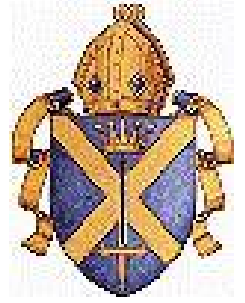


Partnership News

18 April 2010

Third Sunday of Easter



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 –Mrs. Delia Shephard
Intercessions – Mr. Mike Elliott

11.00am Putnoe Heights– Holy Communion

Preacher – Mrs. Wendy Waters
Leadership –Mrs. Linda Hoar
Intercessions – Ministers

25th April Fourth Sunday of Easter

9.30am St. Mark's – Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr John Ayers
Leadership – Mrs Morag Stewart
Intercessions – Mrs Mary Stubbs

11.00am Putnoe Heights– Morning Worship

Preacher – Mr John Ayers
Leadership - Mrs Wendy Nash
Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

Readings 1.Acts 9: 36-43 2. Rev 7: 9-17
3. John 10: 22-30

Midweek Worship

Holy Communion at St Mark's Chapel every
Wednesday at 10.00am and at Sir William Harpur House
on first Monday of every month at 10.00am

Thank You

The rainbow flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given with love to all the children that I have helped on their spiritual journey and with thanks to all those who have helped me fulfil this special calling.

“He called a little child and had him stand among them and said, whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.” (Matthew 18)
God Bless. Liz Spavins.

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Helen Smith and John Connah in celebration of their marriage.

Prayer for Sunday

O God, you have folded back the mantle of the night to clothe us in the glory of the day. Drive all gloomy thoughts from our hearts and make us glad with the brightness of eternal hope; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*from the Gregorian Sacramentary
(sixth century)*

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)

Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE
348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

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 and may appear in other local media sources.

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 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 Mr. Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349

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 Delia Shephard 273628
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 -11.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Head teacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

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

9.30-3.15pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's

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.

9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs Berry ☎211955

10.30am U3A Play reading St Mark's J Birks ☎219607

12.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights 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

1.30pm U3A History Group St Mark's. David Fowler ☎ 824474

2pm U3A Drama St Mark's 1st & 2nd week. Mr Ovenden ☎ 825059

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 or 07881730747

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 Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.30pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020

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

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting April 19—St. Mark's. 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 Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016

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

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

10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights Sally Banks ☎ 870357

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's 4th Week in month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895

2pm U3A Photography (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Janet King ☎313946

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting April 20 Tea and Chat Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

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

6.30pm Creative Card making. Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton ☎346718

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360

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

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

7.30pm Hearts & Beds. Cardiac Support Group 1st Tuesday in the month. Brian Ibberson ☎403497

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

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting April 20, Women's Health. Details from Janet King 313946

8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

Wednesday

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

10am U3A Card Making, St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month.

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - 28 April Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

1.45 Scots Society Whist Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr ☎268147

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎262823

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 or 07910835994.

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King ☎079412 64885
7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725
7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987
7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎ 347073
7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378
8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867
8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next Meeting 21 April 2010 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Alan 345312. or Rosemary 405594 for more details
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 Denise Green ☎244970
9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Emma Strangwick ☎211070
 11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau at Putnoe Heights.
12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing . Lots of fun. Next meeting 22 April Contact Jaana Swaby 01234 363283
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
2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Malcolm Smith ☎400741
4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.
6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Caroline Morgan ☎07786508351
7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059
7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week in month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059
7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094
7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517
8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193
8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607
8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Julie Nicholson ☎353642

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397
9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086
12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183
5pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468
2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875
6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton ☎297138 or 07910835994
7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414
Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher ☎357198
2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792
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
6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun. Please see Liz ☎302349 .

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 8 November.
St Mark's Leadership Team – 20th April.
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 7 June at the Manse, 18 October
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting ; 24 May
St Mark's Church Forum Meeting -
Putnoe Church Council - 21 June, 25 October.
Pastoral Group Meeting - 20th April at 4.30pm
Churchyard Committee - 26 May at 11am.
Putnoe Heights Mission Group—
Partnership Council—TBA
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings
Deanery Meeting - 5 May, 17 June.
Circuit Property/Treasurers Meeting
Circuit Meeting
Woodland Burial Trustees – Sunday 16th May AGM
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

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

Third Sunday of Easter

Opening Verse of Scripture -Psalm 33: 20

We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

Collect Prayer for the Day - Before we read we pray:

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth. through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Common Worship

First Reading – Acts 9: 1-6

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."
(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading – Rev 5: 11-14

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!" The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshipped
(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading – John 21: 1-19

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not



torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymns - (Please distribute Holy Communion and Mission Praise)

- 30 Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord
- 151 For I'm building a people of power
- 608 Speak , Lord in the stillness
- 237 Immortal Invisible (Chosen by Liam's parents)

At PH change 'Immortal' to MP 435 Lord Jesus Christ you have come to us

Commentary

We are in dramatic times in the Church's year and our readings from Scripture. We are still celebrating the dramatic events of Christ's Resurrection and our readings describe dramatic experiences of the first disciples that followed that first Easter day. The message I got from the passages was this: Jesus Calls; Jesus Converts; Jesus Commands and Jesus Cares. Thinking about the first JC in my list:

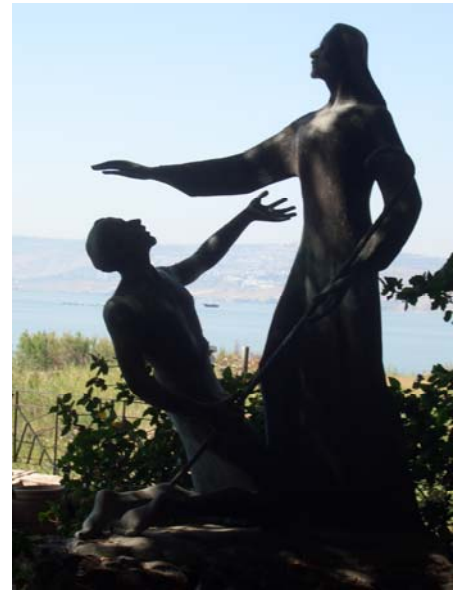
'Jesus Calls' if we look first at who 'Jesus Calls' we might see that there is a vast contrast between those he called: Saul, a Roman citizen born in Tarsus, a member of a synagogue council, became a fanatical persecutor of Christians, today we might call him an extremist or fundamentalist. After he had witnessed the stoning of Stephen in Jerusalem he travelled around armed with letters of authority, that he had got from high priests, to seek out those Christians who, to avoid persecution, had dispersed to other places, such as Damascus. By all accounts although he was probably very intelligent and well educated his personal appearance was not very impressive. In today's society where we often judge by appearances, where even our potential prime ministers can be win votes based on what they look like, Saul would not be an obvious choice to be converted to Christianity. But thankfully God does not judge us by our appearances, and Jesus warned against those who outwardly portrayed a pious persona. God gave Saul, who we know as Paul a second chance, he called him away from persecution of Christians to be their most ardent teacher.

In contrast to Paul is Peter, impetuous Peter, who early in his ministry Jesus had called away from being a simple fisherman to become one of his valued followers and close friend. However it seems that after Jesus' resurrection Peter and 6 other disciples had gone back to the way of life they knew before Jesus first called them. It is not unnatural to rely on the familiar when we have gone through a dramatic and traumatic time. But Jesus did not give up on those he called then and he does not give up on us now! Like Paul he gave Peter a second chance, a second chance calling him to not just follow in his footsteps but to become the leader of all his followers!

Once Jesus has called he then 'Converts' my second 'JC'. But like the diversity of those he calls the nature of their conversion is diverse too. Paul, was dramatically converted after being blinded by a 'light from heaven', falling to the ground and hearing Jesus ask him: 'Saul, Saul why do you persecute me?' Interestingly Paul seemed to recognise the voice of God replying 'Who are you Lord,?'. He was then blind

and fasted for three days before he was able to understand the difference between the God of awe and the God of love as seen in Jesus. Further on in Acts 9 verses 7 to 19, we learn that God used Ananias to bring Paul out of his old ways as persecutor into the fold of his followers. Ananias was at first reluctant because he knew Paul's reputation and feared him but God commanded him to 'Go' so he did.

Peter's conversion was different, still dramatic, but different. Jesus uses methods that he had used many times before when trying to reach and teach people about him and his Heavenly Father. He went to where Peter was, to the lakeside where he had spent many hours with Peter and his other disciples before his crucifixion. He used a 'miracle', the miraculous catch of fish. The disciples, who were experienced fishermen, had failed to make a catch despite fishing all night. Then Jesus appears and tells them to cast the net on the other side which they do resulting in haul of such a large number of fish that the net was expected to tear under the weight. Then he used another tried and tested method, that of sharing a meal with them, the equivalent of what we would call a barbecue! I wonder if the fish they ate was what is now called 'Peter's fish' because it is only found in the Sea of Galilee? It is a large and quite ugly fish, with tender but not a great deal of flesh on it.



These methods Jesus used to convert Peter, to change him from simple fisherman to the great orator and leader we read about later in Acts, are methods that we too can use to bring people to know, love and follow Jesus. Firstly to go to where they are, not expect them to come to us, or to provide an environment in which people can feel comfortable, can feel familiar and relaxed. Secondly we may not be able to perform miracles, but we can tell people about when Jesus has made a difference in our lives or in the lives of those we know or love. Thirdly we can and do use meals to bring people together, but can we expand this ministry? Can we expand it to make people feel welcomed into the church fellowship?

Once Jesus called Paul and Peter he 'commanded them', my third 'JC'. Paul's ministry took him on many travels and focused mainly on conversion of Gentiles, proclaiming as written in his letter to the Galatians chapter 3 verse 28 'There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ'. Whereas Peter concentrated changing the hearts and minds of fellow Jews in Jerusalem. Jesus' command to Peter was preceded by what could have been quite a humiliating experience for Peter. Jesus ask' him three times if he still loves him each time Peter protests 'you know I love you!'. But during this dialogue we hear Jesus' profound command to Peter to 'Feed my lambs' and 'Feed my sheep'. Peter the fisherman is to change role to Peter the shepherd. To literally take over Jesus' role a Shepherd of the new flock he had formed to follow in the new way, the way of the cross. I was very taken by the stylish but powerful sculpture of these commands, which is situated by the Sea of Galilee at the site where it is believed Jesus gave his command to Peter, which is printed in this Partnership News.

Finally my last JC 'Jesus Cares'. Throughout his ministry Jesus showed that he cared. He cared for the hungry, the sick, the poor, the dying, the marginalised, the stranger, and even at his own point of death he cared for his mother and the criminal. Then central to his commands to Peter is the one to 'Take **care** of my sheep'. His command to us is just as central, as Christians as part of Christ's flock we are commanded to care. Commanded to care, not just for those within our existing fellowship, but beyond to those lambs and sheep who Jesus may be calling but who have not yet recognised him as 'Lord' like Peter and Paul. *Wendy Waters*

Meditation

'Conversion is a great and glorious work of God's power, at once changing the heart and infusing life into the dead soul, though the grace then implanted displays itself more gradually in some than in others. There are very many who do not know, even when they have it, that is the grace of conversion, and sometimes do not think it to be so till a long time after. The manner of God's work on the soul is very mysterious.' *Jonathan Edwards from 'The Works of Jonathan Edwards' (Banner Trust (1834) 1974)*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Lord Jesus we give thanks that you do not judge by earthly standards, we give thanks that you were prepared to die and rise again so that we might be forgiven, we give thanks that you are prepared to give us a second chance. Help us to be open minded to those around us and give us caring and forgiving hearts and minds. Amen

Lord Jesus so fill us with your Grace that when you call, we hear, listen and reply, when you convert we believe and when you command we respond joyfully. Amen

Lord Jesus as we read of those who both reluctantly and willingly followed in your footsteps inspire us to follow you into the places we may prefer to avoid, to the people we would prefer to ignore and to the tasks we feel are fit for others not ourselves. Amen

Storybox at St. Mark's on Thursdays between 12 and 1,(term time only), would appreciate some more volunteers to help with preparing the food or to tell a story based on the Bible. It will probably only be every 8 or 9 weeks. For further details please see Jaana or ring her on 363283.

Storybox at St. Mark's Will start again on April 22 at 12 noon. We look forward to seeing you then. Jaana 363283.

Kempston Musical Society Sautrday 24 April at 7.30 pm will perform The Creation, by Franz Josef Haydn, with excellent soloists, and directed by Janet Welsh. Tickets £7.50 may be purchased at the door. Kempston East Church now has new comfortable seating, and is a very good venue. Further details fro Alan Bayliss 268101

BEH Women's Network Spring Craft Day will be held on Saturday 15 May 9.45am to 4.30pm at Priory Methodist Church. A chance to learn a new skill to discover hidden talents and to share together creatively. For details of workshops and a booking form please contact Pam Seymour (305695) or Ann Hitt (404186). Closing date of booking 8 May 2110

Get Real An evening of fun, music and friends at Russell Park Baptist Church, Denmark Street, 23 April, 6 -9pm. Charge 50p if you pre-book, or £2 if you just turn up. Sign up online at crux.org.uk/real or phone 01234 217519

Spring Breakfast Saturday 24 April at Methodist Church, Park Lane, Sharnbrook. English breakfast £7, Continental breakfast £4. To reserve your place contact May Bonney 781254 or Jean Pritchard 781964 by 22 April. Proceeds will be shared between 2 project s that we are currently supporting.

Arthritis Research UK Spring Fayre Saturday 24 April 10am—12 noon at Biddenham Village Hall,

Nodder's Way. Sales will include cake, preserves, local honey, gifts, plants, cards, Norfolk Lavender Farm products, paintings and many other stalls. As an added attraction a genuine Street Organ will be displayed and demonstrated by it's owner. Admission 20p, children free. Marion Goddard 344617.

St Mark's Car Boot Thank you to everyone who helped with this event. We made £970. We look forward to the next one on Monday 3 May.

Bedford Town Band will present a St George's Day Concert on Friday, 23 April 2010, commencing at 7.30 pm, at Putnoe Heights Church. Tickets £6 (concessions £4) from Bedford Tourist Office or at the door.

The Partnership Lunch Club, fortnightly, Wednesdays at Putnoe, urgently needs an additional regular driver to bring less mobile folk to the lunch (a previous appeal did yield a reserve driver thankyou). If you can help it would greatly ease the load on the existing team, please contact Peta Pearson tel 356878).

As New Ladies evening/cruise/party wear. Saturday 24 April Putnoe Heights Church 10am to 1pm. Contact 825815.

House Group to meet at 13 Farnham Way Putnoe on Mondays at 7.45pm on 10 and 17 May, 14, 21 June and 12 July. We will be using the York Course 'When I survey .. Christ's cross and ours'. For more information please contact Wendy Waters 01234 401834.

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Putnoe Heights—Kisiizi Hospital News.

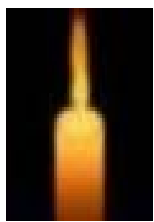
£500 was recently sent from the Mission Group, letter of acknowledgement extract.

'Thank you and your congregation for this wonderful donation towards the needs of Kisiizi. We are preparing a newsletter giving information of latest developments and ongoing needs. Two projects which we are promoting are mosquito nets and the building of a new dormitory for the school. Your donation will help greatly towards mosquito nets as we feel they are an urgently requirement.'

Putnoe Heights Mission Group next meeting Wednesday 9 June, 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way.

London Community Gospel Choir Saturday 1 May 7.30pm at Letchworth Garden City Church, Icknield Way East, Letchworth. Tickets £12.50 on door, £10 in advance. £5 under 14s concession. Tel. 01462 480126 www.lgcitychurch.net.

Mothers Union Ouse Valley Deanery Group invite all members and friends of MU to join Susan Roberts, Diocesan President to her talk on "Mothers Union and The Amish People" on Thursday 22 April at 7.30pm, St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the St Peter's Room. For more information contact Caroline Evens, Group Leader 782000House Group to meet at 13 Farnham Way Putnoe on Mondays at 7.45pm on 10 and 17 May, 14, 21 June and 12 July. We will be using the York Course 'When I survey .. Christ's cross and ours'. For more information please contact Wendy Waters 01234 401834.



Visit our online chapel, Light a Candle of Remembrance. We have now provided the opportunity to visit our online chapel and light a prayer candle. Please visit www.thischurch.com and click on the candle.

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.

Melody Jane King

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

Putnoe Heights Church Part time children and youth worker

12 hours per week, £7 per hour

Would suit local person, able to work on their own and as part of a team, with some experience of work with children and young people -preferably within a Christian context - who could;

- Build up existing church based children's and youth activities
- Explore opportunities to develop new initiatives, both in the church and wider community
- Organise, plan and lead events and programmes
- Liaise with other individuals or groups working with children and youth in the locality, to enhance and increase the profile of this work

For further details and job description, please see the website www.thischurch.com or contact Deacon Jane mason on 01234 348091, email jane@thischurch.com. The closing date for applications is Friday 23rd April 2010

Children's work at Putnoe. Temporary leadership has been found for both Storybox plus and the older group of Junior Church, until next half term! Carolyn Morris has taken on doing all related rotas and we also have the offer of someone to act as treasurer, all in all a very positive meeting! It was noted that we could do with another 'able bodied' person to go on the rota (once a month) to set up/ clear away tables etc for Storybox on a Monday morning. It was also mentioned that there may be occasions when an extra person may be needed to run junior church if both groups are present, please could people indicate to Carolyn or myself if they may be willing to do this? It should not happen very often as there are quite a few services that the children will be staying in for in the next few months.

Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Joyce Florence Bell will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 1.45pm on Tuesday 20 April.

The funeral of Gwendoline Sylvia Warren will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 10.45am on Friday 23 April.

The funeral of Claribel Jenny Cole/Elder will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 11.30am on Monday 19 April.