

## James and Heather Cochrane

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



We continue in a period of transition as we prepare to leave Portugal for a 6-12 month time of sabbatical in Ireland, during which time we hope to do some study and to reflect and pray about future ministry. And so at the end of June we will no longer be in leadership of CPV. Until December 2023, our colleague, Pastor Luciano, also a pastor in the Christian Presbyterian Church of Portugal (ICPP), will be responsible for the oversight of CPV, with the help of the three recently elected elders. At the minute James is working with these men to prepare a profile for church's future pastor. Ideally this pastor would be available from the beginning of 2024.

This period of transition is strange for us. While we are still physically present and involved at CPV, we are also beginning to step more and more into the background. In some ways this is difficult as we have been so hands on since the very beginning of the church planting project! However, it is also very exciting to see how God is preparing and mobilizing His church. We are thankful for our church family in CPV, for the gifts of God's people and their willingness to serve. Handing over ministries has been a fairly straightforward task as many have agreed to assume leadership roles and commit more time to service within CPV. The elders and deacons have been a great support and help over the past weeks.



## GLOBAL DISCIPLES *Go Deep Go Wide*

### JUNE 2023

As well as winding up with CPV we also need to move out of our apartment on 30 June. Packing up our home of 10 years in Porto (plus the five years previously in the Algarve) is an unenviable task but with some preparations already underway we will get there. It is a bittersweet time as we say goodbye to CPV and Portugal but also look forward with anticipation to what the Lord has for us next (whether in Portugal or elsewhere).



### Prayer Points

- Give thanks for Pr Luciano and the elders and pray for them as they lead the church during its vacancy.
- Pray for the leaders of all the church ministries, giving thanks for their commitment.
- Pray for us as we come to the end of our time at CPV and as we pack up our home.
- Pray that our sabbatical will be a time of refreshment as we seek the Lord's guidance for our future.