



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

16 October 2005
29 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 - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing
Intercessions - Mr John Stubbs

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

23 October 29 in Ordinary

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman
Leadership - Mrs Janet Day
Intercessions - Ministers

11.00am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman
Leadership Team - Mr Dave Allen
Intercessions - Mrs Betty Wyatt

Next Week's Bible Readings 1 Reading -

Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 2 Reading - 1 Thessalonians
2: 1-8 3 Reading - Matthew 22: 34 - 46

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Val Peacock in memory of her husband, Trevor Peacock.

The flowers in Church at St Mark's this week have been given by Elizabeth Bean in celebration of Phil's birthday.

Prayer for Sunday

Give us grace, O Lord,
to be not only hearers of the word,
but doers also;
to be not only lovers of your gospel,
but those whose lives are transformed by it;
to be not only those who profess our faith,
but also those whose lives proclaim it,
day by day;
through Christ our Lord. Amen

Thomas Brecon, 1513-1567

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
326643 Mobile -07917 356062 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

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

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership 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 Liz Spavins 302349

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

Children's and Youth Worker-Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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. Karen Bywater 315460.

10.00am Supple Strength at Putnoe Heights. Louise Woodcock 270302

12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, no charge. Contact Liz on 01234 302349

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. Penny Fulham 406045

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

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

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

7.30pm Creative Needles at Putnoe Heights.

Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next one 17 October St. Mark's Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313

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

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

Tuesday

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

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

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. 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 Val Careless 345213.

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

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

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 18 October Education Mrs.L.Prudden Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles

provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225

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

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

6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights. Emma Holloway 293792

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

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

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

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly.at 7.45pm Next meeting

18October - Teaching Inuit Children

Madge Walsh 359088

8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing group) - 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 . 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 Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 19 October Putnoe 365630

1- 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

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

6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Mr James 07711 687449

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

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting .

Sylvia Woods 365095

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. 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. Ken Marriott 214867

8.45-9.45pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing group) starting 1 Oct - Mr F Steele 355937

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. Karen Simpson 244970

10.30am - 12.00am Fledglings at St Mark's

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

12pm Story box St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, no charge. Contact Liz Spavins on 1234 302349

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

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

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

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

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-10year old. A preparation group for a drama for the first Sunday in the month.. Meets 4-5pm, drinks from 3.30pm Liz Spavins 302349

5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Heights. Helga Nash 218521

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Height. Pat Stidolph 345247

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

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

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

7.30-9.30pm Bibleway Church- Bible Studies every 2nd Thursday- Pastor Tarr 360188

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

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St Mark's 3rd Thursday each month. 1st Thursday as from January 2006 Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.30am U3A Exercise at Putnoe Heights. Carole Maunder 301325

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

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

7. 30pm Bibleway Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 360188

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

Saturday

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

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

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting. 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 360188 Mob. 07866775515

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

Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council

8 February

Circuit Meeting 16 March

St Mark's Leadership Team -

17 January, 21 February, 24 April, 6

June, 12 September

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team 21 November

meet at Putnoe Heights Church

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

1 November. All meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management - 14 Nov,

16 Jan 2005

Putnoe Church Council 10 Oct 2005, 6 February

Deanery Synod 16 November

Pastoral Group Meeting - 6 February 2006 2.00pm

Churchyard Committee - 31 November 10am

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting .

Partnership Council - 24 January

Brickhill Parish Council

Visit of Bishop Christopher 23 October

Joint Deanery Circuit 18 January,

Annual Congregational Meeting 7 May

Calendar dates appear also on our church website www.ThisChurch.com.

Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

Bible Notes

Ordinary 29 Year A Trinity 20 (Green)

Verse of Scripture

Sing to the Lord, a new song. Sing to the Lord, all the earth

Sing to the Lord and bless his name. Psalm 98:1-3

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen



This is commonly referred to as the "Tribute Penny" from the bible. Often described as Livia seated on reverse. The coin shows an early portrait of Tiberius. Inscribed on left: Tiberius, AR Denarius, 14-37, Rome. TI CAESAR DIVI-AVG F AVGVSTVS. Laureate head On right PONTIF-MAXIM, Female figure seated right on chair with ornamented legs, vertical scepter in right hand, branch in left, single exergue line 18mm x 19mm, 3.42g RIC I, 30 (C)

First Reading – Exodus 33: 12-23

Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favour with me.' If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people." The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶ How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live." Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen." (This is the word of the Lord -- Thanks be to God)

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10

Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - Mathew 22: 15-22

(When the reading announced **All: Glory to Christ Our Saviour**)

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him

along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away. (This is the Gospel of Christ -**Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Commentary

The Romans were an occupying force, they had marched their army into Israel and they had taken over. Then they demanded money to sustain their occupation. If you and I were living there at that time, the chances are that we would have greatly resented the Romans and their tax. The tax was not an option. It was mandatory, if you did not pay taxes to Rome then you could be killed.

Moreover whilst Jews did not place images of people on their coins, Caesar had placed his image on the coins. Around the picture of the emperor's head were inscribed the words 'Tiberius Caesar, son of the divine Augustus, and on the other side 'pontifex maximus' which would be understood as 'High Priest.' Paying the tax was a very tangible acknowledgement of submission to Rome, it was also a religious insult, because the coin was blasphemous.

Jesus is approached by two groups who have made a pact to try and trap him. They ask him whether it is right to pay taxes to Caesar. One group was the Herodians, who supported the family of Herod and who had a vested interest in maintaining the status quo and peace. They were what we would think of as collaborators. The other group were disciples of the Pharisees, they were nationalistic Jews. They had not got a great in common but Jesus was the enemy of both and a common enemy makes strange bedfellows. and so they make a pact to trap Jesus. Jesus was in a pickle, if he suggested paying the tax, he would have alienated the devout religious Jew. If, on the other hand, he advocated that they not pay the tax, the Romans would have sprung on him for treason and for stirring up insurrection.

Jesus responds by asking, "Whose head (Greek: eikon -- icon -- image) is this, and whose title?"

The coin, of course, bears Caesar's eikon and belongs to Caesar. The Pharisees' disciples answer, "Caesar's." Their reply half answers their question: they possess in this coin the possession of another. Is it wrong to return property to its owner?"

The coin is an instrument of Caesar's government -- under Caesar's control -- its value established by Caesar. It is available for their use only because Caesar has ordered the mint to strike it and the treasury to disburse it. It is an integral part of Caesar's realm.

So Jesus says, 'Give back therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's.'

But there is a sting in the tail, '...and give back to God the things that are God's'

We are all made in the image of God -- we bear God's image -- and so it is appropriate to give ourselves back to God -- all that we have and all that we are -- because we were created by the Word of God and are an integral part of God's realm.

Jesus acknowledges our obligation as citizens to the state, but affirms our larger obligation as human beings to God. Coins bearing Caesar's image may belong to Caesar, but all things (coins, Caesar, Rome, the planet earth, the universe) come from God and are under God's dominion.

Caesar's realm is but a speck within God's realm. The days of Caesar's realm are numbered, but God's realm is eternal. *Charles Royden*

Post Communion Prayer.

Father of light, in whom is no change or shadow of turning, you give us every good and perfect gift and have brought us to birth by your word of truth: may we be a living sign of that kingdom where your whole creation will be made perfect in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns (*Please distribute Communion Booklet, Hymns and Psalms*)

1. Morning has broken 635 2. All I once held dear (On partnership News) 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say 136 4. O God beyond all praising, *Tune Thaxted*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do also for you. Give us the will to be servants of others as you were the servant of all; for you gave up your life and died for us, but live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

O Lord, you are the beginning of all my good, the wellspring of all my love and the source of all my freedom. Let your grace work on in me, that your will may be done through me, and that I may always rejoice in your presence; now and for ever. Amen *Mary Ward, 1585-1645*

Hymns for Sunday

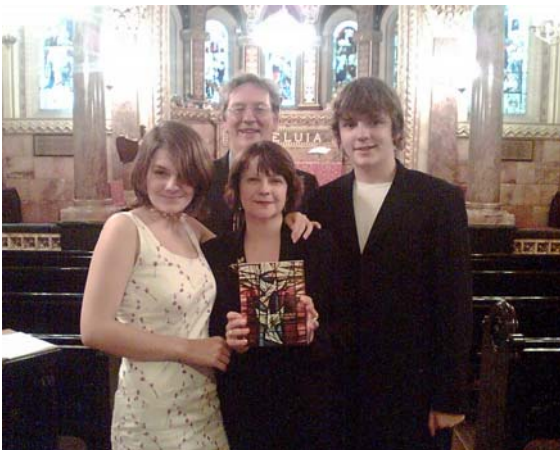
1 O God beyond all praising, *Tune Thaxted*
we worship you today
and sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder
at every gift you send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honour and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

2 Then hear, O gracious Saviour,
accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favour
may serve you as our king;
and whether our tomorrows
be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows
and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty
and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty
our sacrifice of praise.

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.



Sacred Spaces. A book written by The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley was launched this week at a ceremony in the chapel of Great Ormond Street Hospital. Bishop Christopher spoke of the importance of the work which Joan had undertaken in writing about the hospital chapel of London and predicted that the book would be a great success. The book is priced at £10 and can be obtained from the office at St Mark's. Joan is delighted to inscribe books personally which would make ideal Christmas gifts. *The Crossley family at the Chapel of Great Ormond Street Hospital.*

News, Views and Information

Bedford Ecumenical Lay Training Centre

'Practical Spirituality' course. Wednesday 12, 19 October & 2, 9 November 2005. 7.45 - 9.30pm at St Andrew's Church. Rev Dr Joan Crossley 344536

Junior Church and Storybox Plus at Putnoe will be holding a cake stall following the All Age Service on Sunday 6th November 2005. Proceeds will be used towards our Christmas activity programmes. We thank you in advance for your support in 'supplying' and 'buying' our home goodies.

Partnership Youth and Children's Choir St

Mark's and Putnoe—I am hoping to begin a Partnership Youth and Children's Choir in preparation for Christingle, on 11th December and the Crib services on 24th December. This would be an informal group open to all ages of our Church Family. We also would welcome members of the groups who meet on our premises, particularly the Brownies, Guides and Scouts. If you would like to join this exciting new group or are young at heart and can support us, with for example music, organising or leading, please contact me. We plan to start rehearsals on Sunday 6 November during the Junior Church sessions. Thank you in advance. Liz Spavins.

Pilgrimage of Faith On Sunday 16 October at Priory Methodist Church at 2.30pm. As part of the seminars, Anne Topping will leading a session on Human Sexuality.

A seminar at Priory Methodist Church on Sunday October 16th from 2-30 to 4-30 to explore issues in relation to sex and sexuality within a faith community. Please let Gordon Beeden on 01234 267782 know if you are coming.

Footprints next Sunday walk is on October 16th in the Keysoe area for parts of the Triple Triangle Walk. We will meet at 2.30pm at the entrance to Keysoe Park Wood on the Riseley Road approx 2 miles from the B660 at Keysoe Brook End. It is on the roadside just before Riseley Hill (Map ref. 053620). If it has been wet, stout footwear will be required. Contact Sue & Richard Butler on Bedford 354183 for further details.

Commemoration Service. The Partnership Commemoration Service for the Faithful Departed takes place at St Mark's Church on Remembrance Sunday 13 November at 3.00pm. This annual service is open to everybody and we hope that you will feel able to come, especially if you have a special memory for somebody who has died.

Deanery Circuit Service. There will be a special joint Deanery / Circuit meeting on January 18 2006 at Priory Methodist Church. This is open to anybody who would like to attend,.

Recycling St Mark's are getting serious about recycling, reducing energy use and waste. New signage has been placed around the Centre covering all areas of waste and energy use. Please help us as we seek to play our part - reuse, reduce and recover.

Bridge Cottage is advertised this week on the church website, with photos details, specs and guide price etc.

NSPCC Coffee morning/Bring & Buy Friday 28 October from 10 –12 noon at Putnoe Heights Church. Entrance £1 including coffee/tea.

Autumn Craft Day Saturday 19 November at Priory Methodist Church from 9.45 to 4.30. £3 per half day session. Information & booking forms from Pam Seymour 305695.

Fifties Nite at Putnoe Heights Saturday 22 October at 7.30pm. To celebrate the dedication of a new Methodist Church at Putnoe Heights in October 1955. Tickets £7.10s 0d (£7.50)

Brass, Buffet and The Bishop A night with Bishop Christopher on Sunday 23 October at 7.15pm. Ticket £5. Bedford Town Band will play. After refreshments there will be an opportunity to meet the Bishop informally. There will be a public session at which the Bishop will respond to questions from the audience. Please try and let us know if you have any questions beforehand. Email, telephone or fax St Mark's Office.

Christmas Craft Fair—Help on 19th November both in the kitchen and in the fair itself would be appreciated. If you can spare an hour on that day please speak with Avril Williams or one of the Leadership Team. Cakes for the Church stall will be very welcome.

NCH House to House—A big thank you to all who helped with this year's collection on behalf of NCH. The total raised in the Brickhill area was £787-61 which is 7.3% up on last years figure. NCH will be able to claim a further £41 from the Exchequer as a result of those contributors who kindly filled in Gift-Aid forms. Mike Elliott

Storybox Plus If anyone has any suitable 'Board Type' games that they can donate to The children & youth at both churches, please Leave in the church office. Thank you Liz.

Charity Concert - Cancer Research UK

Kempston Musical Society presents An Evening of Light Music in aid of **Cancer Research UK** at Putnoe Heights Church on Saturday, 12th November at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 (£5 for concessions) and include light refreshments. There will also be a raffle Please contact Alan Bayliss (01234 268101), Sue Butler (01234 354183) or Putnoe Heights Church Office for tickets.

Brickhill Parish Council forms partnership with St Mark's Church. The Brickhill Policing Partnership

Brickhill Parish Council supports St Mark's Church Community Centre in seeking to establish a police base for Bedfordshire Police at St Mark's Church Community Centre. In recognition of the costs incurred the Parish Council seeks to enter into a Partnership with St Mark's Church Community Centre. Under the terms of the Partnership, St Mark's will provide facilities at the Centre to facilitate Bedfordshire Police in their enhanced community role. As part of its contribution Brickhill Parish Council will contribute £200 per month towards loss of income by St Mark's Church Community Centre. The agreement with St Mark's Church Community Centre will operate in accordance with the initial 18 month contract issued by St Mark's Church Community Centre in April 2005 which is due for re-consideration in September 2006.

Plans for Youth Group at St Mark's Church.

Working with the Parish Council and Bedfordshire Police we are hoping to soon start a youth group at St Mark's. The group will operate on Friday evenings and be open to all young people.

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.

**Dawn Margaret Bobbet
Peter Raymond Green
Beryl Evangeline Ellen Waters**

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

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Church Council decides—St Mark's Church Pre-school To provide all day care from January 2006

St Mark's Church Council decided this week that St Mark's Church Pre-school will provide all day care for children starting in January 2006 and this will be running all year round. St Mark's has taken this major step forward in response to requests from parents who value the extra care facilities to enable them to manage work and other family commitments. Parents want funded pre-school sessions in addition to extra sessions to help them with busy lives and this is where St Mark's will help. In addition to the usual pre-school, children will be able to stay all day from 8.00am until 6.00pm in the fantastic facilities provided at St Mark's. Parents need these facilities throughout the year and so St Mark's will no longer close during school holidays. This is a fantastic opportunity for families with busy lives, so make sure that you get your name down fast.



The Vision for Action Launch will take place at St Andrew's Church on Monday 17 October

Forthcoming funerals to be taken by our Ministers

The funeral of Arthur Williams will take place at Bedford Crematorium on 20th October at 11.30am
Rev Neil Bramble Chapman
The funeral of Alan Clive Jones will take place at Bedford Crematorium on 21st October at 3.15pm
Rev Neil Bramble Chapman