

SEPTEMBER PEACE DAYS 2015

The annual **September Peace Days** offer special opportunity for activists to bring peace issues before the general public by means of a wide variety of events. The two days are:

: **United Nations International Day of Peace** : observance this year on **Monday September 21**

: Churches' International Day of Prayer for World Peace, on the Sunday closest to the UN Day. In UK, leading Christian denominations promote this as a special **Peacemaking Sunday** - this year held on **Sunday September 20**.

*Because of the closeness of these dates, it is very likely that in some areas a joint observance will be held, uniting civic, faith-based and local peace organisations. **Uniting for Peace** urges its supporters to attend events being held in their localities, and where none is scheduled to arrange or co-arrange an event in association with other groups.*

UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

The UN aim is for this special observance to be *of peace* - it urges a 'global ceasefire' in conflict zones - and *for peace*. It calls upon public bodies and civil society worldwide to hold official occasions and citizens' events "to commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace within and among all nations", and highlight the range of UN peace endeavours. Such should include its global peace-keeping activities, peace-building in post-conflict areas, emergency disaster relief, humanitarian aid and ongoing long-term development programmes, action on human rights and building global consensus on climate change issues.

In 2015, the UN 70th anniversary and the achievements of its Millennium Development Goals programmes, offer a special focus for public events showcasing one or more of the above.

UNITING for PEACE *Special Central London Event* :

:::::ERSKINE CHILDERS LECTURE 2015::::::::::SEPTEMBER 23 - 6.30 -8.30pm::::::::::

CLARE SHORT - *former Secretary of State for International Development* - on:

'THE UN at 70 - WHAT PROSPECTS for PEACE?'

:::::::::: Euston London Hilton - 17/18 Upper Woburn Place - London WCIH OHT ::::::::::

Booking: Vijay Mehta - 0207-791-1717 - vijay@vmpeace.org & Brian Cooper 0131-446-9545

PEACEMAKING SUNDAY

This annual observance, to be held in 2015 on SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20, recommended by major Christian denominations across UK as a time for special reflection by faith communities on peace issues, is supported by UfP Churches & Inter-Faith Work. Churches of all Christian traditions are asked to mark this observance *either* in normal **Sunday Services** by means of:

- : Special **Prayers for Peace and the UN**
- : **Children's & Young People's Talks on Peace themes**
- : **Sermons** on Christian responsibility for peace-making, Jesus the Prince of Peace, the Church in conflict zones, etc.
- : **Hymns & Bible Readings** on Peace, Justice and Reconciliation

and/or by special services for peace, peace prayer vigils, ecumenical peace events etc.

NB: Uniting for Peace is especially keen that wherever locally possible, Christian churches & other faith bodies - mosque, mandir, gurdwara, etc - should get together and hold an **Inter-Faith Occasion for World Peace**, with prayers, readings from sacred scriptures, meditation, talks etc, on world peace themes. *At this time when religion is misused for violence in many parts of the world, UfP deems such inter-faith occasions for community harmony and world peace especially vital.*

Resources for Inter-Faith Events available - see tear-off slip below.



Name:.....Address.....
.....Tel:.....

- I will hold an event for UN Peace Day [Tick as relevant]
- I will hold a church service or inter-faith event
- I enclose £5 for inter-faith peace resources
- I enclose Donation towards Peace Days promotion

Please SEND TO: Rev. Brian Cooper - 144/1 Whitehouse Loan -- Edinburgh EH9 2AN [cheques to Churches/Inter-faith/Ufp]

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