

YOUTH & CHILDREN NEWS



From the Diocese of Edinburgh

Spring 2022

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Edinburgh Diocese

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INTRODUCING... THE DIOCESAN PLAY CHURCH SHEPHERD

Play Church continues its travels around the Diocese and now has a new champion. Izzy Holmes is the Children's Minister at Holy Cross, Edinburgh, where she is leading a growing ministry to young families.

Izzy also regularly leads Children's Chapel, the Province's online act of worship for the under-5s. She has now taken on the new role of Play Church Shepherd, following a fruitful period of hosting Play Church at Holy Cross.

Izzy and her daughter Bess presenting Children's Chapel



The Play Church Shepherd will be the main point of contact for new and potential hosts. If you are wondering whether Play Church is for you, how to use it, or how to get the most out of Play Church in your church and community context, a conversation with Izzy will help! She draws on her experience of using Play Church with toddlers, school groups and uniformed organizations, both as a parent of a toddler herself, and as a Children's Minister.

Information about the Play Church project is on the Diocesan website [here](#). For general Play Church queries, please contact Izzy at families.hce@gmail.com If you would like to join the waiting list of hosts, please contact Claire: youthandchildren@dioceseofedinburgh.org

PANCAKES AND ASHES



Alex Barrett, Families Networker at Christ Church Morningside, writes: "The young people came together on Shrove Tuesday to enjoy a great Pancake and Ashes party (*left*). We ate hot dogs and pancakes with numerous toppings, played games and ended with some quiet reflection time to talk about Ash Wednesday. The children were then able to 'ash' each other's foreheads. We go into Lent grateful that for the first time in 2 years we can be together at this very special time of preparation for Easter."

ALL-AGE RESOURCES

There is a fresh collection of seasonal ideas and new resources for children, young people and families on the [Diocesan website](#). They cover Lent and Easter, and many are free to use or download. I continue to cherry-pick the best of a bunch of new resources, so watch this space!



Faith at Home

Resources for families to use at home



Worship

All-age resources for use in church

GODLY PLAY DISCOVERY DAY



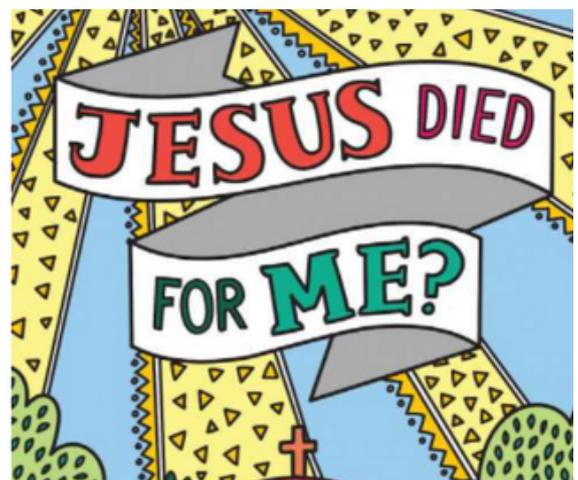
14 May from 10am to 4pm
Duddingston Kirk Manse, Edinburgh

Discovery Days are a great way to find out a little more about Godly Play, to experience a full Godly Play session, to ask questions and to explore the different materials. This Discovery Day will be held in the Godly Play Room at the Godly Play Scotland Centre, which is in the basement of Duddingston Kirk Manse. The day starts at 10am, with tea and coffee, to finish by 4pm. Tea, coffee and snacks will be provided, but please bring your own lunch. The cost for the day is £12. Book [here](#).

(Picture: Godly Play Scotland website)

SCRIPTURE UNION - HELP FOR EASTER & HOLIDAY CLUBS

Scripture Union says: "Is your church looking for easy, creative and fun ways to reach out and share the good news this Easter? Our new **FREE downloadable resource pack** is brimming with ideas to help you put on some amazing events, using the *Jesus Died For Me?* books that children really love." The new resource pack is available to download for FREE now. Visit the Scripture Union website [here](#).



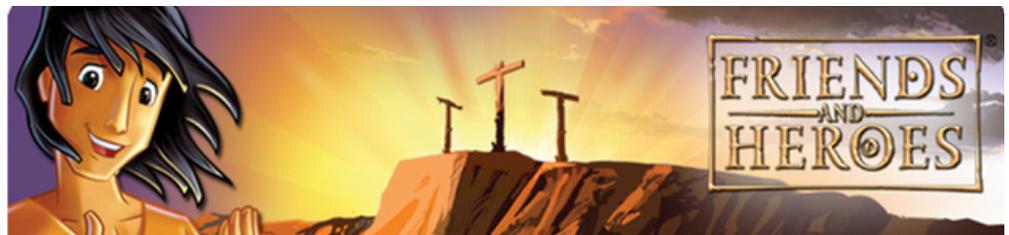
There is also a **brand new holiday club resource**, based on the popular *Diary of a Disciple: Luke's Story*. Find out more [here](#).

NO-GROW EASTER GARDENS



A new way of sharing the Easter story with the under-5s! Find out more from GodVenture [here](#).

FRIENDS AND HEROES - BIBLE STORY RESOURCE



Friends and Heroes animations introduce Bible stories in an appealing, fresh and memorable way. The 39 episodes cover over 80 Bible stories. Children will want to see more! Find out more about this DVD resource [here](#).

INSPIRATION FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S WORK

The ReNew webinars feature inspiration from specialists, stories from people who are doing new things, and opportunities to discuss with others how you might explore something new in your context. These will be held online on Thursday evenings, 7:30pm-9pm. The Church of Scotland invites interested Episcopalians to come and explore together. These are standalone sessions, so you can pick and choose, depending on your area of interest. Registration is free! Book [here](#).

ReNew - with Creation – 31 March: Lucie Hutson from Muddy Church

ReNew – Worship for All – 28 April: Nick and Becky Drake, authors and worship leaders

ReNew – Young Children and Families – 5 May: Mary Hawes, National Children and Youth Advisor, Church of England

ReNew – Church Vision for Children and Young People - 12 May: Ali Campbell, Youth and Children's Ministry Consultant

ReNew – Faith at Home – 2 June: Gill Lyth from Care for the Family

ReNew – Small Church – Few Children - 9 June: Rev Douglas Creighton from East Neuk Trinity linked with St Monans

ReNew – Messy Church - Intergenerational Discipleship – 26 June: Jane Butler, Messy Church National Coordinator



31st July - 7th August 2022

A residential course approved by
the Royal School of Church Music

MORLAND CHORISTERS' CAMP

Do you know a child who loves to sing?

Applications are open for this summer's 51st annual chorister's camp in the idyllic rural setting of Morland, 7 miles south of Penrith, in the Eden valley. Organizers are keen to spread the word that the singing week is alive and well, and that applications are open for this summer's camp: Sun 31 July - Sun 7 Aug '22. For more information, visit the website [here](#).

CHILDREN'S BOOK FROM CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

Grace and the Grumblies is a brand new children's book from Christians Against Poverty, by author Emily Shore and illustrator Katie Rewse. Gently exploring themes of UK poverty and disadvantage, it's the perfect child-friendly conversation starter on the big issues your small people see around them. Find out more [here](#).

"Before she opens her eyes in the morning, Grace knows when it's going to be a dragon fighting day..."





IT'S COMING! THE PROVINCIAL YOUTH WEEK 2022

At last! After two years of looking forward to an in-person Youth Week, teenagers in the Scottish Episcopal Church are planning to be back at Glenalmond College this summer. "Yeek" (short for Provincial Youth Week) is the new name for "Glen", but that special week in the summer will still involve the things that delegates know and love – plus a few extra surprises!

The Youth Week is for young people (delegates) of High School age. If someone in your church is interested, show them [this film](#) in which young people talk about what the Youth Week means to them.

This year, the Youth Week will explore the Church's seasonal calendar to look at how God can speak to us in all seasons, whether we are living in ordinary or extraordinary times. We will live through the whole liturgical year in the space of a week, enjoying a unique opportunity to celebrate Christmas and Easter together - including Christmas dinner in August!

Booking is now open. You can find out everything you need to know on the [new Yeek website here](#). There is an Early Bird Discount which will end on Easter Monday, so don't delay! Please encourage young people in your church to sign up.

Provincial Youth Week

7-13 The Scottish Episcopal Church
August 2022

www.yeek.scot

HOW DO WE TALK TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT WAR IN UKRAINE?

Even very young children pick up the news from television and adults' conversations. Teenagers are exposed via social media to real-time experiences of conflict. How can church leaders and parents help them to process this difficult news?

On the [Youth and Children pages](#) of the Diocesan website, I have been gathering some of the best current resources and ideas for helping churches support children, young people and families during these worrying times. Resources include interactive prayer stations that are suitable for all ages, and music that can help children express and explore their feelings. Ideas include simple things to say and do with very young children, and thoughtful reflections on how to respond to difficult questions.



There are also more general resources for helping children deal with anxiety, which many parents have found useful. One of my favourites is [The Huge Bag of Worries](#) by Virginia Ironside, which is still going strong after 25 years in print. I will be updating this resources page regularly, and if you are looking for something particular, just ask.

EXTRA FUNDING FOR CHURCHES

Do you have an idea which needs a little extra funding? In 2022 there are no set closing dates for applications. You are welcome to apply at any time during the year: I hope this helps during these uncertain times when restrictions and plans keep changing. You can download the grant application form [here](#).



STAY IN TOUCH

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Please get in touch if you have news to share, or if you would like to be added to my mailing list for this newsletter and other news.

For even more regular updates, please 'Like' our Facebook page: [Edinburgh Diocese Youth and Children](#).