

YOUTH & CHILDREN NEWS



From the Diocese of Edinburgh

Summer 2022

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BOWLING & BURGERS

At last! An in-person Youth Event! Teenagers in Edinburgh Diocese were very happy to come together in person once again, this time for an event that they had chosen: Bowling and Burgers at Fountain Park, Edinburgh. Youth leaders from the Diocese were helped out by their fellow leaders from the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane. It was great to meet, play and eat together after two years of pandemic, and many of these young people are now looking forward to being together again at Yeek in August.

(Right) Teenagers from Edinburgh Diocese enjoying refreshments between games



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS

In May, the Youth & Children Officer led Safeguarding Training *(left)* for those working with children and young people in the Diocese. This was a practical and interactive workshop for frontline workers, to complement the GSO's online training which focused on policy and procedures. Thanks to all who attended; to the Provincial Protection Officer, Donald Urquhart, who came along and supported this event, and to St Cuthbert's Colinton for their warm hospitality.

SPORTY CHURCH

Sunday 31st July
Sunday 28th August
4.00 - 5.30pm
CRAMOND KIRK HALL, EH4 6HZ



GAMES • CRAFTS • STORIES • FOOD
for P1-7 children and their families

For more information and to book, contact
Cramond Kirk Office: office@cramondkirk.org.uk
or phone 0131 336 2036 (Mon-Fri, 9.15-12.15).



Organised by Cramond Kirk and Holy
Cross Church, Davidson's Mains



Holy Cross, Davidson's Mains is teaming up with Cramond Kirk to run a Children's Ministry event in the summer: 'Sporty Church', a mixture of sports, crafts, Godly Play, and pizza. It will be open to all ages, not just children and families. The sessions will run from 4-5:30pm on Sundays July 31st and August 28th. To book or for any questions, email Cramond Kirk office: office@cramondkirk.org.uk



FUN IN THE SUN AT ST MARGARET'S EASTER ROAD



The Toddler Group at St Margaret's Easter Road continues to go from strength to strength. It is a missional activity the church can be proud of, as it reaches out to the local community and welcomes parents and children from all backgrounds. Particularly since lockdown, toddler groups like this are doing essential work to combat social isolation and encourage children's socialization. Thanks to the excellent efforts of St Margaret's talented Play Worker and a committed volunteer team, this toddler group was one of the first to re-open post-lockdown, making the most of the church's outdoor space, which had been brought back to life by a gardening group led by Mustard Seed volunteers. Now children are enjoying the sunshine in the garden twice a week. A popular addition is this water play table (*above*) bought with a Diocesan Youth & Children's work grant.

PLAY CHURCH & TODDLER CHURCH TRAINING EVENT



With Izzy Holmes,
Children's
Minister at
Holy Cross
Church and
Play Church
Shepherd



Holy Cross Church in Edinburgh is currently hosting the diocesan Play Church and has a new and flourishing ministry for toddlers and their grown-ups (*pictured*) called **Toddler Church**. This free event is an opportunity to explore Play Church and how to use it in your church, and to learn about our weekly Toddler Church: the thoughts behind it, what happens in a session, the practicalities of working with this age group, and a demonstration of the 'liturgy' we use at the end of each session. Get ready for some parachute games!



Who is it for? Anyone who is interested in learning about or hosting Play Church, or is thinking about starting or refreshing their church's children and family ministry: clergy, Lay Readers, Lay Worship Leaders, Children's ministry workers and volunteers. Post-pandemic, this is one way to grow your church from the bottom up!

When: Saturday 27th August, 2-4:30pm. Hot drinks and biscuits provided.

Where: Holy Cross Church, Davidson's Mains.

By Bus: The church is about 20 minutes from Princes Street. Lothian Buses 21 and 41 stop at the top of Main St opposite Ye Olde Inn. Number 43 stops on Queensferry Rd near the top of Quality St.

By Car: There is a car park in front of our hall, accessed via East Barnton Gardens. Free on-street parking is available nearby and there is a large car park behind Tesco's.

To book or for any questions, email Izzy: families.hce@gmail.com



PROVINCIAL YOUTH WEEK 2022

*IT'S NOT TOO
LATE TO BOOK!*



Provincial Youth leaders (*above*) met together in the Highlands for the first time in two years, for the Youth Week Training Weekend. There were smiles all round! We are all looking forward to an in-person Youth Week 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!

Planning is well underway to explore the whole liturgical year in the space of a week, including Christmas dinner and an Easter vigil! We will encourage our delegates to find out how God can speak to them in all seasons, whether we are living in ordinary or extraordinary times.

The Youth Week is for young people (delegates) of High School age. Booking remains open until 7 July: visit the [Yeek website here](#).

THANK YOU LUNCH

A number of charges in the Diocese employ specialists to lead their church's ministry to children, young people and families. These gifted folk came together as a group to support one another during lockdown, and I met with them regularly, hearing stories of all the thoughtful, creative and prayerful ways they were working to stay connected with the young people and families they serve.



What better way to say "Thank you" on behalf of the Diocese than with a feast? We enjoyed a lunch together (*left*) and a much-missed opportunity to meet up in person. This group of salaried workers is representative of the much larger group of talented and committed volunteers, without whom none of our churches could do the work they do with families and young people.

What can you do to say "Thank you" to the youth and children's ministry volunteers in *your* church?

LAST WORD

*"I will be leaving this role at the end of June. It has been a joy and a privilege to work for Edinburgh Diocese for the last (nearly) nine years. I have walked alongside many of you in your ministry to children, young people and families, and the best part of my job has been cheerleading for the excellent work I've seen in churches around the Diocese. This is a new post-pandemic chapter for all of us, and I will hold you in my prayers as you continue to do your best for the younger generation. Wishing you every blessing,
Claire"*



SIGNING OFF...

This will be the last edition of this Newsletter for the time being. If you have any questions about youth and children's work in the Diocese, please contact: office@edinburgh.anglican.org
For Provincial Youth queries, including the Youth Week, please contact me in my continuing role as the Provincial Youth Coordinator: ClaireBE@scotland.anglican.org
For Play Church enquiries, please contact the Play Church Shepherd, Izzy Holmes: families.hce@gmail.com

Claire Benton-Evans, Diocesan Youth & Children Officer