



Autumn News & Prayer Letter 2018

Happy Birthday Crossline!!!

On September 14th Crossline Hull celebrated its 20th year of ministry, reaching out to a hurting world.

From the very beginning, God has blessed us with some incredible listeners, testimonies and experiences. In the first year we took 476 calls. Now we are taking around 3,000 calls annually and have been here for over 36,000 callers over the years.

The original coverage from 7pm till 10pm each night, now with other members of the National Christian Helpline, we are available from 9am till midnight every day.

We thank you for your prayers and support over the years and for God's wisdom and discernment in bringing some incredible people to work as part of the totally voluntary team.



Loneliness, a growing phenomenon.



A recent study has highlighted that loneliness seriously affects over 1,700,000 people in the UK and claim the trend is set to grow. Similar studies consider America's fastest-growing public health crisis isn't heart diseases, obesity or smoking but loneliness!

Loneliness has become a social epidemic. It can be a difficult thing to admit to yet almost one in five of all adults claim they have felt or are feeling lonely.

We all agree that no one should spend the day alone but for millions of people loneliness is something they face every day of the year.

Loneliness doesn't discriminate, it affects people of all ages and from all backgrounds - from the school child who struggles to make friends, to the new parent coping alone, or to the older person who has outlived friends and immediate family.

We have seen a growing trend in our calls which show, very sadly, that for some people our voice may be the only one they hear that day!

Could you help those lonely callers with an empathetic ear to share the incredible good news and message of hope?

Call numbers are increasing year on year and we are sadly missing around 30% of our calls due to the volume. To remedy this we are seeking new listeners. --- Could you spare a few hours each week to help us offer hope to a hurting world? We provide excellent listener training which can be completed in the comfort of your own home. Just call or email us for details.

££££ Each call we receive costs us around £1:50. As most of you will be aware, we are a totally voluntary charity with no paid staff but could you help us reach a lost generation? A gift of just £15 helps us to comfort 10 people! To send a one off gift or set up a standing order and become a Crossline Angel our bank account details are; CROSSLINE (HULL) - Account no :- 64613076 - Sort Code 05 05 15.

Save a Tree & Cut Our Costs



We currently mail around 40 Newsletters with an additional 160 going by e-mail. With postage costs increasing and to reduce this cost, we are hoping to send more Prayer/Newsletters electronically.

To receive future Prayer/News by email just email prayer@crossline.karoo.co.uk with your full name and in the message line type 'email please'



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Prayer - Talking to our Heavenly Father.

Around 40% of the calls that we receive at the National Christian Helpline are asking for agreement in prayer. We thank and praise God that He gives the listeners the insight and the words to help our callers time after time with incredible results.

Why callers contact us for prayer varies from not wanting to burden friends or family with their prayers, maybe shyness in praying face to face, or, as demonstrated in our loneliness article, just having no one that they can pray with, these go along with callers who think we have a hot line to God....

Some are calling to follow the passage in Matthew 18:19–20, NKJV *“Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”*

In Matthew 6:6 in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said *“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”*

We acknowledge that there is a time and a place to accept either of these teachings, we realise how powerful prayer in a group can be, providing comfort, a different understanding of a situation the caller may be experiencing and the all-important social interaction which that gives us. Prayer alone also gives us the solitude to focus, think and listen for Gods message to us.

Many of the callers however, as well as a surprising number of people we meet in our Christian walk just don’t seem to understand how powerful and yet simple praying can be. Many new Christians don’t realise that it is just like talking to your earthly father. God welcomes the dialogue, wants to answer prayer and wants to see us speaking in all situations to Him, whether, it is to heal a life threatening illness or share a minor earthly matter or give thanks, God is listening and loves the interaction.

We don’t need elaborate words or ways of praying, we are speaking to our Abba Father (our Daddy in Aramaic language.)

Gods’ love for us caused Him share His only Son that we might have that close loving relationship with the person who designed and created the universe, The Lord God Almighty... That’s very special. ----

Remember; ***Worry is a conversation you have with yourself about things you cannot change.***

Prayer is a conversation you have with God about things He CAN change.

Until our next letter in January, we wish you and your family every blessing.

Prayer Requests for Crossline;

Please pray for the continued protection for all staff, listeners and trainee listeners, our finances, for a new Chairman and for all our callers, whose needs are real and many!

- I am interested in Telephone Listener Training.
- I enclose my donation to support the ministry of Crossline.
- Please add our church to your prayer support list to receive your quarterly prayer letter.

Name

Address.....

Postcode.....Tel No..... Church.....