



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

19 November 2006

33 in Ordinary

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 ONLY
9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion
 Preacher - Revd Bill Davies
 Leadership - Mrs Delia Shephard
 Intercessions - Mr John Tatman
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion
 Preacher - Revd Bill Davies
 Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss
 Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

November 26

8.30 Holy Communion at ST MARK'S ONLY
9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship
 Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
 Leadership - Mr Mike Cooper
 Intercessions - Mr Richard Ledger
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship
 Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
 Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley
 Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

Reading 1 : Daniel 12: 1-3
Reading 2 : Acts 12:1-19
Reading 3 : Luke 19:1-10

Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Maurice and Pat Leusby in celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Howard Lawrence in memory of Margaret, and by Kay Munro in happy memory of her parents.

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)

Prayer for Sunday

Faithful God, In my despair and suffering - I cry with you
 In my doubt and searching - I struggle with you
 In my touch and forgiving - I heal with you
 In my compassion and comforting - I love with you
 In my hope and trusting - I have faith in you
 In my 'doing' and 'being' - I commit myself to you
 Lord, rekindle my commitment to serve you.

Amen

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 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 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

Treasurer Mr Ian 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

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 Monday Club at St. Marks for 3—8 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments , between 4 & 5 Bible story, craft activities & songs. Lots of fun. 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 20 November Contact 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 - Next meeting 21 November Mr.T.Darlow 'The Amish People'. Contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 21 November, with the Women's Fellowship. 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.

Tuesday - 7pm-9pm MT Karate [all ages] at Putnoe Heights. Please contact Karen King 07941 264885

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. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 28 November - ,Talk about road traffic victim support, by Marion Garside. 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 29 November 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

6.15pm - 7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation at Putnoe Heights. Please contact Racheall Monton 01234 297138

6.30 - 7.30 at St Mark's .Karate contact Karen 079412 64885

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Contact Sylvia Woods 365095

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073

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

5 - 7pm Bethesda Church . Contact Pastor Denis Baka 07944 749357

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

6-7.30pm T.N.T. for 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. At Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349.

6—7.30pm T.X.T for 13 + fortnightly , join us for

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council , 2007

Circuit Meeting -

St Mark's Leadership Team – 27th November

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -

21 November at Joan's house

St Mark's Church Management Meeting -

12.30pm 6 December

Putnoe Heights Church Management -

Putnoe Church Council 11 June 2007

Pastoral Group Meeting – 31 January 2007

Churchyard Committee - 29 November 11am.

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting – .

Partnership Council - 20 January at St Mark's

Brickhill Parish Council - 30 Nov

Deanery Meeting ,

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth— 20 November

Calendar dates appear on our church website

www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise St Mark's

Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

33 in Ordinary Time



Verse of Scripture - Psalm 1:1

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Eternal God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in justice and peace your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Methodist Worship*

First Bible Reading - Daniel 12: 1-3

"At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

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

Second Reading - Acts 12: 1-19

It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. When he saw that this pleased the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover. So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists. Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him. Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I know without a doubt that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were anticipating." When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer the door. When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!" "You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel." But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the brothers about this," he said, and then he left for another place. In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. After Herod had a thorough search made for

him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.
(This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - Luke 19: 1-10 (Please stand for the Gospel Reading)

When the Gospel is announced - **Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.' " But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

(Reader : This is the Gospel of Christ . **All - Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Post Communion Prayer God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise and Holy Communion Booklets)_

1. Crown him with many crowns 109 2. Father I place into your hands 133 3. Christ the prisoner. (On partnership News Tune Hyfrydol) 4. Lead us heavenly Father (Tune Mannheim)

Commentary for Prisons Week They opened the door ... Acts 12:1-19

Acts 12:1-19 is probably one of the most amusing passages in the Bible. Peter has been freed from prison, but has trouble convincing those who have been praying for his release that it is him knocking at the door - and that their prayers have been answered! Many people, organisations and churches play an important part in preparing prisoners for life on the outside and in helping them settle back into the community after release. The prayers at the end of each section were written by a former prisoner.

1. The power of prayer

'Peter was kept in jail, but the people of the church were praying earnestly to God for him.' (Verses 5)

Those praying for Peter's release seemed surprised at the very visible answer they received; often God will intervene in less immediately obvious ways.

Christians should never forget the importance of prayer. Those not directly involved in the field of criminal justice can pray for those who are - those who have come into conflict with the law, their families, and victims of crime. And we should expect our prayers to be answered.

Prayer *Lord, we pray that the Holy Spirit will enter the consciences of church leaders, congregations and communities. We pray that they will recognise the support they can give through the power of prayer to those who are isolated from their loved ones whilst serving their prison sentence.*

2. Preparing for release

The gate opened for them . . . and they went out. (verse 10)

Officers, education staff, chaplains and volunteers are among those who help prisoners prepare for release. Many prisoners come in with poor numeracy, literacy and social skills, or with an addiction to drugs or alcohol. For many, the world will be a very different one from that which they knew - faster, noisier and hostile.

"I got to the station and the train came in. I looked at the train door handle and I froze. I couldn't make myself open it because it looked like a cell door handle. Then somebody else opened it and I was alright." (An ex-prisoner)

Prayer Lord, we ask You to bring to the attention of the prison authorities, charities and society the urgent need to provide further finances and resources to enhance and strengthen the work undertaken by people who are working tirelessly to rehabilitate and prepare prisoners for their eventual release.

3. Back in the community

Peter kept on knocking. At last they opened the door . . . (verse 16)

Prisoners on release often face a bewildering future - damaged personal relationships, loss of accommodation and poor job prospects. Patience and persistence will be needed as they apply for benefits and jobs. Those seeking a welcoming Christian community may have to search. Many who are willing to show God's love inside prisons, sometimes find it hard to welcome released prisoners into the church outside.

Prayer Lord, guide church leaders and congregations to open their hearts and minds to show the true meaning of Christian love by welcoming back those prisoners returning to society. We pray that they will show compassion and become their pillar of strength as the former prisoners seek to take the righteous path in life.



PRISONS WEEK

www.prisonsworld.org

Prayer for Prisons Week

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners, and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the activities of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in His strength and in His Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

For the ministry among prisoners and members of staff, let us pray to the Lord.

The needs of those inside

For those in prison for the first time and for the families and friends from whom they are separated. For those made hard and cynical by life in prison; for those who feel no sorrow for what they have done, and for those who are thinking of further crime. For those who break the good order and discipline of prison life; for those in the segregation unit; and for those seeking protection. For those who create anxiety and fear; for the weak who are abused by the strong; for those who desperately long to be accepted; for the unloved and the unwanted who receive neither letter or visit; For those whose faith in Christ is mocked; for those who are taunted for going to Chapel, for reading the Bible and praying. For those who by their false and evil beliefs lead the simple away from the truth in Christ.

For those who stand firm in the faith and witness to Christ in word and in deed.

(For more prayers see www.prisonsworld.org)

Christmas is coming...

Now is the time to start thinking about Christmas presents and many of you will be ordering electrical goods, CD's and DVD's, books and other items online.

Amazon.co.uk sell everything, with free delivery and really low prices. When you access Amazon through thisischurch.com we receive a percentage of the cost usually 5%. If you access Amazon direct we loose out. Occasionally people have looked at Amazon first, then gone back and tried to order through Thisischurch.com—too late !

Your computer will already have stored a cookie which means we will not be credited with introducing you to the item. **Order now for Christmas!**



News and Information



Kisiizi Mission Update

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the Kisiizi mission project. Including coffee mornings and gift aid we've already

raised over £2,500 from the envelopes. This is split across support for doctors, nurses, drugs and the combined package of medical personnel and medicines. This support will make a huge difference to the hospital in Kisiizi. There is still time left to make a contribution if you have not already done so and we know that events to support the project are still being planned. If you need any details or have not yet picked up an envelope please see Sam or any of the ministers after the services today.

Today we are giving out Smartie Tubes for you to fill with coins. Please return these on Gift Sunday 3 December—and remember to complete the gift aid declaration if you have paid any tax this year. Once again thank you for your support.

On Friday 1st December (World AIDS Day) : there will be a half hour service of prayer, readings, quiet and the lighting of candles at 6.00pm at St Paul's Church, Bedford to which all will be welcome.

Belief. Bedford Ecumenical Lay Institute for Education and Faith. In place of our Advent Course we are encouraging everybody to attend. Course leaflets are available in the foyer with details of some excellent sessions. The courses are held at St Andrew's Church in Bedford. Please take a leaflet and consider joining one of the courses this advent. The next module "Thinking about God" led by Rev'd Dr Ian McIntosh begins on 8 November at 7.45 .
Weds 22 Nov God and Suffering
Weds 29 Nov God the Holy Spirit
Weds 6 Dec God as Trinity

Card sales at Putnoe Heights continue to do very well. We have recently sent £50 to Riverbank Children's Ward at South Wing Hospital and we are now raising money for the British Diabetic Association. Cards for special occasions and Christmas can always be made to order. Telephone 267567. Thank you for your continuing support. Margaret and Claire Peck.

Friends of the John Bunyan Museum invite you to An Evening with Terry Waite CBE on Thursday 23rd

November 2006. 6.45 Refreshments, 7.30pm talk. Bunyan Meeting Free Church, Mill St Bedford. Tickets £8, friends £6, from church or phone 342711

Putnoe Provender will be open for business on Sunday December 3rd after Morning Service. Cakes, jams, marmalade, chutney and of course, Putnoe's celebrated Christmas Puddings will be on sale. All proceeds to Kisiizi Hospital All contributions gratefully received(we have freezer space). John and Sally Gunning 305925.'

Concord singers Christmas concerts. Saturday 16 December, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church Cardington, in aid of the church organ fund. Tickets £8 including refreshments. Saturday 23 December, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church Oakley. Tickets £7.50 including refreshments.

Putnoe: new meeting room. Update. We are still awaiting permission to proceed from Methodist Property Office and also planning permission from the Council. In the meantime we are beginning the tendering process and hope to start building in the Spring.

4th Putnoe Brownies are looking to recruit new members. Meeting Thursday, term time, between 18.15 and 19.45. Large Hall at Putnoe Heights.

Christmas Voices. Friday 8 December 7pm at Putnoe Heights. (Please note early start) An evening of favourite poetry, prose and Bible readings with a Christmas theme. Tickets £3.00 to include a drink and mince pie. In aid of Kissisi. Requests for readings to be included to Joan Crossley or Sue Allen.

About Prisons Week

We welcome this week as our preacher The Reverend Bill Davies. He served as Principal Methodist Chaplain to the Prison service for 18 years.

Prisons Week was formed to pray for and raise awareness of the needs of prisoners and their families, victims of offenders, prison staff and all those who care. It consists of representatives of Christian denominations and Christian organisations. If you are interested in volunteering in the criminal justice field, What Can I Do? offers a range of opportunities and details of how to find out more. It is available at www.whatcanido.org.uk or, as a hard copy, from Prison Advice and Care Trust, Suite C5 City Cloisters, 196 Old Street, London EC1V 9FR.

St Mark's Christmas Fayre

Saturday 25
November



We would be grateful for help with the following

Tombola Stall - Any new unwanted gifts.

Bookstall - Nearly new books and puzzles.

Cake Stall - Any cakes for the stall will be much appreciated. Please bring them to the church on the Friday or Saturday morning.

Refreshments - We would very much appreciate donations of tray bakes to sell with tea and coffee. Volunteers to help in the kitchen on the day would be very welcome. Contact Avril Williams or one of the Leadership team.

Christmas Fayre Book Stall

We will be running a Church Book and puzzle stall on 25 November. Donations of all types of books and jigsaw puzzles (in good condition only please) will be very gratefully received. Please drop your books in to the office at St Mark's or ring Delia Shephard 273628 if you need them to be collected.

A Hymn for Sunday

Christ the prisoner, Christ the victim,
Christ the judge and Christ the king.
Be with all whom we imprison
In their pain and suffering
Let them feel your strength inside them
Comfort that shall never cease,
And to all who serve and guide them
Give your healing, give your peace.

Jesus Lord, the thief beside you
Found that in his dying hour
Casting off his sin and pride, you
Showed him forgiving power.
Words of love and hope were spoken
Words that set the prisoner free
With the humble, with the broken,
Lord, we pray, remember me.

Poor or prisoner, lonely ailing,
Naked, needy, hungry, ill –
Those who visit them and serve them
Know they do your heavenly will.
Yet more powerful is your teaching –
We rejoice to find it true –
When with love the lost we're reaching
Lord, in them we visit you.

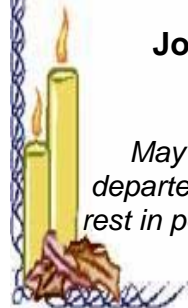
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Living, loving Trinity,
In the power of Jesus name, we
Pray you set your people free –
Free from sin and all that binds us,
Free to lift your name in praise,
Free from all that gags and binds us,
Free to serve you all our days.
Tune Hyfrydol Words by Keith Proud

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.

Joseph George Waters

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 Eric Arthur Mooring will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 24th November at 2.30pm (*Royden*)

The Funeral of Marjorie Walker will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Monday 27th November at 10.45am. (*Crossley*)

The funeral of Mr Roy Frederick Hudson will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 2.30pm on Monday 27 November (*Royden*)