



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

8 May 2011

3rd Sunday of Easter



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8 May – 3rd Sunday of Easter

9.30 am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman

Leadership – Mr. Mike Ovenden

Intercessions – Mrs. Morag Stewart

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman

Leadership – Mrs. Vita Hudson-Rae

Intercessions – Dr. Tim Wilkes

15th May - 4th Sunday of Easter

9.30 am St Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher – Gale CEDO

Leadership – Mrs. Margaret Appleton

Intercessions – Mr. Chris Izzard

11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion

Preacher– Gale CEDO

Leadership- Mrs. Jenny Snelson

Intercessions – Mrs. Sylvia Cohen

Bible Readings 1. Acts 2:42-47 2 1 Peter 2:19-25

3. John 10:1-10

Midweek Worship 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 Joan York in loving memory of her husband Edgar.

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Action for Children (Bedford Support Group) to celebrate the continuing work for vulnerable children in various projects.

We are grateful when people make donations towards flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Ann Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota in the foyers.

Prayer for the Week

Lord Jesus be our companion
on the road which we travel.
Use us to bless the lives of others
and to be a part of your revolutionary
movement to transform the world.
May we too be your disciples,
ready to follow and willing
to lead others to you.

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)

Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE

348091 Mobile 07807 146535

jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

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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 and may appear in other local media sources.

Partnership News is also archived on our church website 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 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. Linda Hoar 782717

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186

Youth Worker Emma Gordon email - 07593266091

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 - Laura Farthing 210892

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.15 –3.45 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school.** See website for more details www.ThisChurch.com
Head teacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685
- 8.30-5.30pm Pre-school** Mon-Fri St Mark's
- 9.30-3.15pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's
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.
- 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 J Birks ☎219607
- 12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Emma Gordon ☎07593266091
- 2pm U3A Music Appreciation** - Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting Contact Linda Reed ☎ 216623
- 3.30pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities.
- 4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham ☎843747 or 07881730747
- 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
- 7.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518
- 7.30pm 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—16 May Judith Stanton. ☎823313
- 7.30pm House group** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.
- 8pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

- 9.30am Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016
- 9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart ☎365507
- 9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg ☎351223
- 10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group.** St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704
- 11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** for the less mobile. Sally Banks ☎ 870357
- 1.15pm Toddlers Playtime/Sing & Stomp** - Putnoe Heights for toddlers and their carers. Run by Putnoe Childre's Centre Trudy Hamilton ☎340552
- 1.30pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's 4th Week in month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

- 2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043
- 2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895
- 2.00pm U3A Music Appreciation** fortnightly. Contact Mrs Reed ☎216623
- 2pm U3A Photography** (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Contact John Farish ☎ 824984
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship.** May 17 South Wing Hospital. For more details contact Betty Wyatt ☎350188.
- 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.
- 3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎295862 or 07917582468.
- 6.30pm Creative Card making.** Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton ☎346718
- 6.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360
- 7pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455
- 7pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885
- 7.30pm Hearts in Beds. Cardiac Support Group** 1st Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. Brian Ibberson ☎403497
- 7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk
- 7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting May 17 'Charity Evening' For more details call Janet King 313946
- 8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers** St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

Wednesday

- 9.30am Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787 or 07973174430.
- 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 U3A Card Making,** St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet Fitch 838689
- 12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - 11 May 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
- 1.45 Scots Society Whist** Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr ☎268147
- 2-5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
- 1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft** St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎262823
- 2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966
- 3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church.** St Mark's for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. 3rd Wednesday in the month.. Wendy Waters 401834

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

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

6.00pm Shooting Stars. Youth Group for 9-13yrs at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 26 January.

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138 or 07910835994.

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King ☎079412 64885

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎347073

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378

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

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be May 18 2011 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Graham 406359 ,Valmai 219555 or Rosemary 405594 for more details.

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. 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 group for Mums & toddlers. Meet again on 28 April. Jo Garner 400071 or 07719670624

11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau Putnoe Heights.

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. Meet again on 28 April. Contact Jaana Swaby ☎363283

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

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293

1.45 Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games St Mark's Contact Radmila Dancer ☎404811

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Malcolm Smith ☎400741

4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

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

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517

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

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights . Different guest callers each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron Law 825574.

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 Jean Birks ☎219607

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Julia Nicholson ☎353642

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397

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

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086

12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

5-8pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Richardson ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

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

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. 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

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

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Contact Adrian Felice www.bedfotrdtkd.com or bedfordtkd@googlemail.com.

Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council –
St Mark's Leadership Team**

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 6 June
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - .26 May**

St Mark's Forum Meeting - 13 July

Putnoe Church Council - 13 June –7.30pm

Pastoral Group Meeting - 14th June

Churchyard Committee - 19th May –11.15am

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Circuit meeting -

Deanery Meeting - .

Woodland Burial Trustees – 15th May 12.30pm

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

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

3rd Sunday of Easter

Opening Sentence from Scripture – 1 Peter 1:18

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.



Collect Prayer for the Day *(Before we read we pray)*

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us also to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Common Worship Shorter Collect

*Jesus was recognised
by them when he
broke the bread.*

First Bible Reading Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” 41Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

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

Second Reading 1 Peter 1: 17-23

Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

Gospel Reading Luke 24: 13-35

(When the gospel is announced: **All: Glory to God our Saviour**)

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “What things?” he asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third

day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.

(This is the gospel of Christ - **All: Praise to Christ our Lord.**)

Post Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymns St Mark's (*Please distribute Mission Praise and morning worship*)

At your feet we fall, **45**; Father we adore you, **139**; I know that my redeemer lives, **278**; We have a gospel to proclaim, **728**; To God be the Glory, **708**

Hymns Putnoe (*Please distribute Mission Praise and morning worship*)

At your feet we fall, **45**; Father we adore you, **139**; Easter Carol (Choir); O God we Celebrate; We have a gospel to proclaim, **728**

Commentary

The journey is one of the oldest biblical symbols. Abraham hears the command to become a "wandering Aramean"; Israel makes a journey through the wilderness where it is covenanted with the living God. As we've seen, Luke groups Jesus' most distinctive teaching in the section of his Gospel that describes Jesus' journey to Jerusalem (Lk 9 v 51–19 v 28), while Acts recounts a series of journeys in an ever-widening circle outward from Jerusalem. Many find God as pilgrims to Walsingham, Lourdes, Knock, Compostela and many other places.

Today's Gospel is a narrative parable of post-resurrection faith, for the benefit of Luke's pilgrim community and for the church through history. Two people are leaving Jerusalem, in animated conversation about their shattered hopes. One is named Cleopas; the other, though unnamed, is identified by significant scholars as "Mary the wife of Clopas," whom John places at the cross (Jn. 19 v 25) - perhaps a veiled reference to the early Christian practice of missionary couples (e.g. Priscilla and Aquila). An unknown stranger joins them and asks, "What are you discussing?" Words spill out, constituting the longest speech in the Gospels by someone other than Jesus, culminating in the poignant words, "We were hoping that he was the one to redeem Israel." They knew of the crucifixion and reports of the resurrection, but this did not fit into their deepest hopes.

The mood shifts dramatically when the stranger counters, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!" and then proceeds to explain that the sufferings of the Messiah were foreshadowed in Scripture. As evening nears he acts as if he will leave, but they urge him to stay and offer him the hospitality of a meal. In language with Eucharistic overtones, the Luke reports that he "he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to

give it to them". They then recognize him "in the breaking of the bread" and return to the place of their shattered hopes as heralds of the risen one.

This parable of a post-Easter journey has many levels of meaning. The travellers' true understanding of the resurrection comes as Jesus breaks open the word of Scripture and then breaks bread with them, an icon of Eucharistic liturgies through the centuries. A critical turning point comes when Jesus feigns leaving and they offer him hospitality. Hospitality to the stranger who may bear the presence of Christ was one of the earliest and most enduring Christian practices.

For the disciples, their journey of shattered hope becomes one of vision transformed, an allegory perhaps of many Christians' pilgrimages throughout the centuries. The approach of evening and the waning day suggest that Christ may enter and transform the lives of his disappointed followers when shadows fall over their flagging spirits or in the eventide of life. At his birth the Messiah brought consolation and joy to older people (Anna and Simeon). Age is no barrier to the power of God's presence and word to set hearts aflame and to transform lives.

After John R Donahue SJ

Meditation

The Second Vatican Council described the church as the "pilgrim people of God." This image has waned in recent teaching; pilgrimages tend to be messy and often unstructured. Now the church moves more like a tightly orchestrated procession with clearly assigned places. Many ordinary people continue their pilgrimage silently musing, "We were hoping." Today's Gospel and Luke's whole theology of the Spirit, which will unfold in Acts, is a chronicle of the way God can walk with us in surprising, often unknown ways, reversing our path from fear and disappointment to make of us bearers of the power of the risen one. *From John R Donahue SJ*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Heavenly Father, You gave your Son, Jesus Christ to show us the Way of justice, truth and peace. Help us hold his example before our eyes, in the way that leads to a better world on earth and eternal life in the Heaven. **Amen**

As we journey this week with Christ, we pray for all those following the way of the cross. Be with us and walk along side us as we travel on the pilgrimage which is our life that our eyes may be opened to see your love and grace. **Amen**

Lord Jesus, you led the two disciples on the Emmaus Road from the known to the unknown. You walked with them in their grief and the despair. You listened to them and understood their needs. You gently guided them through the scriptures helping them to understand what was going on in the world. Strengthen us to do the same as we walk along side those we meet day bay day.

Amen

Lord Jesus you used the usual to reveal the unusual. Then you took bread and blessed it. You took the cup and gave thanks. You transformed an ordinary meal into holy time that transformed their weak hearts into burning hearts. Help us so to find our ordinary situations transformed by your incredible presence. **Amen**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Hazeldene Heights Pre-school at Putnoe Heights is short of teachers and would appreciate hearing from anybody who would be able to offer additional hours when called upon. Please contact Janet Sith if you are interested in learning more about hours, pay etc. Phone 01234 326685

Car Boot Many thanks to all who supported the two bank holiday car boots with cakes goods and manual labour!! We have cleared just over £2,000 for the two. A very good start. Next one as I am sure you know is Monday 30 May. Once again many thanks. Avril Williams.

Beds, Essex, Herts Methodist District Women in Britain Network Spring Craft Day on 21st May at Priory Methodist Church 9.45am to 4.30pm. Information and booking forms (to be returned by 7 May) from Pam Seymour tel. 305695.

Living God's Love Prayer

Living God, draw us deeper into your love;
Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve;
Holy Spirit, make us heralds of good news.
Stir us, strengthen us, teach and inspire us
to live your love with generosity and joy,
imagination and courage;
for the sake of your world
and in the name of Jesus, Amen.



St Albans Woodland Burial Trust Open Day

**Saturday 14 May 2011
2.00pm - 5.00pm**

You are invited by the Trustees to a special open day at our woodland, set in 60 acres of beautiful countryside in Keysoe. All the family, including dogs, are welcome to come and refreshments will be provided.

Follow signs to The College
Equestrian Centre, Keysoe.
Directions on our website
www.woodlandburialtrust.com

St Albans Woodland Burial Trust
c/o St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder
Rise, Bedford. MK41 7UY Tel: 01234 342613
office@woodlandburialtrust.com

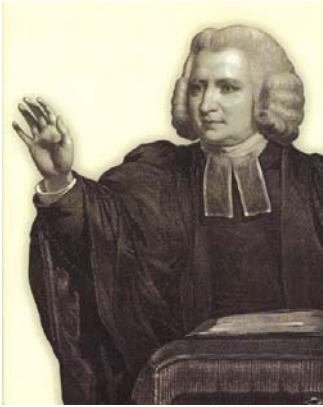
We provide for environmentally friendly burials or interments of ashes in a beautiful woodland countryside setting. Arrangements also made for reservation of grave space or dedication of trees.

A non-profit making charity No 1118216

The next AGM of the Trust will take place at 12.30pm on 15 May 2011 at St Mark's Church

Singing Augustine said that anyone who sings, "prays twice," praising God in both word and music. God is the great music lover, having created not one bird to sing, but millions, creatures who spend their days doing nothing more than singing, would do so even though none of us may take note. Then, the waves beating upon the shore ceaselessly, and the wind rustling the leaves of the trees on summer evenings, and the thunder of the waterfall. Psalms speak of trees clapping their hands for God, and the whole world alive with acclamation. When we sing on Sunday, that's us joining our voices to the praise that permeates a doxological planet.

Our whole cosmos throbs with rhythm and harmony, with sound and sense of music. In the beating of the human heart, the breathing in and out that is the origin of our human love of beat, rhythm, syncopation. We long for harmony, not just in our music, but in our lives, a sense that everything is "in synch," that we are "singing on the same page," that we are singing with one voice.



Charles Wesley Praise Service

Sunday 22 May
6-30pm
Putnoe Heights Church.

Conducted by
Rev. Eric Royden.

You are invited to come and join in singing a feast of Wesley's most famous hymns. Entrance free

Churches Together in Bedfordshire Annual Forum. Wednesday 25 May at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Flitwick. Speaker The Rt. Revd Richard Inwood, Bishop of Bedford. Buffet meal from 6.30pm, meeting at 7.30pm.

Christian Aid week 15 -21 May at St. Mark's Can you give one or two hours of your time to help with delivering and collecting gift envelopes for Christian Aid in the Brickhill area ? Envelopes and collectors' packs are available today for those who have already agreed to help. Please see John and Irene Harrison after the service or call at the office during the week. Thank you..

Christian Aid Week 15 - 24 Envelopes at Putnoe Heights will be available from 8 May. Carolyn

Footprints Walking Group Sunday 8 May 2.30pm start. Meet at Moggerhanger Park for a 3 mile circular walk along the Thornton Way and (hopefully) enjoy the bluebells in Moggerhanger Woods. John & Sally.

Tuesday Club Annual Charity Evening on Tuesday 17 May at Putnoe Heights Church at 7pm a concert by Bedford Town Band in aid of Breathe Easy (British Lung Foundation). Cost is £6 on the door including refreshments and a raffle ticket. Everyone welcome

Storybox Plus at Putnoe Heights Church will start their new term on Monday 9 May at 3.30 to 5.00pm. Thank you to all our volunteers for their continued support. A big thank you to everyone who helped with our Good Friday special at Putnoe Heights Church this year. 35 children came to join us after the service and had a great time. Carolyn & Emma

Action for Children Box opening session in the Wren room 8th May 2.30pm - 4.30pm. Please come and join us for home made tea and cakes.

Sincere thanks to all friends at St Mark's church for the lovely cards and messages sent to me at Easter. God Bless you all. Doreen Smart

Thank you to everyone who helped me in church last Sunday, with special thanks to Laura and Ian. Elizabeth.



Please remember to always shop online using the links on www.thischurch.com



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.

**Jean Hay
Edgar York**

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



Rest in Peace. It is with great sadness that we learned on Saturday of the death of the mother of Mike Cooper, our dear sister Doris. Doris has been in hospital for the past couple of weeks surrounded by her family and died peacefully. Details of the funeral service will be announced in due course.

Forthcoming Funerals

The funeral of Sheila Marie Humphreys will take place at Bedford crematorium at 2.30pm on Friday 13 May

