attentiveness.

This year's lecture takes place on 13th May, 6.30-8.30pm at St Mellitus College. Book now to attend the 2024 Lecture in person or online. It's free but you must register in advance."

https://www.youthscape.co.uk/lecture

'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 in 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.

St Mary DeCrypt Church, Gloucester

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



