

## Burnley & Pendle Faith Centre @mpus



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**UNITED NATIONS** Millennium Development Goals Summit 2011





## **EAST LANCASHIRE IS GOING GLOBAL**

So friends, after weeks of detailed preparation, involving a number of very committed partners, our unique 2-week event focussing on the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will kick off at the Burnley & Pendle Faith Centre this Monday 20th June, running until Friday 1st July 2011 inclusive. That said, we are very much hoping to offer some special provision to our local schools who cater for Generic Learning Difficulties (special needs) during the initial days w/c 4th July, if appropriate, conscious of our rooted mission to be totally inclusive. Each day during the first two weeks 30 students from local high schools will participate in an exciting interactive learning experience to explore the world's response to the MDGs which will culminate in a mock UN SUMMIT. Each day students will be linking with national and international partners via Video Conferencing. We are absolutely delighted to be welcoming Nicola Harrington-Buhay, the Deputy Director of the United Nations Development Programme based in Brussels - click on UNDP - on Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st followed by representatives from Save the Children, the UK Government Department for International Development and Think Global during the remaining three days of w/c 20th June. The UN Conference Room at the Faith Centre is now ready and we await the UN Secretary General to arrive. We pray for some reasonable weather over the next two weeks, as we have some rather exciting outdoor exercises for our young people, as part of a series of interesting ice breakers.

An exhibition on the MDGs will also be open to the wider community on Thursday 23rd. Friday 24th and Monday 27th - Thursday 30th June inclu between 1600hrs and 1830hrs. We will also be holding a special Celebration Evening on Tuesday 28th June at 1830hrs, to which everyone is welcome. See invitation attached. Replies to email address on invitation, not me! Further updates next week. Do check out our evolving web link ELGG

- 🖶 B.E.S.T. / N.G.M. (Nehemiah Global Ministries) keeping with the global theme, Burnley Evangelical Schools Trust (BEST) will be teaming up with NGM to present a project which invites local primary schools to link with a new school in Ghana. Colin & Rena Scholes have been out in West Africa helping oversee the project, with a fascinating story of how a well was sunk there in the run up to the new school, which will open in September. Local children are being asked to support the project by buying a special pen, which will help with the purchase of desks and school equipment. A project and DVD are available and continued contact with the school in Ghana will be encouraged. For more info, contact Alan Scholes - 01282 429371
- IMAM Organisation UK sincere thanks to the Shia community of this area for their warm welcome during their Arrival of Jesus conference last Sunday. It was good to be able to talk of the person that is Jesus - or Prophet Isa (p.b.u.h.) in Islam - and His mission, from a Christian perspective, ever conscious of the many similarities that exist between Christianity and Islam, whilst acknowledging the differences too.
- splendid afternoon/evening we enjoyed last Thursday when we welcomed David for two discussions, one with Year 12 students and secondly, with the wider community in the evening. The Thomas Whitham Sixth Form students who gathered in the Faith Centre greatly enjoyed their time with David and entered into some very lively debate. In the evening, a group of 45 or so visitors were taken on an up to date journey taking in genetics, fertility, neuroscience, assisted suicide, the Sir Terry Pratchett discussion, the Law and where it stands and so on. Finally, conscious that David is a committed Christian, what it means to act justly. A thoroughly thought provoking yet humourous evening at the same time! Sincere thanks to David along with Ian Birnie and Debbie Peatman for their valued support.
- **Schools' Update from Richard Hoyle –** Richard continues with his exciting work in our local high schools /colleges, running a series of breakfast and lunchtime drop in sessions and providing curriculum input and assemblies. As with all our work, partnership is so very important. In this case we are grateful to the college staff, the Bridge Project and other local volunteers who assist him. Separately, the Art display from our successful RE Showcase in November 2010 is still 'on roadshow'. Having already been to Barden, Wellfield and Christ the King RC Primary Schools, the display is currently at Cherry Fold Primary. It also spent a busy two weeks at Burnley United Reform Church. Next stop will Brunshaw Primary and St Stephen's CEP before the end of term. If any other schools or churches would like to host the display, please contact Richard on 07503 491805, or 01282 682275. To view the display, click on Art Roadshow. Great to see - and the show goes on! Thanks to all.
- 🖶 Come and meet your local MP Rev Gareth Higgs, who regularly leads our Thursday lunchtime prayer sessions has asked me to highlight an evening organised and hosted by Wheatley Lane Methodist Church on Sunday 19 June. There will be an opportunity to meet Andrew Stephenson MP. All welcome. Begins with light tea at 5pm followed by questions from 6pm, finishing around 7pm

"No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin or his religion. People must learn to hate and if they can learn to hate, they can learn to love because love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite"