

May 2025 CEI eighth anniversary!!

God's Purposes

Dear Friends,

“We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him. He appointed them to be saved in keeping with His purposes.” - Romans 8:28 (NirV)



Our memory verse at Spring Harvest was one of the most well-known, and probably also one of the most misused verses in the New Testament: Romans 8:28. We like to quote the first part, don't we? "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him." A great promise! But what if the things we are going through are not good? What if we find it difficult to see the good in situations we are facing? This is where the second part of the verse comes in - "He appointed them to be saved in keeping with His purposes." His purposes. Not mine. God works for the good of His purposes in all things, but that doesn't always mean that those things are easy, or even fun, for us. Sometimes, we can't even begin to understand what good purpose may be at the end of the difficulties we are going through.

At Spring Harvest this year, we looked at the life of the disciple Peter. Peter certainly had his ups and downs! We spent time thinking about how difficult it must have been for him to remember that in all things - Jesus' arrest, crucifixion and death, but also in Peter's own denial of Jesus - God was working for the good of those who love Him, in keeping with His purposes to save all people.

Friends, we all have moments in our lives when we hear a cockerel (or man-chicken!) crow and we are reminded of our own mistakes or of the difficult situations we are facing. And it can be so hard to see God's purposes in it all. But we can trust in the promise of Jesus' Resurrection - even when things are dark, even when a crowing cockerel reminds us of our mistakes, even when we cannot see anything good... Jesus is alive and the victory is His! That is good news indeed!

God Bless,
Janneke

Welcome to any new readers (28 this month!) who have joined us since Spring Harvest. We are so glad to know of your interest and support. If at any time you wish to unsubscribe from our mailing list, please drop us a line – no hard feelings because we all know how quickly our email Inboxes fill up!

It's official!!!

This is the news we have been wanting to share and at last we are free to do so.

Janneke Klos has handed in her notice as a Social Work lecturer at the University of Portsmouth and, with effect from 1 June, will be the first salaried employee for Count Everyone In! She already knows the role inside out as she has been fitting in her work with CEI for more than 6 years! Janneke is known to many readers and supporters around the UK as she has led teams at festivals and delivered Know and Grow workshops, including the popular Know & Grow Makaton which she was instrumental in developing.



This is a huge step of faith both for Janneke and for the charity as we undertake not only to encourage and support her but also to pay her! The decision has not been taken lightly and we (Janneke, Pete, Christine and the CEI trustees) feel confident that this is of God and it is His timing.

Thank you

Prayer underpins all that Count Everyone In is and does and we send our thanks for praying for Janneke, Bronwen, Pete and Christine. This was especially

appreciated during the two busy, tiring but fruitful weeks at Spring Harvest. Thank you too for financial support, named or anonymous. We are grateful for whatever part you play in Count Everyone In and no contribution is too small.

Janneke's Challenge – these are the verses she is memorising this month. Will you join her?

“We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him. He appointed them to be saved in keeping with His purposes.” - Romans 8:28 (NirV)

“Forget the things that happened in the past. Do not keep on thinking about them. I am about to do something new. It is beginning to happen even now. Don't you see it coming? I am going to make a way for you to go through the desert. I will make streams of water in the dry and empty land.” - Isaiah 43:18-19 (NirV)

If you are thinking of supporting financially, thank you.

Donate to Count Everyone In
at www.give.net/20280624 or directly into Metro Bank
(business) account (Gift Aid form available on request) -
Sort code: 23 05 80 - Account no: 33248601



Prayer

The next of our monthly **Friends with Count Everyone In** Zoom prayer meetings takes place on **Thursday 22nd May** – meeting for just 30 minutes on Zoom at 12.30pm and 6.30pm. If you are on our list, you will receive the link automatically. We'd love you to join us, whether you pray out loud or silently!



Here are some of the topics to keep you going in the meantime!

1. Thank God for Spring Harvest, for the dedication and hard work of both teams
2. Thanks for our guests as they encountered Jesus; numbers at Skegness were double those of 2024 and the Minehead venue was full to bursting!
3. Good connections were made at the exhibition stands
4. A significant donation will enable Biblica to reprint the NIrV accessible edition and, for the first time, the Book of Psalms. Hallelujah!!
5. Please pray for the team as we plan for LPO - Spring Harvest Holidays in France - and for those who attend
6. Please continue praying for those churches who will welcome and be accessible for people with learning disabilities – training is available
7. Pray for wise planning as we look to the coming months – what, when and how to use the time available. Janneke has three Know & Grow Makaton before the summer break and Pete &

Christine have a Know & Grow Longing to
Belong

Email pete@counteveryonein.org.uk if your group and/or church is interested in becoming **Friends with Count Everyone In**. Pete will send you an information and application form telling you about the scheme.

Workshops

Know & Grow Longing to Belong – an introduction to learning disability, theology, communication and how the church can respond

Know & Grow Life Matters – supporting adults with learning disabilities as they face issues such as relationships, healing, mental health and bereavement

Know & Grow Makaton – learn to sign everyday and Christian vocabulary at the only workshop for Christian language that is accredited by The Makaton Charity (TMC). It was developed by Janneke Klos in partnership with TMC.

To book a place or host your own, email: bookings@counteveryonein.org.uk

Book soon or you may be disappointed!

The Count Everyone In week with **Spring Harvest Holidays at Le Pas Opton, in the beautiful Vendée region of France, takes place from 2 – 9 June**. It's for adults with learning disabilities, their families and/or support staff. Accommodation is in luxury self-catering mobile homes. On site you will find a bakery, coffee shop, launderette, heated outdoor pool, as well as indoor and outdoor games facilities. CEI runs daily accessible celebrations and leisure activities whilst families and carers enjoy the optional morning Bible studies, the LPO



programme or simply relax in the lovely surroundings. In the evenings there's a celebration for everyone followed by entertainment in the bar.

To find out more, contact Christine at christine@counteveryonein.org.uk. Bookings should be made directly with <https://springharvestholidays.com/booking> - it's best to phone their Guest Service Team on 01825 748318 to obtain **15% discount for groups that include adults with learning disabilities who book a mobile home.**



Resources

If you are interested in purchasing CEI branded t-shirts or full-zip hoodies, accessible Bible notes, teaching plans based on Joseph or Ruth, CEI badges, notebooks or Prospects worship albums, please email info@counteveryonein.org.uk for a full list.

Diary dates – please note that Janneke, Pete and Christine meet on Thursdays

Thurs 1 May - Count Everyone In - 8 years old today!!

Sat 10 May - Know & Grow Makaton, Aigburth Community Church, Liverpool L17 0AE

Sun 11 May - Fenland Community Church, Mill View, March

Thurs 22 May - CEI Friends Zoom Prayer 12:30-1:00pm & 6:30-7:00pm

Sat 31 May - Know & Grow Makaton, Whitley Bay Baptist Church

Mon 2 - Mon 9 June - Spring Harvest Holidays, France

Thurs 26 June - CEI Friends Zoom Prayer 12:30-1:00pm & 6:30-7:00pm

Sat 28 June - Know & Grow Longing to Belong, Queensway Chapel, Melksham, Wilts

Sat 6 July - Trustees' meeting

Sat 12 - 18 July - Keswick Convention - exhibition, plus Mon-Fri CEI celebrations
Thurs 24 July - CEI Friends Zoom Prayer 12:30-1:00pm & 6:30-7:00pm

- **Give as You Live** is one way to donate to CEI at no extra cost to you
– <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/>
- **CCLI** Don't forget to include 'Prospects' songs in your Church Copyright Licence (CCLI) reporting

GDPR We hold your contact details for the purpose of sending you this newsletter at your own request. We also hold details of people who serve on CEI teams or attend training days. If you have any questions about this, or you wish to be removed from mailing lists etc, please let us know.

Social media - See www.counteveryonein.org.uk and you can also keep up with us on Facebook, X & Instagram. Please follow, like and share so that more people find out what is happening.

Every blessing,

Pete, Christine & Janneke

