



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

20 September 2009

Ordinary 25



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 - Holy Communion

Preacher - Mrs E. Robinson-Morley  
Leadership - Mr Mick Ovenden  
Intercessions - Mrs Pat Leusby

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights- Holy Communion

Preacher - Mrs E Robinson-Morley  
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk  
Intercessions - The Nash Family

## Sunday 27 September - Ordinary 26

### 9.30am St. Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Paul Fricker  
Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams  
Intercessions - Mrs Margaret Appleton

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights- Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Paul Fricker  
Leadership - Mrs Wendy Nash  
Intercessions - Ministers

**Readings** 1. Numbers 11: 4-6 & 10-16

2. James 5: 13-20 3. Mark 9: 38-50

## Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Veta Hudson-Rae to celebrate her birthday and her grandson Samuel.

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Vera Tippet for her daughter Barbara on the occasion of her birthday.

*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

Grant to us, O Lord,  
purity of heart and strength of purpose,  
that no passion  
may hinder us from doing your will,  
and no weakness  
from doing it;  
that in your light we may see light clearly,  
and in your service find perfect freedom;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*St Augustine of Hippo (354-430)*

### 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)

### Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE  
348091 jane@thisischurch.com

### The Reverend Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY  
309175 Mobile 07973 113861  
vicar@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](http://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

**9.15 -11.45 am 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 21 September 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 Putnoe Heights** 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 September 22'D.L. Moody, Evangelist' Miss. M. Wiles. Details from 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. Brian Ibberson ☎403497

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

**7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting September 22 Jane DeLacey Munday 'Jewellery', 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 - 30 September 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 or 07910835994.

**6-8pm Karate.** St Mark's Karen King ☎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** meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next Meeting 30 September Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments.. 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  
 11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau at Putnoe Heights.  
**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 & 1.15 - 3.15pm 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  
 6.30 - 7.30pm Ladies Kick Boxing weekly at St. Mark's. Parker Lake ☎07984427854  
**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 Embroiderers** 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** – 9 Nov  
**St Mark's Leadership Team** – 19 January  
**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** – 12 Oct at Jean's, 8 Feb  
**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** 19 Oct.  
**St Mark's Church Forum Meeting** - 11 Nov, 12 Jan 2010,  
**Putnoe Church Council** - 5 Oct  
**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 22 September 4.30pm  
**Churchyard Committee** - 26 January 2010, 11am  
**Putnoe Heights Mission Group**  
**Partnership Council—TBA**  
**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -**  
**Deanery Meeting** 19 Nov,  
**Circuit/Treasurers** Revue meeting at St. Mark's  
**Circuit Meeting** at Sharnbrook Methodist Church 16 September at 7.30pm  
**Woodland Burial Trustees** –  
**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth** –12th October

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

# Ordinary 25

## Opening Verses of Scripture—Psalm 1:6

The Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

## Collect Prayer for the Day *Before we read we pray*

God who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the Gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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. Amen. Common Worship



## First Bible Reading - Jeremiah 11:18-20

Because the Lord revealed their plot to me, I knew it, for at that time he showed me what they were doing. I had been like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter; I did not realise that they had plotted against me, saying, "Let us destroy the tree and its fruit; let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name be remembered no more." But, O Lord Almighty, you who judge righteously and test the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

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

## Second Reading - James 3:13 TO 4:3,7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness. What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you.

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

## Gospel Reading - Mark 9:30-37 (All— Glory to Christ our Saviour)

They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it. They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

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

## **Hymns** *(Please distribute Holy Communion and Mission Praise)*

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind 111
2. God is building a house 184
3. Make me a channel of your peace 456
4. Now thank we all our God 486

## **Post Communion Prayer**

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Commentary Mark 9. 30-37**

I recently went to Spain on my holidays. I so dislike the boarding process with the searches and queues, that I decided to pay for priority boarding. It avoided some of the check in procedures, although not as many as I would have hoped. This is the way things work in public transport and if you are prepared to pay, you can also have better seats.

It is difficult therefore when we come to thinking about the Kingdom of Jesus. There is no queue jumping, and we have to learn to put others before ourselves. We read in our lesson today that the disciples found this hard. They wanted to have the best positions, the best rewards.

Just think of the irony of it all. Jesus is speaking about his death for others, the laying down of his life for others. Meanwhile the disciples are arguing among themselves who will be the one to bask most in the reflected glory of Jesus the Messiah. It was agreed that Jesus would be king, but they argued about who would be the next in line, who would speak for Jesus when he was busy, who would fulfil special engagements when he was not available? All of these things had to be agreed.

In the gospel passage today Jesus shows us that we need to guard against purely personal ambition, that we should not seek to put ourselves first. True greatness lies not in self promotion, but in self-denial and in child like joy and obedience to Him. Greatness is not measured by the power and influence we have over other people, but by how we serve them.

So who will be qualified to be the ambassador for Jesus? Jesus uses the example of a child. Not an obvious choice, since children are obviously immature and naive. When we think of children we do not regard them as an example, rather we expect from them obedience and respect. However Jesus knew that the secret to successful living was to be found in having certain childlike qualities. Children are open and willing to learn, they are not restricted by their prejudices and ingrained attitudes. It is a sad indictment that the older we get, often the more set in our ways we become. Children are much more open to new ideas, possibilities and opportunities. As much as children are flexible, older people can become rigid and inflexible. It is true that children lack experience, but it is exactly that lack of experience which makes them open to new experiences, hence they are more spontaneous and fun.

As disciples we all need to understand the call of Jesus for a radically different way of living. Following Jesus means that we are prepared to share with him in turning the world's standards on their head. To do this it requires a whole revolution in the way we think and act. This requires us to go back to basics and start learning all over again.

Of course throughout history the church has been as bad at this as anybody and we all need to learn the basic lessons. If the disciples are to gain lasting dignity they must be willing to be a servant "to all." They must learn to receive the child in Jesus' name.

At the time of Jesus children were lacking in any power they had no status and they were very vulnerable. The disciple is to be just like that, Jesus says, "welcome the child" into their lives –

accept being vulnerable and therefore dependent on God.

This is not an encouragement to be childish, but it is a call for us all to consider in what ways we might be more childlike and to take ourselves less seriously. This is good for healthy living, but it is also essential for the gospel. If we fail to have an open and childlike attitude, then the message of Jesus could never be appreciated. Access to the Kingdom of God required a willingness to see miracles with child like eyes. The desire and willingness to share the good news of the Kingdom required further childlike qualities, enthusiasm and joy. *Charles Royden*

### **Meditation**

The Gospel of Mark was written most probably around AD 66. At that time it is probable that the leaders of the early church, for whom Mark wrote, were already claiming rank and privilege. In not sparing the truth about how the disciples behaved, it might be that mark is reminding these leaders about their responsibility: they were to be "the least of all and the servant of all." That's a sobering reminder, not only to church leaders, but all of us. Power easily goes to our heads. We need regular reminders that we are servants, whether we wear business suits, teach or have any positions of authority.

Who is the "greatest?" If the disciples are to gain lasting dignity they must be willing to be a servant "to all." Instead of seeking out and serving the high placed and important in society and church, the disciple is to seek out the company of the poor and insignificant – the "children." What we know from other teachings of Jesus is that in "the least" we will discover Christ himself.

*Charles Royden*

### **Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead**

Thank You Lord

Thank you Lord that I can see ..... so many are blind.

Thank you Lord that I can hear ..... so many are deaf.

Thank you Lord that I can walk ..... so many are crippled.

Thank you Lord that I have food ..... so many are starving.

Thank you Lord that I have shelter ..... so many are homeless.

Thank you Lord for the touch of a friendly hand ..... so many are lonely.

Thank you Lord for the Cross you share with me and for all your blessings ..... so many deserve them better.

Help me Lord always to be mindful. Amen

Loving God, we praise you for welcoming and accepting us as your beloved children. We know that you are in the business of changing hearts and lives through the witness of believers and the urging of your Spirit and we thank you for it. Make us fitting witnesses and grant us the grace to be people who reach out as every opportunity comes to us - to be instruments of your healing and transforming power. We think, O Lord, not only of ourselves, not only of our families, but we think of the world and those in it who need wholeness, who need peace, who need a reason to have hope..... Lord, hear our prayer

God, the source of all health: So fill my heart with faith in your love, that with calm expectancy I may make room for your power to possess me, and gracefully accept your healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Thoughts**

Greatness lies, not in being strong, but in the right using of strength.

*Henry Ward Beecher, 19th century*

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble.

*Helen Keller, 20th century*

[One] is not great who is not greatly good.

*William Shakespeare, 15th century*

**Christmas Shoebox Appeal.** The youth team at Putnoe would like to launch The Christmas Shoebox appeal again this year, where via the Samaritans Purse organisation filled boxes will be delivered to some of the worlds poorest children, boys and girls between 2 to 14 years, in time for Christmas. If you could please donate any of the following items the children will pack the boxes, alternatively if you would prefer to donate some money this can be used towards postage. The boxes need to be completed by the beginning of November so please start collecting now—soft toys, jigsaws, building blocks, cars, dolls, soft balls, stationery items, stickers, puzzle books, toothbrushes/paste, soap, hairbrushes, hats and caps, necklaces, sweets (long sell by dates), bangles, sunglasses. We will also need empty shoeboxes and Christmas wrapping paper Please leave at Putnoe office for the youth team. Thank you.

**1st Putnoe Brownies** kindly ask for donations of empty clean baked bean tins and glass paints. Items can be left at Putnoe for Liz. Thank you

**Beds, Essex, Herts, Women's Network.** District Day on 22 September 10.30—3.30 at Bishops Stortford Methodist Church, South Street, Bishops Stortford. The Induction Service of Brenda Veitch as District President will take place A 2pm.

**Autumn Craft Day 2009** will be held on 17 October from 9.45 to 4.30 at Priory Methodist Church. £4 per half day session. For booking form please contact Pam Seymour 305695 or 01296 485087

**Putnoe Heights Harvest Lunch** Sunday 4 October at 1pm. Tickets now available from Putnoe Office or Sue Allen. Two courses, soft drinks & coffee. Bring your own wine. Adults £6, children under 10 £3.

**Community Police Surgery** has restarted at Putnoe Heights. The police will be in attendance [subject to operational requirements] every Wednesday between 1pm and 3pm..

#### **St Mark's Organ Fund**

We are delighted that the organ fund at St Mark's has now reached £5,000 thank you to all of those who have contributed towards the fund



**Bedford Citizens Advice Bureau** is opening for 1 hour every Thursday between 11am and 12noon at Putnoe Heights Church.

#### **Evening in aid of Local Hospices**

Sounds Familiar and other local choirs/groups are presenting a Musical "Allsorts" Evening in aid of Voices for Hospices, a wave of simultaneous concerts around the world. This will be held on Sat. 10th Oct. at 7.30p.m. in the Salvation Army Congress Hall, Commercial Rd. Bedford.

Refreshments will be available. Tickets are £6.50, under 16's £5 and are obtainable from David on 01234 750869 or Becky on 01234 750320. The local hospices that will benefit from this event will be Sue Ryder St. Johns at Moggerhanger, Bedford Day Hospice and Keech Cottage Children's Hospice

#### **Visit our online chapel**

We have now provided the opportunity to visit our online chapel and light a prayer candle. Please visit [thischurch.com](http://thischurch.com) and click on the candle.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning** Valerie and Peter Littleford will be holding a coffee morning at their house, 1 Bindon Abbey, Bedford on Friday 25th September from 10.00 - 12.00 to raise funds for the Macmillan Cancer Support. There will be a 'Bring and Buy', raffle, and a selection of Macmillan Cards on sale. Do come and join us if you can - even if it's only to have a cup of coffee! Hope to see you! Valerie and Peter.



**A plea from Hazeldene Heights Pre-School** Is there anyone kind enough to volunteer to make the play dough each week. Jo Barrow has kindly done this for over 2 years and now wants to retire.

Thank you very much Jo it has been very much appreciated. The staff do appreciate the help as they are very busy with other jobs. It is a very simple job. For more information see Janet Smith. Thank you.

**Are you thinking about who might come for Christmas this year?** Perhaps you would like to make it a bit different. Some of the adults from overseas who are currently studying at UK universities would love to spend a couple of days in a real home, rather than on a deserted campus. It is interesting to share Christmas with people for whom it is all quite new (many international students are from China, for example). HOST has been linking students with hospitable volunteers for 22 years, at Christmas and also one-off weekends throughout the year. HOST is a registered charity backed by the Foreign Office and many universities. It is not necessary for hosts to live near a university, as students are prepared to travel far for this unique experience! See [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call HOST's voluntary regional organiser Paul Ryall, on 01296 634929. Thank you!

**Join the World's Biggest Coffee**

**Morning.**Autism Bedfordshire Adult Skills Group are holding a MacMillan Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy in the Biffa Room St Mark's Community Centre on Tuesday 29th September 11.00am - 12.30pm. All Welcome

**Mother Teresa Group** Do you have any knitting wool to spare? Mother Teresa Group can always use your spare wool. Please leave it in the church office. You are welcome to join us on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30pm. Next meeting 29th September.

**Anjulita Court Coffee Morning**

There will be a Macmillan coffee morning at Anjulita Court on Friday 25th September from 10.00 to 12 noon. All are welcome. *Jane Mason.*

**Circuit News.** At the Circuit meeting this week Both James Robinson-Morley and Barry Oven were accepted for the Circuit meeting to go on to selection for training, Jacqueline Owen also had her reappointment/re-invitation confirmed.

**Harvest Festival**

Harvest festival this year is on October 4 and the theme will be 'Sharing our gifts'. We will be asking three people from each of our congregations to share with us what they do in their lives and asking them to bring an item which illustrates their work which we will celebrate at Harvest.

*Who sweeps a room as by God's laws,  
makes that and the action fine*

**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.

**Bert Howe**

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

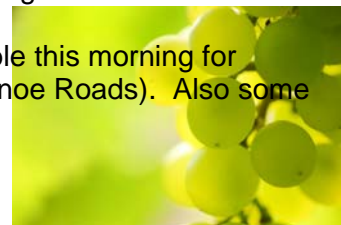


**Harvest Gifts at Putnoe.** At the Family Service on Sunday 4th October, we will be happy to receive gifts to be donated to the BECHAR Day Centre in Prebend Street. Tinned foods are of most use to the Centre; fresh fruit and vegetables are also welcome.

**Harvest Gifts at St Mark's** At St Mark's Harvest family service we will be pleased to receive gifts to be donated to Clubhouse. Tinned and dried goods are always helpful as they can be stored.

**Highfield Harvest.** Highfield Old People's Home will celebrate Harvest on Sunday 20th September, at 2.30 pm. Members of St. Mark's will conduct the service using Biblical references to a variety of foods, which will be displayed for the residents to see. Please feel free to support us on this occasion or at any other service which we hold on the third Sunday of each month at Highfield. **Vera Pearson.**

**Harvest cards** are available this morning for delivery to friends etc (Putnoe Roads). Also some laminated posters



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**You can now also buy gift vouchers !**

**We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of**

Simon John Llewellyn and Emma Lesley Marks Both of the parish of St Michaels's and on the Electoral Roll of St Mark, Bedford

**Forthcoming Funerals**



**The funeral of George Edward Page** will take place on Wednesday 23 September at St Mark's Church at 3.30pm