



UNITING for PEACE - September Peace Days 2013

UN Peace Day September 21 — Peacemaking Sunday September 22

A Letter to Participants in September Peace Days' Events in recent years:

Dear

According to our records, in recent years you have arranged/co-organised/taken part in/donated for/otherwise supported, September Peace events, ie. church services, inter-faith occasions & UN-related events. Thank you for your continuing support: UfP Churches & Inter-Faith Work is keen to sustain this annual focus of peace concerns for faith communities, **However, please note the following.** Usually we send out a glossy leaflet promoting this observance. Due to limited finance and other problems, we are not doing so this year. Instead, we are trying a more personal approach, contacting previous supporters and others interested. **SO WE REQUEST YOUR SUPPORT FOR 2013 - AND ASK YOU TO INFORM OTHERS INTERESTED!**

PEACEMAKING SUNDAY:

Held on the Sunday closest to UN Peace Day (see over), Peacemaking Sunday sets its global concerns within local Christian worship with relevant hymns, Bible readings, prayers, sermon, etc. The tragic context is our world torn by conflicts: especially in Middle East & Africa, such are caused by competition for resources, outside interventions, ethnic and faith tensions, terrorism, arms trading, economic injustice and political oppression. The Gospel imperative is for Christians and churches to help build a peaceful world: *from informed prayer to grassroots projects and campaigning, churches can make a difference.* **Please dedicate Sunday worship on September 22 to the peace theme, or hold an ecumenical peace service with other local churches: the needs of SYRIA, or Middle East in general, could be your special 2013 theme.** "Blessed are the Peacemakers" - Matthew 5. 9. Please let us know if you intend to take part this year — and we need your financial support to arrange events in London and Edinburgh.

Send tear-off slip to: Rev. Brian Cooper 144/1 Whitehouse Loan Edinburgh EH9 2AN (0131-446-9545)

NAME.....ADDRESS

.....TEL:.....

I plan/hope to hold a service/other event for September Peace Days (tick as appropriate)

Comments:

Please send Resources (send at least £5).....I enclose DONATION £.....(Cheques to 'Peace Services)

THANK YOU! Rev. Brian Cooper, Churches & Inter-Faith Secretary, Uniting for Peace

CHURCHES & INTER-FAITH WORK of UNITING for PEACE

September 21 : United Nations International Peace Day

Following a vote in the UN General Assembly, the UN has officially designated September 21 as the annual UN International Day of Peace • including a DAY OF CEASEFIRE for conflict zones, (observed sometimes in Afghanistan). To link UN activities with 'the man and woman in the street', UN urges public institutions (eg.city councils) and civil society (eg.local peace groups, UN associations) across the globe to mark the day with peace and UN-related PUBLIC EVENTS. Every year activities worldwide "commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace within and among all nations" and publicise UN action for peacemaking, security, development assistance and humanitarian relief.

SUGGESTION: Find out what is planned for your locality (eg check with local UNA) and get involved to support it; if nothing is planned, arrange/help to arrange a peace event to mark the day. UfP can supply its film (DVD) *Change the World* (contact UfP London office) and may be able to supply a speaker. (0207-377-2111 & vijay@vmpeace.org).

FAITHS TOGETHER FOR PEACE

Sadly, many conflicts around the world today are fuelled by religious intolerance and violent misuse of faith. Yet, if true to their holy Scriptures and traditions affirming THE SACRED GIFT OF LIFE' the faiths should be promoting peace - locally and globally.

The co-operation of world religions is an essential ingredient of contemporary peace-building and creation of a harmonious global community. In UK, local co-operation of faith bodies is vital for community harmony. Locally organised INTER-FAITH EVENTS FOR WORLD PEACE WORLD PEACE can strongly affirm these purposes. Can you help arrange such an event in your locality?



RESOURCES

For CHURCHES & INTER-FAITH RESOURCE PACK send £5 (CHEQUES TO 'PEACE SERVICES')
To UfP PEACE SERVICES. REV. B. COOPER, 144/1 WHITEHOUSE LOAN, EDINBURGH
EH9 2AN(Tel: 0131 -446-9545) Donations towards September Peace Days promotion costs welcomed.