

August 2025

Thank you

Dear Friends,

**Give thanks to the LORD, because he is good.
His faithful love continues forever.** Psalm 107:1 (NIV)



What a week that was! It started and ended with a long drive, some 300 miles between home and the Lake District. The nearer we got, the greener the landscape became, from the parched, sun-scorched fields of the south to the lush, well-watered fells of the north-west. Less green but no less magnificent were the rugged peaks of Helvellyn, Skiddaw and Scafell Pike. To think that they were created by the mighty God we have the privilege to know and love! The variety of views and vistas within England alone are eye-wateringly beautiful and I won't begin to describe the beauty of the lakes themselves. **God is good and His faithful love continues forever. Thank you Lord.**

Pete and I have been involved in the week for adults with learning disabilities at the Keswick Convention since the early 2000s and it is always a joy to meet friends old and new, some of whom have been attending longer than us. As in recent years, Janneke led the team of CEI volunteers, some with years of experience and some brand new this year. A lot of prayer, creativity and careful planning had gone into devising the programme content but there was still room for flexibility as the Holy Spirit led them. There was a warm sense of community and joy in the daily celebrations. As usual there was a lot of excitement about appearing on the mainstage on Wednesday evening, this time to lead the congregation in singing and Makaton signing a brand new song by Nick and Becky Drake, The Lord's Prayer. If you want to watch it for yourself - it's 16 minutes in on this stream <https://www.youtube.com/live/KAA40H3cFgI>

God is good and His faithful love continues forever. Thank you Lord.

A highlight on the final day was the singing of 'We are Marching in the Light of God', while walking and waving worship flags around the Convention grounds. This brought smiles to many faces and it felt good that the CEI people weren't simply tucked away in a corner somewhere.

In the meantime, Pete and I represented Count Everyone In at Base Camp, which was housed in a large marquee along with the cafe, bookshop and exhibition area. Paula, one of our CEI friends, served as a volunteer in the cafe for an hour each day, welcoming visitors and wiping tables - well done Paula!

Parents and carers were invited to a drop-in reception where they could take a well-earned break while the CEI guests enjoyed a creative workshop. **God is good and His faithful love continues forever. Thank you Lord.**

We had numerous fascinating conversations during the week, many resulting from Pete having been given the opportunity to preach in one of the local churches on Sunday morning. CEI had a seminar slot in Weeks One (Pete) and Two (Janneke). Maybe you are reading this now as a result of registering for the news and prayer letter then. Thank you. Some also signed up to be 'Friends' with CEI. We look forward to welcoming you.

One thing we are convinced of is that there is an even greater need than ever for advice and training in our churches. Why should adults with learning disabilities miss out on knowing Jesus and growing in faith? **God is good and His faithful love continues forever.**

Thank you Lord.

God bless,

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!

Being Friends

Count Everyone In – so that no one misses out on Jesus

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

Thank you

God is good and His faithful love continues forever. Thank you Lord. Without you, your prayers, interest, time and financial support it would be hard for us to do what God has called us to do. Thank you for whatever part you play in supporting Count Everyone In. No contribution is too small. Thank you.

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: 33248



Janneke's Challenge – why not look back over recent newsletters and see if you have remembered the Bible verses that Janneke has been learning? She will probably have some new ones for next month!



Prayer

Our monthly **Friends with Count Everyone In** Zoom prayer meetings take a break this month and will resume on **Thursday 25th**

September for just 30 minutes at 12.30pm and/ or 6.30pm. If you are on our list, you will receive the link automatically. We would still value your prayers this month though and here are some suggestions:



1. Praise God for a fruitful summer, both at Keswick and Spring Harvest Holidays in France. (We started the holidays in France in 2006. Will you join us for the 20th year?)
2. Thank God for opportunities for our friends with learning disabilities to get to know Him better and grow in their faith
3. Praise God for good conversations, at the Keswick exhibition, at the Carers' and Parents' Reception, and as a result of the seminars and Sunday morning service
4. Thank God for our amazing teams of volunteers and pray for those considering their future plans
5. Pray for parents facing decisions regarding the future of their adult children
6. Pray for Janneke as she recovers from a busy time at Keswick and for all of us as we try to be more intentional about resting before the autumn season arrives
7. Pray for more individuals and churches considering becoming 'Friends' with CEI
8. See Resources section - Bible update

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

Bible Update (NirV - accessible edition) We are keen to promote this edition of the Bible - New Testament only at present - but it has been out of print and almost impossible to obtain for some time now. Count Everyone In has been in discussion with Biblica, the publishers, regarding a reprint and, until recently, one of the main blockages has been lack of funding. That said, you may have picked up from a recent CEI newsletter that an anonymous donor came forward at Spring Harvest and we are delighted to say that finance is no longer a problem. However, there are other obstacles to overcome, such as storage, distribution and financial management. Please pray with us for solutions to be found - quickly - so that copies are once again available.

Other 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, pens, keyrings or Prospects worship albums, please email info@counteveryonein.org.uk for a full list.

Diary dates – please note that Janneke, Pete, Christine and Bronwen (admin support) meet on Thursdays

Sat 13 Sep	K&G Makaton, Century Baptist Church, High St, March
Sun 14 Sep	Fenland Community Church, Mill View, March
Mon 22 & Tue 23 Sep	K&G Makaton Tutor training course
Thurs 25 Sept	CEI Friends Zoom Prayer 12:30-1:00pm & 6:30-7:00pm
Sat 4 Oct	K&G Makaton, Bethany Hall, 14 Westham Road, Weymouth
Sat 11 Oct	Alive Together, The King's Centre, Coppard Gardens, Chessington
Wed 15 & Thu 16 Oct	Christian Resources Exhibition, Sandown Racecourse, Esher, Surrey
Tues 21 Oct	Church is for All meeting
Thurs 23 Oct	CEI Friends Zoom Prayer 12:30-1:00pm & 6:30-7:00pm
Sat 25 Oct	K&G Longing to Belong, Halifax Elim Church, Hall St, Halifax
Fri 14 Nov	K&G Makaton for the Chester Diocese
Sat 15 Nov	K&G Longing to Belong, Eastpoint Vineyard Church, Lowestoft
Thurs 27 Nov	CEI Friends Zoom Prayer 12:30-1:00pm & 6:30-7:00pm
Sun 7 Dec	CEI Christmas Celebration at St Nic's Church, Newbury and livestreamed to you wherever you are!

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.

- **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

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

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