

# FEAST OF FUN



Impact Report  
Summer 2023



Meals & More  
Happier, Healthier Children

Network of  
Kindness

# FEAST OF FUN



## In Numbers

**3,834**

Meals provided  
across 19 projects

**1,245+**

Children reached  
with meals and  
activities

**238**

Volunteers helped  
deliver activities

**95%**

of activities engaged  
children in receipt of  
free school meals

### FEAST OF FUN - SUMMER 2023:

Feast of Fun activities provided almost 4,000 meals for children and their families across the Diocese of Liverpool area, to help tackle holiday hunger.

Together Liverpool distributed 19 grants for Feast of Fun events to 12 churches and their partners across the Diocese of Liverpool, for activities during summer 2023, as part of our Network of Kindness initiative.

The fund supports churches to strengthen relationships with local communities by hosting fun days and barbeques, holiday clubs, and activity sessions.

A total 2,139 people took part in the activities, including 1,248 children and 891 adults. Of the activities:

- 95% engaged with families in receipt of free school meals
- 95% engaged with single parent households
- 68% engaged with BAME households
- 42% engaged with Asylum seekers and refugees
- 11% engaged with LGBTQ+ young people or families
- 26% engaged with children with parents in prison

# Case Study

## St Michael in the City & Faiths4Change



Faiths4Change together with St Michael in the City, hosted two events at The Secret Garden in Stoneycroft, Liverpool.

At a Pick Your Own Lunch morning participants harvested vegetables and made 'Rainbow Wraps' as part of a healthy lunch.

This was followed by a 'Grow Your Own Food' event, when guests were taught gardening tips, got to plant their own seeds, and enjoyed a cooked meal with a recipe card to take home.

Sixty people were fed over the two events, with any leftover fresh vegetables being taken home by the families from the local community.

**“REALLY LOVELY EVENT. NICE TO SEE ALL THE VEG/PLANTS GROWING AND TO HAVE A GO” - PARTICIPANT**

Rachel Hardy, Food, Land & Wellbeing Coordinator at Faiths4Change said: “The best thing about the activity was being able to provide completely free outdoor activities and food for families to enjoy during the holidays in their neighbourhood.”

“With the Feast of Fun funding we were able to provide families with a healthy lunch and snacks during our garden picnic event at The Secret Garden.

“It was very successful with over 30 people joining us for craft and gardening activities, as well as the opportunity to pick their own veg and see where the ingredients for our 'Rainbow Wraps' come from!

“I was really pleased to see children so enthusiastic about colourful vegetables, and giving everything a try. It means a lot to us to be able to provide free food.”



## Case Study

### Christ Church Norris Green with Triple C

More than 1,110 meals were provided to children through Triple C at Christ Church Norris Green's 2 week play scheme. Children enjoyed healthy meals throughout each day including breakfast, snacks and lunch.

Children also enjoyed craft activities, team games and visits from the fire brigade and a mini zoo. The scheme engaged children from families in receipt of school meals and single parent households.

**"SENDING CHILDREN HOME WITH FULL TUMMIES, HEALTHY BODIES - HAVING EATEN WELL, EXERCISED AND HAD A GREAT TIME IS JUST BRILLIANT!"**

## Case Study

### Liverpool N. Central Methodist Circuit

Liverpool North Central Methodist Circuit got people active with a 'Let's Get Moving!' day.

Activities included decorating water bottles, plenty of games to get both children and parents moving, and finished with a healthy lunch. The session highlighted the importance of staying active, bringing together the church with the community.

**"CONVERSATION WAS FLOWING, AND EVERYONE WAS AT EASE. IT WAS GREAT TO SEE RELATIONSHIPS BUILD/STRENGTHEN"**

## Case Study

### St James with St Thomas, Wigan West

St James with St Thomas, Wigan West supplied lunches to families during holidays, providing more than 100 meals.

In partnership with Wigan Athletic, football club, the children were treated to a tour of the stadium and match day tickets. The scheme established links between local organisations and the church.

**"BEING ABLE TO OFFER FOOD TO FAMILIES IS ESSENTIAL IN THESE TIMES"**

# What our Feast of Fun churches said



"Feast of Fun grants make a massive difference in our parish and community. They bring people together who would not normally mix, they increase mobility, reduce loneliness and isolation, give volunteers a sense of purpose and help people new to the community settle in and get to know people.

I see the difference on the faces of children and parents, laughing, chatting, eating together and being creative. We have the building and place of welcome but the Feast of Fun grant gives us the resources to bring people together."

- St Aidan with All Saints, Speke

**"REALLY LOVELY AFTERNOON. SUPER FRIENDLY. SO NICE TO HAVE SOMEWHERE TO GO FOR A HOT CUP OF TEA WHILST MY CHILD PLAYS AND LUNCH WAS A LOVELY TREAT, THANK YOU!" - PARTICIPANT**

"Our activity was all about providing an opportunity for families to have fun together. Children were able to learn a new skill through the circus workshop, socialise with other children their age and we were able to provide a meal for the whole family for no cost."

- St James', Birkdale with Compassion Acts

"It helped us to provide a good quality offering to the community to improve engagement. Some of those attending had not come into the church building before and it has helped to establish new relationships. Some of those attending have since engaged with other activities offered by church and one grandparent has started volunteering."

- St Andrew's, Clubmoor

"In our community there is real food poverty and financial hardships and families are struggling in the present economic crisis so a free food event was greatly appreciated."

- St Michael with St Thomas, Ditton, Widnes

**"IT'S THE END OF THE SUMMER HOLIDAY AND I'M STRUGGLING FINANCIALLY. YOU'VE PROVIDED FUN, LAUGHTER, CRAFTS, GAMES AND I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT YOU'VE FED US ALL" - PARTICIPANT**

# FEAST OF FUN

Mapped



## 12 NETWORK OF KINDNESS MEMBER CHURCHES HELD 19 FEAST OF FUN ACTIVITIES:

- St Paul's, Blackbrook
- St John the Evangelist, Knotty Ash
- St Andrew's, Clubmoor
- St James', Birkdale
- St Thomas, Wigan South
- Church Wigan (St James with St Thomas, St Paul's and St Matthew's)
- Christ Church, Norris Green
- St Aidan with All Saints, Speke
- St Michael in the City
- St Stephen's, Whelley, Wigan
- St Michael with St Thomas, Widnes
- Liverpool North Central Methodist Circuit

# Big Day Out

## Christ Church, Walton Breck

In addition to Feast of Fun, we supported two Big Day Out activities run by Christ Church, Walton Breck, each with a grant of £500.

Over 50 local children enjoyed two days out to Martin Mere Wildfowl and Wetlands Centre, and Walton Hall Gardens.

They discovered wildlife through pond dipping and insect catching, and enjoyed a variety of outdoor games. A particular highlight for both trips was enjoying a picnic lunch together.

These events helped to build and strengthen relationships between the church and community groups over the summer break. It also provided the children with the opportunity to visit somewhere that would not usually be available to them.



**“IT HAS BEEN A HUGE BLESSING AND BOOST TO OUR WORK  
HERE IN ANFIELD. THANK YOU.”**



Heather Holding, Family Outreach Worker for Christ Church & Holy Trinity, Walton Breck said: “We had a lovely day out with the families, most of whom wouldn't have been able to do it without some financial help. The difference it made was not just having a day out but doing something together and sharing the experience.”

“These days out have really strengthened our relationships with these families and they know we are a trusted group or place to be. Thank you for your help in that. We could have done these trips or the packed lunches in the holiday club without the funding from Network of Kindness.”

“Because of the kindness of the grant we have been able to bring families together, create a memory and get ready for our next year's programme together.”

Network of  
*Kindness*



# TOGETHER LIVERPOOL

## About Us

Together Liverpool is a social justice charity working to equip churches, communities and charities across the Diocese of Liverpool area, to make a bigger difference to people's lives through social action. The Network of Kindness is our National Lottery supported initiative helping individuals, groups and organisations take their next step in social action.

We are a registered charity set up jointly by the Church Urban Fund and Diocese of Liverpool. Find out more about how to join the Network of Kindness, our Communities of Practice workshops, events and Learning Communities programme - visit: [www.togetherliverpool.org.uk](http://www.togetherliverpool.org.uk)

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