

Chris and Rachel

Location: **Porto, PORTUGAL**

Mission: **Church planting**



On Easter Sunday, we welcomed several new members into Comunidade Pedras Vivas (CPV), bringing our total number of members to around sixty. Whilst we don't read much importance into numbers, it does make us stop and marvel at what God has been doing over the last few years. We give thanks to God for his grace and continue to look to him to transform and change lives.

On Sunday mornings, we are a mixture of ages, nationalities, single people, married couples, and families, all coming together as the body of Christ to worship God together. Some are not yet believers and are seeking answers to hard questions about life and faith, others are believers at various stages in their Christian walk and are seeking to understand how they live out their faith in practice amidst the Portuguese cultural context. We have many Brazilian Christians with us, many of whom are gifted and eager to serve the Lord here in Portugal. Whilst there are challenges in the cultural differences in doing evangelism and what the church should look like, we give thanks to God for how he has brought many believers to Portugal for such a time as this to be his witnesses and share with others the living eternal hope found in Jesus.

The vision of CPV has always been to be a missional church. Instead of living inside the walls of our church and hoping people will come in, we want to see disciples being made and sent out into the world to live as intentional disciples of Christ and to be part of his mission to the world around us. Our prayer is that we as CPV would live missionally – that we would actively move into our community or network of family and friends to embody the words, deeds, and life of Jesus. We praise God that people are beginning to catch this vision and are seeking to bring Jesus into their everyday encounters with others.



Receiving new members

Prayer points

- Give thanks for the new members received into CPV during Easter. Pray for a deepening and maturing of faith among our church body and for spiritual growth.
- Give thanks for the many faithful and gifted believers who have arrived from Brazil, pray they would continue to understand the cultural context around them and find ways to reach out to others.
- Pray for God's leading and guiding for us as a family as we seek to obey him in all we do.