



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

18 September 2005
25 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 - Reverend Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions - Ministers

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Reverend Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley

Intercessions - Ministers

25 September 26 in Ordinary

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church -

Morning Worship with Baptism

Preacher - Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams

Intercessions - Mrs Delia Shephard

11.00am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mr Dave Allen

Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

1 Reading - Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32 2 Reading—

Philippians 2: 1-13 3 Reading - Matthew 21:23-32

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Veta Hudson-Rae, to celebrate her own birthday and the birthday of her grandson, Samuel Hudson Lett.

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Judith Stanton and family to celebrate the golden wedding of Ann & Patrick Savage, who are the main helpers at Monday Whist Drives.

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

Prayer for Sunday

God our Saviour, your care for us has neither measure nor end. Help us to respond to your love in our daily living; to pray more fervently, to share our faith more openly and to seek first your Kingdom and its righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Michael Townsend*

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

For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com

*Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved,
housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.*

Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 1.00pm Monday & Friday

9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen 407264

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs 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
- 3.30 - 5pm Story box Plus** at St.Mark's church invite all 4-10 year olds to join them after school at 3.30. We chill out with refreshments and games then until 5pm, make props, sing and rehearse a short play which we then perform in Church the first Sunday on each month. Lots of fun, no charge. Liz Spavins 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 19 September .Moorfields & Sight Concern 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
- 1.30pm Body Control Pilates** at Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** -

- Next meeting 20 September Favourite Education – Mrs DarleyBetty Wyatt 350188.
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting 27 September. Members Study Afternoon Acts 6, vv 1-7. Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709
- 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. Next meeting 7.45pm 20 September The Abbeyfield Trust. Revd D Desert. 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 21 September Putnoe 365630
- 1– 3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights . Resuming 24 August
- 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

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.

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council 12 October

Circuit Meeting

St Mark's Leadership Team - 4

October at Vicarage

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team Sept 26 7.30pm at 70 Brecon Way.

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

2 November. All meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management - 19 Sept, 14 Nov, 16 Jan 2005

Putnoe Church Council 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting - 19 September 2.00pm
Churchyard Committee - 7 October at 4.15

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting .

Partnership Council - 20 September at St. Mark's 7.30pm

Brickhill Parish Council 26 September, 13 October

Visit of Bishop Christopher 23 October

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

Bible Notes

Ordinary 25 Year A

Verse of Scripture **Jonah 4:2**

You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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

First Reading – **Jonah 3 : 10– 4:11**

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened. But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry. He prayed to the LORD, "O LORD, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, O LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live." But the LORD replied, "Have you any right to be angry?" Jonah went out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. Then the LORD God provided a vine and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the vine. But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the vine so that it withered. When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?" "I do," he said. "I am angry enough to die." But the LORD said, "You have been concerned about this vine, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city (Reader: This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - **Philippians 1: 21-30**

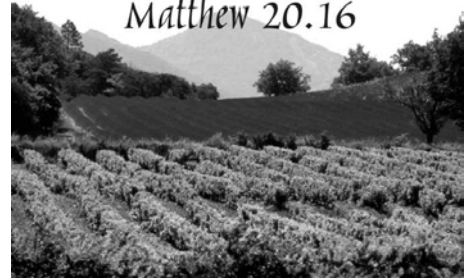
I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me. Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - **Mathew 20: 1-16**

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to

So the last
will be first,
and the first
will be last.

Matthew 20.16



work in his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. "About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went.

"He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing. About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' " 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered.

"He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

"When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.' "The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' "But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' "So the last will be first, and the first will be last." (Reader: This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

Commentary

This parable doesn't appear in either of the other two Synoptic Gospels, (Mark and Luke) so must have come from the missing "Q" source. It has such a complex and difficult meaning that we must imagine that Matthew's hearers must have found it as disconcerting as we do. Jesus often used parables based on the farming practises of his time. This one is definitely not meant to be taken as advice on how to achieve good industrial relations with your agricultural workers.

Many casual labourers lived a desperately hand-to-mouth existence. Whether they were able to get a day's work, and thus a day's pay, was the difference between starvation and food for the family. We must imagine these workers as a ragged and exhausted bunch, hanging about, hoping to catch the eye of the foreman. We must imagine their frustration and disappointment when they were the ones ignored and passed over. We can feel the relief of the men who were pulled out of the crowd and given work! With these powerful feelings in our minds we can turn back to the story. Jesus was using the tale as a metaphor about salvation. He was returning to a theme he addressed a number of times in his ministry – the belief that some Christians held, that they had earned God's love and salvation, that they had put in the time and the effort and were entitled to their spiritual reward. In the parable the length of service in the vineyard stands for the length of time that Christians have believed in and served the Lord. The long-serving Christians were expecting brownie points and bigger rewards for having done more for longer. Jesus blew away this kind of spiritual book keeping. This parable is similar in spirit to the complaints of the hard working brother who looked after the farm while his prodigal brother went off partying. It echoes of the disbelief of those who heard Jesus promise paradise to the thief who hung next to him on the Cross. God's forgiveness is shown to be spontaneous and unbelievably generous. Jesus shows that once a person has chosen to love the Lord, all barriers are down. The new convert is as deeply loved and highly valued as a long serving believer. This seems unfair until we remember two things: firstly that God's love for us is perfect and not partial, and cannot be graded nor meted out in grudging pieces; secondly that we are all unworthy of that love and receive it as a gift, not as a right. *Joan Crossley*

Meditation

In the story from the book of Jonah today, Jonah is in a massive sulk! Everything is bad, and awful and he is angry enough to die! When God tries to reason with him, comparing Jonah's suffering to the much worse suffering of thousands, Jonah simply does not want to understand. He is locked into the prison of his own misery and self-pity. The story makes a timeless point: that we all tend to see the world from our own selfish perspective. We can feel sorrow over the fate of starving

millions, but if we stand up and stub our toe, their sufferings are instantly eclipsed and forgotten beside our own! That temporary self- absorption can grow into a lifelong problem. Our faith commands us to try and love others as deeply as we love ourselves, to feel their pain as acutely as we feel our own. It can be done. The only truly happy people I have ever met are those who can escape from the tyranny of their own problems and feelings and empathise with the feelings of others. *Joan Crossley*

Prayers.

We hold up our smallness to your greatness, our fear to your love, our tiny act of giving to your generosity, ourselves to you. Amen. (Monica Furlong)

Jesus, who was lost and found in the garden, never to be lost again. Stand by us in the darkness of our crucifixions, as the women stood by you. Die and rise with us in the suffering of the world, be reborn with us, as love and hope and faith and endurance outlast cruelty and death. Amen (Monica Furlong)

Post Communion Prayer. Lord Jesus Christ, though we have held and handled bread and wine, we can never confine or contain you; yet, in this sacrament you are closer to us than our own thoughts. Fill us with your peace, and come into every corner of our complex lives, O lord of love. (Angela Ashwin)

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise and Holy Communion)

1.Come down o love divine 89 2. Jesus' love is very wonderful (P News) 3. Father hear the prayer we offer 132 4.O breath of life 488



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Reassurance when you need it most

News, Views and Information

Story Box and Story Box Plus Storybox Plus starts at St Marks

StoryBox Plus will be starting the group at St Marks. We began on Monday 12th September 3.30 starting with refreshments and a chill out with a 4.00 start and 5.00 finish. During that hour we will read, study, and rehearse a Bible based story in preparation to perform at the Family Service on the 1st Sunday. We will also spend time making props for the play. Anyone between 4 (at school) and 10 can join us to make friends and have fun. The groups success will need volunteers if you can help with any aspect of our activities or have a child that would like to see what we are all about please phone *Liz Spavins* on 302349.

Putnoe Junior Church—the help rota for Sunday mornings is now on the notice board. Please sign if you would like to help one morning.

Putnoe Heights Harvest Lunch - Sunday 2 October. A simple two course meal with soft drinks provided - please bring your own wine. Tickets available from the Church Office £5 for adults, £2.50 for children under 10 years.

Flower Festival "For the Beauty of the Earth" 10am - 6pm Renhold 24-26 September In aid of church funds. Refreshments available entry by programme £1.

Congratulations to Hazeldene Heights Pre-School for gaining their Accreditation of High Quality from the Pre-School Learning Alliance. Over the past year, all the staff have put in a great deal of hard work to gain this award and we are extremely proud of this achievement. It reflects well on the Pre-School and on the Church that such an award has been made. With our heartfelt thanks, Putnoe Heights Church Leadership Team.

Network Autumn District Day on Tuesday 4 October from 11am—3.30pm at St. Margaret's Church, Luton. The theme is "Looking at Overseas Mission". Further details from Pam Seymour 305695 or Eleanor MacKirdy 360271

Bedford Ecumenical Lay Training Centre 'Practical Spirituality' course. Wednesday 5, 12, 19 October & 2, 9 November 2005. 7.45 - 9.30pm at St Andrew's Church. Rev Dr Joan Crossley 344536

Putnoe Heights Church Mission Coffee morning Saturday 24 September 10.00am - 12 noon at the home of Mr & Mrs York 8 Aldens Mead (rear access via Little Headlands, off Putnoe Street).

Fifties Nite!
Putnoe Heights Church
Saturday 22nd October 2005
at 7.30pm

to celebrate the dedication
of the site for a new
Methodist Church at
Putnoe Heights
in October 1955

Ticket: £7-10s-0d (£7.50p)

Rock'n'Roll!
Pop !!
Swam !!!

Tickets are now available for this
fantastic night of celebration

Raffle, cakes. Proceeds to Mission project. Sylvia Cohen 343424

Piano lessons: I have a few vacancies for new pupils for the coming year. Special rate for members of the Partnership Churches. All ages welcome! Adrian Quarry Tel. 409612.

Make a Difference - cards, wraps, gifts, food—at 22, Mallard Hill, Bedford on Friday 23rd September, 7-9.30pm, Saturday 24th September 2-5pm and Sunday 25th September—10am-1pm. 50p including refreshments.

Macmillan Coffee Morning—Peter and Valerie invite friends old and new to join them in a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Nurses on Friday September 30 between 10.00am and 12.30pm at 1, Bindon Abbey (Riverside Drive). Macmillan goods for sale, raffle and Bring and Buy.

Storybox at Putnoe If you would like to join the story telling rota, contact Liz Spavins on 302349.

Vision for Action Launch. The way forward for the Diocese of St Albans will be presented on 17 October at St Andrew's Church by the Bishop. Evening starts with refreshments at 8.00pm. Members of Leadership Teams please think if you can go, it promises to be an interesting evening. Please let me know if you are available. We also need a parish link person, please let me know if you are interested. *Charlie*

Brass, Buffet and The Bishop.

Come and meet Bishop Christopher and have a fantastic night of entertainment with the Bedford Town Brass Band we will have We welcome Bishop Christopher on Sunday 23 October at 7.30pm

Cancer Research UK - Theatre Tickets. Bedford Dramatic Club are performing "Veronica's Room", a thriller by Ira Levin, at the end of September. They have donated 50 tickets to Cancer Research UK, and all proceeds from the sale of these tickets will go to the charity. The performance is at The Place, Bradgate Road, Bedford on Tuesday, 27 September at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 each (concessions £5) which is a discounted price for us, and are available now from Howard Lawrence (tel. 267837) and Sue Butler (tel. 354183). Reserve yours soon, or you may miss out on what will be a very entertaining evening, and a chance to help this worthwhile cause.

Big Bible Does anyone have a copy of the Bible in large print that I could borrow please? If you can help, please call Sam Ware on 304058.

Bedford Beer and Cider Festival 5-8 October, hosted by the North Bedfordshire Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale. The festival will take place at Bedford Corn Exchange from Weds 5th to Sat 8th October.

Gwen & Peter Beswick would like to say a deep and heart-felt thank you for the varied ways of continuing help during and since Peter's stay in St. John's.

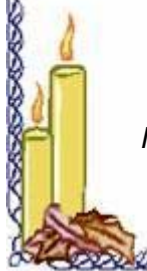
Footprints The walking group are away in Constable country this weekend. 25 September meet in Millbrook at 2.30pm at "The Chequers" (parking in car park next to vehicle proving ground) Circular walk passing through proposed site for 'Centre Parcs'. Further details contact Sue Allen 407264.

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.

**Blanche Elizabeth Davis
Susan Thompson**

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



TNT Autumn Spring Calendar

25 September Indoor Treasure Hunt
9 October IT Workshop at St. Mark's
23 October Bishop Christopher at St. Mark's
6 November Quiz – Invitation to Priory
20 November Christmas Play Rehearsal
14 December Play in Church in the Morning
Christmas Party, 6pm Crackers and Secret Santa
15 January Cooking
29 January Craft Evening
12 February Bowling
26 February Banner Making
12 March Indoor Games Evening
26 March Easter Egg Making

'Bed:Rock' Concert - Priory Methodist Church
7.30pm 1st October. Details contact James Robinson-Morley 01234 295587

Special Offer to readers of Partnership News

There is a concert at Elstow Abbey on Saturday 24 September 2005: This is being organised by SSAFA-Forces Help in partnership with The Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen and features the local group "Patchwork". The concert will start at 7.30 pm; tickets are priced at £8 each which includes a glass of wine or soft drink in the interval.

Readers can attend this concert free. If you intend taking up this offer please ring Pam Kinselley on Bedford 354480 soon, so that we can get sufficient supplies. What an offer!!

Thank you to Chris Izzard and all those who helped with the Auction of Promises. Also to those who attended or bid on the night

Second Hymn

Jesus' love is very wonderful,
Jesus' love is very wonderful,
Jesus' love is very wonderful,
O wonderful love!
So high, you can't get over it,
So low, you can't get under it,
So wide, you can't get round it,
O wonderful love!

Forthcoming funerals to be taken by our Ministers

The funeral of Tracy Palmer will take place on Thursday 22nd of September at 2.30pm at Bedford Crematorium. Neil Bramble-Chapman

The funeral of Mrs Lilian Taylor will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 20 September at 4.00pm Charles Royden

The funeral of Mrs Felise Helen Kingerlee will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 23 September at 10.00am Charles Royden

The funeral of Mr Anthony Winstanley will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 23 September at 10.45am Charles Royden