

## PRESS RELEASE – IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 4 FEBRUARY 2009

### Influential evangelical Brian D McLaren to speak at Spring Harvest 2009

Spring Harvest is pleased to announce that internationally renowned author, speaker and pastor Brian D McLaren will be appearing at Spring Harvest Skegness, Weeks 1 and 2. Pastor McLaren will be speaking as part of the afternoon seminar programme as well as a Big Top evening Celebration.

Known as a key networker among innovative Christian leaders, thinkers and activists, McLaren was listed amongst America's 25 most influential evangelicals, as featured in the USA's *Time Magazine*.

Author of 8 books and co-author of 3 more, including *A new kind of Christian* - for which his exploration of the Christian faith and post-modernity won him *Christianity Today's* 2002 "Award of Merit"- and *The Secret Message of Jesus* which explores the Kingdom of God in the teachings of Jesus, McLaren continues to play an active role in global networking. As well as serving on the international steering team and board of directors for *Emergent*, a growing generative friendship among missional Christian leaders, McLaren is a founding member of Red Letter Christians, a group of communicators seeking to broaden and deepen the dialogue about faith and public life.

*"We are so excited to have Brian McLaren with us at Spring Harvest in 2009"* comments Wendy Beech-Ward, Director of Events. *"Brian is a leading thinker on the issues of faith, politics and culture. I'm sure our Guests will be inspired by his experience, insight and vision for Church mission"*.

Spring Harvest 2009 invites Guests to embark upon the brand new theme *Apprentice – walking in the way of Christ*. Jesus' first followers were real apprentices, learning from him through observation, imitation, trial and error and the formation of habits and skills. An apprentice learns from their teacher not from a textbook alone, and through getting it wrong, misunderstanding, debate and, of course, success.

Attracting over 40,000 Christians, Spring Harvest is a cross-denominational, multi-week event taking place over the Easter school holidays from 4-9, 9-14 and 14-19 April at Butlins Resorts, Skegness and Minehead. Both Resorts offers Guests comfortable Self-catering or Half Board accommodation in units for up to 8 people.

The event invites Guests to experience a comprehensive adult, youth and children's programme of Bible teaching, worship, workshops and seminars. There are also many Butlins leisure facilities at each Resort and a late night programme offering comedy, drama, worship, chat shows and the best UK Christian bands. Spaces for the popular Spring Harvest annual event are filling up, however, there is still space available across all Weeks.

Bookings can be made online for Spring Harvest by visiting [www.springharvest.org/bookonline](http://www.springharvest.org/bookonline) or by calling Butlins on **0845 070 4743**

For more information, visit [www.springharvest.org](http://www.springharvest.org) or call Customer Services on 01825 769000.

**ENDS**

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