



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

12 June 2005
11 in Ordinary

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 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Howard Connell

Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry

Intercessions - Mrs Margaret Appleton

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mrs Kate White

Leadership Team - Mr Dave Allen

Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

19 June 12 in Ordinary

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions - Mrs Delia Shephard

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley

Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Christina and Maurice Halsey to celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

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

Prayer for Sunday

Pour upon us, O Holy Spirit,
your sevenfold gifts:
of understanding that we may be enlightened;
of counsel that we may follow in your footsteps;
of courage that we may face the enemy;
of knowledge that we may discern the good;
of piety that we may be compassionate;
of fear that we may draw back from evil,
and of wisdom that we may taste the sweetness
of your love. Amen
St Bonaventure, 1217-1274

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR

266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com

(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM

(Day off Friday)

12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE

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The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

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The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

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Partnership News is now available each week on the
Partnership Website - www.ThisisChurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 1.00pm Monday & Friday

9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen 407264

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Samantha Ware 304058

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5pm)

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Hymns are printed under CCL Lic No. 1501

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30 - 12.00 pm Pre-school (See website for more details) Mrs Janet Smith 326685 (Putnoe Heights) or Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634** (St. Mark's).

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

10.00am Supple Strength at Putnoe Heights. Contact Louise Woodcock 270302

12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box at Putnoe Heights. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from.

4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 400987

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Contact 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. Mrs C Cannon 404319

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next one 20 June St. Mark's Contact 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. Contact Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203

9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Contact Mrs Stileman 822230

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

12 noon - 10.00 pm Slimming World at St. Mark's. Sessions start at 12, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm & 7.15pm Contact Val Careless 345213.

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

1.30pm Body Control Pilates at Putnoe Heights. Contact Stephanie Smith 357787

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 14 June Social Afternoon with guest. Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 14 June Joining Women's Fellowship Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Contact Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

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

6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights. Contact Emma Holloway 293792

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

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

7.30pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746

7.45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Next meeting 21 June 'Children in Need' Brian Leeson. Meets fortnightly. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing group) - Contact Mr F Steele 355937

Wednesday

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

9.30am Bedford U3A at Putnoe Heights meets bi-monthly. Next meeting . Contact Jenny Coggins 266379

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

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Height meets fortnightly. Next meeting 22 June Contact Putnoe Heights 365630

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

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

6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 07711 687449

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

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting . Contact Sylvia Woods 365095

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Contact Pam Holley 771964

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

7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Contact 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.*

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Contact Karen Simpson 244970

10.30am - 12.00am Fledglings at St Mark's

2.00pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's Contact 267444

12pm Story box at St Mark's. Service for parents, carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

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

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

2.30 Bedford Arts Society at St. Mark's. Contact Celia Maddison 782901

2pm U3A Indoor Games at Putnoe Heights. Contact Radmila Dancer 404811

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights. A drama group for 4-9year olds. Meets 4-5pm, drinks from 3.30pm

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

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Heights . Contact Helga Nash 218521

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Height. Contact Pat Stidolph 345247

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

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

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild St Mark's- 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact Mrs K Sage 771525

7.45pm. Housegroup-Meets fortnightly at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Contact Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St Mark's 3rd Thursday each month. Contact Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.30am U3A Exercise at Putnoe Heights. Contact Carole Maunder 301325

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

6pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 0771 687449 or 07810 234890

7. 30pm Bibleway Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 376841

6.30pm -8.30 pm Dog Training Classes at St. Mark's. Contact Mrs L. Laton 365601

Saturday

9.30am Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Contact Esther Sancto 272517

10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St Mark's -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle 01234 782414

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting 2 July Contact Philip Jones 350295

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

Sunday

1- 3pm & 7-9pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 309881 Mob. 07891095746

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

Church Calendar

Church Diary Dates

Partnership Council 22nd June
St Mark's Church Council 15 June, 12 October
Circuit/Deanery Meeting 7.30 p.m. 22nd June at Putnoe Heights Church (not Clapham as previously advertised)
Circuit Meeting 14 September
St Mark's Leadership Team -Weds 6th July
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team July 21
St Mark's Church Management Meeting 11 July, 12 September, 2 November. All meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management

Putnoe Church Council

13 June 2005, 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting - 19 September 2.00pm

Church yard Committee - 13 June -10.00am

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting .

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

Brickhill Parish Council dates (Held at St Mark's) Allotments Committee 27 June 7.30pm

Bible Notes

Ordinary 11 Year A (Green)

Verse of Scripture Psalm 100:5

The Lord is good and His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.

A Collect Prayer

Generous God, you gather your people and lavish your gifts upon us, day by day. Grant that each experience of your pardon may enlarge our own love, until it meets the measure of your extravagant forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Methodist Worship*



First Reading – Exodus 19:2 - 8a

After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. The people all responded together, "We will do everything the LORD has said." So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD.

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

Second Reading - Romans 5:1- 8

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God.**)

Third Reading Matthew 9:35 - 10:8

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

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

Commentary Be careful what you pray for

'When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd'

Jesus looked around him and saw the crowds and he had compassion (GK. *splagchnizomai*) on the people. The word used for compassion is a powerful one, it means that Jesus had something like a blow to the stomach. It is a strong word, not something which means a mild pity, Jesus had a stomach churning response to the plight of ordinary people. Jesus understood that the people were harassed and confused and he hurt and agonized over the lost, the wounded, and the excluded.

Of course these words which Jesus spoke must have angered the religious authorities deeply. Jesus was criticising the religious system. When Jesus said the people were like 'sheep without a shepherd,' he was criticising the religious leaders who believed that they were very good shepherds and that the people didn't need anybody else. Jesus was angry at the lack of spiritual provision which was being made for the people and he was angry at the beliefs which were held at the time. The Pharisees saw the poor and the sick as those who were being punished by God for their sins, they should be kept away and excluded. Jesus welcomed the sick, the poor and the sinners and saw them as children of God.

Of course Jesus was motivated by the helplessness of the people into direct action and we need to be reminded that Jesus shows just how much God is not a distant unconcerned observer in our lives. God is distressed when he sees the lost and is prepared to give completely of himself, even to death on the cross. I am sure it is true that if Jesus had compassion on those people he met during his earthly ministry, then that compassion remains undiminished today. Jesus must still be moved with pity as he looks upon so many people with deep spiritual need.

Jesus spent a great deal of time healing and making people well, that was an important part of his ministry to show that God did not want people to be ill. However Jesus is clear that the most important need is not to make people physically well, but rather to meet their great spiritual needs. In our society and in many places across the world, people have much better medical care now than 2,000 years ago. We can easily cure physical diseases which were life threatening only a short time ago. However, we delude ourselves if we think that people today are more spiritually satisfied, more comfortable with their place in the universe. For many people life is aimless and the pursuit of material wealth as a source of spiritual satisfaction continually disappoints and leaves people dissatisfied.

In this context we can see that the most important work of the followers of Jesus, is to bring the medicine of the Gospel to an ailing world. This is the greatest work which we can do to bring healing to the nations. The teaching of Jesus is Good News to a world in which there is so much emptiness and only the message of God's love in Christ Jesus can bridge the void which separates us from understanding the deep love of God for us.

Undoubtedly the crowds and the disciples who followed Jesus wanted their immediate needs met. When they were hungry they wanted Jesus to feed them, when they were frightened by the storms they wanted Jesus to bring calm, when they were sick they wanted to be made well again. Jesus showed that he was concerned about these things too, but Jesus realised that the really important needs which all people have were not so obvious. People do not live on bread alone, they have a spiritual hunger which requires just as much attention if life is not to lose its real meaning.

This lays upon us all a serious burden, to recognise that the gift which we have in the Gospel of Christ is not ours to keep. We are called upon to ask God to send out workers to share the Good News, and we should be in a state of some desperation. The word which is used by Jesus (*deomai*) doesn't just mean , "to ask God," it literally means "to beg."

"Beg God to send out workers in the harvest."

As we beg of God to send out people who will help the fallen and distressed sheep, we should immediately recognise that each one of us has a part to play in this mission. This may seem an onerous task, it is not supposed to be. Jesus tells disciples that the harvest is 'plentiful' and it is surely a privilege to be able to share in the important work of God. The work which the disciples and all Christians are called upon to carry out, is not our own work, it is the work of God. We are told to pray, but it is God who will send us out to do the tasks which he requires. God will give to us freely, we in turn must freely give.

Charles Royden

Post Communion Prayer

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can know it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Hymns

1. City of God how broad and far 809 Hymns and Psalms (Tune:Richmond) (Mission Praise 814)
2. After Confession God forgave my sin (181 Mission Praise)
3. All I once held dear (Mission Praise 799 Music copy) On Partnership News
4. Will you come and follow me (In Glory to God) On Partnership News
5. Forth in thy name 381 Hymns and Psalms (Tune Song 34) (Mission Praise 159)
6. Thy hand O God has guided 784 Hymns and Psalms (Tune Thornbury) (Mission Praise 705)

Meditation For our meditation this week a Franciscan blessing:

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart. Amen.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace. Amen.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. Amen.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. Amen.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

O great Lord of the harvest, send forth, we beseech thee, labourers into the harvest of the world, that the grain which is even now ripe may not fall and perish through our neglect. Pour forth thy sanctifying Spirit on our fellow Christians abroad, and thy converting grace on those who are living in darkness. Raise up, we beseech thee, a devout ministry among the native believers, that, all thy people being knit together in one body, in love, thy church may grow up into the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; through him who died, and rose again for us all, the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Robert Millman 1816-1876*

Blessed Jesus, Lord of the harvest, send forth, we beseech thee, labourers into thy harvest, and by thy Holy Spirit, stir the hearts of many, that they may be ready to spend and be spent in thy service, and if it please thee, so to lose their life in this world, that they may gather fruit unto life eternal; Lord Jesus, lover of souls. Amen. *Robert Millman 1816-1876*

O God of all the nations of the earth, remember the multitude who, though created in your image, have not known you, nor the dying of your Son, their Saviour Jesus Christ; and grant that by the prayers and labours of your Holy Church they may be delivered from all ignorance and unbelief, and brought to worship you; through him whom you have sent to be the Resurrection and the Life of all people, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Francis Xavier 1506-52*

Words of Dismissal

Christ has no other hands but your hands to do his work today;
no other feet but your feet to guide folk on his way;
no other lips but your lips to tell them why he died;
no other love but your love to win them to his side. *Teresa of Avila 1515-82*

Alternative Blessing

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few." I send you forth in the name of Jesus Christ: Proclaim the good news, cure the sick, raise the dead, embrace the outcast. Freely you have received; freely give. And the blessing of.....

A Confession

We confess the blindness that is not even aware of sinning; the pride that dares not admit that it is wrong; the selfishness that can see nothing but its own will; the righteousness that knows no fault; the callousness that has ceased to care; the defiance that does not regret its own sins; the evasion that always tries to make excuses; the coldness of heart that is too hardened to repent.
God, we are sinners; be merciful to us.

News, Views and Information

Farewell A celebration of the ordained ministry and circuit farewell service for the Revd. Karen Murphy will be held at Oakley Methodist Church on Sunday 26 June at 6pm. Every one is most welcome. To acknowledge Karen's 10 years of ministry in the circuit & as a token of our affection a presentation will be made during the service. A collection plate will be available today & next Sunday 12 June, in the vestibule at St. Marks & Putnoe Heights, for donations towards a gift for Karen.

Change of Date ! Putnoe Heights Junior Church and Storybox Plus Summer Outing will now take place on either 14 or 21st August

We hope to go to Thurleigh Farm Centre, leaving from Putnoe Heights Church at 12 noon, taking a picnic for "Wacky Woods". Kids £3.75 Adults £3.25 Family £13.50 (2 adults and 2 kids). Please let Liz Spavins know a.s.a.p. which date you would prefer or for more details call Liz on 302349.

Putnoe Heights Junior church The "help" rota is now on the notice board. Please sign up if you would like to join us one Sunday. Our 10+ group will be in the small hall led by Joan, Neil and other "Guest Leaders" and the younger ones will be in the large hall with Liz Spavins, John Barrow and Holly Webber.

Footprints. Weekend in Colchester 16—18 September 2005. There are still two twin rooms available, non-walkers welcome to join us in this pleasant area of 'Constable Country.' Further details from Sue Allen 407264

Auction of Promises September 17 at St Mark's Church, in aid of the Building Development to replace the Portakabin and provide accommodation for Autism Bedfordshire. We would be grateful for any donations of promises which could be auctioned at this fundraising event. Please contact Chris Izzard who is organising this event. Telephone 212164.

The proceeds from the Crib Service and Christmas Day Service held at Putnoe Heights have been sent to Childline and Keech Hospice. Both organisations have asked that grateful thanks be passed to the congregation. *Kathryn Morse*

Footprints – Dunstable Downs Walk, Sunday 12th June. Meet at 2.30 pm at Dunstable Downs Visitors' Centre on the B4541 near Robertson's Corner, south-west of Dunstable (grid ref SP 008198). The walk is 4½ miles in length and involves some gentle hill-climbing. Unless there is a huge amount of rain beforehand, there is little mud. Bare legs are not recommended, as parts of the path are overgrown. The route is a varied one including the fascinating

Whipsnade Tree Cathedral, woodland, open country and lanes and the last mile is along the grass-covered crest of the chalky Downs, commanding stunning view across the Vale of Aylesbury and beyond, as well as the gliders of the London Gliding Club taking off, circling and landing. Alison and Warwick Holden, tel 403551; mobile 07710 520674.

Footprints Summer Party – You are warmly invited to join us at the Summer Party on the following Saturday, 18th June from 7.00 pm at the home of Bob and Pam Burn, 62 Church Lane. You are requested to bring a contribution to the feast but, in the interests of a balanced menu, please contact Sue Allen on 407264 before deciding what to bring!

Arthritis Research Annual Appeal. We were very short of house to house collectors last week. If there was no collection in your road or you were out when a collector called and would still like to contribute, there will be a basket with envelopes in the welcome area at both churches today and next Sunday. They can be left in the basket or handed in to the office. Thank you. Marian Goddard (Hon. Sec. ARC Bedford Branch)

Guitar Concert. The annual guitar concert by Boe Pyne, his associates and students will take place at St Mark's on Friday 17th June at 7.30pm. The proceeds are in aid of Greenpeace, Amnesty International and Water Aid. There will be light refreshments. Admission £3.

Open Garden Wendy and Marion's garden is open this afternoon, (12th June) from 2 pm - 5 pm with Wendy's Dolls houses also on view. There are plant and card sales, together with refreshments. £2 in aid of the Retirement Centre Development Fund. Wet weather? Come anyway, as we have shelter, and indoor space. We look forward to seeing you this afternoon at 23 Orwell Close. 303254 if you need directions.

Partnership Council 22 June. Will all members please note that it will be necessary to cancel this meeting due to the fact that a meeting of the Circuit Deanery has been arranged at Putnoe Heights Church on the same night.

Hazel Hurlbut is undertaking the UK sponsored walk challenge for Smile International with a partially sighted friend to raise money for a medical clinic to be based in the new Smile centre in Gjakove, Kosova. She starts on 19 June and would appreciate any support and your prayers. Sponsorship details may be obtained from St Mark's Church Office and a poster is displayed in the foyer

Hymns For Sunday

- 1 All I once held dear,
Built my life upon,
All this world reveres,
And wars to own,
All I once thought gain
I have counted loss;
Spent and worthless now,
Compared to this.
*Knowing You, Jesus,
knowing You,
there is no greater thing.
You're my all, You're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness,
and I love You, Lord.*
- 2 Now my heart's desire
Is to know You more,
To be found in You
And known as Yours.
To possess by faith
What I could not earn,
All-surpassing gift
Of righteousness.
- 3 Oh, to know the power
Of Your risen life,
And to know You in
Your sufferings.
To become like You
In Your death, my Lord,
So with You to live
And never die.

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer in you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free, and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you, and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you,
and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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.

**Edith Roddie
Jacob Howe
John William Ames
Geoffrey Maggs**

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

Forthcoming Funerals

to be conducted by our ministers

The funeral of Alan Turner will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Monday 13 June at 2.30pm *Charles Royden*

The funeral of John Sidney William Crowther will take place on the 20th June at Bedford Crematorium *Neil Bramble Chapman*

The funeral of Elsie Verona Bowness will take place on Tuesday 14th June at 10.00am at Bedford Crematorium. *Joan Crossley*