

Lost and found – our holiday club diary

A lost coin ... a lost sheep and a 'lost' son What have all these got in common?

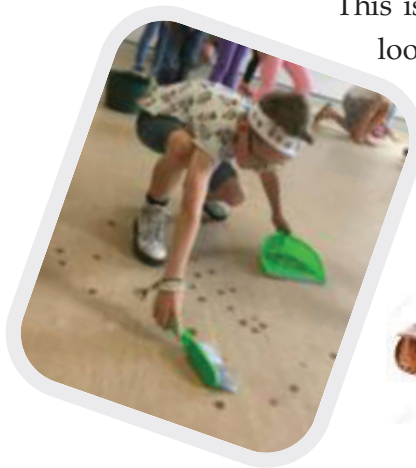
Well – they were all in stories told long ago by Jesus; and we told them again at the Holiday Club, held in the United Church Halls at the beginning of August.

We had lots of fun, as we played silly games, took part in different craft activities, acted out stories and prayed and sang together.

Day 1 – The lost coin

Imagine losing a valuable coin and not being able to find where you had dropped it.

This is what happened to the lady in our story – but she kept on looking until she found it – just like God keeps on looking for us, we heard. Our activities included searching for coins in church (we think that people are still finding them!), making 'coin pictures' as Kay told us the story, relay games, making bracelets and tie-dyeing.



Day 2 – The lost sheep



We learned that the sheep in the story that managed to wander off and get lost was just as important to the shepherd as the ones that he had safely in the sheepfold; and we are all just as important to God. Every one of us.



This is the day that hundreds of sheep got lost and wandered into the Halls. (Michael and Bruce had spent a happy couple of hours blowing up white balloons and drawing 'sheep' faces and tails on them!) We had great fun rounding them up and, later, using them in our parachute games. (Poor sheep!) Activities included hunting for clues in the churchyard, bubble-printing sheep and 'finger knitting'. (If you want to keep a bunch of children really quiet for half-an-hour, teach them to finger knit!)



Day 3 – The prodigal son



The son thought he knew better than anyone else. He was a bit of a 'loser', but his father still loved him and welcomed him home. He was glad to have him back where he belonged, just as God is glad when we belong to his family.

This is the day when we went into church to act out the story, with Kathy. We wrote our own prayers for ourselves and for other people, remembering that we are all part of God's family. After that we made 'pig biscuits' to remind us that the prodigal son had had to look after pigs in a far away land. We also made lots of other food for our families to enjoy in the evening. We were very glad that they all came to see what we had been doing during our Club.

Every day

John got us well and truly 'warmed up' with some lively games to break the ice. After that we enjoyed singing – some new songs and some we had learned last year. Shine was our favourite and we enjoyed watching the adults trying to keep up with the actions!

Every day, we also made something special to go into our Lost and Found booklets. We all had a booklet to take home at the end of the three days. It had the stories of the 'lost things' and, with the special things we had made, it gave us a good reminder of our wonderful three days.

