



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

30 July 2006
Ordinary 17

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



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30 Holy Communion at Putnoe Heights only 9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion with PCH

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry
Intercessions - Mr Richard Ledger

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion with PCH

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mr Dave Allen
Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss

6 August Ordinary 18

8.30 Holy Communion at St Mark's only 9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Worship

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership - Mr Mike Cooper
Intercessions - Ministers

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

Reading 1 : Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Reading 2 : 2 Peter 1:16-19

Reading 3 : Luke 9: 28-36

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Height Church this week have been given by Lawrence & Betty Wyatt and by Richard & Claire Peck, to mark their wedding anniversaries.

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Ada Hill remembering Derek's birthday.

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

A Prayer for Sunday

God, you have poured the Spirit of your Son into our hearts so that we call you Father. Give us grace to devote our freedom to your service that we and all creation may be brought into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Methodist Worship

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 Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM

(Day off Friday)
12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE
326643 Mobile -07917 356062 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.
Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com
Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved, housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services. Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 12 noon Monday & Friday

9am - 5pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

Treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day 295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

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

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

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

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

(See website for more details)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Penny Fulham 406045

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

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

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

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

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next 17 July Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313

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

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

Tuesday

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

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230

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

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

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

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship -

For details of next meeting contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 25 July. Bring and Share meal. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

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

Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 - 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

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

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

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

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society

meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting .
Sylvia Woods 365095

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

7.45pm Kick Boxing Junior classes at St Mark's. Contact Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890

7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*

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

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

1.30pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's 267444

12pm Story box St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 302349

1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime at Putnoe. Geraldine Skeel 406828

1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group. Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-11year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun And it's free! Liz Spavins 302349

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

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Helga Nash 218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr & Mrs Pike 823795

7pm Street Dance at Putnoe Heights. Contact Curtis Ritchie 349255 or 07984 525147

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992

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

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild at St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby 344442

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

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

Friday

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

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

2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights

Contact Eve Whitehead 356875

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

7.30pm Youth Club for age 13-18 at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey 349179

Saturday

9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance at Putnoe.

Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

10.00am - 1.00pm Theatre Train at St Mark's - dancing acting, singing. - Kate Randle 01234 782414

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe. Meets monthly next meeting. Philip Jones 350295

7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Sunday

Junior Church with crèche for under 3's

9.30 - 10.30 at St.Mark's

11-12 at Putnoe Heights.

1 - 4pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob. 07866775515

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

6.00pm TNT (The Nearly Teens) meet fortnightly at Putnoe Heights for various fun activities. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council , 11 October
Circuit Meeting -

St Mark's Leadership Team – 12 September

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 26 September

St Mark's Church Management Meeting -
12.30pm 2 August

Putnoe Heights Church Management - 18 Sept

Putnoe Church Council 9 October

Pastoral Group Meeting –

Churchyard Committee - 30 August

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting - .

Partnership Council - 19 September

Brickhill Parish Council - 3 August

Deanery Meeting , 14 September, 16 November

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth - 4 September
7.30

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

Ordinary 17

Verse of Scripture - Ephesians 3:20

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Gracious God, Your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of life and the word of your Kingdom. Renew Your people with Your heavenly grace and in all our weakness sustain us by Your true and living bread, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen *Methodist Worship*



For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. *Ephesians 3:14*

First Bible Reading - 2 Kings 4: 42-44

A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain. "Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said. "How can I set this before a hundred men?" his servant asked. But Elisha answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the LORD says: 'They will eat and have some left over.' " Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the LORD .

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

Second Reading - Ephesians 3: 14-21

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God)

Third Reading - John 6: 1-21

Please stand for the Gospel. When the Gospel is announced - '**Glorify to Christ our Saviour**' Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. The Jewish Passover Feast was near. When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus

did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them. A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough. When they had rowed three or three and a half miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid." Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.

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

Post Communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Holy Communion with PCH)

1. Praise to the Lord the almighty the king. **16**
2. He's got the whole world in his hands. **25**
3. May the mind of Christ my Saviour. **739**
4. Great is thy faithfulness **66**

Commentary

I am sure that Neil's sermon, from last Sunday, on the feeding of the five thousand is still fresh in your minds, so this week I shall be mainly focussing on the epistle reading. The letter to the Ephesians has rightly be called the "queen of the epistles"(ST Coleridge) because it is a marvellously concise yet comprehensive guide to Christian faith and practise. Although the letter declares itself to be by the apostle Paul, scholars from the early nineteenth century onwards pointed out that the vocabulary and style of the epistle was not the same as other epistles from Paul. Although the evidence that they produce to support this theory is strong, does it matter? Could it not be that some other brilliant writer took Paul's words and précised them at a later date, rather than copy down every word from Paul's letter. The theology of the letter is exactly in line with Paul's teachings. Ephesus was a former Greek colony. By Paul's time it was the capital if the Roman province of Asia. As a port, Ephesus was a meeting place for many cultures and religions. It even contained one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, the great temple of Artemis (Diana). Paul had visited there and caused a great upset to the cult of Diana which had a valuable trade in selling little silver models of the temple. Paul was thus addressing a church planted right in the heart of a powerful pagan culture. The excerpt from his letter, which we read this morning, deals with a concept which is powerful and central to the Christian faith. Put simply it is this: God is not in a building, a Temple, whether the Great Temple of Solomon or any other, He is not far away in Heaven, He is close to us, closer than close, in the souls of those who believe in Him. This great promise comes through the love of the Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. The reading is in the form of a prayer for the faith of the people of Ephesus to be deepened. The miracle of love has made Christ dwell in their hearts, it is for them to try to understand the implications of this "indwelling". By accepting Christ into their lives, at their conversion, they had allowed Him to enter into their hearts and minds. But what does that mean? By turning back to the original Greek used by Paul we get a clearer picture of what he was trying to say in this phrase of God dwelling within them. There were two similar Greek verbs *paroikeo* and *katoikeo* that he could have chosen to express the concept. The first *paroikeo* means merely to inhabit a place as a stranger. He chose to use the second word, *Katoikeo* which means to settle permanently. What Paul was insisting was that God was not a fleeting visitor in the soul of the believer, a presence which would fade away, but a permanent resident, a faithful and abiding presence in the lives of those who had welcomed him. What difference does such an idea make to our idea of God's

relationship with us? If God dwells within us, who sometimes do we feel so far from Him? What can we do to keep that miraculous closeness of God a living reality in our spiritual lives? Joan

Meditation

I bought a lovely new book some months ago, a book of blessings. It is a lovely volume containing blessings collected from every part of the world. It also contains blessings for many occasions. Who can say when I shall be needing a special prayer for the blessing of chickens, for example? Or a special prayer for the end of a day canoeing (from Canada)? The book brings home a very serious point, that every part of life, mundane or extraordinary can be rejoiced in. Even the dull routine can be sanctified by prayer and gratitude to God. How often do people look back on their lives and realise that they took the simple blessings for granted, knowing only in retrospect how lucky they were? It used to be called "counting your blessings" (and there was a song with the same title), and however trite it may sound, it is a spiritual discipline which we should all practise. Being aware of the blessings God has bestowed upon us, whether it is water in the tap, a bed to sleep upon or a choice of food to eat, is important. It helps us to remember that what we have comes from God, and that many do not enjoy what we are so much inclined to take for granted. Joan

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Prayer for the day of Mary Magdalene. 22 July. Faithful friend of Jesus, apostle to the apostles, misunderstood and wrongly accused. Guide us now o God, as with Mary Magdalene, we tread new paths in our passionate love for Christ. May we ambassadors of the good news to your Church and let your people rejoice in the leadership of women. (Nikki Archy, Women and the Church)

Blessing for a hard time. Go in peace and faith. If you are tired, may you find rest, if you are anxious, may you find peace, if you are lonely may you find friends and if you are dying may you find new life. Know that nothing can separate you from the love of God in Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

Prayers for Peace

Ever-loving God, we praise and thank you through Christ Jesus for your presence and action in the world. In the midst of conflict and division, we know it is you who turn our minds to thoughts of peace. The Spirit changes our hearts: enemies begin to speak to one another, those who were estranged join hands in friendship, and nations seek the way of peace together. The Spirit is at work when understanding puts an end to strife, when hatred is quenched by mercy, and when vengeance gives way to forgiveness. For this we thank and praise you. Amen.

Creator of all — Father,

The people whose faith and covenant with you began with Abraham offer our prayers for the people living in Israel, Palestine, and Lebanon today. Hear us!

We pray for peace and for cease-fire as a first step toward peace. Help us!

We pray that all our sisters and brothers may live in the way of peace, even while violence rips their lands and tempts them to act with violence in return. Encourage us!

We pray that we may teach peace, not only with our lips, but in our lives, to those all around us. Challenge us!

We pray that we may have the courage and compassion to walk with those who suffer violence, terror, and death, together with their families and communities. Drive us!

We pray that we may find the generosity to act with goodwill even toward enemies, those who wish or do us harm, that the fullness of your compassion, mercy, and justice may shine in our lives and in the lives of our sisters and brothers around the world. Strengthen us!

Around you we are one. Guide us all in the way of peace. Unite us! Amen!

News and Information

Putnoe Heights Church Council: an emergency meeting of Putnoe Church Council will take place after morning service this morning. This is in connection with the proposal for a Children's Centre to be based at the Church.

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

Footprints September Weekend in September
New venue - return visit to 'Three Swans' at Market Harborough.

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

Yarl's Wood Befrienders Volunteers needed to visit asylum seekers. Training given. Contact Heather Jones on 01933 318378

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

Storybox (under 5's, older siblings welcome) continues at 12.00 on Mon 31 July at Putnoe and Thursday 3 August at St Marks - bring own lunch

Storybox Plus (4 to 10 years, younger siblings welcome with carer) continues 1.15 on Monday 31 July at Putnoe and Thursday 3 August (this session starts at 10.30) at St Marks.

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

Jonah Man Jazz join us on Thursday 25 August for singing, music and fun.
We hope you all have a good summer, from all the leaders

"**God Talk**" is a house group on Monday mornings at 10.30, for prayer, worship and fellowship. It is mostly for mums with children at school, and so doesn't meet in the school holidays. New members welcome. Ring Joan for details. 344536

Welcome service for The Reverend Martin Hounsfield and the Reverend Dr Joan Crossley. At Priory Methodist Church at 7.30pm on 30 August . To help with the planning for this event we have been asked to provide numbers of those who will be attending. If you plan to attend please add your name to the lists in St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church Office. (closing date Sunday 6 August)

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Revd Denis Desert. October 19 - 28 with an option to visit Petra in Jordan from October 28 - 31. There are a few vacancies. For a brochure ring 01234 211413 or e-mail denisdesert@aol.com

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

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

A Prayer Walk for Bedford has been arranged for Saturday 12th August starting from The Rock in Newham Street at 6pm. Further information from Paul Field 296583. Alan Ledwick Chair All Bedford Churches Together.

Circuit Farewell Service

for Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman

Monday 31 July, 7.30pm at Putnoe Heights

Come and join us as we say farewell to Neil and wish him and the family well as he takes on the position of chaplain at St Nicholas Hospice, Bury St Edmunds.

NCH House to House collection. NCH, the children's charity, works with disadvantaged and disabled children, and their families through its family centres located throughout the country. It is an independent charity working with other groups in partnership including the Methodist Church. The annual house to house collection to support the vital work of the NCH will take place as usual in the first 3 weeks in September. St Mark's Church has the responsibility for covering most of Brickhill and last year we raised over £800. If you could spare a few hours during early September to put out and collect envelopes in the Brickhill area, perhaps near to where you live, or you would like some more information then please contact me. Mike Elliott 342507

Support Woodland Burial. You can make a difference. Contrary to letter which have appeared in the local press, there is no consecrated place of burial available to members of the public in Bedford. Village graveyards have strict policies on who may be buried, which usually means villagers!

We have made an application for a woodland burial site at Keysoe in the name of St Mark's Church. It is most important that this application receives fair treatment by the planning department and is not derailed by malicious gossip or a lack of understanding. It would be greatly appreciated if people were able to give support to the application by writing to the planning department now - stressing how important such a place of burial would be to the Christian community in Bedford.

Bypass Challenge. A sponsored fun run on the new Great Barford Bypass will be held on Sunday 20th August 2006. Funds to be shared between St. John's Hospice and registered charities of participants' choice. There will be prizes for the best fancy dress and the biggest fundraiser. For further details [lwww.barfordbypasschallenge.org](http://www.barfordbypasschallenge.org) or phone 01767 641044.

NCH Sunday Envelopes, A big thank you to all members of Putnoe Heights who gave money in envelopes on July 9th. The total collected was £78. 95 (excluding gift aid)

Telecare Takes Off !

Thank you to all of those who have completed the Telecare form. We now have over 50 people who have joined the scheme. Telecare will be an important way for us to keep in touch with members of the congregation, especially senior members and those who live alone.

We now have a regular pattern of contact established and calls are being made every two weeks to help us keep in touch. More information will follow soon.



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.

**Frank George Fortun
Arthur Edward Wilkins**

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 Barbara Hunt will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 9th August, 12.15pm (*Crossley*)

The funeral of Ronald Williams will take place on Monday 7th August at 10.00am (*Crossley*)

The funeral of Graham Paul Keable will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 4 August at 2.30pm. (*Royden*)