

June 2025

Making plans

Dear Friends,



“Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city. We will spend a year there..... You don’t even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? It is a mist that appears for a little while. Then it disappears. Instead, you should say, “If it pleases the Lord, we will live and do this or that.”

James 4:13-15 (NlrV)



In last month’s newsletter, Janneke reminded us that God’s purposes are good (Romans 8:28) even when, like the apostle Peter, we go through difficult or challenging times. She ended by saying, ‘Jesus is alive and the victory is His! That is good news indeed!’

Let’s consider briefly another aspect of life that can be confusing: to what extent should Christians make plans? You will see from this newsletter that Janneke, Pete and I make lots of plans: plans to travel, plans for church engagements, meetings, festivals, workshops and more. To put it bluntly, if we fail to make those plans and put them in the calendar they simply will not happen. If we fail to plan for the future, we risk putting ourselves or our loved ones in difficulty. That is why many of us take out home insurance, travel insurance and pay our National Insurance contributions. Making plans like these protect us and prepare us.

Last year, when Pete was undergoing treatment for prostate cancer, he and I had to review our plans. Thankfully, due mainly to the kindness of friends and supporters of the charity, no one was let down by our non-availability. Whilst our plan to man the CEI exhibition stand at the Keswick Convention was cancelled, the overall plan was fulfilled, albeit through different people (thanks Lisa!).

If circumstances change, let’s not panic but see instead how God is moving, perhaps raising up different people or altering arrangements. It isn’t that God’s big plan has changed. It’s our understanding of how it is to be worked out that needs

to flexible.

In his epistle, James points out that we don't know what tomorrow will hold. That doesn't mean we neglect to plan for tomorrow. Nor should we regard diary engagements in a casual manner, not preparing well or ducking out of commitments because we've had a better offer! No, let's be prayerful as we make plans and as we carry them out. Let's be people not only of God's word but also people who keep our word.

Every blessing in Jesus,
Christine

Welcome to any new readers who have joined us recently. 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 know how quickly our email Inboxes fill up!

June 1st

In case you missed this exciting news last month, 1st June is a **red-letter day** for Count Everyone In!

Janneke Klos, our dear friend and colleague of 6+ years, becomes Count Everyone In's first salaried employee. This is a huge step of faith 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.

Janneke would not wish to give the impression that she was dissatisfied with her job a Social Work lecturer at the University of Portsmouth. She was sorry to leave



but had increasingly felt the prompting of the Holy Spirit to follow the desire of her heart and to devote more time to the work of CEI.

Janneke is known to many readers and supporters around the UK as the CEI team leader at festivals over recent years. She delivers our Know and Grow workshops, including the popular Know & Grow Makaton which she was instrumental in developing. We look forward to this new chapter and all the ways in which God will use Janneke's gifts, abilities, personality, energy, enthusiasm and time. Please pray for us all.

Thank you

Prayer underpins all that Count Everyone In is and does and we send our thanks for praying for Bronwen (our administrator), Janneke, Pete and Christine. Thank you too for financial support, named or anonymous. These are difficult times for charities, and we do not take lightly the trust that you have put in us to use wisely any monetary gifts made to Count Everyone In. We are grateful for whatever part you play and no contribution is too small.

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



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

Genesis 1:27 (NirV) - *So God created human beings in His own likeness. He created them to be like Himself. He created them as male and female.*

Hebrews 4:12 (NirV) - *The word of God is alive and active. It is sharper than any sword that has two edges. It cuts deep enough to separate soul from spirit. It can separate bones from joints. It judges the thoughts and purposes of the heart.*

Prayer

The next of our monthly **Friends with Count Everyone** In Zoom prayer meetings takes place on **Thursday 26th June** for just 30 minutes at 12.30pm and/ or 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 Janneke and all that she brings to CEI, praying for the provision of finance and everything else that He knows will be needed.
2. Thank God for all the training that has been delivered so far this year, especially that Know & Grow Makaton has been introduced in the north-east and north-west of England in the last few weeks. Pray that what has been learned will be put into practice,
3. Pray for a fun and fruitful CEI holiday week at LPO - Spring Harvest Holidays in France – from 2 – 9 June, for the team and guests, for safety on and off site, and for the Holy Spirit to work among us.
4. Pray for Janneke and the CEI team as they prepare for the Keswick Convention, 12 – 18

July. Writing accessible, relevant, easy-to-understand teaching is always a challenge and this year's theme is the Epistle of James. Pray for good conversations for Pete and Christine at the exhibition stand.

5. Please continue praying for those churches who will welcome and be accessible for people with learning disabilities – training is available
6. Pray for wise planning as we look to the coming months – what, when and how to use the time available.

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

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

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

Sun 7 December - CEI Christmas Celebration at St Nic's Church, Newbury and livestreamed to you wherever you are!

- **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

