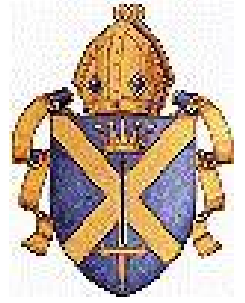




# Partnership News

4 July 2010

Ordinary 14



## 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 – Family Worship and Baptism

Preacher - Deacon Jane Mason  
Leadership – Mr Mike Ovenden  
Intercessions – Mrs Alison Holden

### 11.00am Putnoe - Family Worship

Preacher - Deacon Jane Mason  
Leadership - Mrs Linda Hoar  
Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

### 11th July — Ordinary 15

### 9.30am St. Mark's– Morning Worship and Baptism

Preacher– Revd. Charles Royden  
Leadership - Mrs. Avril Williams  
Intercessions - Mr. Chris Izzard

### 11.00am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher– Revd. Charles Royden  
Leadership  
Intercessions

**Readings** 1. Deut. 30:9-14 2. Col. 1:1-14  
3. Luke 10:25-37

### Midweek Worship

**Holy Communion** at St Mark's Chapel every Wednesday  
at 10.00am and at Sir William Harpur House on first  
Monday of every month at 10.00am

## Thank You

We are grateful when people make donations towards 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 Ann Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota in the foyers.

## Prayer for Sunday

Create within us, O God, a longing to obey your commandments and a thankfulness for all your mercies. Let us honour you in the thoughts of our hearts, let us glorify you in the words we speak and let us magnify you in the things that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen  
*John Wesley (1703-1791)*

## Baptism at St Mark's

We welcome to our service the family and friends of Daniel and Kyle Burridge-Rankin who have been brought for baptism

*The Reverend Charles Royden will be taking the service at St Michael's Church this morning*

### 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 Mobile 07807 146535  
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 and may appear in other local media sources.

Partnership News is also archived on our church website [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.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** Mrs Samantha Ware 304058  
**Treasurer** Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com  
**Gift Aid Administrator** John Hitt 404186  
**Youth Worker** Emma Gordon email - 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** - Avril Williams 360605  
**Treasurer** - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.15 -11.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school**  
Head teacher 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 Mrs Berry  
☎211955

**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.

**3.30pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities.

**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 19 July 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

**9.30am Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016

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

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

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

**11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** Sally Banks  
☎ 870357

**1.15pm Sing and Stomp.** For toddlers & their carers. Run by the Putnoe Children's Centre. 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 July 6 Bible Texts. 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-6.15pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎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 in Beds. Cardiac Support Group** 1st Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. 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 July 13 Visit to Anjulita Court. More details Janet King ☎313946

**8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers** St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

## 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

**10am U3A Card Making.** St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet King ☎313946

**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - July 7 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 7 July Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Alan ☎ 345312.Graham 406359 or Rosemary 405594 for more details.  
**8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club** St Mark's 1st week in the month. 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.*

**9.45am 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 Jaana Swaby ☎ 363283

**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. Malcolm Smith ☎400741

**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 Lou Watkins 07919402797

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

**7pm U3A Folk & Poetry** St Mark's 2nd & 2th 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. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517

**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. Julia Nicholson ☎353642

### 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

**5-8pm Stars School of Dance** Putnoe Heights Contact

Esther Richardson ☎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

**7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club.** St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

### Saturday

**10.00am Theatretrain** St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414

**Young Embroiderers** bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher ☎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.

*God of justice and love, your way commands our obedience. We can do nothing apart from the blessings you bestow. We offer our lives and these our gifts to You. We pray that the work of Your church may be enlarged, enriched and strengthened as it seeks to do your will and to show compassion, justice, and mercy in our world of need. Accept what we bring, and multiply its effectiveness, through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council** – 8 November.

**St Mark's Leadership Team** –

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 18 October

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** - 27 Sept.

**St Mark's Church Forum Meeting** - 12 noon, 13 July, 15 September, 16th November

**Putnoe Church Council** - 25 October.

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 13 July 4pm

**Churchyard Committee** - 29 September

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group**

**Partnership Council**—TBA

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings**

**Deanery Meeting** - .

**Circuit Property/Treasurers Meeting**

**Circuit Meeting** 13 Sept.

**Woodland Burial Trustees** –

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth** – 12 July at 1.15pm

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

## Ordinary 14

### Opening Sentence from Scripture Matthew 11:28

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

### Collect *(Before we read we pray)*

Servant Lord, grant us both the opportunity and the will to serve you day by day. May all that we do and how we bear each other's burdens be our offerings of love and service to the glory of your name. Amen. *Methodist Worship*

### Old Testament Bible Reading Isaiah Chapter 66:10-14

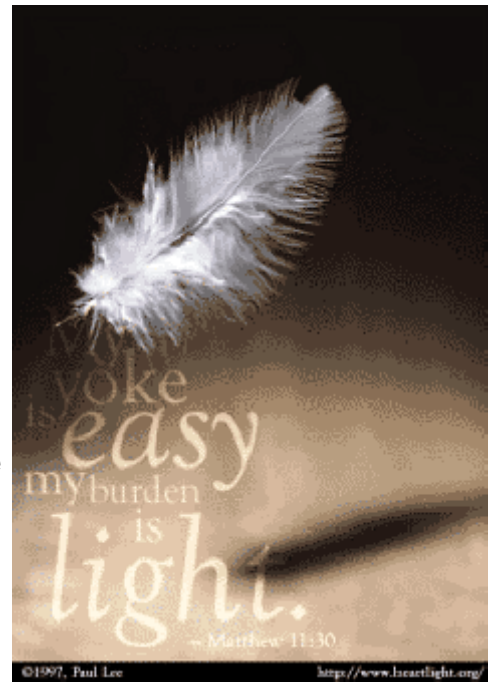
"Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice greatly with her, all you who mourn over her. For you will nurse and be satisfied at her comforting breasts; you will drink deeply and delight in her overflowing abundance." For this is what the LORD says: "I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem." When you see this, your heart will rejoice and you will flourish like grass; the hand of the LORD will be made known to his servants, but his fury will be shown to his foes. (This is the word of the Lord -- **All: Thanks be to God**)

### Epistle Reading Galatians Chapter 6:7-16

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand! Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision  
(Reader This is the Word of the Lord, **All: Thanks be to God**)

### Gospel Reading Luke 10:1 -11,16-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.' But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' "He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me." The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy;



nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." (Reader –This is the Word of the Lord, **All: Thanks be to God**)

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Hymns**

564 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

394 Jubilate!

152 For the beauty of the earth

488 O breath of life

178 Go forth and tell!

### **Commentary** Independence day!

The Old Testament reading today is one of those beautiful passages laying out the all that awaits the faithful people of Israel in Gods Kingdom, a promise that has been made available to all believers through Christ. In Luke we hear of the mission to spread the teachings of God, both in preaching, healing and practical service.

Unfortunately this has not been what many people have taken from their experience of Church. Indeed many people have been led to reject church/Christianity because they see a people who accept the bad things in this life because they believe that all will be well in the next life. To me this is a crying shame, and the exact opposite of my belief that Faith actually compels us to follow Christ' example of practical service, as much as to pray and worship our God.

In the book 'Breaking the rules' Eddie Askew includes a meditation about the changing image of 'the Church'. He talks about how in ages past the Church was the biggest and most imposing building in any community, dominating it both physically and practically, with the ministers having great status and rank. These days it is a different story, with offices and tower blocks dominating the skyline and the Church becoming:

“perhaps what it always should have been, a small, even suffering, community. Identifying more with the poor than the powerful, although let's not forget that the powerful need God as much as the poor do. Power for the church lies not in its wealth and great buildings, but in its loving service. And its service must be out there in the loneliness so often found in the tower blocks, rather than offered from the warm security of the church”.

In these days it would seem to me that the mission of the church should be to go out into the community and make faith relevant to people. Church no longer has the high status, or even the respect it once had - as the recent vandalism in our own chapel at St Marks illustrates. In addition to this the changing nature of our society has led to more elderly and housebound people living in the community with little, or no, support. The increase in unemployment has left many with little hope and unaware of what benefits they are due. These, and other similar circumstances, have led to heightened need for, and demand upon, voluntary organisations. As they become increasingly responsible for community care, it is imperative that the church continues to be at the forefront of these.

This is the situation that we specifically have to address, the majority of people are out there searching for what I would call spirituality, something other than our day-to-day existence. Unfortunately the last place that they are looking is the Christian church, with self help books, alternative therapies and even perhaps the drugs culture being a place many more turn in attempt to experience something 'other'.

In the Gospel reading we hear that we are to stay when we are welcomed, to teach and serve the needs of the people, and that we are simply to move on when we are not welcomed. I, like many of us, can find it hard not to take rejection personally, with one negative comment having more weight than the last ten positive ones, but we are told that it God they are rejecting, not us, so who are we to take it personally? We often do not recognise the gifts we have, and the positive effects they have within our homes, communities and churches, and sometimes this is fine, but not when it leads others to belittle their own input. Too many of our church communities are seen to be run by a faithful few who do everything, while others do not realise they have gifts that would greatly benefit others if shared, so how do we encourage

them to make suggestions?

While I do not wish to take anything from the celebrations of this Independence Day, I do think that the personal independence/individuality that seems to be at the heart of western culture can actually be negative when it leads to people placing their needs before others. One thing I learnt in South Africa was the notion of 'UBUNTU' - simply 'I am because I belong' - the community we belong to making up our identity, rather than individuality and I can't help but think that maybe there is something more healthy about that approach to life?

I believe that the church needs to be seen carrying out its mission, we need to be a 'flock' that people want to be a part of, or at least respect. It is important to note that it is not simply the job of individuals but that of the whole church, local and national. By going out into the community we can be the witnesses and examples that the New Testament repeatedly asks us to be.

Lord; help me to be  
True to myself,  
True to you,  
True to others  
True to the call  
True to all  
True to heaven.

**Deacon Jane Mason**

### **Meditation**

Compassion is sometimes the fatal capacity for feeling what it is like to live inside somebody else's skin. It is the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you too. *Frederick Buechner, 20th century*

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

Let us pray to God - first in silence - thanking God for those things that the Spirit lifts up as we meditate - and listening for God to speak to us about who we are and those things we need to be about.....

It is right and good to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have raised us up as a new creation and written our names in the book of life. You created the earth in your goodness and its plentiful harvest feeds your creatures. Through the law and prophets you revealed yourself as the God who heals us and makes us whole. Through Christ Jesus, whom you have robed in glory, you deliver us from the power of sin and death and send us as labourers into the harvest to proclaim your nearness, to immerse people into your healing waters, and to reap eternal life in your Spirit. We thank you and we pray for your assistance.... Lord, hear our prayer...

We pray to you Lord for your church and it's mission - the mission you have entrusted to us. Help us to be bold for you in the face of evil and injustice - and to show forth your healing power in the face of suffering and disease. Bless us as we share the good news of your love - that we may indeed be a blessing.... Lord, hear our prayer....

We pray to you Lord for the persons and situations that you have placed upon our hearts this day. Intercede, O Lord, and bring new hope, new joy, new life where it is needed. Lord hear the prayers we now lift before you.... Lord, hear our prayer...

God of glory and love, peace comes from you alone. Send us as peacemakers and witnesses to your kingdom, and fill our hearts with joy in your promises of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Whether I fly with angels, fall with dust,/ Thy hands made both and I am there: / Thy power and love, my love and trust / Make one place everywhere. (George Herbert 1593-1633)

**Joyful Noise** Putnoe Heights Church on Saturday 16th October 2010 1.30 to 5pm, entry £2 per child. Come and explore the theme of Creation through music and singing, drama, dance and craft. Open to children aged 7 to 13 yrs on or before 1st September 2010. Please can you let Emma know at email Youth@thischurch.com or telephone Julia on Tel: 295964 by 1st July 2010 if you wish to take part.

**Children and Youth group meeting, Putnoe**  
Our next meeting will now be on Monday 12 July 2010, at 1.15 p.m. in the meeting room, instead of Monday 14th June 2010.

**Sunday morning Taxi Service** St Mark's is now providing a taxi service for the 9.30am service. This service is free of charge for those who have difficulty transporting themselves to Church. To book this service all that you have to do is to telephone St Mark's Church Office during the week before 1.00pm on Friday. We will then arrange to have you collected by our driver, it is as simple as that! If you require any more information please speak with Avril Williams 360605

**Brickhill Parish Council - Gathering on the Green** The Parish Council needs to borrow gazebos for use at this event on 4 August 2010 on Waveney Green. This aims to provide fun, free activities for the community of Brickhill and raise awareness of agencies and community groups. We need to borrow gazebos for several of our activities (eg face painting). If you can help please ring Delia or Alison on 01234 271708..

**God's Open Word** The Methodist prayer manual will soon be available. Prayers for overseas churches and concerns, as well as those in Britain, with lessons, hymns and other material. Make this an asset to all prayers. Please contact Vera Pearson if you wish 270737

**Flowers from St Mark's** For many years Putnoe Heights Church has distributed flowers to friends of the church. The flowers are removed from the displays around the church. These might be delivered on a special occasion, when somebody is poorly or bereaved. St Mark's would now like to implement the same activity and from this Sunday flowers will be removed from displays etc to be taken out into the community. The Leadership Team will be responsible for this and would appreciate being told anybody who would value this thoughtful gesture.

**Storybox** The last session before the holidays is July 15 and it starts again on 9 September. A big thank you to all the volunteers who have helped us over the past year. Jaana.

**Junior Church Summer Break.** The last junior church before the holidays will be 11 July and we start again on 5 September. The crèche will be available all the time as normal.

**Summertime Sunday Lunch.** July 11 at Putnoe Heights. Bridging the gap between New Year lunch and Harvest lunch we invite you to Summertime lunch - three courses of light, fresh summer food and drinks. Come along and invite a few friends! Tickets from Putnoe Office £8.00 each with reduction for children..

**Footprints Walk** Sunday 4 July –meet at 2.30pm at The Chequers Pub Wrestlingworth on B1042. the walk is about 3 1/2 miles and includes a visit to the interesting churchyard at Cockayne Hatley. Further details from Alan & Ruth Tel.213951.

**Have your say** on the future of Brickhill. Drop in between 3 & 8 pm on Tuesday 6 July at St.Mark's Community Centre Calder Rise MK41 7UY or Monday 12 July @ Anjulita Court, Bramley Way MK41 7PH (Woodlands Park) or contribute your views at [www.brickhillcommunityplan.org.uk](http://www.brickhillcommunityplan.org.uk)

### **Archbishop of Canterbury says Church of England could take more risks in its Covenant relationship with the Methodist Church**

Addressing the annual Methodist Conference, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, said he wanted to see the Church of England and Methodist communities growing much closer together.

In a 40-minute address to the Conference in Portsmouth's Guildhall, the Archbishop contrasted the roles of the apostles Peter and Paul in the Church, and what the contemporary Church could learn from them.

In a further 40-minute session, the Archbishop took a wide range of questions. Dr Williams was asked what risks the Church of England was taking in relation to the Covenant with the Methodist Church. "The answer is not a lot," Dr Williams replied. "We are being invited, in the short to middle term, to work out flexibility on models of 'dual nationality'; that is, how two communities with two different histories can develop some genuine overlapping life." Dr Williams also answered a question as to whether a Covenant relationship between Anglicans and Methodists was exclusive. "A covenant ought to be a friendship written down," he said. "It doesn't mean there are no other friendships. If it becomes us against them; a little friendship against the world, well, God help us really."

"Any act of reconciliation has to be mutual; Anglican clergy at every level accepting the ministry of those they are being reconciled with."

The Methodist Church and the Church of England are in a covenant relationship. On 1 November 2003, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the General Secretary of the General Synod, together with the President, Vice President and Secretary of the Methodist Conference signed the Covenant at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen. The

Covenant puts the two Churches on a path of ever-deepening relationships, mutual trust and co-operation on the road to a richer unity.

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### Methodist Youth push for advice on cohabitation at Methodist Conference

The Methodist Church will look at cohabitation, at the urging of the Youth Assembly. The annual report from the Youth Assembly, which was received by the Conference, requires the Methodist Council to work with young Methodists to produce advice on cohabitation "in a 21st century context".

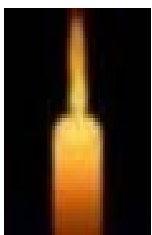
The resolution came out of a report from the annual Youth Assembly where young people discussed vocation, self-esteem, violence, equality and diversity and sex and sexuality.

The report stated that young people felt they had something to offer the Church in arriving at a greater understanding of the subject of sex and sexuality in a twenty-first century. It went on to state that the Youth Assembly would ask the Methodist Conference to work with young people on producing information to advise members of the Church about the issue of cohabitation. Pete Brady, Methodist Youth President, said: "I believe everyone considers sexuality as something

that is inherent in being human. There was a time where the concept of two persons in a loving relationship cohabiting outside of marriage was unthinkable. However, I do not believe that this is the case anymore. Cohabitation is a decidedly sticky issue, with conflicting values in modern day society. Finding Christian guidance on the issue is difficult at best.

"Maybe there was a time where the concept of two people in a loving relationship cohabiting together outside of marriage was unthinkable, but times have changed. It's important that as a church we offer support that is relevant to the lives of young people today."

The Conference also encouraged local churches to engage with people on the streets in order to reduce the threat of violence towards young people, and affirmed the work of street pastors. A resolution to develop more contemporary forms of training for preachers was also passed. This training would cover the need for an understanding of the contemporary context in which young people now find themselves.



**Visit our online chapel, Light a Candle of Remembrance.** We have now provided the opportunity to visit our online chapel and light a prayer candle. Please visit [www.thischurch.com](http://www.thischurch.com) and click on the candle.



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### 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.

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



### Forthcoming Funerals

**The funeral of Audrey Lee** will take place at St Mark's Church on Wednesday 7 July at 3pm

**The funeral of Mr John King** will take place at St Mark's Church on Monday 5 July at 4.00pm followed by burial at St Albans Woodland Burial Ground, Keysoe

**The funeral of Mr Joseph Bernard** will take place on Monday 5 July at 10.45 at Bedford crematorium