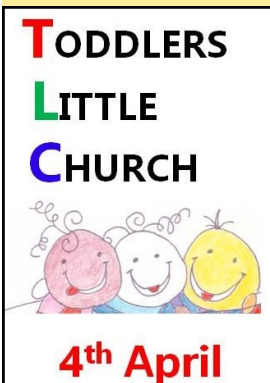
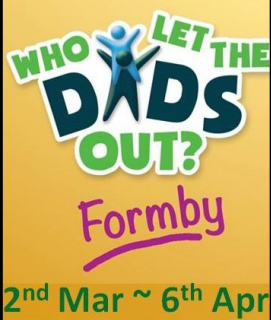


Children
and Young
People at
Formby
Methodist
Church

Issue: 1/2024

Coming soon



**Easter
Sunday**
See back
page.



The Rainbows have had a super start to 2024. We have welcomed several new Rainbows who have settled brilliantly.

This term we have been learning about looking after ourselves and looking after others as part of our 'Be Well' theme. The girls all worked on their Animal lover badge, thinking about their favourite animals, and also making

their own little pets to take care of at home.

We have been learning about feelings and also working on our first aid skills. The

girls have learnt about first aid kits and how important washing hands is.

The girls ended the half term by making



Thursdays, term time, 5-6pm

gorgeous Valentine's coasters to give to loved ones.



February is an important time for Girlguiding as we celebrate Thinking Day on 22nd February, the birthday of the founders of Guiding,

Lord and Lady Baden Powell. We think about our Guiding family around the world, and each year we have a special celebration in the church with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and leaders from all over Formby.

**Come and celebrate Easter with
US.....
See the back page for details**



FOOTSTEPS



**Next one ...
23rd March**



Can you remember back to January? There were times when it was very windy and rainy but at our January Footsteps the families braved the weather and came out for a fun afternoon. Church was buzzing with the children answering the quiz, with help from their parents,

and taking part in the challenges. Can you spell Zacchaeus backwards? How many dominoes can you pull up half a metre without dropping? Our winner managed an amazing 81! While we were in Church we heard the story of Zacchaeus. The quick version is:

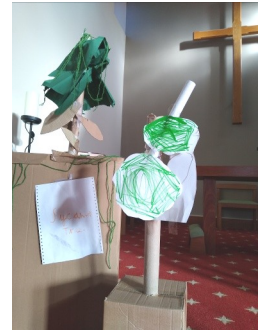


- Zac was a short man.
- He was a tax collector.
- He had no friends.
- He took more money off people than he should and kept it for himself.
- Jesus came to his town one day.
- Zac wanted to see Jesus, so he climbed a tree.
- Jesus saw him and said 'Come down, I'm coming to your house for tea.'
- Jesus loved Zac even though he did bad things.
- It made Zac want to show other people he cared for them.
- Zac told Jesus he'd pay back all the money he owed people plus some extra.
- Jesus loves us too even when we do the wrong thing.



The junk challenge was next. As always we were amazed at what was made out of card-

board boxes. As well as trees we had a money changing desk



with slots to collect the coins - we never expected that. It was brilliant!

Before tea there was the chance to take part in more challenges and the crafts.

The crafts included: making a purse, to-



gether with coins; a cake

with a picture of the story on it; a note

holder, which involved making a plaster of paris base; a necklace; and a book-



mark.

Before we knew it, it was time for tea and home. Are you free on 23rd March? If you are, grab an adult and come along. We'd love to see you.

WHO LET THE DADS OUT?



**FIRST SATURDAY
IN EVERY MONTH**

2024 Mar 2nd

Apr 6th

May 4th ...

Give mum
some time
off

Free play group for
dads, granddads and male
carers with children up to 7+

Meet other
dads

Tea, coffee,
toast



10-11:30AM



**Formby Methodist
Church Hall**

Elbow Lane, Formby L37 4AF



Tristan

07752 612775

Find us on [f](#) **WLTDOfarmby**

Toddlers Thursday 9:30-11:30am

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, Christmas came early to Toddlers as we made snowmen and robins to hang on our Christmas tree as part of the Church's Christmas tree trail. We then quickly finished our farmyard animals before making a Father Christmas, a Christmas card and some colourful Christmas decorations.

Grown ups seem to talk a lot about the weather and so we decided to look at the

weather next on the craft table. So far we have made a



sun, an umbrella for the rain, a snowman and a kite for the wind. We have put them on a notice board in the hall, if you would like to see them. To tie in with our weather theme we sang 'I love the sun' and 'I hear thunder' in singing time.

Lots of us dressed up to take part in our Nativity play. At the beginning of our play the donkey took Mary and Joseph to the stable but was then kept very busy showing other people the way to go! This year baby Jesus managed to stay sleeping in the manger for the whole of the play and so we didn't need our usual back ups.

On the last session before Christmas we had our party and Father Christmas called in to see us.

We gave the toddlers who left at Christmas to go to nursery/preschool a book, *My Very First Bible Stories*.

In the New Year we were pleased to welcome some new babies and toddlers.



FOOTSTEPS

Bible-based family fun and games with tea

Saturday 23rd March & 11th May

3:30pm – 6pm



Brownies



**Thursdays,
term time,
6:15–7:45pm**

Welcome to the latest edition of our Brownie News, where we share the heart-warming stories and exciting adventures of our spirited Brownie unit at Formby Methodist Church.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in our Church's Christmas Fair! This year, our Brownie unit hosted a range of games that brought smiles to young and old alike. From the thrill of

'Higher or Lower' to the whimsy of the 'Human Fruit Machine', the excitement was palpable. Special shout outs to those who played 'Guess the name of the Teddy' and embraced the challenge of 'Snowball Splat'. Your support made the fair a resounding success!

Our Brownies took their voices to Tesco for a festive carol singing session that was nothing short of magical. Singing and dancing with infectious enthusiasm, our Brownies managed to raise over £700 for a good cause. A heartfelt thank you to Tesco and everyone who

joined in the holiday spirit, making our carol singing venture a joyful success.

January brought with it the joy of welcoming two new Brownies into our family, bringing our total to 31 bright and enthusiastic young souls. Let's extend a warm welcome to our new members, embracing them with the spirit of friendship and camaraderie that defines our Brownie unit.

Stay tuned for announcements and updates as we progress through this term.



Adventurers Every Sunday 10:30-11:30am

Can you remember
the first time you
went to church as
a child?



For grandparents it might be the little curved wooden

chairs, choruses to sing, pictures to colour and 'Hear the pennies dropping'.

For parents it might be the sticker books, the action rhymes, the tambourines and

'show and tell time'.



For children it might be the games that led into stories and craft, followed by juice and sharing news from the 'news chair'.

For Jesus it was a 91 mile walk with relations and neighbours from Nazareth to the temple in Jerusalem!

He would have remembered that!



Jesus was probably excited to be going for a weeks adventure, camping out to celebrate being 12 years old and allowed to go on the annual long walk to the temple. The huge shining building with grand stone pillars, fine bronze gates and a courtyard the



size of five football pitches would have been **very** impressive, but the most important thing to the young Jesus was what happened inside the inner temple.

As a boy of 12 he didn't have to stay with the ladies and his mother in the women's court but was allowed to go in further to the men's court where the priests read from the scrolls and the men talked about the history, the prophets and the promises of the



Old Testament. He was so keen to learn and join in the debate with the wise elders that he got left behind when his family started their long journey home.

Have you ever been left behind and lost? It can be very frightening and very worrying. It was for Jesus' parents too when they realised he

was missing. When Mary eventually found him still in the temple do you think she was very cross with him or very pleased and relieved he was safe? Perhaps a bit of both, but she might also have remembered the time the Angel came to tell her that she was to have God's son. Then there were those unusual gifts that the Wise men had brought and the strange way that the old priest had seemed to recognise her baby when she took him to the temple to give thanks to God for his birth. Yes, Jesus was start-



ing to learn about his heavenly father and prepare for his future work as God's son; a teacher, healer and friend to all. It was an important stage in his development.

We are lucky. We can come to church each week. We can see our friends and have fun as we learn more about following Jesus. We sing songs about God's greatness and speak to him in prayers that say thank you or sorry or please. We can also grow up to tell other people about God's love ... just like Jesus did.



Guides★

Thursdays, term time,
7:30-9pm

The 6th Formby Methodist Guide Unit celebrated seven Guides receiving their Bronze Awards and one Guide who received her Silver Award. This is an amazing achievement, so

a big congratulations to those Guides!

This term, the Guides have been working hard towards their 'Know Myself' Theme award.



They have been exploring individual beliefs, as well as understanding and connecting with our community as a whole. The Guides have been expressing their creativity in a number of challenges, crafts and games. Working together in groups and having the opportunity to express their individuality and to learn more about each other, their history and their values.

Reflecting on their favourite moments in Guiding, the Guides created their own bunting to celebrate their

experiences. Some favourite moments over the years included: residential stays; bowling; earning badges; and cooking.

In February, we celebrated World Thinking Day, exploring the theme 'Our World, Our Thriving Future', and what that means for our Guides. This included a meeting where we took a trip around the world, tasting foods from different countries and exploring cultures and languages from across the globe.



Explorers



Aged 11 or over? Join us on Sundays at 10:30am for hot chocolate, games and chat.



TLC

Next TLC
Thursday 4th April
9:30-11:30am



THE GOOD SAMARITAN
as seen at TLC in February

half term. What a performance!

If you weren't there you missed a treat. Formby Methodist's well known character actor took on every role.

First the traveller attacked by robbers and left for dead. His performance in that scene deserved an Oscar.

The snooty Lord Mayor in his smart clothes - much too important to dirty his hands.

The far too busy shopkeeper

frightened of losing customers and therefore money.

And finally the kind Samaritan, not liked by anyone because he was different but generous with his time and money, not just helping the poor traveller but taking him to a safe place and leaving money for his care.



WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

Free play group for dads, granddads & father figures with children aged 0 to 7+

We kicked off 2024 with a WLTD0? on the first Saturday, as usual, and welcomed dads and male carers with plenty of space for children to run around and tire (they never do), plus a cuppa and some toast to keep the energy up. The time always goes so quickly and February's Dads Out was no exception.

We managed to squeeze in a game or two with the parachute, which the men are particularly fond of.

We're looking forward to more fun on the first Saturday of each month.

Easter Sunday at Formby Methodist

Come and help us celebrate ...

This Easter join us to celebrate, Jesus is Risen. Feel free to come along to some or all of the following:

Easter Sunday –31st March

8:30am Early morning communion.

9:00am Easter breakfast, no need to book, just turn up.

10:30am Easter Sunday communion service. During this service Adventurers and Explorers will leave for their Easter celebrations, including taking part in an Easter egg hunt.

If you'd like to come to Maundy Thursday or Good Friday services please email formbymethodist@yahoo.com for details.