



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

12 August 2007

19th in Ordinary Time



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

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

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher – Mr Barry Owen
Leadership Team- Mrs Avril Williams
Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs

11am Putnoe Heights -Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Barry Owen
Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper
Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

20th in Ordinary - 19th August

9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mrs Morag Stewart
Intercessions - Mr Ian Farthing

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Hoar
Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

Readings

- 1: Jeremiah 23: 23-29
- 2 Hebrews 11: 29-12:2
- 3: Luke 12: 49-56

Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by John and Janet Day to celebrate the baptism of their grand-daughter Ellie Rose at the church of St Nicholas, Barton-le-Clay

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Gwen Benson in memory of her husband Derick

Prayer for Sunday

Grant to us,
O Lord, ears to hear your voice,
eyes to see your beauty,
wills to obey your commandments,
and hearts to love your name,
so that hearing, seeing,
obeying and loving we may come at last to
the joys of your kingdom;
through Christ our Lord. Amen

Christina Rossetti, 1830-85

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

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

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisisChurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mr Alan Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349
youth@thisischurch.com

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

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mrs L Parry 216724
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

8.30-5.30pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

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

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.

St Mark's Mr Kellie ☎721063

10.45am U3A Playreading St Mark's C Birks ☎219607

12.00pm Story box We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349

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

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

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

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎364710

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week every month Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

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

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's each month next meeting 20 August - Church Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm Housegroup 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 Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

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

10am -Bedord Arts Society starting at St Mark's on the 11th September. ☎Mrs Brown 771676

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

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

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Tuesday of the month Mrs Berman ☎364723

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

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. No meetings now until Sept 4th. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Stubbs ☎406784.

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

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group

St Mark's 1st Tuesday ☎Parsons 351150

7pm Creative Card Making St Mark's 1st & 3rd Week of the month Carol Houghton ☎346718

7-8pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885

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

7.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Marks 3rd week of the month. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374

7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting August 14th Afternoon Tea Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

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

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 5 September 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

2pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 3rd week of the month (starting 19th Sept) ☎400584

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 Rachell Monton ☎01234 297138

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

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

7pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 4th Wednesday of the month (starting 26th Sept) ☎400584

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

7.00pm Yoga St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎Loxley 347073

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

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday. Next meeting 5 September Graham ☎406359 or Danny ☎401668.

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

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

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

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play St. Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.50 for first child + 50p for each extra child over 2 years. Next meeting 6 September. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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

12pm Storybox. St Mark's 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. Next meeting 6 September. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

5.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr C Hill ☎772922

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week of the month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

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

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs C Smith ☎344544

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

7.45pm Housegroup meets fortnightly Betty Wyatt ☎350188

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week each month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

8.00pm Brickhill Wives St Mark's 1st and 3rd week Next meeting Mrs Woods ☎404702

Friday

9.30-12.30pm & 12.30 - 2.30pm U3A Photography Group St Marks 4th week Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

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

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

6.30pm Line Dancing. St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

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

7pm Youth Club for age 10-15. St Mark's Church. Contact PC Dave Hawkey ☎349179

Saturday

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

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

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.

1 - 3pm 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, games & outings. Liz ☎302349.

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

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 12 November

St Mark's Leadership Team – 14 September

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 17 September

St Mark's Church Management Meeting -

Putnoe Heights Centre Management - 20 August

Putnoe Church Council - 8th October

Pastoral Group Meeting –

Churchyard Committee - 5 September 11am

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting. 12

September. 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings

Deanery Meeting - 13 September St Paul's

Circuit Meeting

Woodland Burial Trustees - 3 September 7pm

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth—

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



Telecare

Telecare

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

19th in Ordinary

Opening Verse 1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us.

Collect Prayer for the Day

Before we read we pray

God of the nations, to whose table all are invited and in whose kingdom no one is a stranger: hear the cries of the hungry and mercifully extend to all the peoples on earth the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Bible Reading - Genesis 15: 1-6

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars-if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness

(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

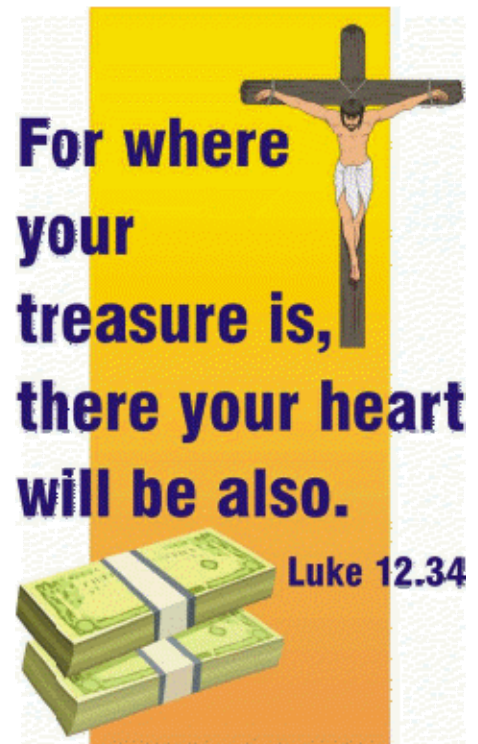
Second Bible Reading - Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren--was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country--a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

This is the word of the Lord- **Thanks be to God**)

Third Bible Reading - Luke 12: 32-40

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." "Be dressed ready for



service and keep your lamps burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

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

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and fore ever. Amen

Hymns (Please distribute Morning Worship and Mission Praise)

1. Angel voices ever singing 34
2. Father I place into your hands 133
3. Rock of Ages 582
4. Lord thy word abideth 446
5. I cannot tell 266

Commentary Fear Not

It has been said that when people stop believing in God, then they will believe anything. Without doubt there are many people around who turn to very inadequate sources of help when seeking guidance for their lives. Horoscopes, people who pretend to communicate with dead relatives, there are many people out there who will take advantage of people who have lost or who have never known faith in God. The Christian faith provides us with a way of living which makes sense of our world and our lives. It is simple enough to be taught to children and yet profound enough to challenge the most intelligent minds.

Fear is not only one of our deepest instincts, it is generally one of our most constant companions in life. We fear all kinds of things. There are people obsessed with fear of heights, crowds, confined places, leaving the house, having dirty hands, and the like. Other fears are more commonplace. We may fear bad health, making ends meet, losing employment, what other people think, how our children will turn out. In some cases, fear is providential because it saves us from danger or getting into trouble. We do well, for example, to fear the consequences of engaging in criminal activity or insulting an employer. For the most part, however, fear is not providential but the result of certain ways of thinking that we play out in our imagination. In such cases, fear is non-productive and crippling. Nowhere is this more obvious, for instance, than in our fear of change. Fear has little tolerance for risk and the unknown and, as such, is the single most significant factor preventing our spiritual growth and improvement in the quality of our lives.

In the gospel reading from Luke, Jesus tells us: "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." This is wonderful encouragement, but how do we "fear not"? How do we end fear, or at least bring it under control? To find a solution, we turn to the reading from Hebrews, where we are told: "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." In other words, faith is an antidote to fear. If we truly feel assured in one way or another, fear disappears and the unknown ceases to be threatening. Fear can only exist where our thoughts keep us unsure of ourselves, or of the world around us. Consider for a moment how fear arises in these respects. We think poorly of ourselves, put ourselves down, refuse to acknowledge our abilities, judge ourselves primarily by what others think, and deny ourselves forgiveness for our mistakes. Self-esteem takes a constant beating; feeling we are bad and

poorly equipped for life, we set ourselves up for fear. Or we think about the world: what an awful place it is, how much bad news there always is, how jumpy the economy remains, how dishonest and mean other people can be—and we are predictably fearful. Faith, however, switches our perspective. Faith is a way of seeing. Faith allows us to look at things from a divine viewpoint and focuses our thinking according to the teachings of Jesus who assures us that, as members of the "kingdom," we have nothing to fear. Faith doesn't see things blindly, or unreasonably, it is true vision from an elevated point of view. With faith, ; we see ourselves as miraculous beings, intelligent, resourceful, and more than equipped by a loving God to meet our destiny in life, or any challenge life might throw our way. The world certainly has its problems, but it is still a beautiful place, with wonderful opportunities, and populated with significant numbers of caring and loving people. Is this perspective any less reasonable, or less authentic, than the negative outlook of fearful people? Is it inconceivable that we adopt this point of view and thus attain the assurance that dissolves fear? Adopt faith as an antidote for fear. Which means, work on changing your perspective. Be aware of your thoughts and thinking patterns. See how your negative viewpoint, rather than "reality," affects your sense of security. Use the eyes of Christ when you look upon yourself, other people, and the world around you; his teachings provide a way of seeing. "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." From a kingdom perspective, you have nothing to fear.

Meditation

Charity gives itself rich; covetousness hoards itself poor. German Proverb

Prayer

Enable this church to do your will
Make it vulnerable that it may speak with calm humility;
Make it outward looking that it may care deeply
Make it a community of peacemakers and bridge builders
In the midst of turbulence let the church make space
for the hearing of your still small voice. (Delia Shephard)

Eternal God, in Christ you make yourself our guest. Amid all our cares and concerns make us attentive to your voice and alert to your presence, that we may prize your word above all else; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, you are the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, and the 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 is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. —Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

Knit my soul to your own, O Christ, so that I may never be separated from you. Only in you am I a person fully alive. Only in your light can I see and only in your strength can I pursue my way. To you I come, O wisdom without end. In you I rest, O mercy without limit. To you I give all praise, O crown of all majesty. Amen Mechtild of Magdeburg, 1210-80

Wonderful are you, God of creation, without whom nothing draws breath.
Wonderful are you, Christ Jesus, without whom our world stays in the dark.
Wonderful are you, Spirit-Friend, without whom our worship remains formal.
We trust you, we love you, we yearn for more of you;
we praise you for your holiness, beauty and inexhaustible love. Amen!

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

YPF/Jnr Church—There will be no YPF or Jnr Church at Putnoe during August

Belief Courses A Day Retreat at Turvey Abbey on Saturday 24th November 2007. The suggested fee will be £30.00. For information contact Stephen Heap 01234 216181. Cheques payable to BELIEF.

Getting to grips with Matthew's Gospel. Speaker - Dr Jeffrey John at St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Road.. 23rd February.2008 Forms available from St Mark's Church Office

British Cardiac Patients Association. Our next meeting at Putnoe Heights Church is on Thursday August 23rd at 7.30pm. We will be entertained with music played on the keyboard by Shaun Milsom. All are welcome to come along and join in with us. Admission is free and we will have refreshments and a raffle.

Two Day Summer Special—'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat'. We invite all our young adults (under100yrs!)and children (over 5 years) throughout the Partnership, to join us at Putnoe Heights on Tuesday 21 & Wednesday22 August between 9.30 and 3.30 for two days of fun. We will learn about Joseph and his family relationships through story, discussion, games, crafts and under the direction of Clive Simmonds put together the 20 minute musical performance. More details will follow. Liz
We would very much appreciate any adult help for either part of day.

Luncheon Club which meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights relies heavily on volunteer drivers to transport elderly folk to & from their homes. An additional driver is needed to start in early September. If you can help please ring Putnoe Church Centre 365630.

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. Her Majesty the Queen is its patron. The annual house to house collection to support the vital work of the NCH will take place as usual in the first 2 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 asrea, perhaps near to where you live, or you would like some more information then please contact me Mike Elliott 342507.

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

Social Event at St Mark's—The Caribbean evening planned for 13th October has been changed to "An Evening from the Shows." Put the date in your diary! The Caribbean Evening will be arranged at a later date.

TXT is the new youth group for our young teenagers starting in September on alternate Sunday evenings 6.30 - 8.00pm. We shall be doing a little Bible Study followed by some fun activities and prayer. If you could spare the time to be one of our adult helpers please contact Sam Ware on 304058.

Putnoe Heights 50th Anniversary - For those who missed the exhibition in the church in June and July, an abridged version will be on show at Putnoe Library from August 13-28.

Methodist Prayer manual

If you wish to order a copy of the Methodist Prayer Manual due for publication this month, please let Vera Pearson now. 270737

Banns

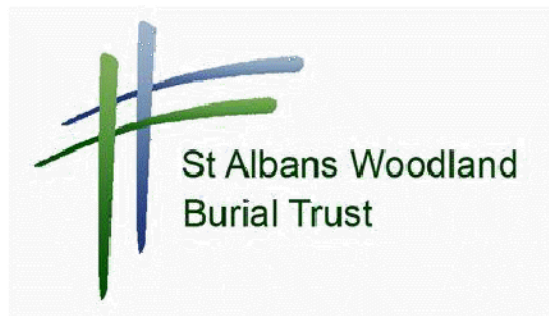


We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Calvin George Ayton and Keesha La'Toya Edwards both of this parish. This is for the second time of asking.

Bric-a-brac for the Church Stall at the Boot Sale on Monday 27th August will be very welcome. Books, toys, old tools, bicycles, records, videos, CD's and electrical goods are also popular. The catering team would also be very grateful for tray bakes for the refreshments. Avril Williams.

Offertory Envelopes Members of the Envelope Scheme at Putnoe Heights Church are invited to collect a set of offertory envelopes for the next twelve months from the table in the welcome area. Anyone who would like to join the scheme is asked to contact John Hitt, (tel. 404186) for further information.

Employment Opportunity St Mark's are seeking to employ one or two people to run the coffee shop at St Mark's on Sunday afternoons. The hours of duty will be from 2.00pm until 5.00pm. The responsibility will be paid at £6 per hour. Please speak with Linda Parry or Charlie if you are interested.



St Albans Woodland Burial Trust Open Day

**Saturday 25 August 2007
2.00pm - 7.00pm**

You are invited by the Trustees to a special open day at our woodland, set in 60 acres of beautiful countryside. All the family, including dogs, are welcome to come and refreshments will be provided.

Methodist Church welcomes call to release Guantanamo detainees

The Methodist Church have welcomed the UK Government's decision to request the return of five former British residents being held in Guantanamo Bay. The announcement overturns the previous refusal of the UK Government to intervene in their case. The Methodist Church is gravely concerned about the continued use of Guantanamo Bay to hold people without due legal process. At the beginning of July, the Methodist Church, the Church of England and the Catholic Bishops' Conference in England and Wales wrote to the Home Secretary, Jacqui Smith, urging her to allow the return to the UK of eight former British residents detained at Guantanamo Bay including those named in yesterday's statement from the Government. The letter was signed by the Revd Graham Carter (the former President of the Methodist Conference), the Rt Revd Tom Butler (Bishop of Southwark) and the Rt Revd William Kenney (Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham). Steve Hucklesby, Methodist Secretary for International Affairs, says, "This is great news and we hope that these five people can be returned to the UK soon. Most of the British residents detained at Guantanamo have been there for five years now and we are concerned for their mental health and general well-being. Their continued detention has placed stress on their families in the UK. Their imprisonment without due legal process is an unacceptable violation of their rights.

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.'



St Mark's Tea and Coffee Shop.

Open every
Sunday 2.30pm - 5.00pm.
Don't forget to come along and enjoy great teas

Rest in Peace



Mrs Margaret Morton Toomey 'Margo'
Tuesday 14 August at 12.15pm at
Norse Road Crematorium. Roydon.