



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

8 October 2006

Ordinary 27

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 - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Richard Ledger

Leadership - Mr Ian Farthing

Intercessions - Mr Mike Elliott

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Richard Ledger

Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley

Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

October 15th

8.30 Holy Communion at ST MARK'S ONLY

9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

Reading 1 : Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Reading 2 : Hebrews 4: 12-16

Reading 3 : Mark 10: 17-31

Thank You

The Flowers at St Mark's have been given this week by Barbara Edwards in memory of her husband Cyril.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Deborah and Kevin Wallace in memory of their Beloved only Daughter, Julie-Marie, on her birthday;

Also by Margaret and Alan Massey to mark their recent wedding anniversary.

A Prayer for Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God,
mercifully look upon our infirmities,
and in all dangers and necessities
stretch out your hand
to help and defend us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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 Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

Home 344536 Crossley@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisisChurch.com

Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com

Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved,

housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.

Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 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 Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day 295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

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

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

(See website for more details)

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

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

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

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

4pm Monday Club at St. Marks for 3—8 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments , between 4 & 5 Bible story, craft activities & songs. Lots of fun. Contact Liz 302349

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

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Penny Fulham 406045

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

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

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

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

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next 16 October Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313

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

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

Tuesday

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

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230

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

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

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

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 10 October Autumn Colours— Members Contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. 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.

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

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

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

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting Oct.17 Talk & slides 'Life of a river'- Ann Doody. 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 18 October contact Putnoe 365630

1 - 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

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

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

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

6.15pm - 7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation at Putnoe Heights. Please contact Racheall Monton 01234 297138
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 Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*
9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips 01582 485333
9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970
1.30pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's 267444
12pm Story box St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 302349
1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime at Putnoe. Geraldine Skeel 406828
1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group. Debbie Coppenhall 356828.
2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991
4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-11year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun And it's free! Liz Spavins 302349
5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.
6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.
6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Helga Nash 218521
6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr & Mrs Pike 823795
7pm Street Dance at Putnoe Heights. Contact Curtis Ritchie 349255 or 07984 525147
7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992
7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at St Mark's Mr P Housden 376597
7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild at St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby 344442
7.30 - 9.30 Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Bible Studies every 2 Thursday— Pastor Tarr 360188
8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle at St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.00 am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with

Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.
1.30 - 2pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468
2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights Contact Eve Whitehead 356875
7 - 10pm Bedford Arts Society meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Contact Malcolm Smith 01234 400741
7.30pm Youth Club for age 13-18 at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey 349179

Saturday

9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468
10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain at St Mark's – dancing acting, singing. - Kate Randle 01234 782414
5 - 7pm Bethesda Church . Contact Pastor Denis Baka 07944 749357
7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Sunday

Junior Church with crèche for under 3's
9.30 - 10.30 at St.Mark's
11-12 at Putnoe Heights.
1 - 4pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob. 07866775515
6-7.30pm T.N.T. for 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. At Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349.
6—7.30pm T.X.T for 13 + fortnightly , join us for fellowship , debate & discussion at Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council , 11 October
Circuit Meeting -
St Mark's Leadership Team – 27th November
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -
 21 November
St Mark's Church Management Meeting -
 12.30pm 11 October, 6 December
Putnoe Heights Church Management - 6th Nov
Putnoe Church Council 9 October
Pastoral Group Meeting – 31 January 2007
Churchyard Committee - 29 November 11am.
Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting –
 Wednesday 18 October at 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way. .
Partnership Council - 20 February at St Mark's
Brickhill Parish Council - 12 Oct,30 Nov
Deanery Meeting , 16 November
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.

Ordinary 27

Verse of Scripture

He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."
Mark 10

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen
Common Worship



**Let the children
come unto me**

First Bible Reading - Genesis 2: 18-24

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.
(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - Hebrews 1: 1-14 and 2: 5-16

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. 6But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honour and put everything under his feet? In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises."
(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - Mark 10: 2-16

Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" "What did Moses command you?" he replied. They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away." "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote

you this law," Jesus replied. "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."¹ So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

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

Post Communion Prayer

Lord we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise and Morning Worship)

1. Ye servants of God 784
2. Majesty 454
3. God has spoken by his prophets Page 8 Partnership News (Tune Ode to Joy)
4. Lift high the cross 417
5. We have a gospel to proclaim 728

Commentary

God has a very high view of people. After all he created us - a little less than God - as Hebrews has it, quoting psalm 8. We are meant to have dominion over everything as the crown of creation – in the image of God ! This applies to men, to women and to children. Mark 10 shows us Jesus as the champion of women against the customs of his time – Jesus sees women as people equal with men in the sight of God – chattels ! And he made time for children.

But this ideal of what people should be is different from the present reality, which is so often the dark tragic story of failure. Endowed with knowledge we have invented destruction. Given freedom, we have chosen slavery.

C.G. Jung wrote; 'We are unable to suppress many of our emotions; we cannot change a bad mood into a good one and we cannot command our dreams to come and go.

Made for mastery, people are slaves to fears. Made for peace and joy, hearts are so often in torment.

Made for love, people hate, made for strength, people are too weak to throw off the shackles of sin.'

So we see hatred between races and groups, all sorts of divisions and chaos. We are in a real sense in bondage to sin and death. As Hebrews 2 /8 says 'At present we do not see everything subject to him.'

Rather, we abuse the planet.

Then Hebrews shows us how the actual can be changed into the ideal. But we see Jesus. He changes things by his sufferings and his glory he can make us what we were meant to be, and without him, can never be. He can do this because he has 'tested death for everyone.' His death was the defeat of sin and glorious promise to all who believe. And it's the wonder of his grace that he is 'not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters too ! ' That is how much we all mean to God. **Richard Ledger**

Meditation

The state of humanity is often linked to 'The Fall' in Genesis and the doctrine of original sin proves the sinfulness of all humankind. Steve Chalk in his book 'The Last Message of Jesus' points out that Jesus believed in original goodness ! God declared that all his creation, including humankind, was very good, and it is the original goodness that Jesus seeks out in us. He isn't denying that our relationship with God is in need of restoring and reconciliation, but he is rejecting any idea that we, or anyone else, are 'beyond the pale', beyond the reach of God's love. Steve Chalke reckons that it is a serious mistake to see humanity as inherently evil and steeped in original sin, instead of inherently made in God's image and so bathed in original goodness, however hidden it may become. He say that the doctrine of original

sin was borne out of Augustine's view that the material world and everything in it was evil and corrupt. This 'fallenness' Augustine said was like a virus that is passed on. The Eastern Church especially followed the teaching of Irenaeus who believed that all people were God's image bearers and though flawed, were like flowers in bud, slowly coaxed into full bloom by God's love. Now there's a thought ! So how do we view other people ? Especially those different from us. What about people who do 'bad' things ? Do we write them off – condemn them ? Or could God's love slowly coax them into full bloom ? Isn't this what we are praying for when we pray, 'Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven' ? Everything – everyone – made new in Christ. One of my favourite Bible passages is the parable of the prodigal son – sometimes called the parable of the loving father. Do look it up in Luke 15. A story of amazing grace. **Richard Ledger**

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead.

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise, more than we can utter, more than we can conceive, be unto Thee, O holy and glorious Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, by all angels, by all men, and all creatures for ever and ever Amen. (*Thomas Ken 17th Century*)

Thanks be to thee, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which thou hast won for us, for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for us. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may we know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee nearly, day by day Amen. (*Richard of Chichester, 13th Century*)

Eternal God, light of the minds that knows you, the life of the souls that loves you, strength of the wills that serve you; help us so to know you that we may truly love you, so to love you that we may fully serve you, whom to serve in perfect freedom. (*Pope Gelasius, 8th Century.*)

Dear Master, in whose life I see all that I long, but fail to be, let your clear light for ever shine to shame and guide this life of mine. Though what I dream and what I do in poor days are always true, help me oppressed by things undone, dear Lord, whose deeds and dreams were one. (*John Hunter, 19th Century*)

Bless our land, O Lord, may we be a nation of laughter and joy, of justice and reconciliation, of peace and unity, of compassion, caring and sharing. (*Desmond Tutu, 20th Century.*)

Headsup 4 a gr8 nu free txt service

The first of its kind in the UK, mtxt4u is a new regular texting service for 9 to 13 year-olds. Launched by MethodistChildren, the service aims to keep children in touch with what's going on in the world, give them food for thought and help them to get more involved in church life.

From 4 October, children who subscribe to the service will receive texts under 8 different topics: Links, UrWorld, Challenge, World, Action, Prayer, DaBuzz and Headsup. To sign up, they can simply text JOIN to 07786205203 and it's absolutely free.

Penny Fuller, MethodistChildren 9-13 Project Worker, said that; "With over 90% of 12 year-olds now owning a mobile phone, this is a great way to reach young people. Church can sometimes seem boring or irrelevant to young people and we want to show them that there are loads of exciting ways to get involved. We hope that by covering a variety of issues and even by setting the odd challenge, we can help them engage with a whole host of topics and think about what being Christian means for them".

Users of the service can respond to any of the texts they receive from mtxt4u by having their say on DaBlab – the bulletin board in the brand new 9-13s section of the MethodistChildren website (www.methodistchildren.org.uk). The new look website has much more to offer, including the latest film and music reviews, puzzles, BrainEacs activities (puzzles and games), a prayer page and much more. There will also be a chance for children to find out what's going on around to world and to share their own stories.

Penny said, "There'll be loads more to see and do on the site. As it continues to develop and grow, we're looking for groups and individuals to get involved, let us know what they'd like to see and even to contribute their own material. It's their website, so it should be done their way".

The website also has an area for children under 12, with lots to do, including fun and games, a storybook and even a gallery for children to submit their own pictures. But it's not all for the children; children's workers have their own section of the site, with an activity page for leaders, resources, training information and a bulletin board.

News and Information

Barn Dance 4 November 6pm at Putnoe. Suitable for all ages. Tickets £3 each or £10 for a 'family' of 4 Sausage & Mash with veggie option. Bring your own drinks. Raffle. Book early. Tickets from Putnoe Office or see Liz

Network Craft Day at Priory Methodist Church on Saturday 21 October at 9.45am. Please contact Pam Seymour 305695 for information and booking form. Forms to be returned no later than 10th October.

Bedford Bamberg Association are holding "A Musical evening with food" at St Mark's Church Centre on 13th October at 7.30pm. Tickets £8.00 Why not come, you will be very welcome. Please contact June Paull - 01234 360812.

Bedford Festival of Music, Speech & Dance 3-10 March 2007. If any of our young people from the Partnership would like to enter the Bible Reading, to continue the success of this year, could they please see Liz as we need to register shortly.

TNT & TXT begin their new programme tonight at 6pm. We have planned a fun and exciting programme of events and would welcome some more volunteer help one Sunday evening a month. Contact Joan 344536.

Bequest to Putnoe Friends of Mrs Joan Mortimer will be pleased to know that she remembered the church with a small bequest in her will. Joan passed away in January at Morecambe.

NCH House collections Thank you to everyone who helped. The total raised in our Brickhill area was £837.35 which is up 6.2% on last years figure. Mike Elliot.

Tesco Sports Vouchers are being collected by St Mark's Preschool. Vouchers can be handed into the Office. Thank you Helen

Putnoe Lower School would like someone to represent the church and local community on the board of Governors. If anyone would like to take on this very important role, could they please see Joan for details. Joan 344536

Thank you to all the dear friends at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights for all the cards, letters, phone calls, visits and prayers for me during my time in hospital. They've been a real blessing. Thank you very much. Ada Hill

Pat & Maurice Leusby would like to thank all those who prayers & transport for Maurice after Pat's accident in July. Pat would especially like to thank people for their cards & prayers of healing which gave her a lift at a very difficult time. She hopes to be back in Church with us soon.

'Modern Singers' If you enjoy singing, come along to Bedford Modern School for an hour 6-7pm on Wednesdays. All voices welcome - no auditions! For more information - speak to Mike Cooper, Tim Wilkes or Clive Simmonds.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Mediterranean Evening. The magnificent total of £450 was raised for the Development Fund.

Patchwork will be giving a variety concert in aid of NCH on Saturday 14 October at 7pm at Wilstead Methodist Church. Tickets £6 (including light refreshments) from Margaret Standley or Vera Pearson.

Highfield Care Home. A group from St. Mark's hold a short service at Highfield on the 3rd Sunday of each month. This group is badly in need of extra support. If you would be willing to help with these services, perhaps you would like to join us on Sunday 15 October at 2.30p.m. at Highfield for our Harvest Festival service. For further information please contact Vera Pearson, Lance Mason or Doris Cooper. Many thanks.

Charity Concert in aid of Bedford Mencap at Priory Methodist Church 7.30 p.m. Saturday 21st October. Tickets £8 (£5 for children and those with a learning disability) from Mike Bonney Tel. 781254.

Belief. Bedford Ecumenical Lay Institute for Education and Faith

Course leaflets are available in the foyer with details of some excellent sessions. The courses are held at St Andrew's Church in Bedford. Please take a leaflet and consider joining one of the courses this autumn *Joan Crossley*

St Mark's Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 18 November. More details to follow soon

Church Council Time. Please note that both Church Councils take place this week at our churches. Everybody is welcome to attend as these are open meetings.

Where there's muck.... St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Churches were delighted this week to receive news that they had been successful in applications for funding from the landfill tax credit scheme. Money is put into the grant scheme for every load of rubbish dumped in local landfill. St Mark's received £50,000 towards the second stage of our new community centre building. Putnoe Heights received £30,000 towards the new meeting room facilities.

Partnership Commemoration Service

Sunday 12 November at 3.00pm at St Mark's Church our preacher this year will be The reverend Dr Sam Cappleman.

Special Christmas services this year in the Partnership - Something to look forward to

Christmas trees arrive Friday 1 November
 Christmas gift service, both churches 3 December
 Christingle service, both churches 10 December
 St Mark's Carols in the car park 16 December
 Carols by Candlelight at Putnoe 17 December
 Carols by candlelight at St Mark's 23 December
 Crib service at St Mark's 3.00pm Christmas Eve
 Crib service at Putnoe 4.00pm Christmas Eve
 Midnight Mass both churches Christmas Eve
 Christmas day services 9.30 and 11.00am

8.30am Holy Communion

Our apologies - owing to ministerial holidays, the 8.30am holy communion services will take place alternatively for the next few weeks. Please watch Partnership News for details - next week at St Mark's Church only.

A Hymn for Sunday

God has spoken-by his prophets,
 Spoken his unchanging word,
 Each from age to age proclaiming
 God, the one, the righteous Lord.
 'Mid the world's despair and turmoil
 One firm anchor holds us fast:
 God is King, his throne eternal,
 God the first, and God the last.

God has spoken-by Christ Jesus,
 Christ, the everlasting Son,
 Brightness of the Father's glory,
 With the Father ever one;
 Spoken by the Word incarnate,
 God from God, ere time began,
 Light from Light, to earth descending,
 Man, revealing God to man.

God is speaking-by his Spirit,
 Speaking to the hearts of men,
 In the age-long word expounding
 God's own message, now as then,
 Through the rise and fall of nations
 One sure faith yet standing fast;
 God still speaks, his word unchanging,
 God the first, and God the last.

Tune Ode to Joy

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.

Branco Stanojev

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 Ernest Pitt will take place at Putnoe Church on Monday 16 October at 2.30pm *Crossley*

The funeral of Elizabeth Mary Street will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 1.45pm on Friday 13 October. *Royden*



The funeral of Anthony Brian Feetham will take place on Tuesday 10 October at 2.30pm *Rev Brian Webb*