

National Month of Prayer

June

Get your church praying for your toddler group and it's volunteer leaders. Pray also for the children, parents and families in your community that they represent.

Ideas and resources are available to help you advertise and organise a prayer event or other event.

www.1277.org.uk/resources

"Getting together with other local groups has been such a wonderful opportunity for prayer and encouragement."

Claire Wells
'Parent Toddler Groups Together'
Tunbridge Wells, Kent



make them count

National Month of Prayer

June has been designated as the month for churches to pray for their toddler groups. Please remember the volunteer leaders, parents, carers and children who attend your church group and pray too, for all the toddler groups across the country.

Why not get together with other toddler groups in your local area and organise a special event to promote the month of prayer together.

Joining the dots



The value of prayer networks and how to connect with other toddler groups



make them count

Bringing Toddler Groups Together... the value of prayer networks

Joining the dots - an example

In 2002, two friends leading different toddler groups in the same town decided to meet on regular basis to share ideas and encourage each other. Most importantly, they wanted to pray about the work God had given them and pray for the families they welcomed each week. They started by setting a date and a place to meet and soon decided to invite others to join them.

This vision has now developed into a local network supporting several toddler groups in the area.

Praying and sharing together as a local network has been an effective way for groups to support each other over the years, and become a voice in their communities. The group has hosted training events and has become a recognised initiative within the town's Christian mission and Churches Together.

('Parent and Toddler Groups Together')

How to start a network

- Pray. Begin and end on time and make someone responsible for calling everyone to prayer. It's too easy to just chat!
- Get in touch with another group (even if it's just one!)
- Use existing Christian networks such as Churches Together.
- Arrange a date and time to meet (maybe a coffee shop at first) or take turns to host in a church or home setting. Perhaps meet once a term.
- Keep the meeting short and simple. Bring your own lunch or just provide tea and coffee.
- Recognise each individual group is unique - big, busy, small, intimate. Each has value.
- Agree on confidentiality. Listen and encourage.
- Join in national and local prayer initiatives.
- Create links through Facebook.

How to start a network

- Seeing God at work
- Sharing passion and vision
- Fellowship
- Seeking God's guidance
- Knowing you are not alone
- Help to persevere and see things afresh
- Sharing good news and encouragements
- Gaining insights and ideas on practical aspects
- Avoiding 'reinventing the wheel'
- Sharing resources
- Sharing good practice
- Having someone to contact if you have a problem
- Opportunities to run local home grown training or topic focussed meetings.
- The opportunity to host training days with external speakers.
- Having a voice for local toddler groups
- being part of the bigger picture



FACEBOOK

Join our 1277 Facebook group where people support one another, share ideas and expertise.

www.facebook.com/groups/1277makethemcount