

James and Heather Cochrane

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



Comunidade Pedras Vivas (CPV) is a diverse vibrant community with children, adolescents, adults, singles and married, men and women. We are very grateful for this group of people and every Sunday when we gather for corporate worship our hearts are warmed. We would love to see more Portuguese people among us, but we continue to press on, holding onto our original mission statement and principles. We always try to cast vision among our members and trust God, that as each one of us makes daily contact with the people with whom we work and live, in our apartment buildings, workplaces, local shops, that we would be intentional in our witness for the Lord.

In February we re-started CPV's couples' ministry. Although we are blessed to have couples of all ages at CPV, we have a significant number of young couples aged 25-35, some beginning to start their families. Ephesians 5 was the topic of our last meeting, but in our next one on Saturday evening, 2 April, we would like to investigate how to keep God at the centre of our marriages. We are passionate about seeing these young couples (and older couples) grow and mature in their faith, form habits of reading the Bible and praying together, and ultimately for their marriages to be Christ focused rather than be driven by career progression or larger salaries.

We have an increasing number of children arriving at CPV and a small number of young teenagers. It has never been easy to develop a work among these age groups as the numbers, although growing, are quite small. Please pray with us as we seek God's guidance on how to best meet the needs of these children and young people.

At the end of last month, James joined a team of five other pastors/missionaries to drive three vans to Ukraine/Poland border to drop off essential supplies and pick up refugees. They were able to bring 23 refugees to Portugal where they met up with their contacts (family members, friends). Praise God for this trip and the opportunity to witness and minister to the group of refugees who travelled back with them.



Prayer points

- Pray that we, and all CPV members, would be intentional in our witness for Jesus.
- Give thanks for couples of all ages in CPV. Pray that Christ would be at the centre of their marriages.
- Pray for the children and young teenagers of CPV and for God's direction as to how CPV can best help them.
- Give thanks for the trip to Poland, and that the people fleeing Ukraine were brought safely to Portugal. Pray for them as they adapt to life here, for their loved ones left in Ukraine and pray for an end to this war.