



**Advent and Christmas bumper pack** of information, resources and ideas. Thanks to everyone who contributed. As a team we would like to wish you a very happy time and God's blessing over Advent and Christmas. We may be coming to the end of 2015 and much has happened during the year, yet we are already planning many activities, training opportunities and some big events for 2016. Keep in touch!

Every Blessing

*Jo, Andy, Jon and Nigel*

## INFORMATION

### Archbishop Sentamu Academy teams up with Nu Skool Music for Christmas Number One bid

Archbishop Sentamu Academy, in collaboration with NuSkool Music, have produced a Charity Single, "Move as One", in aid of current crises, with all profits being donated to the Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders UK. The students involved recently attended Abbey Road Studios to re-master the track and, the video of the song was recently played at the



Christmas lights switch on in Hull and has also been aired on Radio Humberside and Hull Kingston Radio. [Watch it here](#), and keep up to date with news and release dates at [www.facebook.com/nuskoolmusic](http://www.facebook.com/nuskoolmusic) and [www.twitter.com/nuskoolmusicuk](http://www.twitter.com/nuskoolmusicuk).

#### Is your church up for the challenge?

This Advent, take the **Church Urban Fund** challenge to help people in England in need and have fun at the same time.

You are challenged to give up a night of comfort, transform your church or church hall into a 'stable', and get into the story of Mary and Joseph. Participants will need to get sponsorship, and the money raised will help the Church Urban Fund continue to help people in England who need it most. To get involved you'll need a suitable space, willing participants, sponsorship, something to keep warm (and maybe a bacon butty team to deliver breakfast)! Everything you need to get started is in our sleep out toolkit, available to download in September. Register your interest and we'll keep you updated with all the latest information.

[www.sleepoutchallenge.org](http://www.sleepoutchallenge.org)

**Children's Society Impact Report:** Last year, CS worked with over 34,000 vulnerable children through direct services, while policy changes they influenced will bring life-changing support to more than 1.8 million children and young people across the UK. This report presents a national overview with 'pull out' reports that look more closely at CS impact nationally and across the country's five regions. <http://goo.gl/Sv02p7>

## RELEVANT CHILDREN'S MINISTRY -

Why the Kids in Your Ministry Are Fidgeting ~ <http://goo.gl/380OkM>

Generation Z...What you need to know to reach them <http://goo.gl/0UBrH3>

### Young Vocations Conference

15th - 17th February 2016

The Church of England's national Young Vocations Conference gives young people exploring their calling a chance to gather together to explore, discuss and pray about ordained ministry in the Church of England. <http://www.callwaiting.org.uk/conference/>

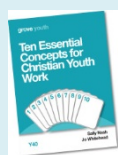
### The Youth Evangelism Conference.

27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016 –

Inspiring leaders to greater confidence in reaching young people.

<http://theyec.uk/>

**Grove Booklet Y 39 A Model for Christian Youth Work by Nigel Pimlott** As in any area of Christian ministry, the danger of not knowing what we are trying to achieve in youth work is that we drift, lacking clear goals and values.£3.95 <http://goo.gl/oi9m4e>



### Y 40 Ten Essential Concepts for Christian Youth Work

To celebrate ten years of youth-work publishing, the Grove Youth series presents insights from ten of its authors, each of whom has selected a key concept that has helped them...

£3.95

**Walking Backward to Christmas** by Steve Cotterill is the must read book for the season!

<http://goo.gl/0Bjnph>

**What Messy Church is doing:** <http://goo.gl/MFNsAH>

**Hope Uk** is launching an initiative to encourage the irreligious, the non-church going, the unbelieving to pray! As well as resources for adults there is a youth version here:

<http://goo.gl/FYtRI2>

## EVENTS

**Scripture Union** New Year holiday, **Breakthrough**, which takes place in Scarborough over the New Year period is on again; further details <http://goo.gl/xGN9Wp>

### RUUp4it weekend 2016

This is a youth weekend for 11-16 year olds (School Years 6-11). It will again be held at Manor School, York from Friday 29th January - Sunday 31st January 2016. Rock UK will again be bringing a team of instructors from Whithaugh. York Schools & Youth Trust (YoYo) will also be an integral part of the weekend, with a number of their team involved. Costs and flyers will be out shortly.

**The BIG NIGHT OUT** Lightwater Valley theme park, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016 2pm – 9pm for senior school age young people. All inclusive price of £16 BEFORE 1<sup>st</sup> May or £19 on the gate. Includes rides, and open air concert and entertainment. More details will arrive soon, keep a check on the web site and the FaceBook page. <http://www.thebignightout.org.uk/>

**Family Fund Day** Nigel is hoping to put together a York Archdeaconry fun day in 2016. If anyone would like to help on the organising group, including any children with parents/Leaders, then please do email Nigel soon. [nigel.chapman@yorkdiocese.org](mailto:nigel.chapman@yorkdiocese.org)

## RESOURCES

### E-Booklet for Advent.

ADVENTure is a colourful, e-booklet for families to use as a devotional guide through the season of Advent. Scripture readings, reflections, actions and activities for families to do together or for family members to do by themselves, and prayers. It is simple and easy to do - taking no more than 5-10 minutes. <http://goo.gl/BTRRHu>



**The Real Advent Calendar** Sales have been so good they have just about sold out, but you may still be able to get hold of some at Tesco. You can also view the Calendar and resources here: <http://goo.gl/qIGIQQ>

### BARNABAS FOR CHURCHES

New titles available are listed here with links to full information and sample pages:

**The Whoosh Bible** [Click here for more information](#)

**The No-Rehearsal Nativity** [Click here for more information](#)

**Parenting Children for a Life of Confidence** [Click here for more information](#)

**Blended A Call to Re-imagine Our Church Family** [Click here for more information](#)

**Great Expectations** A Christmas drama according to Luke: <http://goo.gl/tSzj5E>

**Advent Conspiracy** has some great resources to help churches and families engage with Advent as preparation rather than just getting caught up in consumerism. Church Resources: <http://goo.gl/EHd1f3> Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtyA5bKvClU>

### Christmas resources from J John

Resources and Gifts with a Gospel message: <http://www.canonjohn.com/store/christmas>

**The Bible Society Christmas Poem** This booklet and video retells the greatest story ever told in the form of rhyming poetry. It is recommended for children aged four to six, but younger children will enjoy it too. <http://goo.gl/ksWnfQ>

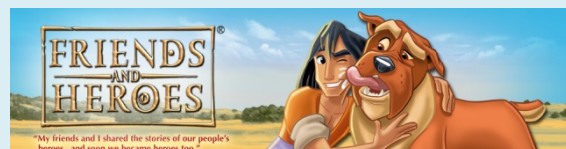
### Friends and Heroes Christmas Assembly for Primary Schools and Resources

<http://goo.gl/Qh3Bqi>

Video for Christmas nativity / crib service

<http://www.friendsandheroes.com/uk>

and who could forget Buck Denver? What Christmas is **REALLY** all about! <https://goo.gl/wPslfK>



**31 Non-Toy gift ideas for children** Incite wonder, provoke discovery, fuel passion, nurture creativity <http://goo.gl/dtLg14>

## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY RESOURCES

**For printable Worship Resources:** Here, you can find materials to help you and your church to pray, worship and reflect <http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/pray>

**Bible Studies and Theological Writings:** Behind our work with the most disadvantaged children lies a vision that sees vulnerable children as central to God's love. This vision calls us to be part of a process of realising the Kingdom of God where all children can both flourish now and fulfil their God-given potential. Our Bible studies and collections of theology essays explore this vision. <http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/your-church/study>

**Campaigning :** Jesus spent his life and ministry breaking down barriers and speaking out against all that made people less than human. As an organisation we are committed to doing the same. <http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/your-church/campaign>

**Fundraising in Your Church :** Raising money can be fun and an easy way for your church to engage with issues of poverty and disadvantage. <http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/your-church/fundraise>

You can also find [Schools](#) resources here and everything you need for [Christingle](#) Would you like a speaker from Children's Society to come into your church/group/school and update about the work of the charity?. If you would like a speaker you can request one via this link form <http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/fundraising-and-events/request-a-speaker>

## ROOTS ON THE WEB

**Pass it on** discipleship resource looks at the story of blind Bartimeaus from Mark's Gospel: <http://goo.gl/5ECezK>

## PREMIER - Free youth and children's ministry resources on line

All youth and children's ministry resources featured in both 'Premier Youthwork' and Premier Childrenswork' are now available free, on-line. at [premieryouthwork.com/resources](http://premieryouthwork.com/resources) or at [premierchildrenswork.com/resources](http://premierchildrenswork.com/resources).

**ENGAGE WORSHIP** - Using the Lectionary in Children's Ministry. Some creative ideas, interesting articles and colouring sheets (Oh no)! But as we've recently heard, even adults find colouring sheets therapeutic. <http://engageworship.org/>

## SCHOOLS WORK

**Flippin' Praise** was developed to help schools develop their Collective Worship and help children design worship. You can get a glimpse of it here: <http://goo.gl/CVQFaU>

**Church Schools** Grove booklets have many useful publications to help churches connect with their local schools here's just one: [eD 21 Christian Values for Church Schools: Making Them Count](#) Young people today face many challenges, both from the society in which they live and the education system that they experience. Schools often say that they are "doing Christian values"... <http://goo.gl/yDeD3f>