



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

16 November 2008

Ordinary 33



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

9.30am St. Mark's– Holy Communion
Preacher - Mrs Wendy Waters
Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper
Intercessions-Mr Ian Farthing

11.00am Putnoe Heights– Holy Communion
Preacher - Mrs Wendy Waters
Leadership Team – Mrs Jenny Emsley
Intercessions—Ministers

23 November Christ the King 'Stir Up Sunday'

9.30am St. Mark's Church - Morning Worship
Preacher - Prof Colin Russell
Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry
Intercessions – Mr John Tatman
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship
Preacher - Prof Colin Russell
Leadership Team – Mrs Linda Hoar
Intercessions – Ministers

Bible Readings

1. Ezekiel 34: 11-16,20-24
2. Ephesians 1: 15-23
3. Matthew 25: 31 –46.

Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Doris Cooper in memory of her husband Marshall and to celebrate her 90th birthday.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights have been given by Doreen Denning in loving memory of her husband Len.

Mrs Sam Ware [telephone 304058] has taken over the distribution of Sunday flowers from Putnoe Heights.

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

A Prayer for Sunday

In this week we consider the Parable of the Talents O Lord Jesus, before whose judgement seat we must all appear and give account of the things which we have done: grant, we beseech thee, that in that day the faces of they servants may not be ashamed.

St Columba

Contact Details

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

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.ThisChurch.com

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mrs. Wendy Nash 357119
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 - Mr Mike Cooper 306751
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

11am - 12. The Right Track at St Mark's. Signpost information for people with learning difficulties. Gina Barton

☎07999859980

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

1.45pm U3A History Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week of the month. ☎ David Fowler 824474

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. Margo Needham 843747

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

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

7.30pm Cancer Care Society. Meets monthly at St Mark's. Contact Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020

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

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Lena Holland ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week each month. Next meeting 19 November Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

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

Tuesday

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

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

9.40 -12.30 Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Philips 01582 485333

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

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎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. Next meeting 18 November Mission Aviation Fellowship Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's alternate weeks. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917582468.

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group St Mark's 1st Tuesday ☎Parsons 351150

7pm 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

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

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 18 November Charity Eve More details from Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.15am Paint Tots St Mark's Jacqui Hanahan ☎824475

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

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎07973174430.

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

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

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

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

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 25 November 2008 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

12.30pm Men's Fellowship Lunch St Mark's 2nd week each month. Chris Izzard ☎212164

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

1.45 Scots Society Whist monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr 268147

2pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 3rd week of the month Ken Silvester☎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 Racheall 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. Ken Silvester ☎400584

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎ Loxley 347073

7.00pm U3A Sky at Night 2nd Wednesday of the month. Mr Farish ☎824984

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 19 November. Everyone welcome. Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312.

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

7.45 for 8pm God talk—women's group monthly meeting for worship and friendly chat at Wendy Nash's Contact Majella Atkinson ☎325293

Thursday

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

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

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Lena Holland ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play weekly at St. Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.75. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

12pm Storybox weekly at St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

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

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

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

7.00pm British Cardiac Patients Assoc. at Putnoe bi monthly Mrs. E. Marriot 303834

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

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 Jean Birks ☎219607

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 ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

6.30pm -7.30pm Line Dancing. Beginners 7-8pm

Improvers St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

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

7.45pm Astrology Group St Mark's as from 11th January. Mr Kenworthy ☎402792

Saturday

9.00pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

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

1.30pm Young Embroiders bi monthly Terry Fletcher Tel 357198

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

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

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

4pm B.A.M.A.A. at St Mark's. Chinese soft martial arts. Mr Chris Butcher ☎07886894922

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

Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council – , 18 November

St Mark's Leadership Team – 24 November - Vicarage, 24 February

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 1 December

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting- 19 January, 20

April, 13 July

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 21 January 2009

Putnoe Church Council - Monday 26 January, Monday 15 June, Monday 5 October

Pastoral Group Meeting - Tuesday 20 January 4.30pm

Annual Congregational Meetings 26 April

Churchyard Committee -

Putnoe Heights Mission Group –

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Deanery Meeting

Circuit/Deanery Meeting

Woodland Burial Trustees

Mission Group Meeting - Weds 7th January 2009 at 7.30pm Sylvia 14 Flint Way 343424

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –1st December.

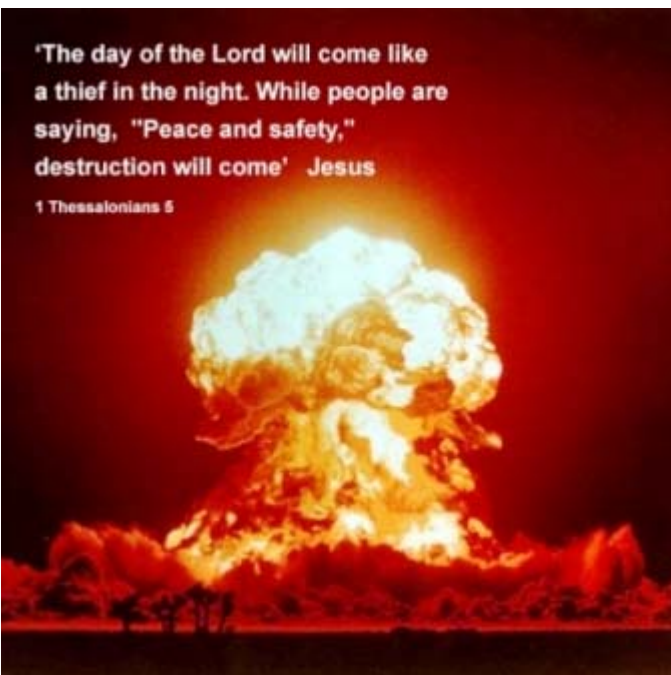
Ordinary 33

Opening Verses of Scripture 1 Thess 5:10

God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

Collect Prayer for the Day -

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure. that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in



his eternal and glorious kingdom: where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Common Worship

First Bible Reading - Judges 4: 1-7

After Ehud died, the Israelites once again did evil in the eyes of the LORD. So the LORD sold them into the hands of Jabin, a king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth Haggoyim. Because he had nine hundred iron chariots and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years, they cried to the LORD for help. Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time. She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came to her to have their disputes decided. She sent for Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you: 'Go, take with you ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun and lead the way to Mount Tabor. I will lure Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River and give him into your hands.' (Reader: This is the word of the Lord – Thanks be to God)

Second Reading- 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labour pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading - Matthew 25: 14-30 All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents^[a] of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one

with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

"After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.'

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

"The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. " 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

(Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ - **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Commentary

Today's Gospel reading is the last but one from the Gospel of Matthew that we will read in this Lectionary Year and the last in a series where Jesus has tried to explain the meaning of the 'Kingdom of Heaven'. Unlike some of his parables Jesus does not tell the story then explain it, which is a pity considering that some of the content of the parable may be open to misinterpretation. The story describes how three servants each entrusted with varying, but substantial amounts, of their master's wealth while he went on a long journey responded to their responsibility in differing ways. A 'talent' was a very large sum of money, equivalent to several thousand pounds not, as we might at first think, an artistic or creative gift. Note in verse 15 that each were given 'according to their ability', so their master had judged what they were capable of and expected them to rise to that capability.

Two of the servants responded quickly and well by putting the money to work and doubled the amounts they had been given, 5 talents grew to 10 and 2 to 4. Whereas the third servant took no chances and buried his money, the analogy today might be investing in shares (pre the recent market crash) and putting it under the mattress. While burying money in the ground might seem odd to us it may not have been so odd in Israel at that time. In Matthew 13 v 44 another parable about the Kingdom of Heaven begins 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field'. When telling parables Jesus used situations that were familiar to his hearers so we can assume that is what people sometimes did with their valuables. Such a place may have been secure but the contents had no chance of expanding. Do we sometimes bury 'our treasure' our knowledge and experience of God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit and not seek to share it with others and stunt its growth in our own lives and those of others?

The third servant, when presumably fully aware of his colleague's financial gains and his master's praise of them, made his excuses by casting doubt on his master's motives and morals and making out he was afraid of his master. When I was younger I feel fairly sure that there was more of an emphasis on 'the fear of the Lord', not helped by the expression 'to put the fear of God into you'. This I took literally that is was right to be afraid of God, but as I grew in my knowledge of God I learnt that the 'fear' of God and being afraid are not the same. No space here to dwell on that thought further, perhaps another day. The servant was in fact projecting his own behaviour on to that of his master accusing him of not investing in his servants when he clearly had. We too may find ourselves projecting our behaviour on to others and misjudging their motives. When we project our own human frailties on to God's character we can so easily distort his expectation of us and bury the gifts that he entrusts us to use in his service. So much better when we step out in faith as God expects with the promise when we do of 'sharing in his happiness'.

Wendy Waters

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise and Holy Communion Booklets)

Be thou my vision 51, Praise the Lord 562, Speak, Lord, in the stillness 608, Forth in thy name, O Lord I go 159

Meditation What kind of kingdom will this be?

It will be a kingdom where, in accordance with Jesus' prayer, God's name is truly hallowed, his will is done on earth, human beings will have ever abundance, all sin will be forgiven and all evil overcome.

It will be a kingdom where, in accordance with Jesus' promises, the poor, the hungry, those who weep and those who are downtrodden will finally come into their own; where pain, suffering and death will have an end.

It will be a kingdom that cannot be described, but only made known in metaphors: as the new covenant, the seed springing up, the ripe great banquet, the royal feast.

It will therefore be a kingdom - wholly as the prophets foretold - of absolute righteousness, of unsurpassable freedom, of dauntless love, of universal reconciliation, of everlasting peace. In this sense therefore the time of salvation, of fulfilment, of consummation, of God's presence: the absolute future. *Hans Kung, On Being a Christian,*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

O Lord, you have given us your word for a light to shine in our path;
inspire us to meditate on that word, and to follow its
teaching, that we may find in it the light that shines more and
more until the perfect day; through Jesus Christ our Lord

Father, may your Holy Spirit kindle in all our hearts
a greater love for Christ and his Church,
and make us fully alive to the opportunities of service
which are ours in today's world.

Save us from complacency and fear of new ways;
inspire us with the vision of a world won for you;
and stir our wills to pray and work and give
until your will is done on earth as in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God our Father, gifts without measure flow from your goodness to bring us your peace.
Our life is your gift. Guide our life's journey, for only your love makes us whole.

O God, the creator of all things, who made us in your own image so that we should seek joy
in creative work, we give thanks for your creation and for those whose work brings joy to
others. We pray for those who find their work hard and dull, and for those who are
unemployed. Help us to order our public life so that everyone may have the opportunity to
work, and may find satisfaction in doing it; through Christ our Lord.

Help us O God. to live this day quietly and, hopefully; to lean on your strength trustfully,
restfully; to wait for the unfolding of your will patiently, serenely; to meet other people
peacefully, joyfully; to face every task confidently, courageously; in the name of Christ our
Lord.

Church Lunch Club (Alternate Wednesdays) would welcome any members of St Mark's or Putnoe Heights. If you are interested, please give your name to Margaret Standley, Jenny Emsley or Pam Kinsley. We would also welcome additional helpers, regular or irregular. We also need drivers.

Putnoe Tuesday Club are holding their annual Charity Concert at Putnoe Heights Church on Tuesday 18 November at 7.30pm. You are invited to join us for this concert by Kempston Musical Society in aid of Bedford Guild House. Admission is £6 (including refreshments) from Putnoe Church office, Diane or Alan Bayliss 268101. Raffle £1.

TNT next meet Sunday 16 November at 4pm at Putnoe invite all to join them for Christmas Musical preparations. Please bring your voices and instruments

1st Putnoe Brownies are having a Christmas fair Monday 17 November at 6.30pm. Proceeds to Asthma UK and Islands Branches

Putnoe Christmas Competition We invite you to design the front of the Christmas Service information leaflet that will be posted through doors in the Putnoe area. 50p entry to church funds. Liz.

Mary and Joseph have asked me to let you know they be travelling through Putnoe area during Advent and are looking for overnight stops. If you are able to entertain them for the evening please see Liz Spavins

Footprints Walking Group are holding their meeting to plan for 2009 on Wednesday 19 November at 7.30pm at Claire & Richard Peck's 22 Brecon Way.

Sunday 30th November 2.00pm. Footprints Last walk of 2008. Circular walk of Kempston. Meet at the far end of Loveridge Ave(turn left at the second mini roundabout on Hillgrounds Road) for a walk of about three miles,could be wet under foot and a bit muddy. Afterwards a bite of tea with Pam & Bob Burn at 1 Slater Close. Non walking members (The Amblers) are most welcome to join us for tea, 3.30pm onwards. If rained off please come for tea. Tel:854858

Storybox is closed on 27.11 & 4.12 and is back to normal for the 11 & 18 December.

Autumn Fair at Park Road Methodist Church 2p.m. on 23rd November. All welcome

St Mark's Church Council this Tuesday. In the Chapel 7.30pm for 7.45pm

Chat and Play finishes on 20.11.08 and restarts on 8.1.09 owing to church alterations.

Mission Group have sent £350 to Oxfam for aid to Eastern Congo from the Emergency Relief Fund. Thanks to all who regularly bring their 5ps and change to build this fund. Contributions always welcome. A member of the Mission group collects at the door each Sunday. Sylvia Cohen 343424.

Putnoe Christmas Provender will take place on Sunday 7th December after morning service. Cakes, jam, marmalade, chutney, mince pies and Putnoe's own Christmas puddings will be on sale. Please help to make this a record fund-raiser for Mission Aviation Fellowship. John and Sally Gunning Tel. 305925.

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre

There are only 7 days left to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 22 November 2008 at St Mark's Church.

Thank you to all who have or are helping with the leaflet drop. There are still a few roads to go. We still would like help with the following:-

Raffle - There are plenty of raffle books still available. Please feel free to take some more. All counterfoils must be back by Friday 21st November if possible or on Saturday 22nd November between 10.30 and 3.00p.m.

Tombola - Any new unwanted gifts/birthday presents for the stall can be bought up to the Church Office from Monday 17th November.

Cakes, Cakes, Cakes - The more homemade cakes the better. They can be brought up to Church on Friday 21st November or Saturday morning. Any problem with delivering cakes please phone Millie at the Church Office - 01234 342613.

Book Stall - Delia is co-ordinating our secondhand book stall. Any good quality books welcome. Delia is willing to collect any books. She can be contact on 01234 273628

Any help after 3.00p.m. on the day of the Fayre would be very helpful to get the Church ready for Sunday morning worship. 'Many hands make light work'.

Thank you for all your support, here's hoping for a very enjoyable as well as successful day.

Methodist Homes for the Aged. A total of £377.00 was raised at the Putnoe Heights MHA Sunday on October 5th. The envelope collection raised £187.00 and the Harvest Lunch added a further £190.00. Many thanks to all who contributed to this marvellous result. Sue Allen



Mission Update Thank you for the response to date to the autumn mission project with MAF. The feedback has been extremely positive. If you were unable to take an envelope over the last 2 weeks, or would like to take another, they can be found in

the church offices. Cheques and money can be placed in the envelope and returned in the offering plates at either church or in either church office. Kevin Crook, who spoke at our service, has indicated that he is willing and able to speak to housegroups and other church groups through the month if that would be of interest. Please let me know if you would like Kevin to speak at one of your meetings. I also have a short DVD of the work of MAF available and would thoroughly recommend the book 'Hope has Wings', the Mission Aviation Fellowship Story by Stuart King which was one of the books available from Kevin last week. Sam

Sir William Harpur House A service of Holy Communion takes place on the first Monday of each month at 10.00am. All welcome.

Christmas Voices. Come and enjoy once more a selection of seasonal poetry and prose and a little music around the Christmas tree as some of our regular Putnoe readers help us capture the Christmas spirit. Mulled wine and mince pies during the interval. Friday 12th December at Putnoe Heights 7.30pm. Tickets £3 from Putnoe office or at the door. Proceeds to Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Music at St Andrew's St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Road, Bedford Saturday 6 December 2008 at 8.00pm Joan Rodgers CBE, soprano with Joseph Middleton, piano. Programme to include songs by Grieg, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov and Britten's Poet's Echo. Pre-concert dinner at 6.30pm Concert Tickets £7 (£5 concessions) Dinner/ Concert tickets £14 (£12 concessions) available from: St Andrew's Church Centre Office, tel: 01234 216881 Classic Music, tel: 01234 357221 Central Box Office tel: 01234 269519.

Community Chaplaincy Volunteers needed to help the Community Resettlement Project make a difference in the lives of men leaving HMP Bedford. Find out more be attending the enquiry meeting 6.45 for 7pm on Tuesday 2nd December, Salvation Army, Commercial Road, Bedford.



Please remember to buy everything you need through Amazon, by clicking on the link at thisischurch.com

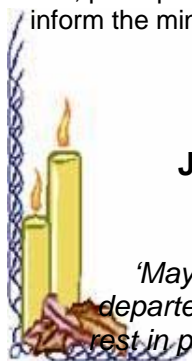
Marriages

We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of **Darren Paul Hughes and Lorna Frances Wood**, both single and resident in the parish of St Mary's Goldington and on the electoral roll of this parish. First time of asking

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.

**William Ellis
Bill McAndrew
John Richard Harley
Yvonne Skingsley**



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

Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Mrs Margaret Smith will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Wednesday 19 November at 11.15am, followed by committal at Bedford Crematorium at 12.15pm

The funeral of Terence George Readman will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 19 November at 10.00am