



James and Heather Cochrane

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



On Sunday 19th February we had much to celebrate in Comunidade Pedras Vivas (CPV). Our first elders and deacons were ordained and CPV was organized as a church of the the Christian Presbyterian Church of Portugal (ICPP). Previously our status was church plant of ICPP. It was an exciting moment in our history. Three men were ordained and installed as elders and two as deacons. To see CPV reach the stage of having its own local leadership was very encouraging and emotional! CPV currently has 83 members (65 communicant and 18 non-communicant (children of members)).

A commission from Presbytery was sent to carry out the act of ordination and installation. It was good for the church to meet some of the other pastors of ICPP and to feel more connected to the denomination. After the service we enjoyed a community lunch together.

Over the next few weeks and months James will be meeting regularly with the elders and deacons to help them grow into their new roles. Pray that these men will seek to serve God and the church with dedication and enthusiasm.

Our normal ministries continue. In the next month the young people will meet to continue youth Alpha. Heather will be having a planning meeting with the leaders of "Graúdos e miúdos", our family outreach ministry, to make plans for the next 3-4 monthly get togethers.

GLOBAL DISCIPLES *Go Deep Go Wide*

MARCH 2023

Heather is also hoping to start a women's ministry and hopes to kick this off in the month of March. Pray for the small team of women who will be involved. And finally, our small group ministry meets fortnightly and has just started studying Judges.

We thank you for your prayers and support. We are so encouraged to know that so many are showing an interest in gospel mission in Portugal. If you haven't already, check out CPV's website and social media.

<https://comunidadepedrasvivas.pt>

<https://m.facebook.com/100064456941779/>

<https://instagram.com/comunidadepedrasvivas.pt?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>



New elders and deacons



Prayer Points

- Give thanks to God for His faithfulness, since we began CPV almost 10 years ago.
- Pray for the elders and deacons as they take up their new roles in CPV.
- Pray for the young people at CPV, that they would grow together in Christ.
- Pray for the new women's ministry to begin in March.
- Pray for the members of CPV, that they would be active participants and be able to use their gifts in the various ministries and outreach activities of CPV.