



# NEWSLETTER

SPRING ONE

2025

'Sharing God's love with all those we meet'



#### The Mini Mix – LOST + FOUND - Collective Worship

Have you ever lost anything important to you, or been out for the day and lost the people you were out with? How did you feel when you couldn't find the thing you lost or when you realized you were lost? That's what I've been asking the young people during this half terms Mini Mix; asking them to give me words to describe how they felt. I've then shared the bible story about Jesus being lost in

the Temple at the age of 12 and asked them to describe how Mary and Jospeh were feeling when they found Jesus and realized that he was safe. Telling them that some of the words they've described is how Father God feels when they speak to Him. He is happy, excited, joyful and relieved when we ask Him into our lives.

It's been wonderful to give the young people the opportunity to imagine what Jesus might have been like and what he may have got up to as a young person. Also reminding them that Father God knows that each one of them is special and that He loves every one of them.

The bible story was 'The Lost Boy' (Luke 2) and can be found in the Lion Bible for Children.

Songs have included The Leaning Song, Jesus Really Loves Me, Great Great Brill Brill and My God is So Big.

### **Stalbridge Youth Club - Congregational Church**

Youth club started in the usual way with the young people playing table tennis, board games, giant Jenga and table football. After about 30 minutes we moved into the church when we used the theme from the Mini Mix and talked about Lost + Found. The main difference being that we watched the 3-minute story 'Jesus in the Temple' produced by 'Saddleback Kids'. If you've never seen their series of bible story videos then I can highly recommend them. They are all available free on YouTube. Just search for **Saddleback Kids**. We then went back into the hall for pasta bolognaise and finished the session with a game of crab football for those feeling energetic, or Consequences (drawing game) for those wanting a quieter activity. We had 17 young people.



We desperately need more helpers as we continue to see this youth group thrive. If you'd like to help or want to chat about what is involved then please get in contact. The next session is on Tuesday 25th February at 5:30pm.

#### **Memorable Moments**

Young person: I was praying to God the other day and I made a mistake in my prayer, does God mind?

Me: Father God never minds if you make a mistake when talking to Him. He's just happy to hear from you ☺

I could see a real sense of relief from the young person when I told her that.

I was able to spend a short time in a classroom with 3 young people that have extremely limited speech, mostly making noises. They were fascinated by my guitar and so came into my assembly and stayed to the end. After finishing, one of the boys took my hand as he wanted me to go back to class with him. I spent about 10 minutes with him and as I left, he hugged me, then looked straight up at me and said 'Daniel'. His teachers were utterly amazed, as was I. This prompted a lovely conversation about music therapy, and how music may help them with furthering speech development. I think I may take some Ukuleles with me next time ©

It was lovely to be invited to Stalbridge CE Primary School this half term. My first assembly was a great success and was well received by the teachers, staff and young people, some of which I recognized from youth club. I've been invited back so I've added them to my half termly visits.

#### Can I Help?

Please let me know if you think I might be able to help in your school, community group or church and I'd be happy to discuss this with you.

#### **Sherborne Abbey CE School Newsletter**

#### From the head teacher:

'I had the privilege of attending my very first worship session with the children and Daniel England this week – what a joyful way to start the day! If you've never heard of Daniel, please do ask the children about him'.

#### **Preaching and Speaking Engagements**

**January:** The year started with a service at Stalbridge Congregational on the 5<sup>th</sup> when we were thinking about seeking Jesus and looking at the Wise Men's Visit from Matthew 2.

We were made very welcome at our first visit in 2 ½ years to Yeovil Methodist Church (YMC) on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Using the theme of seeking Jesus but looking at 'The Lost Boy' from Luke 2.

I ventured to Broad Oak on the 26<sup>th</sup> when I led a service about showing God's love in action. This was a service I was due to lead last November but Storm Bert stopped me from getting there. I was determined to get there this time, although storm Éowyn had caused several floods which made the journey there and back a little stressful!

**February:** Back at YMC on the 9<sup>th</sup> leading a service on calling, using the story from Luke 5 about Jesus calling his first disciples. This led into small group discussions on callings; Have we been called? What are we called to? What is stopping us from answering?

Amanda and I are looking forward to leading worship at Stalbridge Congregational on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Next half term:** 9<sup>th</sup> March Breakfast Church at Stalbridge Congregational. 16<sup>th</sup> March at Cheap Street United Church, Sherborne. 6<sup>th</sup> April at Stalbridge Congregational. 13<sup>th</sup> April (Palm Sunday) at YMC - Chelston Avenue.

#### **Messy Church - Holy Trinity Church, Yeovil**

We've not had a Messy Church since the last newsletter, but the next one is during half term on Wednesday 19th February at 10am. We will be using the story of 'The Prodigal Son' to think about the Father's love. We have lots of activities planned including edible jewelry, muddy pigs and purse-making. Messy Church is especially aimed at families with young children, but all are welcome and it would be lovely to see you — It's church, but not as you know it! Based on the principles of creativity, hospitality and celebration.

#### **School Governance**

I'm still very much enjoying being part of the team of Governors at Birchfield and being able to play a small part in supporting the teachers and staff in shaping young people's lives. It's a very rewarding role and I would encourage you to talk to your local school if this is something that sparks your interest and you could spare a couple of hours.

## **Financial Support**



THANK YOU to all of the supporters who have transferred their financial giving from VYM over to the new ministry and also to all of our new supporters. As well as our regular givers we are currently able to continue serving so many schools

because of a legacy left to the ministry by a long-time supporter. This legacy has been a real blessing and is allowing us to grow, but it won't last forever so please consider giving if you can. This can be done by either a one-off payment or by becoming a regular supporter. For more information, please send me an email daniel@dem.org.uk and visit the website where you can find our constitution which outlines how the funds will be used. dem.org.uk

If you have any fundraising ideas then please get in touch ©

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#### **How Can You Help?**

Please forward this newsletter on to your local primary school, church or other interested parties.

The more people that know about the work that we do, the better ©

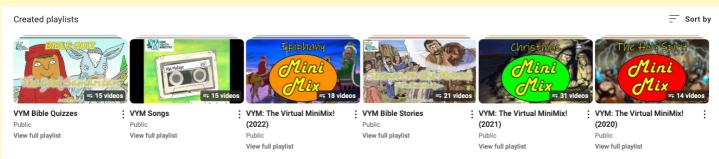
If you require additional copies then please let me know daniel@dem.org.uk

#### **Receiving Future Newsletters**

Please email me if you would like to receive future newsletters electronically. I will continue to post printed copies to my regular supporters if I don't have your email address. Please also share this newsletter with your local church, school, friends or family and do let me know if you need some more copies.

This newsletter is also available electronically on our website dem.org.uk





All of the previous VYM videos are still available on YouTube, just search for **Daniel England Ministries**I'm still hoping to reach the target of 1000 subscribers, so if you haven't already done so, please 'Subscribe'.

It doesn't cost anything but helps raise the profile of the channel, resulting in more viewers.

196,000 Views - 5,800 Watch Hours - 609 Subscribers

#### **Website Updates**

A big thank you to Neil who has now completed all of the technical updates to the website. Neil has been a great supporter of my work since I started nearly 20 years ago. I thank God for all that he does ©

#### Academic Year 2024 / 2025

#### 23 Schools - 152 Assemblies - Over 4,400 Young People

All Saints CE VC Primary School, Bishops Caundle (119) All Saints Church School, Montacute (210)

Ashlands CE Primary School, Crewkerne (205) Birchfield Community School, Yeovil (420)

Buckland Newton CE Primary School (105) Haselbury Plucknett CE First School (60)

Hinton St George CE Primary School (84) Holy Trinity Church School, Yeovil (420)

Horsington Church School (120) Norton-Sub-Hamdon CE Primary School (120)

Pimperne CE Primary School (200) Shaftesbury Abbey CE Primary School (210)

Sherborne Abbey CE Primary School (315) Sherborne Primary School (330)

Stalbridge CE Primary School (210) St Andrews CE Primary School, Yetminster (200)

St Andrews CE Primary School, Weymouth (370) St Bartholomew's CE First School, Crewkerne (210)

St Mary's CE Primary School, Bradford Abbas (119) St Nicholas CE VC Primary School, Henstridge (119)

Thornford CE Primary School (105) Trent Young's CE School (133)

West Chinnock CE Primary School (60) YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL HERE?

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