



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

15 July 2007

15th 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 - Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Dr Joan Crossley  
Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry  
Intercessions - Mr Mike Elliott

### 11am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley  
Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper  
Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

## 16th in Ordinary - 22nd July

### 9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership Team - Mrs Avril Williams  
Intercessions - Mr John Stubbs

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership Team - Mrs Sam Ware  
Intercessions - Ministers

### Readings

- 1: Genesis 18: 1-10a
- 2 Colossians 1:15-28
- 3: Luke 10: 38-42

## Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been by Janet & Brian Ibberson to celebrate and give thanks for the birth of their second granddaughter Gwendolyn Edith in Australia.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Betty and Lawrence Wyatt to mark the anniversary of their wedding in 1953.

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

## Prayer for Sunday

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things which are passing away, to hold fast those things which last forever; 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

### 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](http://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 Liz 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 Linda Parry 216724

Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim 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

**12.00-1.00pm 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

**2.30-4.30pm Bedford Arts Society** at 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

**4.15-6.00pm 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** 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.** Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

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

**7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's each month next 16 July  
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). Putnoe Heights.  
Judi Staughton ☎341821

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

**1.30-3pm 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 only)  
Mrs Burman ☎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** - Next August 7 Summer Meeting Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

**2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** St Mark's Meets fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

**3.45-5.30pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights.

Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 0582468.

**6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights.

Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

**7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group** at St Mark's, ( 1st Tuesday ) Contact Kate Parsons 351150

**7-8pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎214107.

**7-9pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights.

Karen King ☎07941 264885

**7- 10pm Card Makers Club** meets fortnightly at St Mark's.  
Carol Houghton ☎346718

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

**7.30-10.30pm Chartered Management Institute** St Mks

**7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 17 July Bring and Share.

Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

## Wednesday

**9.00am Paint Tots** at 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 25 July 2007 Summer Outing Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

**1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .

**1.30-4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

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

**4.15-6pm Kumon Maths.** Putnoe Heights  
Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

**6.15-7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights  
Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

**6.30-7.30pm Karate.** St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

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

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

**7.00pm Yoga** St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

**7.00pm Putnoe Guild** meets monthly. Putnoe Heights.  
Janice ☎Loxley 347073

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

**8.00-10.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club** St Mark's,  
1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday. More details 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-12.30 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-11.30am Chat and Play** St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.50 for first child + 50p for each extra child over 2 years. 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 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 based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

**1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime.** Putnoe Andrea ☎210177 or Magella ☎325293.

**2- 4.30pm Putnoe Bridge Club.** Gerald Palmer ☎345991

**5.30-7.30pm 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 & Mrs Pike ☎823795

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights

Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

**7-9pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group.** St Mark's (Fortnightly starting from 26th April) Contact Doug Ovenden ☎825059

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

**7.30-9.30pm Embroiderers' Guild** St Mark's

3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby ☎344442

**7.30-9.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr ☎360188

**7.45pm Housegroup** meets fortnightly

Betty Wyatt ☎350188

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

**8.00-10.00pm Magpies Women's Group** St Mark's (2nd & 4th weeks) Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

**8.00pm Brickhill Wives** St Mark's (1st and 3rd weeks) Mrs Woods ☎404702

### Friday

**9.30am & 12.30pm U3A Photography Group** (4th week) Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

**1.30-2pm Stars School of Dance** Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

**2.00pm U3A Gardening Group** Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

**6.30-9.00pm Line Dancing.** St Mark's A night of fun Christine Rushton ☎782360

**7-10pm Bedford Arts Society** fortnightly Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

**7.30pm Youth Club for age 10-15.** St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey ☎349179

### Saturday

**9.00- 12.00pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

**10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain** St Mark's. Dancing

acting, singing. Kate Randle ☎01234 782414

**7.15-10.30pm Duplicate Bridge.** St Mark's

Ann or Peter ☎212066

### Sunday

**9.30 - 10.30 at St. Mark's Church and Sunday School with crèche for under 3's**

**11.00 - 12.00 Putnoe Heights** - Church and Junior Church 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

**6-7.30pm T.N.T.** Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. Liz ☎302349.

**6 -7.30pm 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 – 12 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](http://www.ThisChurch.com). Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.**



### Telecare

It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feed back, 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 calls.

## 15th in Ordinary

### Opening Verse - Luke 10: 27

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' ; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'"

### Collect Prayer for the Day - Before we read

Eternal God, giver of love and peace, you call your children to live together as one family. Give us grace to learn your ways and to do your will, that we may bring justice and peace to all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. *Methodist Worship*

### First Bible Reading - Deuteronomy 30: 9-14

Then the LORD your God will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands and in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your land. The LORD will again delight in you and make you prosperous, just as he delighted in your fathers, if you obey the LORD your God and keep his commands and decrees that are written in this Book of the Law and turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.  
(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

### Second Bible Reading - Colossians 1: 1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the holy and faithful brothers in Christ at Colosse: Grace and peace to you from God our Father. We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints-- the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your love in the Spirit. For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.  
(This is the word of the Lord- **Thanks be to God**)

**You will love the  
Lord your God  
with all your  
**HEART**  
and with all your  
**SOUL**  
and with all your  
**STRENGTH**  
and with all your  
**MIND**  
and your neighbor  
as yourself.  
Luke 10.27**

### **Third Bible Reading – Luke 10: 25-37**

(After the Gospel is announced - **Glory to Christ our Saviour**)

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' ; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'" "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' "Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." ( This is the Gospel of Christ - **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

### **Post Communion Prayer**

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

**Hymns** (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Holy Communion booklets)

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! 631 MP (Tune: Woodlands)
2. When I needed a neighbour (Partnership News Tune: Neighbour by Carter)
3. Brother let me be your servant, (Partnership News)
4. O happy day MP499

### **Commentary**

The phrase "Good Samaritan" is widely used, even by those who have little knowledge of the Bible. The parable is often misunderstood as being about just being a good person, of adopting a good style of life. But if we return to the context in which Jesus told the parable we see that the lawyer had asked about the way to eternal life. This story then is not about the right way to live life but the way to gain fullness of spiritual life. The lawyer wasn't a barrister or a property solicitor, he was an expert in the Law, that is the first five books of the Jewish Bible. He was an expert on religious affairs and a clever man into the bargain. After he had listened to Jesus teaching we are told that "he stood up". You can imagine the room going quiet as the champion of orthodoxy tried to catch out the refreshing but unusual young rabbi from Nazareth. Would the lawyer show Jesus up? Jesus responded in a way which showed his rabbinical grasp of the scriptures, he replied in very much the same way that the lawyer would have done. From Deuteronomy he quoted "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Dt 6:5) and Leviticus 19 "love your neighbour as yourself" (Lv19:18) So far, so orthodox. But the twist came in understanding the implications of what that might mean. You can imagine the lawyer nodding impatiently at Jesus' quoting from scripture, "yes but what do you want me to do?" And so Jesus told the parable.

The first two "villains" in Jesus' story were religious men a priest and a Levite. Both of them would have been unable to touch a dead body without defilement and perhaps neither of them wanted to take that risk. I expect the audience were enjoying the anti-clerical story and were expecting that the third traveller would be an ordinary Jew who behaved better than the so-called holy men. They would have been used to and enjoyed stories at the expense of the holier than thou clergy (in much the same way as everyone enjoys a boozy bishop story). But Jesus always surprised and confounded the expectations of his hearers. The "goody" in the story was not one of them at all but a foreigner and a gentile! The only way of understanding it is to transpose the story to a culture we understand better,. For example if at the height of The Troubles in Northern Ireland a young Ulsterman, wearing Orange and the marching uniform had fallen into the hands of a Republican, or perhaps a Klu Klux Klan member had fallen into the way of a black man, we can get a better sense of how difficult and unnatural such love might be. For the

Samaritan man was demonstrating the fullest extent of the teaching in Leviticus. The Samaritan treated the half-dead foreigner with the same love and tenderness that he might, we might hope to receive. Who knows the kind of trouble that it might cause? Joan Crossley

## **Meditation**

When I was at University one of my lecturers was always glancing at her watch when students were chatting to her. After closing the conversation she would always zoom off as though in a desperate hurry. She was, she let it be known, finishing a very important book and could not linger. As a matter of fact I don't believe that she ever has finished that book, but she certainly missed a chance to make her students feel listened to and cared about. We live in a world where to be busy is to be important. We must ask ourselves whether we like to appear to be busy to make ourselves feel needed and relevant? If we are not busy, do we feel that we ought to be, to give our lives relevance.? The Christian tradition has many examples of those whose holiness flowered through inactivity and quietness. The monks in the desert weren't busy doing stuff, rushing about having meetings. They found their spirituality in the calm and tranquillity of the emptiness and were a blessing to all those who came to ask them spiritual questions. Rowan Williams wasn't at General Synod last week and at first I felt a bit annoyed and hurt that we were expected to cope without our wise leader. But I have come to see that he was living out an important part of Jesus' teaching (and risked being criticised into the bargain) by stressing that withdrawing to pray and study is as important as being there and doing things all the time.

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

Heavenly Father. Give us grace to live our lives adventurously. When choices offer help us to dare to take the way that offers the chance to serve others. Inspire us to use all our gifts in the service of God and the world. Help me make my life speak. Amen (Adapted from The Society of Friends website)

From the flowing of the tide to its ebbing, from the waxing of life of life to its waning. Of your Peace provide us, of your Light lead us, of your Goodness give us, of your Grace grant us, of your Power protect us, of your Love lift us and in your Arms accept us. From the ebbing of the tide to its flowing, from the waning of life to its waxing. Amen (David Adam "Tides and Seasons: Modern prayers in the Celtic tradition" 1989)

O gracious and Holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive Thee, diligence to seek Thee, patience to wait for Thee, eyes to behold Thee, a heart to meditate upon Thee, and a life to proclaim Thee; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen St Benedict

## **Methodist Conference debates Covenant challenges**

The annual Methodist Conference received the second report from the Joint Implementation Commission (JIC). The JIC monitors and promotes the implementation of the Anglican-Methodist Covenant which was signed in November 2003 between the Methodist Church and the Church of England. The report, entitled 'Living God's Covenant', records some encouragements and some disappointments and looks forward both realistically and hopefully. There are many ways in which the Covenant is being lived-out at a grass-roots level, with much sharing in mission and ministry by members of both churches. Ten regional workshops that were held during 2006 involved around 600 people and offered a useful picture of attitudes to the Covenant and the capacity of the two churches to engage in mission. Revd Peter Sulston, Coordinating Secretary for Unity in Mission for the Methodist Church and co-convenor of the JIC, says 'This report is very encouraging and there is clearly a lot of good work going on, with Anglicans and Methodists sharing in worship and mission, caring for each other and serving their communities. But there is still much more to be done. The passion for mission and evangelism expressed by both churches is a powerful driver for covenant living. We hope the recommendations of this report will strengthen that commitment and help us to make the most of the gifts and resources of our two churches.'

'Living God's Covenant' also draws attention to areas where more work needs to be done to achieve unity, such as increasing an awareness of the Covenant and encouraging ownership of joint initiatives in local settings. While much work remains to be done it encourages both churches to do more to use existing opportunities to share in ministry and in mission and evangelism in every part of both churches. The report also suggests that The Methodist Church and the Church of England should consult together on the shape of a reformed House of Lords and consider making a joint submission to the Government. A further report in 2008 will seek to say more about the concrete form that the unity the churches seek might take. Please prayer for unity between our churches.

**TNT** Sunday 8 & 22 July cooking/ rounders depending on weather 6.00 at Putnoe.

**Two Day Summer Special**—'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat'. We invite all our young adults (under 100yrs!) and children (over 5 years) throughout the Partnership, to join us at Putnoe Heights on Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 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.

**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

**"The Great Gappo"** children's entertainer at Putnoe Heights on Monday 23 July 12 -3pm .Sandwich lunch, games and crafts. Tickets £1 at Story Box & Story Box Plus or Junior church. £2 on the door. All welcome. See Liz or Emma.

**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

**Luncheon Club.** Seats available on the coach for summer outing on 25th July to Town and Country Garden Centre, Shepreth for afternoon tea. Cost £5. Starting time 12.45pm from pick ups at Avon Drive, St. Mark's Church, Putnoe Heights Church and Madenbury House. Please contact St. Mark's Church office 342613 or Margaret Standley 305352.

**Putnoe Heights Grass Cutting** and Gardening. - Could anyone do this on a regular basis? Otherwise there is a rota on the Notice Board in the Welcome Area for people to sign to do it weekly. Thank you.

**We are now serving 'Traidcraft' coffee and tea** on Sunday mornings at St Mark's. There is a catalogue in the foyer if you should wish to purchase items. Please see Linda Parry.

**Sunday morning coffee makers at St Mark's** The coffee and tea is now kept in the large cupboard in the kitchen.

**Footprints.** A walk in memory of Peter Beswick will be organised later in the year after the holiday period. The summer party will be held on Saturday 21st July (new date) at the home of Claire and Richard Peck (tel 266408).

**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.

**Adopt a bed scheme.** Thank you to everyone who took on a bed. Despite the rain being generous to the weeds you all seem to have kept on top of things. Don't stop now, however, as the green bits keep popping up. A weekly visit with a trowel will keep things right. If I haven't spoken to you lately due to my absences, I have still been thinking of you, gratefully. Marion.

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group** are looking for new helpers to spur our work and contribute new ideas for fundraising. Date for your diary Saturday 4 August 10 - 12 noon coffee morning with Pam & Bob Burn at 1 Slater Close, Kempston. Offers of transport needed. If you can help please sign list at Church entrance on Sunday or contact Sylvia Cohen 343424.

**Congratulations.** To Margaret Standley and Janet & Brian Ibberson who became proud grandparents for the second time this week

**Methodist response to renewed consultation on casinos.** Anthea Cox, Coordinating Secretary for Public Life & Social Justice, says; "We're delighted to hear this news. Our concerns about casinos have always primarily been about the harm they can do to people who develop gambling problems but we were never convinced about whether they were a realistic way of regenerating urban areas. We look forward to the Government's review in September and are pleased that the Government has listened to the concerns raised by churches and other groups."

**St Mark's Coffee Shop.** Thanks to Jim and Avril Williams for running the coffee shop last Sunday. Tea and coffee shop open at St Mark's every Sunday afternoon from 2.30pm - 5.00pm. We would therefore be grateful for volunteers who would be willing to give a Sunday afternoon. Please sign your name on the rota in the foyer. Don't forget to come along and enjoy great teas

### Second Hymn

When I needed a neighbour were you there,  
were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour were you there?

And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter, Were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there,  
were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?  
Chorus

I was cold, I was naked,  
were you there, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked, were you there? Chorus

When I needed a shelter  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a shelter were you there?  
Chorus

When I needed a healer  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a healer were you there? Chorus

Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there,  
Wherever you travel I'll be there.  
And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter, I'll be there.

### Third Hymn

1. Brother let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I may have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey,  
We are brothers on the road;  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ light for you  
In the night -time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
Speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping,  
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven  
We shall find such harmony,  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.
6. Brother let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I may have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too

### 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.



#### Sidney George Gadsden

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

### Wedding



We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Jonathan Leighton Ingle of this parish and & Rebecca Elizabeth Philippa Francis of St Mary's this parish  
This is for the third time of asking.

### Rest in Peace



**The funeral of Mrs Jean Violet Williams** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 17 July at 1.45pm *Royden*

**The funeral of Mrs Dorothy Kaye** will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Tuesday 24 July at 2.30pm followed by Cremation. *Crossley*