November 2022

Change

The faithful love of the Lord never ends!

His mercies never cease.

Great is his faithfulness;
his mercies begin afresh each morning.

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT)





Dear Friends,

We've certainly seen a lot of changes in recent days, most notably a royal funeral and a new monarch, rotation of government ministers and now another new Prime Minister. We have yet to see whether this is a change for the better but, regardless, we are called to pray for those in authority. All around us the world seems full of calamities and catastrophes – conflicts and war, persecution, famine, flooding and much more. How does that affect us? It is hard to avoid the news bulletins but they can leave us feeling anxious and unsettled. Let's not ignore what is happening around us, near and far, but instead take these matters to our God whose love and faithfulness never change.

Other changes are happening too. Autumn colours in our gardens and parks seem particularly stunning this year, perhaps as a result of the summer heatwave. Brilliant sunsets, sunrises and rainbows brighten up our skies. These are pleasures that God gives us to enjoy each day. There really is a time and a season for everything.

By the time you read this, the clocks will have gone back and dark wintry evenings will be with us for the next five months. With the economic crisis and exorbitant energy prices it will be hard for many to afford to heat their homes but perhaps your church is offering to be a warm place this winter. This is just one way we can express God's love and mercy to our neighbours.

"All may change but Jesus never. Glory to His name!"



A date for your diary

Sunday 27th November is the beginning of Advent, the time when we prepare for Christmas. For CEI it is more than that; it is the date of our Christmas Celebration and **YOU** are invited! If you are near enough to Newbury there is room for you so come along for 6:00pm to:

St Nicolas' Church, West Mills, Newbury RG14 5HG, just 3 mins walk from car parking in the Kennet Centre

If you can't make it in person, why not join in on livestream, or catch up later on Youtube. Here's the link: https://youtu.be/f8z8WqPrqgU

Wow!

Last month we said that we're back in the thick of activity and, sure enough, it's continued throughout October with more to come! We've held Know and Grow 1 workshops in Teignmouth, South Devon and Stratford, East London; very different locations but both with participants eager to find out more about making their churches welcoming and accessible for adults with learning disabilities. Here is some of the feedback:

- "I will return with renewed confidence and conviction to further work on making church more accessible."
- "I will talk to my church leaders."
- "Thank you for sharing so much of the heart of God."
- "You were brilliant! Thank you for more inspiration as ever."

There are still places available for Know and Grow 1 in Nottingham on Sat 12 November but you'll need to be quick! Email info@counteveryonein.org.uk to reserve your place today.

Enthusiasm continues for Janneke's Know and Grow Makaton workshops (still pilots at present but hopefully for not too much longer). Not surprisingly the numbers of attendees at King's Church, Portsmouth and Greyfriars Church in Reading have been very encouraging. The next one is in Guildford on 19 November and we are on the verge of having to turn people away! Email janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk for Makaton bookings.

If you've already attended Know and Grow 1, how about your church offering to host the follow-on Know and Grow 2 workshop. It addresses learning disability in relation to such thought-provoking areas as personal relationships, mental health, healing, death and bereavement. Use info@counteveryonein.org.uk to enquire about K&G 1 and 2.

Christian Resources Exhibition conversations

Thank you if you dropped by to say hello to Janneke, Rosey, Pete and Christine at the Christian Resources Exhibition at Sandown Park last month. We had an excellent spot, at the end of a row of stands and adjacent to the main bookshop. We understand that footfall overall was down on pre-Covid years but for us there was a steady stream of interested visitors and some follow-up contact too.

Next year's plans for to hold the first-ever Christian Resources Exhibition North at Liverpool's Exhibition Centre have been scuppered by the Eurovision Song Contest but we have booked a stand at the CRE in Birmingham next November.

2023 festival dates - where CEI will run accessible parallel programmes

- Word Alive 1 6 April at Prestatyn, North Wales. Book at https://wordaliveevent.org/
- Spring Harvest 10 14 April at Minehead, Somerset. Book at https://www.springharvest.org/events/news/booking-opens-june-8theverything-you-need-to-know/
- **Spring Harvest Holidays, France** now confirmed for 5 12 June. Details and booking at https://springharvestholidays.com/
- Keswick Convention (wk 1) 15 21 July at The Pencil Factory, Keswick, Cumbria
- **Creation Fest** 4 7 August at the Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge *(to be confirmed)*
- Connect (New Frontiers) 24 28 August at Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet
- Awaken (formerly The ONE Event) 25 28 August at Lincolnshire Showground, Lincoln



Special offer - limited period only

Everyone loves a special offer – and even more so with a free gift!

We're offering two booklets of Bible reading notes, Christmas is Coming (normally £4.50) plus Who is Jesus? (normally £2.50) plus a surprise free gift – all for £6 with free postage and packing! Place your order by email at info@counteveryonein.org.uk and pay by BACS to our Metro Bank business account:

Count Everyone In – Sort code: 23–05–80 – Account no:

Closing date is **Tuesday 29 November**

Other resources available by post

Here's a selection from our list of resources:

- Accessible undated Bible reading notes:
 - o Who is Jesus? £2.50
 - o Easter £2.50
 - o Jesus returns to heaven and what happened next £2.50
 - o The Holy Spirit £2.50
 - o Christmas is Coming £4.50
 - o Prayer £4.50
 - o Psalms £4.50
- 'Prospects' worship albums on CD (£5), DVD (£8), MP3 (£8) and MP4 (£10)
 - o Jesus the start of it all
 - No god is greater
 - Say the Word (CD and MP3 only)
- Holy Communion service booklet £2
- Two teaching series available: The life of Joseph (7 sessions £8) and 'Ruth' (4 sessions £4).
- T-shirts (£10), polos (£15) and full-zip hoodies (£22) all with the CEI logo and available in 3 colours and a range of sizes. Do ask if you're interested.

Not from us but from Bible Society, the **New International Readers Version (NIrV) – Accessible Edition** is ideal for people who appreciate large, clear print, plenty of 'white' space (actually light grey) and simple line drawings. At present only the New Testament (hardback at £9.99 or softback at £7.99) and Mark's Gospel (£2) are in print and we await the publication of Psalms in the same format.

CEI joins CEEC

Count Everyone In is delighted to accept an invitation to become a member of the Church of England Evangelical Council for a 4-year period in recognition of our activity as an evangelical organisation working within the Church of England. We look forward to the opportunities this may bring.

Count Everyone In is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and is pleased to work across the churches.

Growing the CEI family

Would your church and group like to become Friends with CEI? The scheme is available for individuals and couples/families too. Simply email info@counteveryonein.org.uk and we'll send you an application form.

Ways to help CEI

- Don't forget that any of the 'Prospects' songs used by your church or group should be included in your Church Copyright Licence (CCLI) reporting. Last year royalties raised over £300 which was generously donated to Count Everyone In.
- There's an attractive range of Christmas cards, including some globes to colour and construct (quite easily!), as well as other greetings cards that our friend Tua sells to support CEI: https://www.flamingopaperie.co.uk/web/tuaphelps-jones
- Give as You Live and Amazon Smile links for your online shopping are at the foot of this letter.

Prayer and praise

- 1. Give thanks for all those who've attended training in October and pray that they will have opportunities to put it to good use
- 2. Thank God for CEI trustees Richard, Keith, Janet, Jonathan, Maryanne and Val; grateful thanks to our treasurer, Tim, who has faithfully served CEI from the beginning but has now stepped down
- 3. Pray that many people with learning disabilities will come to know and follow Jesus
- 4. Pray for the CEI core team and for others to join us
- 5. Pray for good health, energy and for safety as we travel

Looking ahead (details correct at time of publication)

Sun 6 Nov 10am service St Peter's Church, Yateley GU46 7LR

Weds 9 Nov Kennet Valley Filling Station (Pete)

Thurs 10 Nov Core Team day

Sat 12 Nov Know & Grow 1, Grangewood Methodist Church, Nottingham NG8 2SJ

Sat 19 Nov Know & Grow Makaton, Christ Church, Guildford GU1 2AZ

Sun 20 Nov 10:30am service Littlehampton Baptist Church BN17 5NY Weds 23 Nov Spring Harvest leaders' prep day, London

Thurs 24 Nov Core Team day

Sun 27 Nov 6pm CEI Christmas Celebration live and streamed from St Nic's, Newbury

Sat 21 Jan 2023 Know & Grow 1, Derby City Church, DE1 1LH

Sat 16 Feb 2023 Know & Grow 1, Bidford-on-Avon

And finally, let's remember

At all times, pray by the power of the Spirit. Pray all kinds of prayers. Be watchful, so that you can pray. Always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:18 (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

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 <u>www.counteveryonein.org.uk</u> and you can also keep up with us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram. Please follow, like and share so that more people find out what is happening.

*Please note that the best times to contact Pete & Christine are Tuesday to Friday 9:30 - 5:30pm

Every blessing,

Pete & Christine, Janneke and Rosey