



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

14 June 2009

Ordinary 11



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

9.30am St. Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Barry Owen
Leadership - Mrs M Stewart
Intercessions - Mrs P Leusby

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr. Barry Owen
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

Sunday 21st June - Ordinary 12

9.30am St. Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr. Michael Ovenden
Intercessions - Mr. John Tatman

11.00am Putnoe Heights-Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr. Lawrence Wyatt
Intercessions - Mrs. Sylvia Cohen

Readings Job 38: 1-11, 2 Cor 6: 1-13,
Mark 4:35-41

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Eddy and Margaret Peck on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

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

Prayer for Sunday

Beloved God, in the name of Jesus we ask that the living fire of your Holy Spirit conquer our hearts. Grant that each day we may serve and love you with our whole being, trusting that your grace and power may be seen in your people. Burn us with the holy and living flame of your presence and do not leave us until the goals that you have given to your Church have been realised. May we reflect your greatness and love so that by our example others may come to you. In the name of your son Jesus Christ our one saviour and redeemer. Amen

Ricardo Pereira Diaz, Methodist bishop, Cuba

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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266952 Fax- 402624 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
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For Data Protection Purposes

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

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

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 Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mr. Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349
youth@thisischurch.com

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 Delia Shephard 273628
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

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

8.30-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's

9.30-3.15pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634
(See website for more details)

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

9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mr Kellie ☎ 721063

10.30am U3A Play reading St Mark's J Birks ☎219607

12.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349

1.30pm U3A History Group St Mark's ☎ David Fowler 824474

2pm U3A Drama St Mark's 1st & 2nd week. Mr Ovenden ☎ 825059

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham 843747 or 07881730747

4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎ 07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.30pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020

7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting 15 June Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

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

Tuesday

9.30 12.30 Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎01908 587299

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

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

10am -Bedford Arts Society starting at St Mark's Mrs Brown☎771676

10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Sally Banks ☎ 870357

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's 4th Week in

month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895

2pm U3A Photography (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Janet King ☎313946

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting June 16 Members : Who am I ? Betty Wyatt ☎ 350188.

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

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or 07917582468.

6.30pm Creative Card making. Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton 346718

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360

7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎ 07941 264885

7.30pm Hearts & Beds. Cardiac Support Group 1st Tuesday in the month

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

7.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Marks 3rd week. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Meeting June 16 Swazi School ; Wendy Jones Details from Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787 or 07973174430.

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

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

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - 17 June 2009 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

1.45 Scots Society Whist Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr 268147

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎ 262823

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

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885
7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725
7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987
7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley☎ 347073
7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378
8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867
8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next Meeting 17 June Everyone welcome. Ring Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312. or Rosemary 405594 for more details
8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016
7.45 for 8pm God talk - women's group monthly meeting for worship and friendly chat at Wendy Nash's Contact Majella Atkinson ☎325293

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424
Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table. (No meeting on 9th April)
9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970
9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Emma Strangwick ☎211070
12pm Storybox St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing . Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070
1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic St.Mark's ☎267444
1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.
2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991
2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Mary Rich ☎272470 Next meeting 24 September
4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.
6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Caroline Morgan ☎07786508351
7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden☎825059
7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week in month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059
7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094
7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Nadeen Salmon ☎301550
8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193
8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607
8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Pat Foulks ☎346505

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397
9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
10am - 12 U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086
12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th

week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183
5pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468
2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875
6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton 297138 or 07910835994
6.30pm Line Dancing. St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360
7pm Bedford Art Society monthly Putnoe Heights. Next meeting 1st May Mary Rich ☎272470
7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

9.45am Bedford Stamp Auction at Putnoe Heights Next Auction 30th May. Contact Stuart or Anne 01327 876438
10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414
Young Embroiders bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher Tel 357198
2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792
7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's
11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.
1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515
6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun. Please see Liz ☎302349 .



Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 9 Nov

St Mark's Leadership Team –
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 12 Oct, 8 Feb 2010
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting 20 July
St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 15 July, 8 Sept , 11 Nov, 12 Jan 2010
Putnoe Church Council - 15 Jun, 5 Oct
Pastoral Group Meeting -
Churchyard Committee -
Putnoe Heights Mission Group -
Partnership Council - September 6th
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -
Deanery Meeting 18 Jun, 17 Sep, 19 Nov,
Circuit/Deanery Meeting
Woodland Burial Trustees –
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

Ordinary 11

Opening Verses of Scripture Mark 4

"What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground.

Collect Prayer for the Day - Before we read we pray

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



First Bible Reading Ezekiel 17: 22-24

'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find shelter in the shade of its branches. All the trees of the field will know that I the LORD bring down the tall tree and make the low tree grow tall. I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. " I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.

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

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. We live by faith, not by sight.

We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience.

We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. If we are out of our mind, it is for the sake of God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

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

Gospel Reading Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces corn – first the stalk, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. Yet when

planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade.” With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Commentary

The Kingdom of God is like a seed which grows all by itself once it is planted. The Kingdom, like a small seed, might appear tiny and insignificant, but the kingdom of God should not be judged by earthly standards.

This teaching is encouraging for us. It reminds us that God is at work in this world. We should not be disappointed by the lack of spectacular growth, because Jesus tells us that Kingdom growth is slow, like that of a plant. If we watch it we will not see it grow, indeed it is only if we go back after a time that we will notice that there has been any change at all. There is most wonderful change and growth going on, but the growth of the kingdom is imperceptible. You have to look for it very carefully and to those who lack the eyes of faith, it will be impossible to see.

This might seem rather lacking in excitement, we live in a consumer culture and we expect immediate results. However we should not be too disappointed. Growth might be imperceptible, but yet it is also unstoppable. Just as growth is a fact of nature, so the growth of the kingdom is unavoidable.

For this reason God's Kingdom should never be despised, simply because it lacks human appearance of greatness. So Jesus uses the illustration of the mustard seed. It would be easy to despise such a small seed, it is insignificant. yet it has within it the potential for great growth, many, many times its apparent size.

We should never judge God's work by its appearance, there is hidden energy at work which transcends the small appearance on the surface.

Jesus contrasts the smallness of the seed with the outcome of the growth which takes place from the potential stored inside that seed. There is an important message here, the Gospel has enormous power and potential, even if like a planted seed, the growth goes on without even the possibility of being seen! So we should be aware of the importance of the small beginnings and the small changes that we see.

Some have assumed that in speaking of growth, Jesus is thinking about the growth of the church. The hymn 'The day thou gavest' has this message at its core. It speaks of the church keeping watch across the whole world, the voice of prayer never being silent, because the church is 'unsleeping'. The kingdom of God is seen to be growing numerically, adding numbers, 'hour by hour fresh lips are making thy wondrous doing heard on high'. This kingdom of the church, unlike 'earth's proud empires' will never pass away. It is glorious and triumphant and very 19th century, we could hardly imagine it being written today! Although there are some modern songs which use this kind of imagery, speaking about marching and victory and claiming land for Jesus. I am not sure what Jesus would have thought of it all. Jesus made it clear to his disciples that his kingdom was a spiritual kingdom. 'My kingdom is not of this world' he told Pilate. *John (18:36)*. When we read the teachings of Jesus about the kingdom it is quite obvious that he had no intention of establishing a rival kingdom to Rome, the kingdom of God is about the change in a human heart.

We all have the potential for change and growth, allowing our lives to be come fit places for God to grow his kingdom. This growth can be painfully slow. We determine that we will be nicer to our husbands and wives and families, we promise ourselves that we will practice patience and be more joyful in daily living, then we let ourselves down. Yet the kingdom still grows, even if growth, like that of a plant is so slow that stare as we might we cannot see it. Only as we look back do we see how we have changed and recognise the potential for what we might become.

There is also an important message here about our efforts. If we just sow the seed it grows by a power greater than our own. We do our own seemingly insignificant part, and great significance can result. Our part may appear insignificant it is not, it is of enormous importance. Our efforts are not the whole story, it does not all depend upon us - BUT if we fail to sow how can the seed grow?

Each one of us can sow, play our seemingly small part, we can all plant and allow the process of growth to take place. Jesus is making the point that it is not just the spiritual giants, the Billy Grahams of this world

Hymns For Sunday

1. **Awake, my soul, and with the sun**

thy daily stage of duty run;
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise
to pay thy morning sacrifice.

Redeem thy mis-spent time that's past,
and live this day as if thy last;
improve thy talent with due care;
for the great day thyself prepare.

Let all thy converse be sincere,
thy conscience as the noon-day clear;
think how all-seeing God thy ways
and all thy secret thoughts surveys.

Lord, I my vows to thee renew;
disperse my sins as morning dew,
grant my first springs of thought and will,
and with thyself my spirit fill.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below,
praise him above, ye heavenly host,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Tune Morning Hymn

2. **Thank you Jesus, thank you Jesus,**

Thank you Lord, for loving me,
Thank you Jesus, thank you Jesus,
Thank you Lord, for loving me

You went to Calvary, there you died for me,
Thank you Lord, for loving me.
You went to Calvary, there you died for me,
Thank you Lord, for loving me.

You rose up from the grave,
to me new life you gave,
Thank you Lord for loving me.
You rose up from the grave,
to me new life you gave,
Thank you Lord for loving me.

You're coming back again,
and we with you shall reign
Thank you Lord, for loving me.
You're coming back again,
and we with you shall reign
Thank you Lord, for loving me. *M Praise 633*

3 **All I once held dear,** built my life upon, All this world reveres, and wars to own, All I once thought gain, I have counted loss; Spent and worthless now, compared to this.

*Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,
there is no greater thing.*

*You're my all, You're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness,
and I love You, Lord.*

2 Now my heart's desire, Is to know You more, To be found in You, and known as Yours. To possess by faith, what I could not earn, All-surpassing gift, of righteousness. *Chorus*

3 Oh, to know the power, of Your risen life, And to know You in, Your sufferings. To become like You, in Your death, my Lord, So with You to live, and never die. *Chorus*

4. **Lord Jesus, once you spoke to men**

upon the mountain, in the plain;
O help us listen now, as then,
and wonder at your words again.

We all have secret fears to face,
our minds and motives to amend;
we seek your truth, we need your grace,
our living Lord and present Friend.

The Gospel speaks; and we receive
your light, your love, your own command.
O help us live what we believe
in daily work of heart and hand.

Tune Winchester New

5. **I vow to thee, my country,** all earthly things above, entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love: the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test, that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best; the love that never falters, the love that pays the price, the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country,
I've heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her,
most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies,
we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart,
her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently
her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness
and all her paths are peace.

Tune Thaxted

Youth, children and friends summer diary dates

Sunday 14th June TNT and friends "Fun at the Priory" meet 1.00 outside visitors centre for picnic then join in the organised events learn to skateboard, canoe, sail, circus skills, assault course, story telling. Small charge applies.
Sunday 12th July TNT and friends "Cycle ride to Danish Camp" meet 2.00 by recycling area at Priory. All welcome to join us or meet for refreshments at the camp about 3.00. The young people remain the responsibility of their parent/guardian during the above two events.

Thursday 16th July St Marks last Storybox and Chat and Play. Restart Thursday 10th September.

Monday 20th July Putnoe Holiday Storybox 12.00 till 1.00 followed by Storybox plus until 2.45.
Monday 27th July at Putnoe The Cheeky Dog Children's Entertainer and sandwich lunch 12.00 till 2.00. Tickets £2.50 from Liz or £3.00 on the door/office, accompanying adults £1.00, under 1 year free. This will be the last Storybox and Storybox plus until Monday 7th September
Monday 24th August under 5's summer workshop 2.00 till 4.00 and Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th August 5 years plus summer workshop 10.00 till 3.00
Join us to "Travel God's world." Both these events celebrate the United Nations Year of the Child and will include stories of Children in the Bible, stories from around the world, music, games, crafts and Fun! Small charge.

There will be no Junior Church or YPF at Putnoe during August.

If you are able to help any of these groups in anyway over the summer or at the new term start in September please speak to Liz or Emma. Thank you for all your support. See Liz for further details on all the above events.

The 1st Putnoe Brownies will be holding a bring and buy cake stall next Sunday the 21st June.

There is a Deanery Eucharist at St Peter's on Monday 22 June at 7.30pm to help us all celebrate St Alban's Day! Adrian Quarry is very keen that the choir, which we are bringing together for this occasion, should be as representative as possible of the various churches within the deanery and embrace both those who are members of formal church choirs and those who are not but who enjoy singing choral music! He would be delighted for people from the Partnership to come along.

Rehearsals are at St Peter's on Monday 15 June at 7.30pm

Footprints Weekend 2009 Friday 25 - Sunday 27 September. Booking is now open. Bed, breakfast and dinner at The Four Pillars Hotel, Ducklington Lane, Witney, Oxfordshire is £52 per person sharing a double room. Walks daily or non walking option to visit Blenheim, Burford etc. Please contact Barry Snelson at the Putnoe Church office [Tuesday to Thursday] on 01234 365630 or at home on 01234 344417 as soon as possible to register your interest.

If anyone has any old jam jars please can you give them to Liz Spavins at Putnoe. Thank you.

Easter Offering—Women's Network The total amount raised for the work of the Methodist Church Fund for World Mission in Bedford North Circuit was £808.93. Many thanks for all your contributions. Pam Seymour.

A Celebration for the Life of Yvonne Holmes will be held in the Small Hall at Putnoe Heights Church on Friday 19 June 2009 at 6.30pm. All welcome.

Singing Together at Priory. Saturday 4th July 10.30am - 1.30pm. Open to all, from the experienced singer to the novice. Please bring a packed lunch. Donations to the Cameroon Project welcome. For more information and to book please contact John Ayres 843827.

Woodland Burial Trust St Albans Woodland Burial Ground Open Day Come and visit the woodland on Saturday 27 June from 2.00pm—5.00pm Refreshments served throughout. We would welcome offers of help with providing refreshments throughout the afternoon. If you are able to offer any help then please contact Janet Day 295592

What is Tiddler Emergency Relief Fund? The Mission Group collected your 5ps and other small change saved at the church door each Sunday.

This creates a fund enabling a quick response to major emergencies. The small sums mount very usefully. From 2000 - 2009 £4680, averaging £540 per year has been sent in times of natural disaster, famine and the disruptions of war. Can you save your small change, if you do not already do so? Every little helps. Sylvia Cohen.

Methodist Homes For the Aged. The work of MHA is celebrated this week. Envelopes will be available at both churches if anybody would like to make a donation. Our new Deacon, Jane Mason

who make a difference. It is each one of us playing our part. It involves the mother with three kids who makes the effort to get to church in the morning, just as much as it involves the minister who pretends he runs the place. Both are equally important, both plant their seeds.

The sowing of the tiniest seeds starts a process over which we have no control. God will take care of the process. The growth will happen at the right pace, first the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear. *Charles Royden*

Hymns (*Please distribute Morning Worship—Hymns on Partnership News*)

1. Awake, my soul, and with the sun
2. Thank you Jesus, thank you Jesus,
3. All I once held dear,
4. Lord Jesus, once you spoke to men
5. I vow to thee, my country,

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

For the increase of the Kingdom of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Fill your church we pray with confidence in Christ as her Lord, that your people might make him known by teaching and daily living. Nourish the good seed of your word in us, that it may be fruitful and grow.

As Christ died for all, may his love renew us all as his new creation. Open eyes that are closed to your glory and the ears that will not hear the good news. May self-interest be changed to a true desire for the common good.

Guide us to discern the signs of your presence among us, in family life, in work, in all our dealings. Trusting in your strength, may we bring to fruition all that is your will for us.

Bless and comfort those whose work is hard and who see no results for what they do. Give them strength to persevere, in the knowledge that you are working in all things.

We pray for those who have left their earthly bodies and come home to you. Judge them with mercy, through the sacrifice of Christ.

That we may grow in the service of Christ, we pray in his name. Amen.

has been appointed as chaplain to Anjulita Court (opening later this year) this will give the Partnership a special relationship with MHA, so please give generously. The church was full this week at the special evening to introduce the work of MHA and specifically Anjulita Court. We heard that this exciting new facility will open in just a few weeks time.

Deanery Eucharist at St Peter's on Monday 22 June at 7.30pm to help us all celebrate St Alban's Day! I am very keen that the choir, which we are

bringing together for this occasion, should be as representative as possible of the various churches within the deanery and embrace both those who are members of formal church choirs and those who are not but who enjoy singing choral music! I know that there are a number of enthusiastic singers at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights, so please do encourage them to join us - it would be great to see them there. We are rehearsing at St Peter's on Monday 15 June at 7.30pm and I can let them have copies of the music then. Adrian

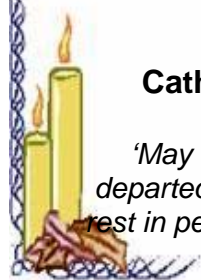
Shannon Express Concert with Great Songs and Great Voices - the award winning Male Close Harmony Chorus. Saturday 4th July 7.30 pm Tickets £7.50 (concessions £6.50) from Bedford Central Box Office 01234 269519 or from 01234 403255 price includes light refreshments St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Goldington

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.

Olive Lucy Betts
Catherine Jessica Shield

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



Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Florence Ellen Davies will take place at St Mark's Church on Tuesday 23 June at 1.30pm