



## Report 2025 - 2026

Our ongoing project in the borough of Croydon is the mainstay of our domestic work. Our weekly 'Church in a Pub', where those coming are given lunch as well as being able to enjoy Bible teaching, became so well-attended that some had to sit on the floor, so we took the decision to move this to our regular mid-week venue for the 'Croydon Lunchtime Church,' where a similar approach is taken on weekdays at a town-centre venue. These sessions have continued to have large numbers attending and many of those coming have committed themselves to Jesus Christ through baptism as a result.

A considerable number of those who come are homeless or otherwise challenged in life, so the meals we provide are much appreciated, as is other material help such as clothing, tents, sleeping bags and hygiene items. The strong sense of community and mutual support that has developed has been reinforced during the year by two weekends at a residential centre in Kent which have provided excellent fellowship and support for many who have never before experienced something similar.

The Croydon sessions are streamed online which means that they have been enjoyed by many from other parts of the UK and round the world. There are between 500 and 900 views of each Sunday's sermon on Tiktok alone, let alone Facebook Live and YouTube where our channel has nearly 12,000 subscribers. As a result of our work, some 120 people in the UK and 60 in other countries, supported by us, committed themselves to Jesus Christ during the year through baptism. Some of these live in countries where as Christians they are liable to persecution, so online support remains very important. This has, however, become increasingly difficult as local authorities have blocked direct internet access to our (and many other) websites and apps.

We have also delivered both practical and pastoral support to those in need in several countries overseas. A particular focus has been on Ukraine, to which Carelinks volunteers made eight visits during the year in order to provide welfare, clothing, generators and other help, alongside spiritual support, to those seriously impacted by the war there.

Our *Bible Companion* app has continued to be a crucial and well-used tool in

our work. The app, which is cost- and advertisement-free, comprises a full Bible text including audio; deeper commentary on every verse; basic devotionals, an audio and a youth message on every chapter; a daily sermon and thought for the day, a reading planner; a *Bible Basics* study course; and powerful search functionality. We believe that this app offers more features and resources than any other free Bible app. It is available on both Android and Apple, in English, Russian, Farsi, French, Spanish, Ukrainian and, since January 2026, Hebrew. Some 10,000 people a day use the app.

Alongside the app, we run a 'Virtual Church' ([www.virtualchurch.cc](http://www.virtualchurch.cc)) which is a gateway to both pastoral support and to regular online communion services along with Q&A sessions and talks.