



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

13 August 2006
Ordinary 19

Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30 Holy Communion at Putnoe Heights only
9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mrs Liz Little

Leadership - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions - - Mr Ian Farthing

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher- Mrs Liz Little

Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions - Mr Edward Peck

20 August Ordinary 19

8.30 Holy Communion at St Mark's only

9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion

Preacher - Rev Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mr Ian Farthing

Intercessions - Mr John Stubbs

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher- Rev Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

Reading 1 : Proverbs 9: 1 - 6

Reading 2 : Ephesians 5: 15-20

Reading 3 : John 6: 51-58

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Christine and Maurice Halsey in loving memory of their granddaughter, Davine Stuart.

The flowers at St Mark's this week are given to celebrate the marriage of Jonathan Stanwix and Anne Clark.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion, an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights).

A Prayer for Sunday

Rule over me this day, O Lord, and lead me in the way of righteousness. Put your word into my mouth and your truth into my heart. Let me think only what is good and honest and help me to discern your will in what I do. May I be alive at all times to the promptings of your Holy Spirit; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Jacob Boehme, 1575-1624

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR

266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com

(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com

Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved, housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.

Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 12 noon Monday & Friday

9am - 5pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

Treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day 295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Partnership News is also archived on our church website
www.ThisisChurch.com

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30 - 12.00 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school Mrs Janet Smith 326685

8.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634**

(See website for more details)

9.00 am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.

Mini-Strikers Sport for Children at Putnoe aged 2-4 years. Contact Andy Carey 01908 313751 or 07766 142754, or www.ministrikers.co.uk

12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz on 01234 302349

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Arts Society at Putnoe Heights contact Malcolm Smith on 01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)

4pm Story Box Plus at St. Marks for 4 -11 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments & games, then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church the 1st Sunday of each month. Lots of fun. Free. Contact Liz 302349

4.15pm - Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Miriam Adcock 01908 565044

4.15 - 6.00pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Penny Fulham 406045

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs Pauline Parrott 768419

7.15 m Guides -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091

7.15pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights Church. Contact Karen Simpson 244970

7.30pm Creative Needles at Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next 21 August Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313

7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. Geraldine Skeel 406828

9.30am -12.30 & 4 - 9pm Slimming World at St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg 351223

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Contact Morag Tompkins 356895

2 - 5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship -

For details of next meeting 5 Sept. AGM contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. For details of next meeting contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. For details of next meeting contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

3.45 - 5.30pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 0582468.

6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne 783129

7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's. Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.

7.00 - 10pm Card Makers Club meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton 346718

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr on 360188 or 07866775515

7.30pm Dog and Puppy Training at Putnoe Heights. Contact Lynn Southwell 07974 743240

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting Sept 5 'Living in Queens Park - Revd J McLeod Contact Madge Walsh 359088

8.30pm St Mark's Church Qi Gong. Contact Mrs D Steele 356384

Wednesday

9.30am Childminding Support Group at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949

9.30am - Body Control Pilates at Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787.

9.00 a.m. Clubhouse at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Contact Karen Bywater 315460.

10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am Sewing & Chat Putnoe Heights Contact Valerie Russell 01462 815966

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights - For details of next meeting Contact Audrey Hancock 365915.

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. For details of next meeting contact Putnoe 365630

1 - 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights . Mrs Webster 856966

4.15pm - 6pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00 pm Brownies at St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden 219731

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge at St. Mark's. Brian Sallows 407725

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting . Sylvia Woods 365095
7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073
7.45pm Kick Boxing Junior classes at St Mark's. Contact Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890
7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*
9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips 01582 485333
9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970
1.30pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's 267444
12pm Story box St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 302349
1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime at Putnoe. Geraldine Skeel 406828
1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group. Debbie Coppenhall 356828.
2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991
4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-11year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun And it's free! Liz Spavins 302349
5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.
6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.
6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Helga Nash 218521
6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr & Mrs Pike 823795
7pm Street Dance at Putnoe Heights. Contact Curtis Ritchie 349255 or 07984 525147
7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992
7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at St Mark's Mr P Housden 376597
7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild at St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby 344442
7.30 - 9.30 Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Bible Studies every 2 Thursday– Pastor Tarr 360188
8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle at St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.00 am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.
1.30 - 2pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights Contact Eve Whitehead 356875
7 - 10pm Bedford Arts Society meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Contact Malcolm Smith 01234 400741
7.30pm Youth Club for age 13-18 at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey 349179

Saturday

9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468
10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain at St Mark's – dancing acting, singing. - Kate Randle 01234 782414
2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe. Meets monthly next meeting. Philip Jones 350295
7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Sunday

Junior Church with crèche for under 3's
9.30 - 10.30 at St.Mark's
11-12 at Putnoe Heights.
1 - 4pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob. 07866775515
5 - 7pm Bethesda Church . Contact Pastor Denis Baka 07944 749357
6.00pm TNT (The Nearly Teens) meet fortnightly at Putnoe Heights for various fun activities. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council , 11 October
Circuit Meeting -
St Mark's Leadership Team – 12 September
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 26 September
St Mark's Church Management Meeting - 12.30pm 4 October, 6 December
Putnoe Heights Church Management - 18 Sept
Putnoe Church Council 9 October
Pastoral Group Meeting –
Churchyard Committee - 30 August
Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting - .
Partnership Council - 19 September
Brickhill Parish Council - 14 Sept, 12 Oct,30 Nov
Deanery Meeting , 14 September, 16 November
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth - 4 September 7.30

Calendar dates appear on our church website www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

Ordinary 19

Verse of Scripture John 6:35

"I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Living God, you have placed in the hearts of your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that, believing in the One whom you have sent, we may know him to be the true bread of heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Methodist Worship*

First Bible Reading - 1 Kings 19: 4-8

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." He looked around, and there by his head was a cake of bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he travelled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. There he went into a cave and spent the night.

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - Ephesians 4: 25 - 5:2

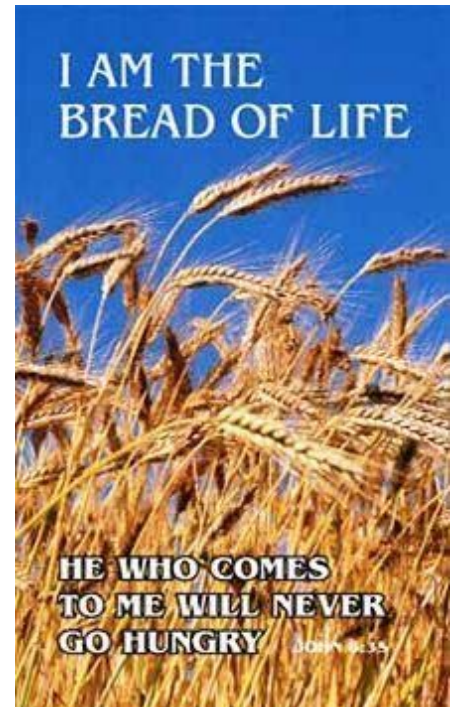
Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbour, for we are all members of one body. "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - John 6: 35 and 41-51

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

At this the Jews began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?" "Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered. "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me. No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. I am the bread of life. Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. But here is the bread



that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns

1. H&P500 Lord God, your love has called us here Tune Melita
2. H&P258 Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts Tune Hereford (Wesley)
3. H&P 467 Break thou the bread of life
4. MP 613, Spirit of the living God AND 389, Jesus, you are changing me
5. H&P 374 Thou God of truth and love

Commentary

It has been a very depressing week in many ways, with continued war and renewed trouble over possible terrorist attacks. It might be tempting to despair of the human race and our capacity to destroy and hurt each other. However as Christians we have a message of hope and we are called by God to be an eternally optimistic people, not a people who fail to see the reality of the world, but a people who see beyond it - to the God of eternity who holds us all in his hands. The Christian perspective is one which allows us to live through difficult times, and it is a message which our world badly needs.

As we read the Bible passages today we can see each of them as an encouragement to live our Christian lives and to apply the demands of our faith in the contemporary world.

Elijah tried his best to live out faith and follow the commandments of God. He spoke up about what was right and because of this he angered the powerful people around him. He was no pleaser of people and now he is in trouble because the Jezebel wants to kill him. Elijah is tired, the situation has overwhelmed him and he feels as we all do from time to time in the face of the task before him, discouraged. He is so absolutely overwhelmed by everything that he wants to die. He is not unlike many men and women across the world today who work hard to bring about peace and change the balance in favour of those who suffer. Elijah was a worker for justice and peace and inevitably like all who engage in God's work he encountered "failure" and opposition. In the midst of complex social problems that are hard to "fix," we can feel overwhelmed and get discouraged. We may be criticized. In speaking up for what is right, we can encounter opposition, threats and even death. War, poverty, and injustice, seem at times to be so persistent and "unfixable."

In the letter to the Ephesians, we are reminded, "All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice." (As always, we are invited to apply this wisdom not only to our personal life but also to relationships between groups of people and nations.)

Both the first reading and the gospel talk about divine "bread" and nourishment for the journey. Elijah receives a hearth cake and a jug of water and is able to complete the journey to the mountain of God. In the New Testament, Jesus promises to be the "living bread" which is "for the life of the world." God wants to strengthen us for the journey.

In order to be faithful and to put our faith into practice, we need to be supported by our God. We need the support and challenge of a community of believers. In the Christian tradition this is made real in the celebration of the Eucharist - where we receive the "bread of life." When the

church is at her best, her social ministry flows out from the Eucharist, for as Jesus says, ". . . the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." We are not alone as we strive to put our faith into action in the pursuit of justice.

Meditation

It sounds so easy, loving God, to follow your commandments, to live as you would have me live. I know that when I do follow your way, life is so much better. I know that your way transforms me, transforms my relationships, transforms the lives of people around me.

So why do I find it so hard, Lord?

Why do I keep on failing, keep on repeating the same old faults?

Why can I still not resist temptation, even when I see it coming?

Lord, I need your forgiveness.

I need your strength.

I need your assurance that you love me no matter what I have done.

And I need you to show me the sins that I keep hidden, even from myself.

Thank you, Lord, that you keep on welcoming me back.

Help me to commit myself anew to your ways; to focus on Jesus, my example and my guide; to allow your Holy Spirit to work in me and through me. Then you will transform me into the person you want me to be, to live for your praise and glory. *Mrs Liz Little*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

God of the way, you are the road we travel, and the sign we follow; you are bread for the journey, and the wine of arrival. Guide us as we follow in your way, holding on to each other, reaching out to your beloved world. And when we stray, seek us out and find us, set our feet on the path again, and lead us safely home. In the name of Jesus, our Lord we pray. Amen.

Dear Lord, we thank you for your love, for how you provide all things that we need. We thank you and we ask you, O God, to continue to feed us, to work on us - and to move us to feed others. Father, just as you graciously provide for our spiritual nourishment through the Word revealed to us by your Son, Jesus Christ, so we bring our physical needs and the needs of others before you, in the faith and confidence that you are willing to hear our prayers. We pray, O God, for the needs of our brothers and sisters throughout the world, those who are united with us at the one table of the Lord, and also for the people of his Church, that they may continue to illuminate the Word by their words and example.

Creator God, Give us a heart for simple things: love and laughter, bread and wine, tales and dreams. Fill our lives with green and growing hope; make us a people of justice whose song is Alleluia and whose name breathes love.

Hymns for Sunday

Mission Praise 613

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me;
break me, melt me, mould me, fill me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me;

Mission Praise 389

Jesus, You are changing me,
by Your Spirit You're making me like You;
Jesus, You're transforming me,
that Your loveliness may be seen in all I do.
You are the potter and I am the clay;
help me to be willing to let You have Your way;
Jesus, You are changing me
as I let You reign supreme within my heart.

News and Information

Barn Dance 4 November 6pm at Putnoe. Suitable for all ages. Details to follow. See Liz

'**Amazing Grace**' the annual prayer handbook published by Methodist Publishing will be available in August. This gives daily Bible readings ; Prayers for the church in Britain & overseas (Ecumenical) and quotations of inspiration. The cost £2.25 inc. postage. To order contact Vera Pearson 270737

Summer arrangements for children in the partnership 17 July, will be the last Junior Church at St Marks and Putnoe before the summer holidays. However the crèche at St Marks will continue as normal thanks to Debbie. We will begin back as normal on Sunday 10th September. We hope to plan an outing, possibly to Wicksteed Park? following a Sunday Service in September please see Liz or Sam Ware if interested.

Partnership Junior Church & Storybox Plus Summer Activity Day. Thursday 24 August 9.30 to 3.30 at Putnoe. Join us in putting together 'Jonah Man Jazz', a short musical. We need musicians as well as singers & anyone who likes to have lots of fun. Lunch will be provided. See Joan or Liz.

News papers please. Please can you leave any old newspapers at the churches before 24 August ready for a big craft project thanks Liz

Storybox starts again as normal at St Marks on 7 Sept and Putnoe on 11 Sept. Storybox plus at Putnoe begins 7 Sept and the newly renamed Monday Club begins at St Marks on 11 Sept. If you would like to join any of our teams please contact Liz.

British Cardiac Patients Association. Meets at Putnoe Heights Church on the fourth Thursday on alternate months. Next meeting August 24 at 7.30pm with slides on Swaziland by Wendy Jones. Please feel free to join us, all welcome.

Footprints walk -- August 13 Commence at 2.30pm and start from the main village street in Tempsford (roadside parking just north of the X roads by the church) and provide a leisurely walk alongside the River Ivel to Blunham, or just beyond depending on conditions, and back on the opposite bank, plus a detour to Roxton Lock if you wish. Approx 3.5 to 4 miles. Graham & Sue 358729

Charity Coffee Morning & Bring & Buy Saturday 2 Sept. From 10 to 12 noon at Putnoe Heights. All proceeds to 'The Stroke Unit' (Care of the Elderly–

Bedford Hospitals Trust. Any contributions—Cakes, Tombola or White Elephant delivered to the hall by 9.30am gratefully received. More details Nancy Barr 268147.

Thank you for all the kind gifts that we received from the Partnership. We are all really grateful for the generous gifts and for all the kind words that everyone said. The money will be put towards items for our new home. As yet we do not have an address for Bury, but when we do we will let you all know. Thank you and I will continue to hold the Partnership in my prayers. Neil Bramble-Chapman.

Art Exhibition

We are pleased that there will be an art exhibition at St Mark's Church, next Sunday 20 August. The church will be open all day for visitors to browse and see the paintings of Mr Christians Mottram.

NCH House to House collection. NCH, the children's charity, works with disadvantaged and disabled children, and their families through its family centres located throughout the country. It is an independent charity working with other groups in partnership including the Methodist Church. The annual house to house collection to support the vital work of the NCH will take place as usual in the first 3 weeks in September. St Mark's Church has the responsibility for covering most of Brickhill and last year we raised over £800. If you could spare a few hours during early September to put out and collect envelopes in the Brickhill area, perhaps near to where you live, or you would like some more information then please contact me. Mike Elliott

Circuit Welcome Service

To officially welcome
to our church and Circuit

The Reverend Martin Hounsfield

&

The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley.

At Priory Methodist Church at
7.30pm on 30 August

With
Bishop Christopher and Anne Brown

The Barford Bypass

Bypass Challenge. A sponsored fun run on the new Great Barford Bypass will be held on Sunday 20 August 2006. Funds to be shared between St. John's Hospice and registered charities of participants' choice. There will be prizes for the best fancy dress and the biggest fundraiser. For further details www.barfordbypasschallenge.org or phone 01767 641044. **The Peck family are taking part in the Barford by pass walk** on Sunday 20 August. We are raising money for St Johns hospice and the National Childrens Home. Please let one of us know if you would like to sponsor us for this event. Tel. 267567 or 266408. **Sue Allen and friends** have enrolled for the Barford Bypass Challenge on Sunday 20 August (only the easy 6km walk option) in aid of St. John's Moggerhanger and would welcome others to join their team and help choose a team name. Entries by 14 August, so don't delay, via the event website www.barfordbypasschallenge.org . Cost of entry £10.00 per person. Contact Sue for further details.



Vision for Action

Our churches are currently taking many initiatives to enable us all to share in realising the full potential of our churches for the future.

The St Albans Diocesan Vision for Action has five overall aims to:

1. Work together in love and commitment to

2. proclaim the Kingdom of God.
2. Encourage, support and develop the ministry of each person.
3. Encourage each parish to develop the use of church buildings as places of worship and mission.
4. Strengthen the commitment to stewardship amongst clergy and laity in order to further the mission of the church.
5. Encourage and develop the necessary skills within parishes and deaneries to bring the Gospel to children and young people through worship, schools and other contexts.

Please pray about how we may all share in God's way for our churches

Vision for Action Prayer

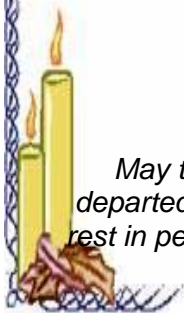
Almighty God and heavenly Father,
open our eyes
to see you at work in our world:
grant us wisdom in using our gifts,
grace to enliven our churches,
and courage to transform our communities.
By your Holy Spirit,
equip us for the challenge ahead,
excite us to follow your vision
and empower us in witness and service.
To you be the glory
through Jesus our Saviour
and mighty Redeemer.

Rest In Peace

On the Sunday following a funeral service we remember in church those who have died. We light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. If you would like a person remembered in our service when the candle is lit, perhaps on an anniversary or birthday, please inform the ministers, or telephone the church office.

Barbara Hunt

May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.



Rest in Peace)



The funeral of Gillian Whitbread will take place on Tuesday 15 August at 12.15pm (Royden)

The funeral of Ernest Francis Joel Butt will take place at

Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 15 August at 2.30pm. (Royden)

The funeral of Margaret Tysoe will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 15 August at 3.15pm (Royden)

The funeral of Edna Bishop will take place at Bedford Crematorium of Wednesday 16 August at 11.30am