

Methodist
Church

Partnership News

24 October 2004

30 in Ordinary

The Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30am Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church—Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry

Intercessions – Mr Chris Izzard

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Baylis

Intercessions –Mrs Sue Allen

31 October

8.30 am Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St. Mark's Church – Holy Communion

Preacher – Rev Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper

Intercessions—Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher – Rev Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mrs Betty Wyatt

Intercessions - Ministers

Putnoe Ramblers see notice on page 7

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Christina and Maurice Halsey in loving memory of their daughter Lesley Robinson

Also by Diana Johnson on the occasion of the wedding of her son Adam to Ann in the USA

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Barbara Edwards in memory of her dear husband Cyril.

Prayer for Sunday

O Lord my God, I adore you as my first beginning and I long for you as my last end. Conduct me, therefore, O gracious Lord, by your wisdom. Restrain me with your justice, comfort me with your mercy, and defend me with your power; and of your love, enlighten my understanding, enflame my will and purify my soul; for Jesu's sake. Amen
Richard Challoner, 1691-1781

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 -07740 865167 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 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Elizabeth Wyatt 350188

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Samantha Ware 304058

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Wendy@thisischurch.com

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

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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).
10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
12.00pm - 1.00pm Storybox at Putnoe Heights Church. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm!
4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms R.Mistry 01908 217555
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Alison McEwen 358583
7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs. Jill Williams 357020
7.15 m Guides -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
7.30- 9.30pm Creative Needles at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Hayward 307648
7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month. Next 15 November Moorfields & Sight Concern Christmas Whist Drive. Contact Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313
7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.
8.00 - 9.00 pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

Tuesday

9.30am - 12.30pm Candlewicking (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights - Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203
9.30am - 11.30pm Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866
10.00am - 11.00am - Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Contact Mrs Stileman 822230
1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers Playtime Contact 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 Contact Val Careless 345213.
2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting - 26 October Mrs.A.Alderman & Mrs.M.Goddard ARC Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188
2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 2 November Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Contact Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709
2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's Church. Contact Mary Stubbs 406784.
3.30 - 4.30pm Putnoe Heights Church Essential

Stretch Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096
6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Contact Rachel Leontyne 01234 783129
6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights - Liz Rix 363607
7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's Church. Contact Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.
7.30- 9.00pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights - Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746
7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Next meeting 2 November AGM Meets fortnightly . Contact Mrs C Davies 219130.
8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing) group) - Contact Mr F Steele 355937

Wednesday

10.00 am Childminding Support Group at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949
10.00 am Day Care Centre Putnoe Height Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
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
12 - 1pm Putnoe Height Church Total Body Toning Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096
Luncheon Club at St. Mark's meets fortnightly. Next one 3 November Contact St. Mark's 342613
1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired - Meets weekly at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133
4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Contact Ms R Mistry 01908 217555
6. - 7.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 07711 687449
6.00 -7.30 pm Brownies at St Mark's Contact Mrs Carol Warden 219731
7.00pm St. Mark's Church Bunyan Bridge. Contact Brian Sallows 407725
7-10pm Putnoe Guild - Putnoe Heights 3rd Wednesday each month. Contact Mrs Dallas 212609
7.45 - 8.45pm Kick Boxing Junior classes St. Mark's. Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890
7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Contact Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights in the side chapel. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*
10.30am - 12.00am Brickhill Clinic at St Mark's with **Fledglings 2.00pm—3.00pm** Contact 267444
10.00am - 11.30am Yoga at Putnoe Heights Contact 244970
12 - 1.00 pm Storybox at St Mark's Church. Service for parents, carers & children under 5.

Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

1.30 - 3.00 pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.

Contact Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers

Playtime Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828

2.30 Bedford Arts Society at St. Mark's. Contact

Celia Maddison 782901

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Contact Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Mrs S Lewis 300198

7.30 - 9.30pm Club 2000 Putnoe 2nd Thursday of

the month. Contact Mrs Moreton 771261

6.15 - 7.30pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St.

Mark's Contact Mr & Mrs Pike 823795

7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at

St Mark's Contact Mr Hatton 824988

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild St Mark's- 3rd

Thursday month. Contact Mrs K Sage 771525

7.45pm. Housegroup-Meets fortnightly at 3 Little
Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Contact

Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St

Mark's Church 3rd Thursday each month. Contact

Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Church
Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

6 -7.00 pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr
James 0771 687449 or 07810 234890

7. 30 - 9.30pm Young Peoples meeting Contact
Pastor Tarr 376841

7.30pm Music Group St. Mark's Church/monthly

6.30pm -8.30 pm Dog Training Classes at St.

Mark's Contact Mrs L. Laton 365601

Saturday

**10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St
Mark's** -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle
304865

7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's
Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Peace Project Saturday School at Putnoe Heights.
For details contact Mrs.E.Tarr 309881

Sunday

1- 3pm & 7-9pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe
Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 309881
Mob. 07891095746

News, Views and Information

The Calendar

Putnoe Centre Management -15 Nov

St Mark's Church Council

Feb 1 2005

Churchyards Committee

Next meeting on Monday 17 Jan at 10am

St Mark's Centre Management Meeting

Wednesday 10 Nov

St Mark's Leadership Team

Next meeting on 17 Nov, 12 Jan

Deanery Synod

18 Nov,, 10 Feb

Partnership Council 18 Jan

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team

22 Nov

Putnoe Church Council

11 Oct 2004, 7 Feb 2005

13 June 2005, 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting

January 24 at 2.00pm

Calendar dates now appear on our church website
www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise us if you have
a date to be added to the church calenda

Network -District Autumn Craft Day on Saturday
6th November at Priory Methodist Church. £3 per half
day workshop. Please book by 16th October. For
more information and booking forms contact Pam
Seymour, Tel: 305695

Women's World Day of Prayer Bedford Day
Conference will be held on Monday 25 October,
10.00am to 3.00pm at Priory Methodist Church. Cost
£4.00. Bring your own lunch. Names and money
required by Friday 8 October. Please contact Kathie
Longden, Tel: 345760 for further details.

Wine Tasting Evening

**An evening tasting wines, being informed, trying
to guess the wines, places of origin etc. Prizes
for the winners.**

**St Mark's Church
6 November 2004
7.30pm**

Tickets £5

All proceeds in aid of
the new building
extension for Autism
Bedfordshire

Tickets on sale from
the St Mark's Office
and Alan Cooper at
Putnoe





Bible Notes

30 Sunday in Ordinary Time

Verse of Scripture Psalm 84 1

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD ; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

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

First Reading – Jeremiah 14: 7-10, 19-22

Although our sins testify against us, O LORD, do something for the sake of your name. For our backsliding is great; we have sinned against you. O Hope of Israel, its Saviour in times of distress, why are you like a stranger in the land, like a traveller who stays only a night? Why are you like a man taken by surprise, like a warrior powerless to save? You are among us, O LORD, and we bear your name; do not forsake us! This is what the LORD says about this people: "They greatly love to wander; they do not restrain their feet. So the LORD does not accept them; he will now remember their wickedness and punish them for their sins."

Have you rejected Judah completely? Do you despise Zion? Why have you afflicted us so that we cannot be healed? We hoped for peace but no good has come, for a time of healing but there is only terror. O LORD, we acknowledge our wickedness and the guilt of our fathers; we have indeed sinned against you. For the sake of your name do not despise us; do not dishonour your glorious throne. Remember your covenant with us and do not break it. Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, O LORD our God. Therefore our hope is in you, for you are the one who does all this.

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

Second Reading– 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defence, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.

But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

(Reader: This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading –Luke 18: 9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to

heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord.)

All: Thanks be to God)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise and Morning Worship booklets)

1. As the deer 37
2. I am a new creation 254
3. All my hope on God is founded 16
4. Be still 50
5. Great is thy faithfulness 200

Commentary Luke 18:9-14

Set in its original context, the first hearers of this story would have expected the Pharisee, not the tax-collector, to be held up as a role model. Here the Pharisee and the represent two different responses to Jesus: those who relied on their own righteousness and have hardened their hearts to Jesus and those who recognise their own shortcomings and sinfulness and come seeking forgiveness and help to change their ways. Today we find the Pharisee's self-righteousness irritating, but in his day, he would have been honoured for his piety. His extra fasting and his tithing would have placed him as a devout man and his attendance at prayer would have been regarded as an outward sign of his undoubted inner spirituality. In stark contrast, the tax-collector is seen as unworthy and would have been vilified for his work and collaboration with the Romans. Yet in his prayerful attitude and contrite words, in acknowledging his own failings, he is held up as an example of reliance upon God's mercy. God's mercy is part of the Divine Nature which reaches out to all who acknowledge their need and then seeks to heal that broken relationship. *Neil Bramble-Chapman*

Meditation

This is the first verse of a poem by John Keats "Ode to Autumn":

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines
that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the mossed cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For summer
has o'er-brimmed their clammy cells.

All who
EXALT
themselves will
be **humbled**,
but all who
HUMBLE
themselves will
be **exalted**.
Luke 18.14

Let us pray:

Lord, we give thanks for all that the earth has given in recent months, and we give thanks, too, for all the work of human hands. As the land lies fallow, at rest, remind us of our need to keep a healthy balance in our lives each day. Amen.

News, Views and Information

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Lord of creation, you give new strength to our faith. Grant that we may recognise your presence in all life and history, and face our trials with serenity and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lord help me to remember that nothing is going to happen today that you and I cannot handle together *Sadie Patterson*

We lift up our hearts, O Lord
in intercession for all who carry civic and political responsibilities.
Grant that, putting aside all merely selfish ambition,
they may seek to be instruments of your will
and carry out your purpose for the welfare of your people;
and may they both seek and see your glory
In happier human lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Leslie D Weatherhead

Come down, O Christ, and help me! reach thy hand,
For I am drowning in a stormier sea
Than Simon on thy lake of Galilee:
The wine of life spilt upon the sand,
My heart is in some famine-murdered land
Whence all good things have perished utterly,
And well I know my soul in hell must lie
If I this night before God's throne should stand.
'He sleeps perchance, or rideth to the chase,
Like Baal, when his prophets howled that name
From morn to noon on Carmel's smitten height.'
Nay, peace, I shall behold, before the night,
The feet of brass, the robe more white than flame,
The wounded hands, the weary human face.
Oscar Wilde 1854-1900

Grant, O Lord, that in your wounds I may find my safety, in your stripes my cure. In your pain my peace, in your cross my victory, in your resurrection my triumph, and a crown of righteousness in the glories of your eternal kingdom *Jeremy Taylor*

In the news this week

Reform found itself in the embarrassing position at its national conference this week of needing to apologise to the Archbishop of Canterbury by email for the indiscretions of its visiting speaker, the Very Revd Phillip Jensen, Dean of Sydney.

In a Bible study, Dean Jensen had called for the resignation of Dr Williams on the grounds of "theological and intellectual prostitution". He said Dr Williams took his salary "under false pretences" by upholding his office while having a personal opinion of his own on matters of sexuality. A Guardian story headed "Evangelicals call Williams a prostitute" reached Sydney, Australia, and elicited a furious phone call to the Dean from his brother, Dr Peter Jensen, Archbishop of Sydney.

But the jetlagged Dean, suffering a migraine as well as the wrath of his brother, seemed unable to resist further antagonism in his final Bible study for the conference on Wednesday. He berated Reform as a "bunch of old women" for their timidity, and described Evangelicals who accepted women's ordination as "mealy-mouthed . . . able to be domesticated and put in their place".

Wednesday Drop In (Bereavement Support Group)

We will have an entertainment on the first Wednesday in the month.

Wednesday 3 November

Jo Moore from Bedford Tourist Information will speak on Historic Bedford & her fascinating 'Bedford at War Project @ 2.30—3pm. All drop in sessions are open to everyone.

TNT - Saints and Heroes Party 31st October

TNT will be having a fancy dress party on 31st October 6-730pm at Putnoe. The theme will be Saints and Heroes. If any members would like to bring a friend along they would be welcome. There will be food and prizes for the best costumes.

St Mark's Weekly Offering Envelopes

New packs of numbered weekly offering envelopes will be available from Sunday 31 October. If you would like to join the envelope scheme, or make regular gifts by standing order, please contact Jim Williams or John Day for details. (their numbers on the front of the Notice sheet). Whichever way you give, please remember to review the amount each year to ensure we meet our rising cost levels. Our thanks to all those who give regularly and so generously to support our Church.

Kempston Musical Society (Centenary Year)

'A Hundred Years of Song' at St Mark's Church on Saturday 13th November 2004 at 7.30pm. Soloist Kay Soteriou, piano Tessa Wood, Organ Brian Fox with conductor Janet Welsh. Tickets £4 All proceeds to go the new extension at St Mark's Church for Autism Bedfordshire.

Putnoe Ramblers The ramble on Sunday, 24th October will start at 2pm. Please meet at the Social Club car park of Colworth House, Sharnbrook for a circular walk of about three and a half miles. It may be a bit muddy in places, depending on the weather during the preceding week. For further details, please contact Sue or Richard on Bedford 354183.

Pet Service The family service at St Mark's Church on November 7 will be a pet service. You are invited and encouraged to bring along any family pets which you might have.

Advent Course. Our course will take the theme of 'Pilgrimage,' with four talks on 24 November, 1, 8 and 15 December at Putnoe Heights Church. The evenings will begin with refreshments at 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Each evening will finish at 9.00pm. We are delighted that the first two of our talks this year will be given by Professor Paul Crossley. Other

Christmas Craft Fayre

There are only 4 weeks left to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 20th November 2004. We would be grateful for help with the following:-

Tombola – Any new unwanted gifts\Christmas present etc. for our Tombola stall. Please bring any items up to the Church Office before the day or if you would like them picked up please phone The Church Office 01234 342613.

Refreshments – We would very much appreciate donations of traybakes to sell with tea and coffee. Ploughman's lunches will be on sale at lunchtime as usual. Volunteers to help in the kitchen on the day would be very much appreciated. To put your name down please see Avril Williams or Trudy Bunday. Any help gratefully received.

Cake Stall - After a number of years organising and manning the Cake Stall at the Fayre the Mother Teresa Group have decided to step down. We would like to thank the group for all their dedication and hard work organising the stall. Millie Rollinson has very valiantly agreed to man the stall. Any cakes for the stall would be very much appreciated. Please bring them to Church either on the Friday or on the Saturday morning. Any problems please ring the Church Office.

speakers will be The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley and the detective novelist Kate Charles.

Coming Soon Storybox Plus is an After School Club for 4—9 year olds which will be starting in January from 4.00 to 5.00pm on Thursdays. The group will rehearse a short drama and make the props and costumes for a performance at the Family Service at Putnoe. Volunteers will be needed to make refreshments, help with the crèche and support the group. Please ring Joan on 344536.

NSPCC Sale and Coffee Morning at Putnoe Heights Church on Friday 29th October, 10am-12 noon. Admission £1 which includes tea or coffee.

Commemoration Service Our Commemoration service for the faithful departed will take place at St Mark's Church on 14th November at 3.00pm. Our preacher this year will be the Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman. Please accept our invitation to this service if you would find it helpful to remember somebody who has died. Please do also tell anybody who you know who may appreciate a welcome.

Wednesday Holy Communion at St Mark's
We are grateful to Vera Pearson who will be taking the service of Holy Communion in the chapel at St Mark's on Wednesday.

Partnership Review

Our Partnership Churches are currently engaged in a review process. This is carried out by the Bedfordshire Ecumenical Committee. The initial stage is a self appraisal with our link person appointed by the Committee, who is The Reverend Colin Davey. We would like you to be engaged in this process! The following are the questions which we have to answer. You will need to answer from the perspective of either St Mark's or Putnoe Heights Church. The questions are intended for all LEP reviews and so some of them may appear a little out of date. Please take time to think them through and share them with others. If you have any contributions please return them to Charles Royden

Questions to consider

1. Where have we come from?

Which Churches or congregations have made us? How are our churches organised, what is their form of governance and what ministers lay or ordained serve them?

2. What is it like to live in an LEP?

How aware are the congregations that we are a part of an LEP?

How is our LEP's commitment to sharing our resources for ecumenical mission, ministry and witness together being affirmed and strengthened?

What contact do we have with other LEP's

3. What are our joint activities?

When the LEP set up

Now

Planned for the future?

4. What is the composition of our worshipping community?

When the LEP was set up

Now

Our future expectations.

5. How has our pattern of worship developed?

The pattern at the start

What it is now

What developments are planned?

6. How is our LEP financed?

When it was set up

Now

Are any changes envisaged?

7. What impact does our LEP have on the community?

When it was set up

Now

Plans for the future.

8. How does our LEP relate to the County body?

When it was set up

Now

What we would like in the future.

9. Where are we going?

What plans are there for the development of our LEP, including ministry and buildings?

How will the integrity of our constituent denominations be maintained?

What are the greatest joys, and misunderstandings in our developing LEP?

10. For the further progress of the LEP

What are our strengths?

What is hindering our development?

If after Church, you wait awhile,
Someone may greet you with a smile.
But, if you quickly rise and flee,
We'll all seem stiff and cold, Maybe
the one beside you in the pew
Is, perhaps, a stranger too.
All here, like you, have fears and cares.
All of us need each other's prayers.
In fellowship we bid you meet,
With us around God's mercy seat.

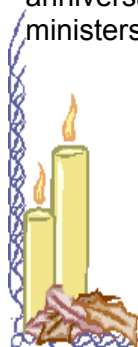
*Kindly supplied by John and Janet Day
St Mark's*

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.

**Bob Aston
Samuel Cato
Liudas Kavaliaskas**

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



The funeral of Winnifred Irene Norris will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 12.15pm on Wednesday 27 November