

"There is joy in heaven ...."

August 2019



*"There is joy in heaven over one sinner who turns away from sin."*

*Luke 15:10 (NirV)*

**Joy in heaven and on earth ...** One man couldn't understand why there were so many beaming smiles and tear-stained cheeks that Friday morning. All he knew was that when he had arrived at his first CEI meeting on Monday, he didn't believe in Jesus but, by Thursday, everything had changed. In our sharing time that final morning at Keswick he testified to God having helped him to be brave enough to put his trust in Jesus. For the very first time he took bread and wine to remember what Jesus had done for him and his face radiated the joy that Jesus brings!



The week at Keswick was fun and fruitful but we were aware of spiritual attacks while the Holy Spirit was at work. Two team members sadly had to back out at short notice for reasons totally beyond their control but everyone pulled together and gaps were filled. The father of another team member was rushed to Carlisle hospital late one evening with suspected sepsis, only to be collected by Pete in the early hours of the following morning when a clearer diagnosis proved slightly less serious. Despite lack of sleep everything continued as planned.

A highlight was Wednesday evening when CEI guests as usual were invited to be on-stage at the main celebration. Pete interviewed Janneke, whose main role for the week was that of Makaton signer, about the impact on her church of developing ministry with people with learning disabilities. We then taught the 3,000 strong congregation to sign the chorus of “O praise the name of the Lord our God” and sang it altogether with some meaningful movements that added to the sense of worship. We noticed that police officers had joined those standing at the back of the tent and apparently one of them was in tears! A typical comment from “Conventioners” was, “We always enjoy it when you guys are on stage but this year you truly led us in worship”.



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### **Know and Grow training**

Training days at St Peter's Yateley and St Nic's Newbury were enthusiastically acclaimed and we look forward to seeing many of the delegates again on 12 October at Farnham Baptist Church where we shall be running the follow-on day. In the meantime, at St Nic's we shall be building up to the launch of Meet Monday on 7 October with lots to be done before then.

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### **What's next?**

Having arrived home from Keswick on Saturday, we shall be heading off again on Thursday to Cornwall for Creation Fest. Unlike last year, when we had no idea who would be allocated to the CEI team and no time in which to train/prepare them, this time we have been instrumental in recruiting four people who are already known to us and are experienced in this area of service. Time has been set aside on Friday morning for a training/briefing session and, although not everyone can be there in time, it will be good to prepare together where possible and to involve more of the team with upfront responsibilities. The theme is “Extra- Ordinary”, looking at how God takes the ordinary and makes it extraordinary. If you're anywhere near Wadebridge, do call in and visit us in the Showcase Café from 11:00 to 12:30 Sunday to Friday. The event offers free entry unless you intend camping or caravanning on site and there is something for everyone (except, please note, children with additional needs – but we're encouraging Creation Fest to think about that for another time!).

Our final summer festival is Westpoint, the annual New Frontiers 'Commission' family weekend in Exeter from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August. The theme is “Awe and Wonder” and our celebrations will be held in Tent 3: Friday 9:30-10:45; Saturday 9:30-10:45 and 19:00-21:00; Sunday 9:45-12:00. It's been great working with Janneke at the Newbury training day and at Keswick; now we look forward to having her on team at Exeter alongside other lovely, faithful team members. It will be good too to have David Barnett and the worship band from Bovey Tracey Baptist Church leading us once again. Entry is available to all but there is a daily charge of £45 for adult day visitors, or £35 for concessions.

See <https://www.commission-together.org/importantinformation/#accessibility>

## Opportunities with CEI

We are already thinking about the people who will work with us in running accessible programmes at Christian festivals in 2020 and beyond. Serving on a team is tiring but rewarding. It is a huge privilege to have the support of so many volunteers but we are aware of a growing need to add to their numbers and to reduce the average age of those serving on teams. We ourselves are not getting any younger and it is important that we train up people who will in time take over from us.

We are looking especially, but not exclusively, for gifted musicians and worship leaders for a number of the festivals. Please think and pray about whether this is something you or someone known to you might consider. We would love to hear from anyone interested in these opportunities.

### Cards for CEI

Why not buy your greetings cards at <https://www.flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/tuaphelps-jones>. It's definitely worth a look!

### A reminder of some useful links:

- The New International Readers Version (NirV) – accessible edition (New Testament only) available from <https://www.biblicaeurope.com/bible-resources/category/new-testaments>

If you order a New Testament you can support Count Everyone In by entering PW in the discount box!

- Through the Roof produce a useful range of reasonably priced resources for churches looking to be more accessible for disabled people, including a new publication by Ros Bayes entitled A Church that Cares <https://www.throughtheroof.org/supportingyou/churchresources/>
- Are you looking for images to illustrate talks and sermons? Take a look at [www.freebibleimages.org](http://www.freebibleimages.org)
- Additional Needs Alliance, helping churches to include, support, create places of belonging for, and spiritually grow children, young people and young adults with additional needs or disabilities. CEI is a partner organisation. See [www.additionalneedsalliance.org.uk](http://www.additionalneedsalliance.org.uk) or ask to join the 'closed' Facebook group Additional Needs Alliance.
- Count Everyone In is also a member organisation of Churches for All – 'enabling churches where disabled people belong'. Go to [www.churchesforall.org.uk](http://www.churchesforall.org.uk)

### Please pray

- Thanking God for effective training days, an amazing week at Keswick and safe travel
- For the young man who trusted Christ to be strong in his resolve and to grow in faith and understanding
- For Bryan that his infection will heal quickly and completely

- For more people to put their trust in Jesus as their Saviour, Lord and Friend
- For final plans for Creation Fest and Westpoint, for a united sense of purpose, for joyful worship, clear teaching, changed lives and fun
- For preparations for the launch of Meet Monday on 7 October
- For the CEI team to expand so that we can make an inroad into the needs across the country for this ministry, remembering that this is God's work and not ours

**August dates** - correct at time of publication \*:

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> - Travel to Wadebridge, Cornwall  
 Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> - CEI training, team leaders' meeting and main volunteers' meeting  
 Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Safeguarding briefing etc before guests arrive on site; event opens  
 Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> CEI daily celebrations 11:00-12:30pm  
 Friday 9<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> R&R with Keith and Gill, Axminster  
 Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Day off!  
 Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Grandsons Josh and Matthew come to stay  
 Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> - Joint wedding anniversary celebration with friends Jill and Irvin – equidistant between our actual 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversaries!  
 Friday 16<sup>th</sup> - Bring and share lunch with two church friends involved in Christian charities  
 Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - Coffee meeting  
 Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Travel to Exeter and set up venue at Westpoint  
 Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> - Celebration programme  
 Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> - Travel home  
 Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Day off  
 Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Granddaughters Eden, Eliza and Zoe come to stay

\*Please note that we try to take Mondays off, especially following weekends when we have been working.

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**Future dates 2019**

Sat 21 Sept 1:00-5:00pm The Wave for Change day, St James Church, Muswell Hill

Sun 29 Sept 11:00am Ability Sunday service, Ruislip Baptist Church, 122 Manor Way, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 8HR

Sat 5 October Area celebration day, Waltham Chase Methodist Church, 28 Hillcrest Gardens, Waltham Chase, Southampton SO32 2NF [Janneke@thekings.church](mailto:Janneke@thekings.church)

Sat 12 October Know & Grow 2 Farnham Baptist Church, The Hart, Farnham, GU9 7HA [mbennett@evoraglobal.com](mailto:mbennett@evoraglobal.com)

Tues 15 – Thurs 17 October Christian Resources Exhibition, Sandown Park, Portsmouth Rd, Esher KT10 9AJ

Sat 19 October Alive Together, King's Centre, Coppard Gardens, Chessington KT9 2GZ

Sun 20 October 10:30am Parkside Evangelical Church, St Flora's Rd, Littlehampton BN17 6BD

Sat 23 November Know & Grow 1, King's Church, Somers Road, Southsea, Portsmouth  
PO5 4QA

Sun 24 November 10:00am Littlehampton Baptist Church, 29 Fitzalan Rd, Littlehampton  
BN17 5ET



All our ministry is self-financed so, if you wish to support, you can give directly to us or online via **give.net**

Simply use the link below on your PC, phone or tablet and you will be taken to our **give.net** page, then follow the instructions. [www.give.net/20043120](http://www.give.net/20043120)

**Thank you** for your prayers and support. Please feel free to get in touch and do let us know if we can pray for you.

**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. Please be assured that your data is not passed onto any third parties. 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](http://www.counteveryonein.org.uk) and you can also keep up with us on Facebook and Twitter. Please follow, like and share.

We end with some encouraging words:

"We wait in hope for the Lord. He helps us. He is like a shield that keeps us safe. Our hearts are full of joy because of him. We trust in him, because he is holy. Lord, may your faithful love be with us. We put our hope in you." Psalm 33:20-22 (NirV)

Thank you and God bless you.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Pete &amp; Christine".

Pete & Christine Winmill