



**From the Ecumenical Facilitator
The Revd Anton Müller**

I am pleased to report that the Adoption and Fostering event which took place at Lancaster Priory on February 26th went well. This was an opportunity to work in partnership with Lancashire County Council to promote and raise awareness of the need for more adoptive and foster parents across Lancashire. Personal experience was shared by the Revd Chris Newlands, who hosted the event; Catherine Moxon shared the excitement and joy that being adoptive parents has brought to herself and Nick and their family. It is planned to re-launch the Churches Together in Lancashire Website this month information about the Adoption and Fostering programme will be out there.



Meeting of your Denominational Ecumenical Officers (DEOs)

The next meeting of the DEOs will be on March 9th at St Clare's Preston. If you would like to raise anything through your DEO please contact them. The DEOs are:



Diocese of Lancaster:
Fr Chris Loughran
frloughran@saintclares.co.uk
01772 719 604



Diocese Salford:
Fr Peter Hopkinson
peter.hopkinson@dioceseofsalford.org.uk



Diocese of Blackburn
The Revd Mike Hartley
blackburndeo@googlemail.com
01772 632227



Lancashire Methodist District
The Revd Pat Brown
brownpatbrown@virginmedia.com
01204 596 807



Society of Friends
Mrs Heather Bennett
heather.bennett1@btopenworld.com
01524 422972



NW Baptist Association
Pastor Brian Drury
brian.drury@btinternet.com



United Reformed Church
The Revd Dave Coaker (Acting DEO)
cdmmc.dm@gmail.com

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Meeting of the Church Leaders Group Thursday April 16th Holly House, Preston



The next meeting of the Church Leaders will be on April 16th and will be the first opportunity to welcome the new Bishop of Salford, + John Arnold, and the recently appointed Bishop of Burnley, +Philip North. If there are ecumenical matters that you would like raised please contact either your DEO above or email me directly antonmuller@ctlancashire.org.uk



Inter Faith Matters *"Extreme actions taken by groupings overseas, such as ISIL, claiming to be in the name of a religion, can sometimes be taken to represent the true face of that religion, fanning flames of prejudice here as well as elsewhere. There is evidence that this is happening."*



The link below contains some recent messages from Inter Faith Network co-chairs and vice-chairs. Please take a look and include where appropriate your own extracts in outgoing news. Education is the only way to combat hatred, prejudice and misinformation. <http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/statements-and-messages>

FILM SCREENING: To Light a Candle by Maziar Bahari
Thursday 5 March 2015, 6.30pm Frankland Lecture Theatre, Lancaster University.



"The Iranian government says that education is a crime for Baha'is. But I want to tell you that we can change that - we can give voice on their behalf." -
Desmond Tutu

The 'Education is Not A Crime' campaign celebrates nearly 30 years of peaceful resistance to oppression. Maziar Bahari's film To Light a Candle chronicles the lives of the Baha'is, Iran's largest religious minority who are persecuted because of their faith and barred from teaching and studying at university.



The General Election 2015 Resources from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland: <http://ctbielections.org.uk/>



On this site you can find information about how to hold a local hustings event - a forum for members of the public to hear from candidates and political parties. You can register details of your own event and search for events happening near you. You can also download CTBI's election discussion document '2020 Vision of the Good Society' and other resources from member churches and agencies



Website and Facebook News: It is planned to re-launch the Churches Together in Lancashire Website later this month. This will include an up-to-date directory of all Churches Together Groups in Lancashire. If you have not returned the form sent out recently please do so as soon as possible. The website will be the place for advertising local events and will work in conjunction with the CTL Facebook page. If you are a 'friend' of CTL please 'friend' now and connect with churches all over the County. (Search: Churches Together Lancashire)



To contribute to this newsletter email: antonmuller@ctlancashire.org.uk , 07919 438 413