

## James and Heather Cochrane

**FEBRUARY 2022**

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



On Sunday mornings about 60 people gather to worship God at Comunidade Pedras Vivas (CPV). We are a diverse group from a few different nations, including Ireland and Portugal, but predominantly from Brazil. As we begin another year our desire continues to be to reach out to the nation of Portugal and for many Portuguese to meet Jesus. It is a challenging context, it is easy to become discouraged but pray with us for the Portuguese, that they would see, in our walk and talk, that we are different and that this would bring about opportunities, for all of us at CPV, to share the reason for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15).

We continue on Sundays to study Paul's letter to the Ephesians which has been encouraging, as we have been reminded of who we are in Christ, but also challenging as we have been confronted with the way in which we ought to live as transformed people in a world that is far from God. At the beginning of the year, we introduced the New City Catechism into our Sunday worship service, and it is exciting to see how some of our members are using this at home and memorising it.

We have been working hard to get small groups organised and hope to have four groups meeting fortnightly, from February. We are thankful to God for the four leaders, for the homes that will be hosting the small groups and for the material we have available (Galatians). Pray that the small group ministry would be an opportunity for growth and fellowship.



Once we get the small group ministry up and running, we will need to turn our minds to the adolescents. It is a challenging ministry as we have very few adolescents in CPV and yet it is important to gather them to not only study God's Word, but also to have fun together. At Christmas we were able to meet for a party, which was very enjoyable. Pray for this ministry and for the 4-5 young people of CPV who fall into this age bracket.



### Prayer points

- Pray that 2022 will be a year in which many Portuguese will hear and receive the gospel message of Jesus.
- Pray that we would make the most of every opportunity that God gives us in our daily lives to show and speak the gospel.
- Give thanks for the four small groups, which will begin the second week of February and run twice per month.
- Pray for the situation with Covid-19, that as a church we would be able to move forward with ministries and outreach.