



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

27 May 2007

Pentecost



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights Church. On the 2nd & 4th Sunday at St Mark's Chapel.

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Morag Stewart
Intercessions – - Mr John Tatman

11.00am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

Trinity Sunday - 3 June

9.30am St Mark's - Family Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mrs Avril Williams
Intercessions - Mrs Morag Stewart

11.00am - Putnoe Heights - All Age Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mrs Lawrence Wyatt
Mrs Linda Hoare

Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss

Reading 1: Prov 8: 1 - 4, 22 - 31

Reading 2: Romans 5: 1-5

Reading 3: John 16: 12-15

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Bill De Boltz in loving memory of his wife, Peggy.

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

Lord Jesus Christ,
whether in the quietness of my own resting place or in the busy storms of the day, amidst all the cares and joys of life, may I never feel forsaken or alone. Of your grace draw me entirely to yourself, now and forever. Amen.
Soren Kierkegaard, 1813-55

Car Boot Sale Monday

If it Rains it's inside !

Same great day— but we keep dry

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

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 Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Youth & children's worker - Mrs Liz 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 Linda Parry 216724

Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr 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 Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school
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.

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

12.00-1.00pm 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 based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349

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

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. Miriam Adcock ☎01908 565044

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎364710

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. Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

7.30pm Creative Needles. Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward ☎307648.

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's each month next 18 June 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). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

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

10.00am Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman ☎822230

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights. Andrea ☎210177 or Majella ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's. Last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's (3rd Tuesday only) Mrs Burman ☎364723

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 5 June Revd. J. Owen Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's

Meets fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

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

6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights.

Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group at St Mark's, (1st Tuesday) Contact Kate Parsons 351150

7-8pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎214107.

7-9pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights.

Karen King ☎07941 264885

7- 10pm Card Makers Club meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton ☎346718

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

7.30-10.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Mks

7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 5 June Tourist Information

Office Emily Williams Details : Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.00am Paint Tots at St Mark's Jacqui Harrahan ☎824475

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

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

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

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation Putnoe Heights Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 30 May 2007 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.30-4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

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

4.15-6pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.15-7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

6.30-7.30pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

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

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

7.00pm Yoga St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

7.00pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly. Putnoe Heights. Janice ☎Loxley 347073

7.45pm Badminton Club. Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867

8.00-10.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday. More details Graham ☎406359 or Danny ☎401668.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's (1st week) Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

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.

9.30am-12.30 Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips ☎01582 485333

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

9.45am-11.30am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.50 for first child + 50p for each extra child over 2 years. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm-3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic. St. Mark's ☎267444

12pm Storybox. 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 based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Andrea ☎210177 or Magella ☎325293.

2- 4.30pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

5.30-7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's.

Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's

Mr & Mrs Pike ☎823795

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights

Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

7-9pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's (Fortnightly starting from 26th April) Contact Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.30pm-11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club St Mark's Mr P Housden ☎376597

7.30-9.30pm Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's

3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby ☎344442

7.30-9.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr ☎360188

7.45pm Housegroup meets fortnightly

Betty Wyatt ☎350188

8.00-10pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr Broadhouse ☎740271

8.00-10.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's (2nd & 4th weeks) Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

8.00pm Brickhill Wives St Mark's (1st and 3rd weeks) Mrs Woods ☎404702

Friday

9.30am & 12.30pm U3A Photography Group (4th week) Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

1.30-2pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

6.30-9.00pm Line Dancing. St Mark's A night of fun Christine Rushton ☎782360

7-10pm Bedford Arts Society fortnightly Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

7.30pm Youth Club for age 10-15. St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey ☎349179

Saturday

9.00- 12.00pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Randle ☎01234 782414

7.15-10.30pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Ann or Peter ☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 at St. Mark's Church and Sunday School with crèche for under 3's

11.00 - 12.00 Putnoe Heights - Church and Junior Church for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.

1 - 3pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

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

6 -7.30pm T.X.T Putnoe. for 13 + fortnightly, join us for fellowship, debate & discussion. Liz ☎302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 12 June

St Mark's Leadership Team – 26 June Linda Parry

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team –25 June at Lawrence Wyatt's.

St Mark's Church Management Meeting - 20 June.

Putnoe Heights Centre Management - 16 July

Putnoe Church Council -

Pastoral Group Meeting –

Churchyard Committee - 6 June

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting Wednesday 13 June, 14 Flint Way.

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council

Meetings on 7 June, 5 July

Deanery Meeting -

Circuit Meeting 14 June at St Mark's

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth–

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

Telecare



It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feed back, especially if somebody is poorly or in hospital. If you have not yet put your name down, please do so. Additional members of the Pastoral Team are sharing the task of making telephone calls. Please do not be concerned if a new person calls.

Pentecost

Opening Verse - Is 11 v 1 - 2

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

Collect Prayer for the Day

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite us in your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of your love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Spirit is another word for "God Present"
(Tillich)

First Bible Reading - Acts 2: 1– 21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs— we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues! Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?' Some, however, made fun of them and said, They have had too much wine. Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' (This is the word of the Lord -- Thanks be to God)

Second Bible Reading - Romans 8:14-17

Because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs— heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.
(This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Third Bible Reading - John 14: 8-17

Philip said, Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us. Jesus answered: Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that

I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Hymns (Please distribute (Mission Praise)

1. Come down O love divine 89
2. Spirit of the living God 613 (After confession and absolution)
3. Jubilate 394
4. Breathe on me breath of God 67
5. He who would valiant be 224
6. O breath of God 488

Commentary - Together together

How we respond to the movement of God's Spirit in our lives is a deeply personal thing. God speaks to each one of us in personal ways, often in a manner which is suited to each one of us. Earlier this month as we were looking at the Old Testament with the young people at Putnoe we reflected on the verse in Job where Elihu reminds Job that God speaks in many different ways to His people, including us. How we respond when God does speak to us in one of those different ways impacts upon our daily lives and by implication, the lives of those around us that we come into contact with day by day. This personal and corporate impact is reflected at that first Pentecost when the Holy Spirit comes on the believers in Jerusalem.

The passage starts by emphasising the fact that the disciples were all together in one place. They were together together. There was a unity about their lives and their purpose even at that early stage of the embryonic church. Chapter 2 of Acts, from where this reading is taken, closes with a description of how the 'all those who shared the faith' owned everything in common and shared everything they had. They also went to the Temple together regularly and worshipped together, another corporate activity that built their sense of unity and purpose. The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was clearly an event which had a marked effect on the group of all believers and underlined their corporate commitment to each other and to God.

But the coming of the Spirit was also a deeply personal experience to each one of the disciples. Each one of them spoke in different languages which were then able to be interpreted and understood by the many different nationalities of Jews gathered in Jerusalem for the Feast of Weeks. Each one of them had to choose how to respond to the touch of the Spirit in their own lives. They could choose to be open to the Spirit of God moving in their lives or they could ignore the effect, putting it down to mass hysteria and wild imaginings.

The same is true for us today when God moves, however gently, in our lives. We need to respond as individuals and as a body of believers with a common mind and purpose. That's not to say there won't be differences of opinions or different points of view on any given subject but the thrust of Acts is clear. The Holy Spirit is given for spiritual empowerment and personal renewal, which in turn is reflected in unity of purpose and vision. As Christians we are each individuals but we are called to be together together.

It's sometimes very easy to get sidetracked into the nature of the gifts the Holy Spirit endows. What is prophecy all about? What exactly is the nature of speaking in tongues? How do you spot someone with the gift of love or teaching? Should we all be doing these things or are these gifts

of the past which don't happen anymore? These can be important questions, but nothing like as important as understanding why the Holy Spirit came that first Pentecost and is still with us today. He is the comforter that will not leave us. He empowers us along our Spiritual journey, whatever course that may take. He enables that sense of unity which was to characterise the early church and is ours today as he takes groups of frightened, confused, puzzled, bewildered but open believers and turns them into the radical movement which we now know as the Christian Church. *Sam Cappelman*

Meditation

Pentecost, is also called The feast of Weeks or Harvest (Hebrew = *Shavuot*) on the Jewish calendar, and originated as a celebration of the completion of the harvesting of the barley and wheat crops which had begun at Passover. It is called the Feast of Weeks because the book of Leviticus tells us that God specifically told the Israelites that they were to count off seven full weeks from when the sheaf of grain was offered to celebrate the first fruits of the harvest and then celebrate another feast on the following day. This second harvest feast was named Pentecost, which means fifty (seven weeks of seven days plus one equalling fifty days). Later Judaism transformed Pentecost into a feast of salvation history celebrating the giving of the Law at Sinai and the establishment of Israel as God's people. All these associations were carried over into the Christian feast that marked the conclusion of the great fifty days. The grain harvest and the Law are replaced by the gift of the Spirit, and the constitution of the old Israel is replaced by the constitution of the new order where all nations are included. The first fruits of Christ's death and resurrection are made manifest by the coming of His Holy Spirit which we celebrate at Pentecost. However, for Luke writing in Acts, the coming of the Spirit is not just about empowerment for ministry, its still about harvest, a celebration of all that God has provided for the world and His creation through Christ. And just as for the Jews, we are called as individuals and societies to respond to God's provision, the outpouring of Himself, His Son and His Spirit and celebrate with thanks and gratitude whatever our circumstances.

Post Communion Prayer

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, may the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength, now and always. **Amen**

O consuming fire, O Spirit of love, descend into the depth of my heart and there transform me until I am fire of your fire, love of your love, and Christ himself is formed in me. **Amen**

Elizabeth of Schonau, d.1184

Holy Spirit of God, descend on us with the power of a mighty rushing wind, and overturn our prejudices; descend on us as tongues of fire, and set us ablaze with the desire to speak for you; descend on us as a dove, that our hearts may be filled with the message of peace. For you are alive in the hearts of those who accept you as their guide, and you reign with the Creator and the Eternal Word, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

O God, your eye is over all your people, and you have called them to a kingdom not of this world; send forth your Holy Spirit into all the dark places of life, to still the noise of our strife and the tumult of the people; carry faith to the doubting, hope to the fearful, strength to the weak, light to the mourners, and more and more increase the pure in heart who see their God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of the God; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Jenga the block building game. If you have this game, of any size, the youth team would like to borrow it for the Putnoe Heights celebration weekend next month. We are organising a Children's Special on the afternoon of Saturday 16th June and hope to have a Jenga knock out competition. Thanks Liz

St Albans Woodland Burial Trust. The Consecration of the Woodland will take place on 7 June at approximately 2.00pm. Prior to the consecration of the woodland, the Bishop of Bedford will also consecrate the extension to the Garden of Remembrance at St Mark's at 1.00pm

Footprints Next walk is on Sunday 3rd June. Meet in Stagsden (parking around the church) at 2.30pm for a 4 mile circular walk. Contact Sue 407264

NCH Home collecting boxes. Please give Margaret Standley your box so that the contents can be counted and banked. Throughout the year you have collected £256.81 already. Last year £308.25 was raised in this way by May and I will eventually give you the final total for this year. The support you give helps NCH to work locally with vulnerable children. Putting a little aside now and again means NCH can count on almost £600,000 from these boxes nationally. This allows help and care to be planned for the children that need support. Thank you.

Storybox plus now meets at Putnoe on a Monday afternoon between 3.30 and 5.00. If any children aged between 4 and 9 years old within the Partnership would like to join us as we "Follow the Year" please contact Liz

Christian books for the under fives - If anyone has any books which would be suitable for using at Storybox on a Thursday at St Mark's, Emma and her team would be very pleased to have them. Books may be left at the Church Office at any time.

Help Required. Storybox at St Mark's needs help with refreshments for about an hour over lunchtime. If anyone feels they could lend a hand once every six weeks, Emma would love to hear from you. If you leave your telephone number at the office Emma will get back to you or ring Emma 211070. Thank you.

Sunday Chairs—The Leadership team is always very grateful for any help with moving and stacking the chairs after Sunday Service but would be very pleased to have a few more pairs of hands to make this task easier.

Volunteers urgently required for the annual House-to-House collection for Arthritis Research Campaign which takes place from the 3-11 June. The

Bedford Branch is very short of helpers this year. Can you help please in Brickhill, Putnoe, Goldington etc. if you can, please phone 01234 344617. Thank you Marian Goddard.

TNT due to the Whitsun holiday the next TNT will now not be until Sunday 10th June. Beginners evening bird watch run by the Bedford Rangers. Meet Bedford park - main gates opposite De Parys Avenue, 7 -9pm (early pickups can be arranged) Bring binoculars, a drink and good walking shoes. New programme to be announced soon. Liz

Two Day Summer Special—'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'. We invite all our young adults and children over 5 years, throughout the Partnership, to join us at Putnoe Heights on Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 August between 9.30 and 3.30 for two days of fun. We will learn about Joseph and his family through story, discussion, games, crafts and under the direction of Clive Simmonds put together the 20 minute musical performance. More details will follow. Liz

Putnoe Church 50th Anniversary Weekend Celebration 16 – 17 June.

Saturday 10 - 4 : The Church will be open for visitors to view the history display and flowers and meet friends for refreshments.

2-4pm. Activities for children and families with a Fancy Dress Parade, building activities—Jenga - Knockout !

7.30 Concert of light music by Kempston Musical Society - Programme £5 for more details contact Alan Bayliss 01234 268101.

Sunday 11am Holy Communion

4pm Circuit Celebration Service - Preacher John Payne Cook (Partnership Minister 1976-85)

5.30pm Bring and share buffet. Please see list in Putnoe welcome area for ideas of food to bring.

50th Anniversary Pens ! Why not buy a special pen to mark the 50th Anniversary of Putnoe Heights Church ? The pens are black and come in a smart box. Available now at Putnoe, price £3 or phone Jenny Emsley 360397

We wish you well. Members of our churches will be disappointed to hear that one of our organist team, Adrian Quarry, will be leaving us. Adrian has been appointed to St Peter's Church. Adrian will be greatly missed because of his musical gifts, but also for his tremendous sense of fun and his ability to integrate humour through his choice of music at the offertory.

Car Boot Sale— Monday. We would welcome contributions of items to sell and the usual tray bakes etc. At the last car boot sale we raised over £750, in spite of the rain—so please help again.

Mother Teresa Support Group – Would you like to spend a pleasant afternoon in good company, knitting and chatting with a cup of tea and biscuits to sustain you? If so, you would be very welcome to join us at St Mark’s on alternate Tuesdays. Our next meeting is at 2.30pm on Tuesday 29 May. Wool, needles and patterns provided.

Friendship Sunday. As regular attendees at All Age Worship over the last few years will have noticed, we have been experimenting with types of service which try and explain God and his love for us for the benefit of our younger members. The Teddy service is now firmly fixed in the diary and the Pet Service was very much enjoyed too. On the first Sunday in June (3rd) we will be exploring the theme of Friendship. We will be thanking God for the friendships we have and will enjoy, for the precious gift of friendship and talking about the concept of God as a loving, caring friend. Many of us find that we see things in new ways because of the process of making them understandable for the children; so we hope that this will be a special service to be enjoyed by everyone, whatever their age. Why not celebrate by contacting an old friend or bringing a friend along to church with you? Joan

Redesigned, revamped, relaunched! - new website for The Methodist Church goes online

The Methodist Church has completely revamped its website. From Thursday 24 May, visitors to www.methodist.org.uk will see a completely redesigned site that aims to be easier to use and more expressive of the best of Methodism. Dave Webster, Co-Head of Communication for Electronic Resources, says “the old site was showing its age, and contained far more information than it could easily direct people to. The new site makes it easier to quickly find useful information, whether you are a Methodist minister or member, or even if you are just interested in one aspect of the Church. It is also more inspiring, and attractive.” The site will feature a daily prayer, and dedicated sections for particular elements of the Church’s work and mission. The new site also makes use of Web 2.0 ideas, allowing people to form networks around common interests as active users rather than passive readers. “This moves from the old model where we presented information to people to a new form where the website is also a way for everyone to contribute,” says Dave Webster. “Over the past few years we have launched podcasts and weblogs amongst other things, but the new site draws together all of these ideas to create something that is flexible and useful enough to support the whole of the Church in its work.”



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Our church website www.thischurch.com provides an outstanding ministry across the world. We provide a massive range of Christian resources including prayers, sermons, and Christian teaching. Every week we respond individually to prayer requests sent from many different countries. Money raised from purchases made through our website at Amazon helps support the cost of the web site. Please use Amazon whenever you can to buy books, electronic goods, CD’s, computer supplies etc. Amazon is always one of the cheapest places to shop and delivery is free with orders over £15. We are always happy to receive your goods during the day at St Mark’s Church office. It is important that you only visit Amazon by clicking on the link on our church website—that way we get the commission, which is generally about 5% of the total cost of the item. This year so far we have raised £46.75 but it could be so much more if we all used Amazon!

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.



Brenda May Jones

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

Wedding



We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Andrew Keith Bennett and Catherine Jane Calver. This is the third time of asking.



Rest in Peace

There are no funerals this coming week