



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

Harvest Festival

29 September 2013



8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

Today 29 September — Harvest Festival

9.30 St Marks – Harvest Family Worship

Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership – Mr Mick Ovenden
Intercessions – Mr Ian Farthing
Organist - Miss Marion Prior

11.00 am Putnoe – Harvest Family Worship

Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes
Organist - Mr Alan Bunker

6 October — Ordinary 27

9.30 St Marks – Family Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Mrs Delia Shephard
Organist - Mr John Mower

11.00 am Putnoe – Family Worship

Preacher – Revd Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions — YPG
Organist - Mr Alan Bunker

Readings 1.Lamentations 1: 1-6 2. 2Timothy 1: 1-14
3.Luke 17: 5-10

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

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Alan and Margaret Massey to celebrate their wedding anniversary and the recent marriage of Margaret's son Gavin to Jacqui.

Harvest Appeal Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the wonder and beauty of your creation; its abundance feeds our bodies and nourishes our hearts. Thank you for your extraordinary love; its generosity reaches out to all people. Please bless the honey project in Ethiopia: that, through our gifts and prayers, lives will be enriched, communities transformed and many people experience the sweetness of your goodness and justice. Amen

Welcome

Please do stay after the service for coffee



The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a Vice President for Hewlett Packard)

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisischurch.com

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to vicar@thisischurch.com. Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@ThisChurch.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.

Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs Jenny Snelson 344417
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 –3.45 pm Mon and Wed/ 9.15-12.15pm Tues/ Thurs/Fri. Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. See website for more details www.ThisChurch.com
Head teacher Mrs Laura Leggett 326685
8.30-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's
9.-3.45pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's
8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
(See website for more details)
9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430
10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs Berry 211955
10.30am U3A Play reading St Mark's (see contact details below)
2.00pm U3A Calligraphy at St Mark's 2nd week (see contact details below)
12.15pm Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com 365630
1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk .
2pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights(see contact details below)
4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 01767699399 or 07720713738.
6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571
6.30pm Boot Camp Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081
7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson 353518
7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020
7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting– 30 September Judith Stanton. 823313
7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford 300218.First session starts 23 September.
7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567
Putnoe Heights Children and Youth meeting - Monday 10th February 2014 at 1.30pm

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Charlotte Williams 07968 207442
9.30am Candleworking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507
9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389
10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley 350704
11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)
1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wiggles and Jiggles 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552
1.15pm U3A Cinema Grp. St Mark's (contacts details

below)

1.3pm U3A Choir. St Mark's (contacts details below)
2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Wk) (see contact details below)
2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Wk) (see contact details)
2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins 356895
2pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Wk) (contact details below).
2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs 406784.
4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights.. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468
7.30-8.30pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957
7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390
6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Denise Worker 07900 232648
7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455
7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club (Meets fortnightly). 1 October 'Harvest ' Details Janet King 313946

Wednesday

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.
9.30am Discover & Do (Childminders) St. Mark's. Clare Simmons 328380 or 07788824666
10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.
10am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. (contact below)
10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
10am U3A Card Making, St Marks (see contact details below)
10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe (contact below)
11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe
12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 9 October Putnoe Heights Office 365630
1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)
1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811
2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft St Marks.(see contact details below)
2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights
2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster 856966
3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Wk). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 16 October Wendy Waters 401834
4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731
6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton 01234 297138 or 07910835994.
7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Yvonne Blain 350241 or Brian Sallows 407725

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society

Putnoe

Heights monthly. Sylvia Woods 365095

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe monthly Mrs O Holt 266004

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 2 October Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Jean Ross 771870

Thursday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green 244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07932616468

10.00-11.30am Gentle Yoga Putnoe For more details contact Helen Nicholson Tel.03003004305

12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Jaana Swaby 363283

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's 267444

1pm-2.30pm Drop in (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552. 2pm -Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm U3A Current Affairs - Putnoe Heights

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Mark's (contact below)

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Mary Rich 272470

5.45pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07805408811.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week) (see contact details below)

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

7.00pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Carol Plant 01832710504

7.30pm Gentle Birthing St Mark's. Pat Wood 07946 847231

8 -10pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week.Except August. Next meeting 5 September. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

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

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Pat Cass 294220

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month Kay Logan 01234 309105.

Friday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

9am -1pm Machine Knitting group at Putnoe Heights, fortnightly . Contact Marion Sutton 217647

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week) (see contact details below)

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St. Marks (see contact details below)

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist St Marks. (contact details below)

2pm U3A Italian-Putnoe Heights (contact details below)

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights

4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton 297138 or 07910835994

7.00pm Meditation St Mark's starting 4th October. Cheryl Green 07729187399

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St Marks(2nd week) Carol Brown 01438 233385

Saturday

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard 01234 782414

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher 357198

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's

10 - 5.30pm Bedford Stamp Fayre. 1st Sunday Feb/ Apr/Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

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.

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

Messy Church Dates

Weds 16 Oct; Weds 20 Nov,



U3A For information on the U3A groups meeting at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church please contact Yvonne Francis ☎405119



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council – 8 October

St Mark's Leadership Team - 21 January 2014

Annual Congregational Meetings

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 10 October

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting 1st October

Putnoe Church Council - 14 Oct

Pastoral Group Meeting - 10 January at 10.00am

Churchyard Committee -

Commemoration Service Sunday 3 November 3 pm

Circuit meeting - Deanery Meeting - 14 November

Woodland Burial Trustees–

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting –10th February 2014 1.30pm

New Year Lunch 19 January at Putnoe

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

Harvest Festival

Sentence of Scripture - Psalm 67:6

The land has yielded its harvest:
God, our God has blessed us.

Collect Prayer for the Day

Lord of creation, whose glory is all around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading -Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

When you have entered the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the first-fruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket.

Then go to the place the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come to the land the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God. Then you shall declare before the Lord your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labour. Then we cried out to the Lord, the God of our ancestors, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the first-fruits of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before him. Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household. (This is the word of the Lord—**Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - Philippians 4: 4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

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

Gospel Reading – John 6: 25-35

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of



**The land has
yielded its
harvest;
God, our God
has blessed us.**

Psalm 67

God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

“Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.” Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty (This is the Word of the Lord — **Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymns (*Please distribute Hymns & Psalms and Harvest sheets*)

1. For the beauty of the earth, 333
2. For the fruits of his creation, 342
3. Yes God is good, in earth and sky, 363
4. Count your blessings (words attached)
5. Thou whose almighty word, 29

Commentary

Today we celebrate our Harvest Festival, one of those times we are reminded how dependant we are on God and creation. Many of us have fond memories of this festival, as well as an opportunity to meet together in fellowship.

Harvest today is not as relevant to most of us as it once was, though we do not have to travel far to see farmland, both crops and livestock. The ‘mechanics’ of it have changed almost beyond recognition, from the labour intensive work that brought communities together and employed so many travelling workers - to the vast farm machinery we see today. Even the seasons do not have the impact they once did, with most things now available in our supermarkets all year round. So perhaps it is more important than ever to mark this festival, to remind us just how much we have to be grateful for.

There is so much we take for granted, God gave us a wonderful world and we have, over the years, done our best to destroy it through warfare, over farming and mismanagement. Here we have lights at the flick of a switch, running water, global communication, transport etc...

I am not denying that we all have needs, the most basic is air, then water, food and shelter. Once we have all these there are then other things that most of us find essential, such as love, security and a ‘sense of purpose’. The latter of these is very evident in my ministry in the local care homes, in trying to make life as easy as possible for someone else we sometimes take away even the simplest tasks, and then we risk making someone feel useless. Significance is necessary for every human being to function well in this life, in Genesis we learn that we were made in God’s image and so cherished by God. We all have status as children of God, he loves each one of us, and we all need each other to find our place in our community.

Today’s readings are about gratefulness, tithing, and living a Godly life together, in the Gospel Jesus says;

“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

Some have come to take this as an example of Christians saying that accepting Christ is an end to all our worries, while the more traditional reading is that of Christ offering spiritual food. For the purpose of this service I’d like you to read it alongside Jesus commandments, to love God and neighbour. If we accept Christ we also accept his call to fellowship, if we are in fellowship we will not let others go without if we have more than we need.

What then does this mean for harvest in the western world? It is a great opportunity to ‘take stock’ of all we have and give thanks to God. We can still give to others in greater need than ourselves, we maintain the tradition of bringing a portion of our harvest to church, though this may now be largely in tin or packet form, yet it honours the spirit of harvest and it will, as in previous years, be given to Bechar, to help with their work of feeding the homeless in our own town.

Today we also seek to fulfil this calling in the launch of our Autumn Mission project supporting a project in Ethiopia that is teaching farmers about better beekeeping methods. Our gifts will make a real difference not just to the farmers and their communities but to the whole world, as bees are essential in the pollination of so many of the plants we rely upon for food and shelter. Just one example of how just a little of our excess, when put in the right place, can truly change the world! *Deacon Jane Mills*

Meditation

The Lords Prayer (based on MRDF 2003 Harvest service)

Our Father, who is in us here on earth.

In those who suffer because they have no bread; in those who go out and do not come back, in the tortured and the murdered.

in the stars, which dance in the children's eyes; in the hungry who share their bread; in the strength of those who, insulted and beaten, give themselves so that love, land and life can be for everyone

Holy is your name.

We praise you, as do thousands around your world, for all the wonders you have created and for all you have done for us through your Son.

Your kingdom come.

Your kingdom, which is a generous land flowing with milk and honey; where no wars based on greed hatred or belief divide; a shared land, where confidence and truth reign; where life flourishes in all its fullness.

Let us do your will

Standing up, when others sit down; raising our voices when others are silent; living through ill treatment, yet sowing confidence in the soil of fear and cultivating the flower of understanding and the tree of hope.

You are giving us our daily bread

In the song of the bird and the miracle of the corn, in the strength of our hands united; in what we see around us, through what we feel within us and in the comfort of the hand stretched out to relieve our pain.

Forgive us

When we hurt a beloved friend; when we keep silent in the face of injustice; when we bury our dreams; and when we fail to share what we have. Give us the grace also to forgive when others do the same.

Don't let us fall into temptation

Of shutting the door through fear; of resigning ourselves to the hunger and injustice we see in the world; of taking up the same weapons as the enemy in the false hope of bringing about your kingdom by force.

But deliver us from evil

Of the intrigues and mistrust which arise to break the loving ties which unite us; give us the perseverance to tread the path of love even if we fall and hurt others or ourselves; even though we die; we shall have known your kingdom, which is for ever and ever. AMEN

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Father God, give to all who work the land, wisdom to understand your laws, and to co-operate with your wise ordering of the world: and grant that the bountiful fruits of the earth may not be hoarded by the selfish or squandered by the foolish, but that all who work may share abundantly in the harvest of the soil. Amen

Forgive us Lord, for thinking of ourselves more than others; for eating too much without considering those who have nothing at all; for our lack of diligence in searching for ways to share our riches with the hungry and the thirsty. Your Son came to earth that everyone might be blessed and forgiveness offered to the penitent. Amen

Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2013

Following the success of last year's donation of 38 boxes by Messy Church and the wider congregation, we will be packing boxes at our Messy Church session on 16 October. We will be happy to accept donated items from now on. There is a box at the back of the church where you will see details of what can and cannot be put in the boxes. If you require further information please speak or phone Wendy Waters 401834 or Margaret Appleton 354708.

What to give: All gifts should be new Toys: Soft (but not hand knitted stuffed), finger puppet, jigsaw, yo-yo, building blocks, small musical instruments, cars, trucks, dolls, tennis ball etc. Educational supplies: Pens, pencils, felt pens, eraser, colouring book, notepad, puzzle book etc Hygiene items:

Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar soap, flannel etc Other items: Gloves, hat, scarf, bangles, necklaces, sweets sell by date at least March 2014 Please do not give: Food especially chocolate, medicine, no war related items e.g. toy guns, no clothing other than hats, gloves or scarves, no fragile items, no liquids, no sharp items, no novels, nothing of a political nature, no hand knitted stuffed toys. If you do not wish to give items as above, financial contributions towards the £3 per shoe box 'shipping' cost would be appreciated.

Footprints Walk Sunday 6 October 2013. A short, leisurely walk in Ampthill Park to find some of the surviving trees from Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's re-landscaping of the park in the 18th Century. Meet at 2.30pm at the first car park to Ampthill Park along Woburn Road [football ground entrance]. More details from Barry and Jenny Snelson 344417.

Beds, Essex, Herts, District Methodist Women in Britain (Network). There will be an Autumn Craft Day on Saturday 19 October from 9.45am to 4.30pm at Priory Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome to come and learn a new skill. There will be 16 workshops available at £4 per half day session. Closing date for bookings is 11th October. Details of the workshops and booking forms are available from Pam Seymour. Tel. 305695, email – pams@tgis.co.uk

'Christmas Craft Fayre – Saturday 23 November . It is that time of year. Cannot believe how quickly this year has gone. As usual our Craft Fayre is coming upon us. We are having the usual cake stall, plants, craft, tombola and book stalls. Donations to any of these would be most welcome nearer the time. At the moment we are in need of the hyacinth bulb vases. If you have any that you would be prepared to donate please would you bring them up to the office this week. Your support of the Craft Fayre which is our biggest fund raiser of the year is very much appreciated. Many thanks. Avril'.

Christmas Party The Partnership Council are invited to the Vicarage for the Christmas Party at 1.00pm on Sunday 22 December. Please RSVP to corinneroyden@gmail.com

Date for your Diary Partnership Quiz will take place at St Mark's on Saturday 16 November. Do come and make up a team.

BELIEF are excited to announce its Autumn Series held on every Wednesday in October starting at 7.45pm at Priory Methodist Church, Newnham Avenue Bedford. The series entitled "Spirituality - Exploring our understanding in human Experience focuses on Spirituality and the arts and has attracted eminent speakers such as Anne Atkins, regular contributor to Radio 4's Thought for the day, Paul Leddington Wright Thirty years Principle of BBC Songs of Praise, Phil Summers who among many achievements performed a dramatic one man telling of St Marks Gospel at Leicester square Theatre. We are also very fortunate to have two notable local Methodist Ministers Revd. David Winwood who during his ministry has had a very varied career including being a Prison Chaplain and the National Secretary of the Methodist Association of Youth Clubs and Revd. Cass Howes who is Bedford University Chaplain and co-chair of Bedford Council of Faiths. The sessions are entitled Exploring Spirituality: What is it on Wednesday 2nd October, Spirituality in Art on Wednesday 9th October, music on Wednesday 16th October, poetry and literature on Wednesday 23rd October and Drama on Wednesday 30th October and can be attended for a donation of £3 per session. For further details please visit www.beliefbeds.org email belief@standrewsbedford.org or tel 01234 330314

We're going to the Cappuccino Bar, Come and Join Us. Putnoe Men would you be interested in joining us for a meal at a local restaurant on Tuesday 12 November. The meal will cost £15.00 for two courses including a drink. If you are interested in joining in with other men from our church for an evening of good food & fellowship please let me know as soon as possible. For further information please email me or see me after church on a Sunday morning if you have any questions. Barry Southam Leadership Team. Tel: 07860639595 or 01234 219714 Email: barrysoutham@aol.com

The Contemplative Prayer Group meets in the Quiet Room at Putnoe Heights on the 2 and 4 Fridays of each month. at 1.45pm/ The September meetings will be 13.09.2013 and 27.09.2013. Eileen Brown 267909.

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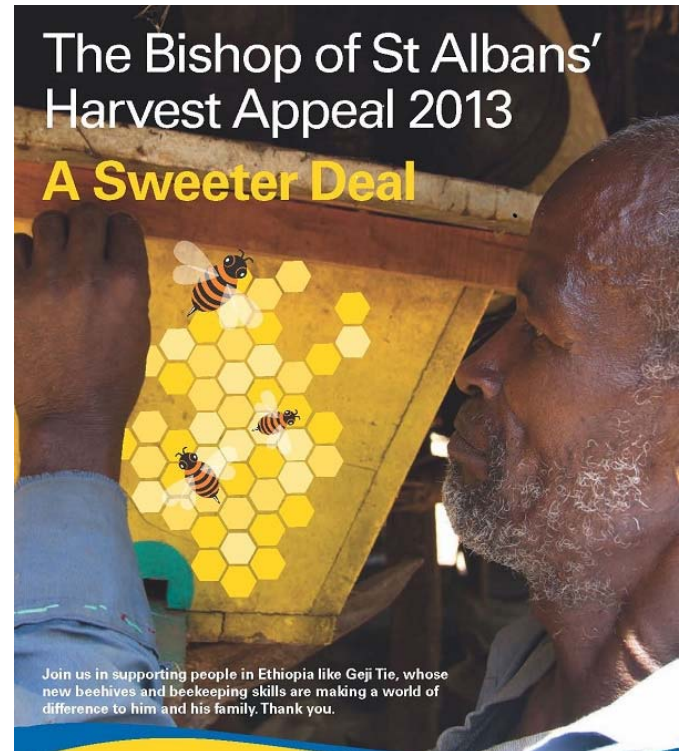
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Mission Project 2013 Ethiopian Honey Appeal

Every year we have an appeal where we raise money to help people in our own community or across the world who are in need. This year we are joining with the St Albans Diocese and Christian Aid to help the Ethiopian Honey Appeal. If we help provide farmers in Ethiopia with the equipment they need to keep bees, then they will be able to make honey and enough money to be able to provide for their families and develop a sustainable community. Bees are vital pollinators; flying from flower to flower, they make connections that are fundamental to the life of our planet. The Bishop's Harvest Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our connected world and to make life changing, loving and lasting connections with people in Ethiopia. The appeal will end on December 1 - *Thank you for helping*

Please take one of Harvest Appeal leaflets with a gift aid form and donation envelope.



- £3.50 can buy a honey knife
- £18 buys a net and gloves
- £85 Pays for a modern hive
- £207 pays for a community honey extractor for harvesting honey from the hives effectively



The Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal 2013
A Sweeter Deal

Join us in supporting people in Ethiopia like Geji Tie, whose new beehives and beekeeping skills are making a world of difference to him and his family. Thank you.

Help us sweeten the lives of many more families to see communities in Ethiopia transformed this Harvest. www.harvestappeal.org

  The Diocese of St Albans

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A machine for processing honey

Ethiopia: ending hunger Ethiopia was tragically brought to the world's attention by the devastating famine of the 1980s, when hundreds of thousands of people died. Since then, the country has often been used as shorthand for poverty. But to label Ethiopia as a hopeless case, a place where poverty and hunger are inevitable, would be a scandal. It has a rich and ancient culture, of which its people are understandably proud. While drought in Ethiopia seems like a certainty, disaster is not. In 2011 east Africa faced its worst drought in 60 years, but thanks to work by the Ethiopian Government, Christian Aid's partners and others, communities had become more resilient by then, so the outcome was that very few lives were lost in Ethiopia, even though this was a far worse drought than in the 1980s. This long-term work is helping people to grow more in the good years, to store or sell the surplus to ensure something is put by for the bad years and to invest in their future. The ultimate aim is that these communities will not merely survive in the future, but thrive.

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.



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

Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Mrs Mary Robinson will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Tuesday 1st October at 1.30pm

The Funeral of Mrs Florence 'Tommy' Hulatt will take place at St Mark's Church on Monday 7th October at 10.45am