



*“In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.” 2 Timothy 4:1-5*

Greetings, beloved brothers and sisters at Oakcrest. We want to first of all thank you for your prayers that have kept us in ministry and kept us focused on the work. We thank you for your incredible generosity. God is a generous God and you are a real example of what it means to be generous. May God bless you today and always.

This month we took some family time off and for 5 days we traveled through southern Portugal and Spain visiting places we had not yet seen and letting the cultural richness enrich our knowledge and appreciation. Our first stop was something very impressive. In Évora we visited a very well-known chapel made of human bones. The story goes that in the 17th century, by initiative of 3 Franciscan monks, they wanted to transmit the

message of the transitoriness of life, and in the main sign we can read: "We bones that are here, for yours wait." The Chapel functioned as a place of reflection on the finitude and importance of life.



Reflecting on our experience in the Chapel of the Bones, we feel the urgency and importance of preaching the Word in season and out of season as Paul exhorts Timothy (2 Timothy 4:2). Whatever the circumstances and wherever we are, it is always time to share the Word. It's not a pandemic, it's not a disease, it's not a misfortune that hinders us. Let's see all situations as opportunities to fulfill our mission in the Kingdom of God. Whether you are an evangelist, teacher, mother/father, businessman, or leader, don't waste time. Preach the Word any time. Our time is today!

## Praise and Worship Service



At the beginning of 2022, to strengthen the bonds between the brethren, we changed the setting of the services once a month, when we put the chairs in a square, where people see each other. In these services, everyone shares what God has been doing in their lives, shares scriptures, and encourages each other. It has been a time of great change in the congregation, a time in which everyone shares – men, women, youth, and children. The average attendance has increased significantly, post pandemic.

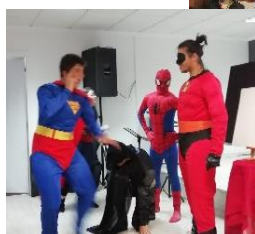


Within a year we went from 15 to 40/50. Also, the children's group has grown and required separating classes. We keep moving forward!

## Our Youth



Our youth continue to serve the Kingdom of God with joy and dedication. They are serving through evangelistic dramas, camps, training sessions, and Bible classes.



## Baptisms

In May, with great joy we celebrated the baptism of Inês, a young married woman with two children who accepted Jesus and decided to take her family to Christ, including starting a community outside of Lisbon, in her area of residence.



In July we celebrated the baptism of our daughter Jessica, who accepted Jesus some time ago and has

now decided to publicly confess her faith. She is a young woman who is dedicated



to sharing the Word, helping to teach in the Sunday Bible school, and volunteering in the Kingdom work.



On August 23rd, we had the baptism of Isadora, a young girl who grew up with us, but in 2013 she emigrated to England. This year she is visiting us and decided to be baptized with us – fruit of work done in the past!



## After 20 Years

After 20 years, without any arrangement, the children of 3 couples that in the 90's met in Queijas got together in the same place to play ball and evangelize as they did 20 years ago.





## Bazaar News



The Bazaar continues to be a blessing to those who come into the space. They have the opportunity to buy clothes at low cost and to have Bible studies, prayer, donations, and people available to serve. The Bazaar has helped countless families in the Church and the outside community, as well as people even farther away, most recently supporting Daniela



and Carolina's trip to the Azores to serve in Bible camp.

## Healthy Family Project



Project Healthy Family became autonomous in May, counting on 3 Christian psychologists (Iolanda Melo, Diana Neves and Carla Tavares) in the promotion of healthy psychological and spiritual life, offering psychological and spiritual support to Christian families. The appointments are held in the Church of Christ building in Lisbon. In one year,

the project has served more than 30 families. We have held conferences on healthy adolescence, with the target



population being the parents of teenagers and adolescents. We

started in Lisbon in February, and in May we took the conference to Braga (5 hours from Lisbon).

## Good News Club



Mailbox Club training is pioneering in Lisbon. We have had about 50 people in training to do Bible-teaching curriculum in churches and open children's classes outside the churches. May God bless this pioneer work! In September the leaders François Bushoff and Magdalena will be back to continue the training; right now they are in northern Portugal. We hope to travel with them to help continue the work.

Over the years we have pioneered some projects like the ICL bazaar, conferences on

healthy adolescence, and the Mailbox Club curriculum for children up to 13 years old. We thank God for the opportunities to launch projects that contribute to the growth of the Kingdom.

## Merritts Visit



We received a special visit from our Christian friends Ted and Margaret Merritt, who always encourage us in ministry. Their hugs, smiles, prayers, care and words of encouragement brighten our hearts. We are very grateful for their visit and care. God bless you all!

## Thanks:

- To Oakcrest for your constant support throughout these years. God bless you for your generosity to Christ's Church in Lisbon.

- For God's care, which is always present in the ministry, in our family and church, and in

all the work that has been done in Lisbon.

- For Oseas and Iolanda, who have been wise partners in the work for the Kingdom, with opportunities to take the Word of God to the children in Lisbon and neighboring areas.

- For Valfredo and Soili in their readiness and wisdom in Kingdom service.

### Prayers:

- For the Healthy Family Project.

- For the Mailbox Club and partnerships.

- For our daughter Daniela, who will be going to Oklahoma Christian University.

- For the activities of the Church to continue to facilitate both community outreach and also internal growth in Christian maturity.

- For knowledge, wisdom, and mental, spiritual and physical health to lead the Church of Christ in Lisbon in the will of our Good God.

- For Graça, Andreia, and Renato, who have confessed to accept Jesus in their hearts and are now being prepared for baptism.

- For Jean, Jaime, Jaoson and Diogo, for God to touch their hearts.

## Lisbon Chuch of Christ

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## Photo Gallery



Two weeks of camping at our house in Queijas, first week: 20 kids; second week: 22 teenagers



Workshop on Healthy Adolescence



Serving the Good News Channel (Youtube channel on Children evangelismo)



Women's meeting



The Impressive Chapel of Bones



*Serving Christ,*

*Sending our Love from Lisbon, Portugal, Neves*

