



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

28th October 2007

30th in Ordinary Time



Church of  
England

## Partnership Church Services Today

### Mission Sunday

**8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday** on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights Church. On the 2nd & 4th Sunday in St Mark's Chapel.

### 9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Speaker from BECHAR  
Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper  
Intercessions - Mr Mike Elliott

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Speaker from Keech Hospice  
Leadership Team - Mrs. Wendy Nash  
Intercessions - Ministers

### Nov 4th - 31st in Ordinary -All Saints Day

### 9.30am St Mark's Family Worship with Baptism

Preacher – Rev Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership Team –Mrs Linda Parry  
Intercessions - Mrs Wendy Waters

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights Family Worship with Baptism

Preacher - Rev Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership Team – Mrs Sam Ware  
Intercessions - Claire Peck

### Bible Readings

1: Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18  
2: Ephesians 1: 11-23  
3: Luke 6: 20-31

## Thank You

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

The flowers at St Marks have been given by Richard Ledger in memory of his mother.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion, 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

Forgive us, O Lord, when we listen,  
but do not hear;  
when we look, but do not see;  
and when we feel, but do not act;  
and by your mercy and grace  
draw us into the righteous deeds  
of your kingdom of justice and peace;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen

*Maria Hare, 1798 - 1870*

## 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 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

### For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership News is also archived on our  
church website [www.ThisisChurch.com](http://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 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com  
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417  
Leadership Team Mr Alan Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604  
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com  
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186  
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349  
youth@thisischurch.com

## St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com  
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613  
Leadership Team - Mrs L Parry 216724 Mobile 07922053740  
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com  
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Williams 360605

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school**

Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

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

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

*(See website for more details)*

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

**10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's

Mr Kellie ☎721063

**10.45am U3A Playreading** St Mark's C Birks ☎219607

**12.00pm Story box** We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349

**2.30pm Bedford Arts Society** Putnoe Heights Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

**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. Miriam Adcock ☎01908 565044

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

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

**6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎364710

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

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

**7.15pm Yoga.** Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

**7.30pm Creative Needles.** Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward ☎307648.

**7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's each month next meeting 15 October - St Mark's Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

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

## Tuesday

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

**9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's.

Helen Folbigg ☎351223

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

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

**1.30pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

**2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's 3rd Tuesday of the month Mrs Berman ☎364723

**2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

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

**2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship.** Next meeting 30 October Members -Favourite Books Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

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

**3.45pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 0582468.

**6.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

**7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group**

St Mark's 1st Tuesday ☎Parsons 351150

**7pm Creative Card Making** St Mark's 1st & 3rd Week of the month Carol Houghton ☎346718

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

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

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

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

**7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 6 November- AGM. Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

## Wednesday

**9.00am Paint Tots** St Mark's Jacqui Harrahan ☎824475

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 31 October 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

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

**2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966

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

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

**6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights Rachell Monton ☎01234 297138

**6.30pm Karate.** St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

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

**7pm U3A Whist Group** St Mark's 4th Wednesday of the month. Ken Silvester ☎400584

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

**7.00pm Yoga** St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

**7.00pm Putnoe Guild** Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎Loxley 347073

**7.45pm Badminton Club** Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867

**8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club** St Mark's, 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday. Next meeting 31 October Graham ☎406359 or Danny ☎401668.

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

### 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.*

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

**9.45am Yoga** Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

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

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

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

**1.30pm Toddler Playtime.** Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

**2pm Putnoe Bridge Club.** Gerald Palmer ☎345991

**5.30pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer.

**6.15 pm Weightwatchers.** St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

**6.15pm Brownies.** Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

**6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club.** St. Mark's Mr C Hill ☎772922

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

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

**7.30pm Bedford Senior Chess Club** St Mark's Mr P Housden ☎376597

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

**7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday – Pastor Tarr ☎360188

**8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle.** St Mark's 1st week each month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

**8.00pm Magpies Women's Group** St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

**8.00pm Brickhill Wives** St Mark's 1st and 3rd week Next meeting Mrs Woods ☎404702

### Friday

**9.30-12.30pm & 12.30 - 2.30pm U3A Photography Group** St Marks 4th week Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

**1.30pm Stars School of Dance** Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

**2.00pm U3A Gardening Group** Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

**6.30pm Line Dancing.** St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

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

**7pm Youth Club for age 10-15.** St Mark's Church. Contact PC Dave Hawkey ☎349179

### Saturday

**9.00pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe

Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

**10.00 pm Theatretrain** St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Randle ☎01234 782414

**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, games & outings. Liz ☎302349.

**6pm T.X.T** Putnoe. for 13 + fortnightly, join us for fellowship, debate & discussion. Liz ☎302349

## Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council – 12 November**

**St Mark's Leadership Team – 28 November 2007**  
27 February 2008, 13 May 2008

**Putnoe H Leadership Team – 13th November 07**

**St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 28th**  
November 2007 at 12 noon

**Putnoe H Centre Management - 19 November**

**Putnoe Church Council - 28 January 2008**

**Pastoral Group Meeting – January**

**Churchyard Committee - 16 January 2008**

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting :**

**Partnership Council - 26 Feb 2007**

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings**

**Deanery Meeting - 8 November**

**Circuit Meeting - 10 March 2008, 12 June 2008**

**Woodland Burial Trustees - January 21st 2008**

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth–**

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



**Telecare**

**Telecare**

It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feedback, especially if somebody is poorly or in hospital. If you have not yet put your name down on the

Telecare scheme, please do so. Additional members of the Pastoral Team are sharing the task of making telephone calls. Please do not be concerned if a new person calls.

## 30th in Ordinary

### Opening Verse 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.

### Collect Prayer for the Day

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 Bible 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.

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

### Second Bible 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

(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

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

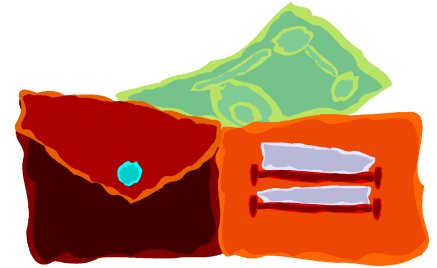
who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."  
(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

### **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. **Amen**

### **Commentary - A Missionary Heart**

Mission Sunday is a time to look back at the Mission activities of the churches over the past year and to give thanks to God for His generosity to us and in turn thank all those who have been involved in supporting mission in our churches over the past years through their unselfish giving of money, time and effort. To this needs to be added activities and giving such as Christian Aid and the many other unseen mission projects we are quietly involved in as individuals and groups. To all those



involved, and to all those who give so generously, either to specific projects or through the weekly offerings or standing orders, to those who organise and participate in coffee mornings and sponsored events, to those who work tirelessly and faithfully in the background for mission in our Partnership; thank you. Looking forward, we will continue with our regular mission activities at each church and this year are supporting BeCHaR and Keech Cottage Children's Hospice in our Autumn projects at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights respectively. If you would like to be involved in one of these projects please pick up an envelope after the service or ask one of the Mission Team or Ministers for further details. Please let us know if you would like to be involved in a more practical way in our mission activities.

Our bible readings today have a missionary theme to them. In today's gospel reading it's perhaps surprising that Jesus does not use the story to deride and undermine the Pharisee, and all that he stood for, and make some pithy comments about the misguided nature of the Jews in general at the same time. Elsewhere in the gospels Jesus frequently criticises Pharisees and so we are almost preconditioned to think that all Pharisees are and anyone else that appears in the same story must be good. And that's true to a certain extent. But Pharisees genuinely try to uphold the Torah in a world where Roman power and Samaritan neighbours tempted people to compromise. Pharisees genuinely try to please God. Tax collectors, on the other hand, collaborate with Romans and steal from Jews. But rather than condemning the Pharisee, Jesus uses the parable to demonstrate what happens when our hearts and lives are not yet transformed by the love of God. It's a significant role reversal. Perhaps if we imagine a homeless person sitting at the back of church as the one going home 'justified before God' after a service not only does the parable become a little more challenging it helps us to understand the point Jesus is trying to make.

Living out our Christian lives is more than just going through the motions. Unless our hearts and lives are transformed by the love of God our motivations and actions, although well intentioned, will be misguided. Perhaps the Pharisee thought that God would be impressed by his boasting, perhaps he thought he was better than others: "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of people, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here..." To have to proclaim that we are better than others betrays the inner fear that we are not and trying to put others down, to elevate ourselves, is just a self-destroying waste of energy. And whilst we would all want to identify with, and be identified with, the humble tax collector, there is always a bit of the Pharisee in us all that wants to come out from time to time. A constant reminder that we need to be vigilant in putting God and not ourselves first in our lives. Looking out for the needs of others, not because we are looking for opportunities to do good and self aggrandisement, but because we want to show the world the power of God's love and forgiveness and that though us He can make a difference. This is none other than to have a missionary heart.

The gospel shows us that we are not to judge others for what they appear to be but to treat others as equals in the sight of God so that we can all be transformed by His love. This means turning our well meant words and intentions into actions every day. *Sam Cappleman*

### **Meditation**

At one time or another and to a greater or lesser degree we all try to justify ourselves. Society is relentless in demanding proofs and justifications from us, and it's easy to take the bait. But to live without self-justification makes us feel vulnerable and exposed. But when living without self-justifications can be extraordinarily liberating. As soon as we accept that we're accepted by a good God, we never, for any reason, need to prove ourselves. To get to that position Jesus says that we need only seven words—those mumbled by the tax collector as he stood at a distance and stared at the ground: "God, have mercy on me, a sinner." The moment we breathe those words and cast our unadorned selves upon God, we experience His love without conditions or limits. Correctly understood, and spoken from the heart, this is the most important prayer anyone can utter, and in a sense the only prayer we ever need. Why? Because it comes from a clear-eyed appraisal of our human condition and, more importantly, from confidence in the character of a God who welcomes the secular sinner—and even the self-righteous saint.

*From The Journey with Jesus: Notes to Myself, Daniel B. Clendenin*

### **Hymns** (Please distribute Mission Praise and Morning Worship)

1. Let all the world in every corner sing, **404**;
2. For I'm building a people of power, **151**;
3. Love divine all loves excelling, **449**;
4. Take my life and let it be, **624**;
5. Go forth and tell, **178**

### **Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead**

You are never tired, O Lord, of doing us good. Let us never be weary of doing you service. But as you have pleasure in the well-being of your servants, let us take pleasure in the service of our Lord and abound in your work and in your love and praise evermore. **Amen**

O God, you have called men and women of every land to be a holy nation, a royal priesthood, the church of your Son: unite us in mutual love across the barriers of race and culture, and strengthen us in our common task of being Christ and showing Christ to the world he came to save. **Amen**

Lord, help me please to always make a home for you in my heart and to receive within that home the neighbours and friends and especially the strangers whom I meet. I am grateful that you are God and that you include me in your assembly, and in your love. **Amen**

God the sender, send us. God the sent, come with us. God the strengthener of those who go, empower us, that we may go with you and find those who will call you Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

May the triune Lord guide your hearts in the ways of His love; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Look, O Christ, upon our sin-stained consciences and cleanse them with your precious blood. Look upon our divided hearts and heal them by your redeeming grace. Look upon our languid spirits, kindle in them the fire of your perfect love; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

William Booth, 1829-1912



**For all your Christmas presents this year**

Please always log on to Amazon through [www.thisischurch.com](http://www.thisischurch.com) to buy all your books, music, DVD's, electrical goods, we receive 5% commission.



## Telecare

Who's calling ?

Jean Bank is one of our dedicated team at Telecare. She telephones people who have joined the scheme to make sure that the church keeps in touch.

Jean moved to Bedford in 1968, shortly after marriage to Roger. They have two children; a married daughter and two grandchildren live in Brentwood and a married son is moving back to Bedford soon, having been in California for 3 years.

Jean recently retired from teaching; her last post was deputy head at a nursery school, south of the river, where she had particular responsibility for children with special needs.

She and Roger have had involvement with church for many years, and Jean has experience in pastoral care. She has been attending St. Mark's and helps with the Pre-school lunch club. Her other interests are music, being a member of Bedford Choral Society for 38 years, the National Trust, photography and helping with the National Childbirth Trust.

If you have not yet signed up for Telecare then please do so. The Ministers very much value Telecare a very way of making sure that people are cared for. It is a great way to let us know if you have any special needs, or if you would like a visit.

*(Look out for more information about the Telecare Team of Volunteers in Partnership News)*



**Unwanted shoes to Putnoe please.** The children and young people at Putnoe are collecting shoes for the Blue Peter Malawi appeal. Please bring any shoes in reasonable condition, paired with an elastic band to the collecting box in the welcome area. The money raised will go to UNICEF to set up Children's Corners for orphaned children So far 107 pairs have been collected ,enough to buy a bike for a community worker. Please keep going.

**Church Christmas Cards.** This year we will be selling our own church Christmas cards in aid of church funds. The cards can be seen now and will be available soon from the church offices. Please

place orders and we will have them ready for you. The cards are priced at £2.50 for 10 cards and envelopes.

## Footprints Walking Group

**Sunday 4 November 2.00pm start.** 'A Riverside Walk' Meet at Aspects car park (bays 7 or 8 close to Bingo Hall). Suitable for comfortable walking shoes or boots. Contact Sheila Cracknell 217009.

**Wednesday 14 November. Annual Planning meeting at 1 Mitford Close, 7.30pm.** Please bring ideas for next year's programme. Contributions to light supper will be welcome. Those who are unable to attend may like to volunteer to lead a walk and choose their date.

**Sunday 2 December 2.00pm start.** Meet at St Mark's Church for walk in Mowsbury area followed by cup of tea in the coffee shop. Contact Sue 407264

**Bedford Town Band.** A concert featuring all four groups within the band .A varied programme will range from Souza to Strauss and the ET theme to Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. Sunday 4th November at 3.00pm at Wooton Upper School, Hall End Road. Tickets £6 for adults, £4 for concessions and £10 for a family group. Pay at the door or book from Roger Nicholls on Bedford 357268

## Commemoration Service for the Faithful Departed.

**11 November at 3.00 pm at St. Mark's Church**

This year we are delighted that our speaker will be the Reverend Martin Hounsfield, Superintendent Minister.

All are invited to this very special service of remembrance. Following bereavement there can be a very deep sense of loss for many years, this service is found by many to be a great comfort. Please remember that we are always pleased to visit, if you feel that it would help to speak with somebody.

You may have been helped by one of our Pastoral Support Team and members will be present at this service. If you are able to remain behind after the service, tea and coffee will be served.

Our Book of Remembrance will be available to view in the chapel after the service and if you have not yet had an opportunity to make an entry somebody will be available to help you and take details.

**Keepin' It Real** aims to help children through the challenges of modern life. It is a resource book for children and youth leaders aims to help 9 to 13-year-olds focus on the issues of respect, reputation and conflict. ' It is produced by the Methodist Church and for use with 9 to 13-year-olds and addresses : communication, reputation, conflict and negotiation.

**Fun Barn Dance** Putnoe 17 November 6.00pm - 9.00pm .Superior Sausage & Mash supper, please bring your own drinks. Tickets £3 each or £10 for 4 available from Church Office or contact Liz to reserve.

**WOW (Worship in Other Ways)** service. Starting at 6.30pm 28th at Priory Methodist Church, this service forms a part of our WOW monthly programme. The service will take the form of an appreciation of Jesus in film , with discussion and meditation. Run café style with nibbles, the service is informal and offers worshippers the opportunity to explore a different way of worshipping. People of all ages and denominations (and those with no belief) are very welcome.

**Mission Sunday** This week is Mission Sunday at both churches. At St Marks this year we will be supporting BECHAR and at Putnoe Heights we will be supporting Keech Cottage Hospital. Please take a letter detailing how we can support these projects. Look out for those envelopes! Sam and the Mission Team.

**TNT meets tonight (28th Oct)** 6.00pm at Putnoe for our "Party of Light", then 11th and 25th November for Christmas crafts.

Butterfly Park visit will be Sunday 9th December 6pm till 8pm £4.50 adults, £4.00 concessions, £3.50 under 16's to include light refreshments, please see Liz or Wendy to book a place. All members of the congregation are very welcome to join us to see this attraction at night and be guided around by Andrew Green its owner.

Shoe appeal Sunday the 4th November is the last date to bring in your shoes to Putnoe. We have done really well but must finish with a BANG!!!

Contributions for raffle prizes for the Barn dance would be appreciated as would small items for cracker fillings for our Christmas children and youth project.

**Bishop of Bedford censored for use of four letter word.** Don't miss Bishop Richard who is in fine form this month in See Round. Please make sure that you take your copy of See Round. We pay for a copy to allow everybody to have news from around the St Albans Diocese.

### St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre

There are only 4 weeks left to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 24th November 2007. 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 in the week beginning 19th November 2007.

**Raffle** – Raffle books are now available as for Sunday 21st October.

It would be appreciated if you could take a few books to sell to family and friends. We would also be grateful for any new items suitable for the raffle.

**Cake Stall** -Milly is kindly co-ordinating the cake stall again. If you are able to bake a cake for this stall please contact Milly via the Church Office.

**Refreshments** – We would very much appreciate donations of tray bakes 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.

### Secondhand Book Stall

Delia has very kindly volunteered to co-ordinate the second hand bookstall. Any good second hand books can be brought up to the Church anytime during the week beginning 19th November 2007.

This is one of our main fundraising events of the year and we are hoping to make it an even bigger success than last year, with your help I am sure we can achieve this. Thank you. Avril Williams

**Fun Barn Dance** Putnoe Heights 17 November 6.00pm—9.00pm. Superior Sausage and Mash supper. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets £3 each or £10 for 4, available from the church office or contact Liz to reserve.

**Peals of Wisdom Quiz-** £1 per entry, proceeds to Putnoe Mission Funds. Draw made on Sunday 25 November. Quiz sheets available from the church office. Sylvia Cohen

### 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

### Joy Ainsworth

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

### Rest in Peace



**The funeral of Rex Gadsden** will take place on Tuesday 30th October 1.45pm at St Mark's Church in the Wren Room. (Royden)