

July 2026



Faith like Gosport... or France.

Faith is being sure of what we hope for.

It is being sure of what we do not see.

(Hebrews 11:1 NIVUK)



At the beginning of June, the CEI team had the joy to travel to France for the 20th learning disability week at Spring Harvest Holidays at Le Pas Option. The week was filled with laughter, sunshine (and some rain, too!), and beautiful moments of encountering God together. But the thing that has stayed with me the most was the ferry crossing to France.

The journey started out lovely and sunny, but as we sailed into the Channel, the weather closed in and it became very foggy. The view was limited. We couldn't see any other ships or boats, nor could we see the shore. We had to trust that the ferry's Captain knew his way to Caen, and that the ferry's navigational equipment was working well.

The ferry crossing reminded me of something that one of my friends with learning disabilities used to say... "Faith in God is a bit like Gosport. I can't always see it, but I know it's always there."

We are very good at creating an image in our minds of what faith should look like. We have phrases that we feel people should say, things we think people should do, and we make judgements about someone's faith based on what we see and hear. The more time I spend with my friends with learning disabilities, the more I feel challenged about the judgements and assumptions I make. Faith is not a 'one-size fits all' kind of thing. At times my faith (or at least its expression) might look like someone else's faith, but at other times it is deeply personal and may not be visible to others at all. The fact that

someone else cannot see my relationship with Jesus, doesn't mean that it is not real. The same is true for our friends with learning disabilities.

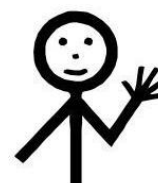
At LPO, we had the privilege of seeing our friends encounter God and engage with Him. It may have looked different from how I engage with God, and the encounter may not have been clearly visible through human eyes. But we serve a God who communicates and engages with us in ways we don't always understand... and nor do we have to! After all, 'faith in God is a bit like Gosport (or France!)... we can't always see it, but we can trust it is there.'



Blessings,

Janneke

Welcome to any new readers who have joined us recently. Thank you for your interest, support, and prayer. 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!



Art wanted!

We are working on our next CEI resource and we would like to include some artwork from our friends with learning disabilities. If you are an artist or just like drawing, please could you send some artwork in? We're looking for some art on the below Bible characters and stories:

- Abraham (Genesis)
- Hagar (Genesis 16:1-15)
- The fall of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-27)
- Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego in the fire (Daniel 3:16-30)
- Jesus walking on water (Mark 6:45-56)
- Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)
- Mary/lady with alabaster jar (John 12:1-8)
- The Good Friday/Crucifixion story (The Gospels)
- Peter - breakfast on the beach (John 21:1-19)
- Saul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-19)



Please email us a picture of your art: info@counteveryonein.org.uk, or alternatively you can send it by post. Thank you!4

Being Friends

Count Everyone In – so that no one misses out on Jesus and we need each other!

* Email pete@counteveryonein.org.uk if you, your group and/or church are interested in becoming Friends with Count Everyone In.

Open to individuals,
churches/groups.
Further info from
pete@counteveryonein.org.uk
07711 869810



Pete will send you an information and application form telling you about the scheme. [Being a Friend also adds you to our monthly half hour prayer Zoom invitation list.](#)

Here is a reminder of the Know and Grow Workshops that we offer at present:

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

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

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

'How to Count Everyone In' (online) - an hour-long online session aimed specifically at people who are interested in finding out more about what an accessible church might look like.

Would you and your church be interested in hosting any of these workshops?
email: bookings@counteveryonein.org.uk

Click on the links below to book your place:

Know and Grow Life Matters in Melksham – 3rd October

[Know and Grow Life Matters - Melksham \(03-Oct-2026\) · CharitySuite Events](#)

'How to Count Everyone In' – 14 September - online

[CEI Online Seminar- How To Count Everyone In \(14-Sep-2026\) · CharitySuite Events](#)

or email bookings@counteveryonein.org.uk

More Makaton training? Have you ever thought about it?

Did you know that Janneke also runs Generic Makaton workshops? She generally runs workshops across three weekday evenings. Workshops are priced at £85 per person. Keep an eye on the newsletter for workshop dates in the autumn/winter 2026.

Thank you!

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. We don't receive any funding apart from that of individuals and churches, and no contribution is too small. Thank you too, to all our anonymous givers; you know who you are!



Donations to Count Everyone In, regular or one-off, may be made at <http://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



Friends with Count Everyone In Zoom prayer meetings are taking a break in July as the team will be at the Keswick Convention. However, not meeting together does not mean we can't pray! So, here are some prayer points for you to consider in your prayer throughout the month of July.

1. Praise for a great week at Le Pas Opton, France. It was amazing to see our friends encounter Jesus and have so much fun!
2. Pray for preparation for the Keswick Convention, for our volunteers, guests and their families, also those who will visit the exhibition
3. Pray that Becca will settle into the team well and become accustomed to working at CEI
4. Please also pray that the CEI team will have the opportunity to rest well over the summer

Regional prayer - especially for churches on the south coast, specifically Portsmouth and Southampton.

Resources

We have a wide range of resources including a New Testament and also Psalms, both NlrV - Accessible Edition (softback). Please contact info@counteveryonein.org.uk for more information.

Diary dates – please note that the CEI team normally meets on Thursdays

4 Jul	CEI Trustees' Meeting
12 Jul	Christ Church, Guildford
20 - 24 Jul	Keswick Convention week 1 - CEI Celebration programme
23 July	NO PRAYER ZOOM – CEI team at Keswick
18 – 31 Jul	Keswick Convention weeks 1 & 2 - exhibition and seminars
27 Aug	Prayer Zoom meeting
14 Sep	How to Count Everyone In Online Seminar
10 Oct	Alive Together, Chessington.
11 Oct	Fenland Community Church, March
17 Oct	CEI Trustee Meeting

14-15 Oct	Christian Resources Exhibition – Sandown Park, Esher
7 Nov	CEI Vision and Leadership Conference
9 Nov	How to Count Everyone In Online Seminar
15 Nov	Fenland Community Church, March
6 Dec	CEI – Christmas Celebration, St Nics, Newbury and on-line

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' and 'Worship for Everyone' 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, Comment, and Share so that more people find out about CEI.**

Every blessing,

Pete, Christine, Janneke, and Becca

Pete: 07711 869810 pete@counteveryonein.org.uk
 Christine: 07751 431277 christine@counteveryonein.org.uk
 Janneke: janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk
 Becca: becca@counteveryonein.org.uk

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Our postal address is: Count Everyone In · 34 Enborne Road · Newbury RG14 6AH · UK