



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

29 May 2005
9th 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

with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing

Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

6 June 10 in Ordinary

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Worship

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper

Intercessions - Mrs Morag Stewart

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash

Intercessions - Ministers

Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Avril and Jim Williams in memory of their parents.

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

Almighty God,
you have built your Church
in the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ himself
being the chief cornerstone.
join us together
in unity of spirit by their teaching,
that we may become a holy temple,
acceptable to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Methodist Worship.

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 356062Minister@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

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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 Samantha Ware 304058

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

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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 for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

10.00am Supple Strength at Putnoe Heights. Contact Louise Woodcock 270302

12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box at Putnoe Heights. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from.

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. Contact 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. Mrs C Cannon 404319

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next one 20 June St. Mark's Contact 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. Contact Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203

9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Contact Mrs Stileman 822230

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. 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.

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

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 7 June Revd J.Crossley.. Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 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. Contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

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

6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights. Contact Emma Holloway 293792

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

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

7.30pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Next meeting 7 June Meal out. Meets fortnightly. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing group) - Contact 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 . Contact Jenny Coggins 266379

10.00 am Day Care Centre St Mark's 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 Total Body Toning at Putnoe Heights Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Height meets fortnightly. Next meeting 25 May 2005 Contact Putnoe Heights 365630

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

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

6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 07711 687449

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

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting . Contact Sylvia Woods 365095

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

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. Contact Karen Simpson 244970

10.30am - 12.00am Fledglings at St Mark's

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

12pm Story box at St Mark's. Service for parents, carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

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

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

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

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

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights. A drama group for 4-9year olds. Meets 4-5pm, drinks from 3.30pm

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Contact Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Heights . Contact Helga Nash 218521

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Height. Contact Pat Stidolph 345247

6.15pm 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 P Housden 376597

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

Thursday of the 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 3rd Thursday each month. Contact Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.30am U3A Exercise at Putnoe Heights. Contact Carole Maunder 301325

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

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

7. 30pm Bibleway Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 376841

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

Saturday

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

10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St Mark's -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle 01234 782414

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting 26 March Contact Kathleen Sage 771525

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 309881 Mob. 07891095746

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

Church Calendar

Church Diary Dates

Partnership Council 22nd June

St Mark's Church Council 15 June, 12 October

Circuit Men's Fellowship Lunch on the 18th May

St Mark's Leadership Team -Weds 6th July

Deanery Synod

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team July 21

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

11 July, 12 September, 2 November. All meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management

Putnoe Church Council

13 June 2005, 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting - 19 September 2.00pm

Church yard Committee - 13 June -10.00am

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting

Wed 8 June 7.30 p.m. at 14 Flint Way.

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

Brickhill Parish Council dates (Held at St Mark's)

Allotments Committee 27 June 7.30pm

Planning Committee 9 June 7.00pm

Parish Council 9 June 7.45pm

Bible Notes

Ordinary 9 Year A (Green)



Verse of Scripture Matthew Chapter 7

Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the

help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen (Common Worship) **Amen**

First Reading – Deuteronomy 11:18 - 21, 26 - 28

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth. See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse-- the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God.**)

Second Reading - Romans 1:16 - 17, 3:22b - 28

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

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

Third Reading - Matthew 7:21 - 29

(The Holy Gospel is taken from the Gospel according to St Matthew Chapter 7 beginning to read at verse 21 - **All - Glory to Christ our Saviour**)

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a

great crash." When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law. (This is the Gospel of Christ—**Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms)

1. All hail the power 252 (Tune: Miles Lane)
2. O Happy day 702 (please add Chorus)
3. Jesus good above all other 732
4. And can it be 216 (Tune: Sagina)

Commentary Hearers and Doers

Our lectionary readings from now until Advent are going to be concerned very much with the Gospel of Matthew. The passage from Matthew today has been taken from what we call the Sermon on the Mount. It contains many rules for Christian living. This particular passage today comes at the end of the Sermon on the Mount. By this stage in Matthew we have already been given the following teaching by Jesus

1. To let our light shine so that people might see our good works and give glory to the Father (5:16)
2. To keep and teach the commandments (5:17-20)
3. To deal with anger and to resolve conflict (5:21-26)
4. To maintain proper marital relationships (5:27-32)
5. To speak honestly without fanfare or oaths (5:34-37)
6. To act in generous and loving ways -- even toward our enemies (5:38-48)
7. To give alms and to pray in secret (6:1-6)
8. To forgive (6:14-15)
9. To seek first the kingdom of God (6:24-34)
10. To refrain from judgment (7:1-5)

So now at the end of his teaching Jesus challenges his hearers to be either obedient to his words or disobedient. Jesus does this by using the teaching method of a parable. On the face of it is an easy to understand story, but parables have a way of presenting truth in very clear and uncompromising manner. Jesus told this compelling parable with a powerful message about two men who built houses. One man built his house on sand and his house fell down when the weather got really bad. The other man built his house on the rock and his house stood firm in spite of the storms. So far so good, we all agree that we should build on solid foundations, we should copy the man who built on the rock.

The Jesus comes in with the punch line. The difference between the two men is not that one man is a believer in Jesus and the other is not. Both of the men listen to the words of Jesus. What distinguishes them is that one man put the words of Jesus into practice and tries to live by them. The other man hears the words of Jesus and might think that they are fantastic, but he does not live by them. The lesson is clear, listening to the words of Jesus is a start, but ultimately useless if we don't live out what we believe. That is why the Sermon on the Mount has been called the Christian Magna Charta, the Christian Manifesto, the Design for Life, and the Rules for Christian Living. Jesus is telling his followers that belief in him is about what we do when we get up in the morning. How do we live our lives in the choices and decision which we take? In the Sermon on the Mount we read the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer, and the Golden Rule. Jesus deals with murder, adultery, divorce, oaths, revenge, and worry. Jesus gives instructions on prayer, giving to the poor, fasting, judging others, and saving money.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus tells his followers -

* If someone strikes you on the right cheek turn to him the other, * Love your enemies, * You cannot serve God and mammon, * do not judge, * do to others what you would have them do to you.

It is very easy to agree with these statements completely and then go out and behave differently. We can accept statements as being completely true, but nevertheless we can be utterly complacent and not allow ourselves to be changed by what we have heard. The teaching of Jesus from the lesson in Matthew Chapter 7 this week, challenges any of his hearers who have that shallow kind of response. The message is clear, if you follow Jesus you do what he says, otherwise you might just as well not bother following him

at all. It is a hard message, but it makes sense, being a Christian is not just about things we believe in our heads, it is about how we live and show that our faith makes a difference.

The storm in the parable can be seen as the Last Judgement, or any time of testing. What is clear is that Jesus makes the assumption in the parable that both men experience storms. The wise man who tries to live out his faith and the foolish man for whom it is only skin deep, both face storms. Faithfulness to Jesus does not mean the absence of storms. Our faith is a strength to us in times of distress not a means of protecting us from them in the first place. How often have you heard somebody say, I don't know what I have done wrong to deserve this? The importance is not what torments assail your life, it is how you face them. A faith that is built on Christ, the solid rock, is a faith that endures emotional upheavals, floods of sorrow, tempests of grief and hostility. A faith built on Christ endures our economic upsets, our sorrows and our grief. But building a house of faith on rock is a slower process. It takes more effort, stamina, patience, and imagination. Building a house on the rock is a lot harder, you work and work and at the end your house looks no better than the one built on the sand. Superficially they can be seen as both being good houses. The difference is only seen when the going really gets tough.

Another rabbinical parable said

'A man whose knowing exceeds his doing, is like a tree with many branches and few roots.'

The benefit of a tree having great roots is that when a drought comes then the tree can survive.

Bishop Ryle put it clearly when he said,

'Sound doctrine and holy living are the marks of true prophets.'

And so the Sermon on the Mount is brought to a conclusion with a warning from Jesus. His words are not just to be heard but also to be done. Choose - wisdom or foolishness. Words without action and action without faith are both shallow and not what God wants for us. Jesus is not impressed by our pious words, rather he looks for sincerity in our good living in obedience. *Charles Royden*

Meditation

What do we do when faced by people we really do not like? There will be many different reasons why we don't get on with certain people and why they don't get on with us. It can be really hard to get along with people who are rude and selfish and some people can just wind us up for no special reason. The Sermon on the Mount gives us guidance on how we should behave towards these people. Even if we feel like punching somebody in the face, instead we must show good manners and be polite, turning the other cheek. When we feel that somebody has really pushed their luck and deserves a right talking to, then we should forgive. God's way for us is one of learning tolerance, understanding and forgiveness, especially to those we really hate! *Charles Royden*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Make us, O blessed Master, strong in heart, full of courage and fearless of danger. Whatever lies before us upon our path, may we be strengthened by the might of your Spirit and delivered by your holy and gracious hand; and this we beg for your name's sake. Amen. *FB Meyer, 1847-1929*

O Lord our God, make our hearts obedient to your will; turn our eyes away from vain things, that, free from the world's attraction, they may always look on your glorious beauty. For you are our God, the God of compassion and salvation, and we glorify you, father Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, to the ages and ages. Amen. *Eastern Orthodox Church*

O thou from whom to be turned is to fall to whom to be turned is to rise and in whom to stand is to abide, for ever; Grant us in all our duties thy help in all our perplexities thy guidance, in all our dangers thy protection, and in all our sorrows thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen *St Augustine*

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow men throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them, through our hands, this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give peace and joy. *Mother Theresa*

My father, teach us not only your will, but how to do it. Teach us the best way of doing the best things, lest we spoil the end by unworthy means. *J H Jowett*

Speak, Lord, for your servant hears. Grant us ears to hear, eyes to see, wills to obey, hearts to love; Then declare what you will, reveal what you will command what you will demand what you will *Christina Rossetti*

News, Views and Information

Putnoe Heights Junior Church and Storybox Plus Summer Outing. We hope to go to Thurleigh Farm Centre, leaving from Putnoe Heights Church at 12 noon, on either 3 or 10 July, taking a picnic for "Wacky Woods". Kids £3.75 Adults £3.25 Family £13.50 (2 adults and 2 kids). Please let Liz Spavins know a.s.a.p. which date you would prefer or for more details call Liz on 302349.

TNT is cancelled on 29th May because so many members are away for half term. We will go swimming on another day.

Putnoe Heights Junior church The "help" rota is now on the notice board. Please sign up if you would like to join us one Sunday. Our 10+ group will be in the small hall led by Joan, Neil and other "Guest Leaders" and the younger ones will be in the large hall with Liz Spavins, John Barrow and Holly Webber.

Putnoe Saturday Morning cleaning - We are desperately short of volunteers for this rota at present. Most teams are down to two persons and if one of those cannot attend, the situation becomes very difficult. It is not a very arduous duty and is usually completed in less than 45 minutes on a Saturday morning once every 6 weeks. We would love to have new members—perhaps some of the hardworking young adults we now have in the congregation might be willing to give up a little time once every six weeks? Full training will be given! If you can help please see Peter or Joy or ring 261736.

Boot Sale May 30th—The Church will be very grateful for unwanted bric-a-brac, books, toys. Electrical goods, old tools, curtains etc for the Church Stall. Thank you. Traybakes for the refreshments also gratefully received.

Please did anyone inadvertently pick up a lady's black jacket after the service at Putnoe Heights on Sunday May 8th. It was hanging on a peg near to the kitchen, but was missing shortly after the end of the service. Please telephone the Church Office, or myself on 327219. *Margaret Massey.*"

Service to celebrate the work of St Ethelreda's. Tuesday 31st May 6pm at St' Paul's Church. Contact :- Hannah Potter 352675.

Notelets depicting an original painting of St Mark's Church, by Peter Coppenhall, are on sale at 25p each from the book stall.

Footprints - Pinchmill Islands walk Sunday 29 May. Meet at Sharnbrook Mill 2.30 pm for a 4 mile circular walk. John and Sally Gunning - phone 305925.

Footprints. Weekend in Colchester 16—18 September 2005. There are still two twin rooms available, non-walkers welcome to join us in this pleasant area of 'Constable Country.' Further details from Sue Allen 407264

Network Spring District Day Monday 6 June at Chesham Methodist Church. The theme "Building Bridges" will be led by Connexional President, Elaine Turner. A coach leaves from Priory Methodist Church at 8.30am, the cost is £10. To book a place please contact Elaine MacKirdy tel: 360271 as soon as possible and no later than 27 May.

Storybox at St Mark's are in need of help on Thursday lunchtimes at 12.00. Please ring Joan if you can spare some time once a month

Flower Rota: Anyone wishing to donate the flowers at Putnoe Heights Church on any Sunday from June to December is invited to enter their name on the rota on the notice board in the welcome area.

Auction of Promises September 17 at St Mark's Church, in aid of the Building Development to replace the Portakabin and provide accommodation for Autism Bedfordshire. We would be grateful for any donations of promises which could be auctioned at this fundraising event. Please contact Chris Izzard who is organising this event. Telephone 212164.

Bible Readings Changes have been made to the readings on The Methodist Plan and hence our rotas for this week and the whole of June. The new readings will be as follows. If you are down to read please do check your readings.

June 5 Hos 5:15-6:8, Rom 4:13-25, Matt 9:9-13, 18-26

June 12 Ex 19:2-8a, Rom 5:1-8, Matt 9:35-10:8

June 19 Jer 20:7-13, Rom 6:1b-11, Matt 10:24-39

June 26 Gen 22:1-14, Rom 6:12-23, Matt 10:40-42

Garden of Remembrance extension. Plans have been produced for the new Garden and can be seen at St Mark's office. Please do feel free to have a look and pass on any comments to Charlie before Friday.

Fun Run Thank you to everybody who helped with the fun run, and Teddy Bear Picnic making it another great success. We expect to raise over £700 towards the building development at St Mark's. *Joan*

Bedfordshire Police. The police office is now open and surgeries take place every Tuesday afternoon and Thursday evening at St Mark's Church Community Centre. Members of the public and invited to attend and the police would be pleased to receive information from the public. Information can also be given to the Church Office.



www.SpanishDiscovery.Com

Ian and Laura Farthing are pleased to advertise their beautiful bungalow near the coast on the south Costa Blanca, to rent for your holiday. With over 320 days of sunshine a year, you are guaranteed sun on your holiday in this beautiful part of Spain.

You will discover the perfect ambience which you would expect from a Spanish home, and all just five minutes from the beautiful warm sea and sandy beaches of Guardamar on the Mediterranean Sea. This is an extremely well planned and exclusive residential development, not a holiday complex. However it does provide some facilities on site including a communal pool. Rental costs are £250 - £350 per week .

The bungalow has two separate bedrooms with additional sleeping provision in the lounge. There is a fully fitted kitchen, television and washing machine. You will also be living close to the charming villages of Benijofar and Rojales where you can obtain a glimpse of local life with its cheerful atmosphere and quaint shops. With the value of the strong pound making everything so much more affordable, Spain now offers the opportunity for exceptional value for money holidays. Low cost airlines provide travel from the UK, with ticket prices starting as low as £9.99! There has never been a better time to discover this part of Spain, so book now to make your Spanish Discovery! Telephone Ian on 01234 210892

Hymn for Sunday

The following chorus will be used with the second hymn —

O happy day, O happy day
When Jesus washed my sins away
He taught me howto watch and pray
and live rejoicing every day, (*Alleluia!*)
Happy day, O happy day,
when Jesus washed my sins away

Methodist Church welcomes aid breakthrough

Anthea Cox, Methodist Coordinating Secretary for Public Life and Social Justice: "We applaud the increased aid commitment from the European Union, and we hope that this leads to further progress at the G8 summit in July. 'More and better aid' is one of the three goals of the Make Poverty History campaign, which the Methodist Church enthusiastically backs. What we need now are moves towards fairer trade rules and dropping the debt burden that keeps so many across the world in poverty. Much work still needs to be done by the world's leaders, but today's news is definitely something to celebrate." (24 May)

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.

Dave King

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



Membership Forms. Thank you to everybody who completed a membership form at St Mark's last week. We would like everybody to do this just so that we make sure our records are accurate

Forthcoming Funerals to be conducted by our ministers

The funeral of Roy Harding will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 1 June at 10.00am (*Charles Royden*)

The funeral of Dennis Josephus Satchwill will take place on Thursday 2nd June at 4pm (Joan Crossley)

The funeral of Rita Veronica Hawkins will take place at 11.30am on Tuesday 31 May (*Charles Royden*)