

Dear Friends,

The Children and Youth Work Group that manages the work of Children and Youth in the Synod and works with the Children and Youth Development Officer, Jane Henderson, are aware that church has changed dramatically in the past few months. As a consequence, so have a lot of things that we do for and with children and young people. We want to share with you a few resources, websites, and ideas to help inspire, support and encourage you in this strange time.

We would also LOVE to hear your stories. If you have any activities or events, ideas or thoughts to share with us, please email cydo@urc5.org.uk and training@urc5.org.uk and they can pass on these stories, put them on the Synod website and share with the wider URC. Let us celebrate, champion and encourage ministry and work with children and young people in the Synod.

-The updated Child Friendly Church Award is going as a resolution to Mission Council as the **Children and Youth Friendly Church Award**. A much more reflective, accompanying process that encourages getting away from a tick box exercise. Jane Henderson, our CYDO, is your point of contact for this.

-**TRialogue**. Thursdays at 7pm. Three person panel discussion with host. Theological debates. Aimed at and involves those aged 18+ (but available to anyone to engage with interactively via Slido.com during the session. Can be found on the **URC Children and Youth Youtube channel** and on Facebook: **URC Youth TRialogue**. CYDO+ team and URC Youth manage this currently.

-**Youth Assembly** for those aged 14-25. Taking place on Friday 29th-Sunday 31st January 2021. At Whitemoor Lakes. Worship, discussions, Bible Study, business, fun! Synod funding available- contact Jane Henderson, CYDO. <https://urc.org.uk/events-and-opportunities/3467-youth-assembly-2021.html> to book your place!

-**Crossfire Camp** every May run by GEAR (the Group for Evangelism and Renewal in the URC). For those aged 12+. A camp that takes place across the second Bank Holiday weekend in May and is a place to explore more about faith in Jesus Christ through small groups, teaching, worship and whole range of fun activities. <https://crossfirecamp.org.uk>

-**Charter for Children**- General Assembly 2018 charged the CYW team with updating this and it has developed and is now being looked at as **3i Church**: intergenerational, intercultural, inclusive. Bringing CYWC and Equalities and Global and Intercultural ministries together. Watch this space as this work continues!

-The Big Speak Out for those aged 11-18 from 24-26th July. Now **The Big Speak Out Online**- register by 13/7. Details here: <https://urc.org.uk/events-and-opportunities/3317-the-big-speak-out-3.html>

-**Common Ground** all age resource, all churches received a printed copy. Great resource themed for 2020. We hope you received a copy, if not, please contact children.youth@urc.org.uk

-**Families on Faith Adventures**- weekly resources produced by the CYDO+ team- Bible story, crafts, activities, excellent resource. Found on the URC website under Children and Youth resources OR online on our **URC Children and Youth Youtube** channel.

-**Pentecost service and Pilots service** on URC children and youth Youtube channel. Watch these services put together during lockdown.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCUhcQnrk2N78c89wM9Rhow>

-**LOADS of resources and information** (plus guidelines on safe online stuff):

<https://urc.org.uk/resources-for-children-and-youth>

-**A bi-monthly Children and Youth Work mailing** is sent out from the CYW team at Church House - sign up here to receive it:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScbaD0RFG97GyUbwN-HK3ywyYNs4hszSTPE0N5v1LW3Z5h1kw/viewform>

Fan into Flames - commissioned colouring sheets with 2 Tim 1:6

<https://urc.org.uk/images/Children-and-youth/events/CYW2.jpg>;

<https://urc.org.uk/images/Children-and-youth/events/CYW1.jpge>.

Not URC based: Roots on the web: **Families at home**. Weekly material. Also children's sheet and **Live your Faith** (for adults). FREE during lockdown.

www.rootsontheweb.com

We hope you find all of this useful.

PLEASE share all you are doing with us, we would love to hear!

Finally, please keep thinking about whether you have a child or young person who you could nominate to receive this award from the CYW team for playing their part in the mission of God. To find out more, go to this page:

<https://urc.org.uk/events-and-opportunities/3244-lundie-memorial-award-nominate-a-child-or-young-person.html>

Email addresses: CYDO@urc5.org.uk Jane Henderson our Children and Youth Development Officer.

sarahcgower@btinternet.com Convenor of the East Midlands Synod Children and Youth Group.

training@urc5.org.uk Derek Graham for items for the Synod e-letter or Facebook page of the East Midlands Synod.

Children.youth@urc.org.uk contacting the Children and Youth Team at URC Church House.

Find us on Facebook:

Pages: URC East Midlands Synod

URC East Midlands Synod Youth

Groups: URC East Midlands Synod Toddler Leaders

URC East Midlands Youth and Children's Leaders