

InTouch

MAGAZINE

Spring 2023



Acre
International

Dates for Your Diary



Zoom Prayer Meeting:

1st Monday of each month at 8pm via Zoom
Meeting ID: 435 081 0967
Code: 150967



Mission Matters:

Quarterly at 8pm
Watch online via Facebook and Youtube

8-14th May: Fátima Mission Team

Fátima, Portugal

1st July: ACRE BBQ

7pm

Faith Mission Centre, Portadown

131 Mahon Road, Portadown

13-16th November: Autumn Break in the Killyhevlin

Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen

Booking forms available soon

£260 per person sharing

Single room £75 supplement

Contact Details

Acre Gospel Mission

30 Carnglave Manor, Spa, Ballynahinch

+44 7710 506939 | +4428 9756 3200

NI Charity Number: NIC108390

If you would like to book us for a meeting please get in touch either by phone or by sending an email to office@acregospelmission.org

President's Thought for the day



Jesus said *"I must be about my Father's business"*.

Jesus said *"I must be about my Father's business"*.

There is no business like "the Father's business". It extends across the whole world, lasts for all eternity and it will never fail. All of our missionaries are conscious that they are engaged in the Father's business, as are you also when you join with us to serve the Saviour.

One day we will gather at the Father's house and rejoice in the great things He has done. Meanwhile, we thank you for your partnership in this great endeavour.



Santo André

A Portuguese Church filled with Brazilians

There has always been a strong link between Portugal and Brazil for many centuries. And that is why many Brazilians have been immigrating to Portugal for many years. When we arrived in Portugal at the beginning of the 90's, there was a wave of Brazilians coming to Portugal due to the Brazilian economic crisis. Shortly after, many Pentecostal Evangelists also came and started (very successfully) to preach a prosperity and healing gospel. A good decade after, it had all faded out. Yet another wave of Brazilians reached Portugal at that time. It was mainly older Brazilians looking for a second chance of getting a good job, a good marriage or some documents to become Portuguese citizens.

Nowadays a new wave of Brazilians is reaching us. They are mainly young Brazilians, with qualifications, coming with their family, and many of them have got a Christian background. Some of them have reached our little town of Santo André and are now faithfully attending our church here and this has

been a real blessing. We have 5 faithful families who attend every Sunday and some others who come on a less regular basis. This means that our wee church is usually full on Sundays and that there are a good number of children and teens in the Sunday School. These Brazilian families have very different Christian backgrounds (from hyper Pentecostal to very strict reformed doctrines). Yet, as we have been having fellowship with them, we do see that some of them do not have sound doctrine and actually know very little about the Bible. So it has been a real challenge for me (with the adults) and for Emmanuelle (with the children and the teenagers) to teach them.



Yet another blessing from this new coming of Brazilians is that some pastors with their family are also coming to evangelise Portugal or to help local pastors. Last Summer, we had the privilege to have the help of a Brazilian pastor and his wife who taught the Bible lessons at our Summer camp. They live near Lisbon.



Like this couple, there are, at the moment, many Brazilian pastors scattered all over Portugal who are a blessing to different local churches and Christian communities. This invasion of Brazilians is happening all over Portugal, not only here in Santo Andre and we are catching the blessings of this Brazilian revival.

While we rejoice at this great blessing to have Christian Brazilian families attending our church and becoming involved, we do feel sad as we have

reached many Portuguese, who professed Christ as their Saviour but who barely attend church and who do not see the need of Christian fellowship and Bible teaching.

We are certainly feeling very encouraged by the Brazilians attending our church. We praise our Lord for each family. We pray that they will continue to feel welcome in our midst, that they will continue to grow spiritually and that they will continue to be involved. At the same time, we continue to pray for our Portuguese brothers and sisters so that they may feel the need to grow spiritually and be involved in a church.

We thank you all for your faithful prayers on our behalf and for your continued interest in our ministries here in Portugal. May the Lord continue to bless His work for His glory.



Please pray:

- For the new families who have been attending the church.
- For Aroldo and Emmanuelle as they face challenges teaching the new families.
- That more Portuguese would see the need of Christian fellowship and Bible study.



News from Brazil

Update from Pastor Jose Carlos

Just recently, in November of last year, I, along with my wife Eurides, travelled to the North East of Brazil to the state of Rio Grande do Norte, to visit the Pastors there who work with our mission, the Missão Evangélica Amazônica (MEA). We live in Manaus, and so this was a long journey for us, across to the other side of the country, but we thank God for His help during our travels.

Our visit there was a very profitable one, and we had the privilege and joy to see in each of the workers much dedication, and much love for the work that they are involved in for the Lord. In each location, the Pastor, indeed the whole family, are involved in visitation and in witnessing to those who are still unsaved.



We were able to have a meeting with all of the Pastors together, where we heard a brief report from each Pastor, and it was a great joy to hear of their work, and how God is working in each location. I also had the opportunity to preach the gospel in various churches, and I was able to participate in the induction service for Pastor Moises Fernandes, who has taken up the work in João Câmara.

In summary, God is blessing in a wonderful way in this part of Brazil, we thank God for each of the Pastors and their families who are engaged in this work, and our prayer is that it is all done for the honour and glory of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you to each of you who remember to pray for the ongoing work of MEA here in Brazil.

New Open Doors of Opportunity

As a mission, we are very happy to be able to welcome two new Pastors and their families into the MEA fellowship. Pastor Adílio, his wife Priscylla and their little daughter Heloisa have taken up the work in the town of Martins, in Rio Grande do Norte. Their induction service into the church was on 17th December 2022, and they are getting settled into a new work and a new town. We pray for them that God would bless them richly in this new area of Martins, and we look forward to hearing more about how God is working in this town.



They have yet to have their official induction service, but we pray for them that as they settle into this new work, that God would bless and help in a very real way. We also want to pray for the work in Passa e Fica, that very soon God would call another Pastor to go and take over that work also.



In the neighbouring state of Paraíba, another Pastor there has joined the work of MEA, in the town of Sousa. Working alongside Pastor Diego, Lucas is working towards planting a church in another district of the town called Raquel Gadelha. We want to pray for him, his wife Millene, and their children Estêvão, Liz and Miguel.

Pastor Luís, who has served the Lord in the town of Passa e Fica for a number of years, has accepted the call to take up the role of Pastor of a church in the town of Coronel Ezequiel.



Please pray:

- For all the Pastors in Brazil and their families.
- Pray for Pastor Adílio and his family as they settle into the new work in the new town.
- Pray for Pastor Luís and his family as they also settle into a new work in a new town.

From Manaus to Beja

Jander & Rebecca Fernandes



"If God has called you to be His servant, don't stoop to be a king" (CH Spurgeon)

This well known phrase has become something much more real to us in recent times as we think upon the call that God has given us. We leave behind those things we looked upon as the hopes and dreams for our lives, as we prepare to go to the mission field. As the Apostle Paul said in Philippians Chapter 3, there is a feeling of loss, but also there is a gain of something far superior, as we hand over our lives, under constraint (2 Corinthians 5:14), for His service, because He laid down His life for us.



Rebecca and I grew up in Christian homes, and by God's grace, we were both saved as children. We grew up through the Hebrom Church in Manaus, and over time, became more involved with the work there, eventually becoming leaders in the children's and youth work. At this point, I felt the desire to learn more of God's word, and so I entered Bible College. During this time the Lord revealed His will for us concerning mission, and so we prayed that He would show us the mission field that He wanted us to go to. Beja, Portugal was the response that He gave to us.

In 2022 we began making plans to make the move, in the hope that it would be this year, 2023, that we would be able to go. During this period our daughter Mariana was born (January 2022), and we also went to Northern Ireland to share about our project with Pastor Victor Maxwell and others from Acre International, and some other friends of the Hebrom Church. Rebecca and I left our respective places of employment (Lawyer and Civil Engineer), and exercised our total faith in the Lord, dedicating our time fully to the work of Hebrom.

In December I finished Bible College, and just recently, in January, we went along with Mariana to the Portuguese Embassy in Rio de Janeiro for an interview concerning our residency visas for Portugal. We are now waiting on the response of the embassy and for the return of our Passports.



It is at the obedience to the call of God that we as a family are moving to Portugal, to work alongside Pastor Elias Lima, in the area of Children's and youth ministry. We have planned to leave on 8th April, God willing, if everything comes together for us to be able to leave.

We ask for prayer that God would be with us and ahead of us at every step, leading and guiding us and strengthening our hearts in the face of this new challenge. Pray too that the response from the embassy will come quickly, so that our travel plans can remain as planned, and pray that we be useful in the work of the Lord and a blessing to the church at Beja.

We thank you for your prayers and for your interest in us as we begin this new work, and we pray that the Lord would continue to use the Acre International mission for the extension of His kingdom.



Beja is a city and a municipality in the Alentejo region, Portugal. Situated on a 277-metre (909 ft) hill, commanding a strategic position over the vast plains of the Baixo Alentejo.

The population in 2011 was 35,854.



Please pray:

- That the embassy will grant visas for residency in Portugal.
- For safe travels to Portugal.
- For wisdom and guidance as Jander and Rebecca start to work in Beja.



Reaching the children of Manaus

For many years now the Acre Gospel Mission has stood behind the work amongst the boys and girls in the city of Manaus, in both prayer and financial support. Over these years we have seen God work in an amazing way, with many young lives changed through the saving power of Christ.

Altina, Jonas and Eliana take the good news into some of the schools in the city. Currently, the door is wide open for them to go into these schools on a regular basis, where they are invited to go around each of the classrooms, and with the permission of the teacher, they teach the children a short bible lesson, and a memory verse. Altina writes: "God is faithful in maintaining the open door to take the gospel to the children.

While the door is open to us, sometimes we do face persecution from some teachers. In one school, When the teachers knew we were coming, they sent the children out to the playground to play, so that we wouldn't be able to share with them the lesson. We went home sad, and took the situation to the Lord in prayer.

God answered our prayers, because on our next visit to the school, these teachers had a change of attitude and allowed the children to stay and listen to the lesson. But we are encouraged that even in the midst of these trials, God continues to work. A young boy called Arthur, 6 years old, gave his life to the Lord after one of our lessons. We praise God for this young convert. We value your prayers for us in this ministry, and please continue to pray for the salvation for both the children and the teachers".





Eliana has recently had to step back from the teaching ministry as she has been helping her daughter Ariana through breast cancer treatment. Her chemotherapy treatment is now finished and she is undergoing radiotherapy, which involves 15 sessions over a 3 week period. We continue to pray for her that she will know God's help as she goes through this difficult time. We also pray for Eliana as she deals with long covid, and that the doctors can decide what is the best form of treatment for her symptoms. She hopes to be back with the boys and girls in the very near future.

Caesar and Sulamita have been running the children's ministry in the 'Bairro Novo' for many years now, and have been able to share the gospel with many boys and girls. "We want to serve the Lord more and better in this new year" writes Caesar. Each Sunday afternoon they go out with a small team of helpers and run a children's meeting among the needy children of the area. Over recent years, with the help of the Crafty Bits and Bobs team, who make and sell crafts to raise money for mission work, money has been sent out to help with this ministry. Recently, a monetary gift was sent over to help to buy the children a Christmas present, which was something very special for them. Also, just recently a young girl gave her life to Christ during the meeting, and a few weeks previously, another young girl did the same. We praise God for these new converts. Thank you for praying.

Wilma de Sousa runs the IBEE schools in Manaus. These 2 schools are run with a strong Christian ethos, with many Christian teachers, and a daily assembly is held each morning when the gospel is presented.



On 25th September 2022, the schools had their 25 year anniversary, and Wilma and her team look back with thanksgiving to God for all His help and guidance over those years. In November 2022, Wilma was invited to speak at a large Christian conference which takes place each year in Manaus, and she was able to present to them the work of the schools and to give thanks back to God for answered prayer over the years.

These schools provide a great light and witness to the needy boys and girls of the area, and we want to pray on for Wilma and her team that they would be able to reach many more boys and girls in the coming days.



Please pray:

- Altina, Jonas and Eliana as they take the good news in schools
- Eliana as she helps her daughter, and Ariana as she goes through cancer treatment.
- Caesar and Sulamita as they continue the work in Bairro Novo.
- Wilma de Sousa as she continues to run the IBEE schools in Manaus.



Hello boys and girls!

This is just for you. Your own magazine.

We want to take you with us on great journeys to different countries around the world and see what amazing things our big God is doing through people who decided to do great things for Him.

On the following pages you will find exciting stories, riddles, quizzes, craft ideas and many more things.

We hope you will enjoy it!

If you are interested to receive our Kids-magazine in the future, let us know and we will send it directly to you.

Send us an email with your address to acrekids@acregospelmission.org

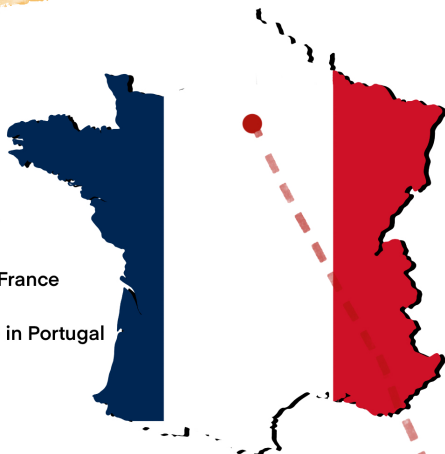
Meet the missionary:



Name: Emmanuelle Areas

Place of Birth: Paris, France

Serving in: Santo André in Portugal



Hello

My name is Emmanuelle. I come from France and I was born in its beautiful Capital city, Paris. I come from a very atheist background which meant my parents never believed in anything and I was never ever taught anything about God or religion. I got to know about religion from my friends who were Jewish, Muslims, Catholic and Buddhists. Through them, I understood there was a God and I would start to speak to Him, especially in time of need, for help and for protection. They were simple prayers, but sincerely addressed to God. Yet, when I turned 14, I decided there could not be any God as I could see the World was so unfair and a good God could not create an unfair world.

When I turned 20, I got a job as a teacher in Belfast at the Belfast Royal Academy. I also went to a Cambridge class where I met my husband-to-be Aroldo, a Brazilian young man who was a Christian. We became friends and he invited me to go to church. I went there to please him and also out of curiosity. God's word says in Romans 10:17

*So then faith cometh by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God.*

So indeed, as I was hearing God's word and as I understood His great plan of Salvation, I gave my life to Jesus and I have been trying my best to serve Him ever since.

Becoming a Christian was a blessing to me but my family thought it was a very bad idea. It was very difficult for a couple of years because my family would always mock me each time I went to church. But God was always with me and when I finished my Masters degree, I felt the Lord's call to go to Bible College.



I wanted to go to a French college so that I could work part time to pay for the fees, but it did not work out. So in 1990 I applied to the College where Aroldo was and I was accepted. I studied there for a year and there, Aroldo and I both felt that God wanted us to go and become Missionaries. We applied for Acre International as we had friends there and we were accepted. In 1991 we got married and we arrived in Portugal in 1992. We have been there ever since.



Here in Santo André I am working alongside Aroldo at the church. I am involved in teaching the Ladies, the children and the teenagers. In the afternoons I also teach kids and teenagers as a private tutor helping them with their school work.



My favourite part of Portugal is the Alentejo. It is the region we live in. We live beside the sea.

The Alentejo is often sunny and hot and I love that. I love walking on the beach and I go there, walk and praise the Lord for His wonderful creation.

Thirty years ago, this region of Portugal, the Alentejo, was poorly developed. There were very little things around and it was always difficult to buy things or to find activities for our children. There was no cinema, no McDonalds, no shopping or amusement centres, no sport activities and no playground at all. That was hard for me to cope with, especially with three young children to entertain!

But culture wise, the Portuguese culture is very similar to the French one (school, food, general habits) so in that aspect it was not difficult to adapt for me. But I do miss my family, especially my oldest son, my daughter and my grandson who now live in France. And of course I miss Paris which is a great city to visit.



My favourite Portuguese food is roasted cod with spuds!

A special day I remember was when Aroldo, me and some friends travelled to Lisbon with our old car. On the way back the car broke down in a remote place. At that time there were no mobile phones so we could not call anyone for help. After a long hour trying to make the car work, a lorry passed by us. The driver got out of his truck, checked our car and made it work! Thanking the driver and praising the Lord, we continued our trip. When we were nearly arriving home, at night, in the middle of nowhere, the car broke down again! Where would our help come from this time? Well, suddenly a man (from Belgium!) appeared, walking on his own in the middle of the night. He had a look at the car and made it work too! He was for us an angel sent by God. He said goodbye and disappeared. We again praised the Lord because, as Psalm 77:19 said, the Lord does NOT promise us to keep us out of trials and difficult times but he DOES promise He will stand with us in the middle of troubles. Emmanuel—God with us!

My vision

for Portugal is to see more Portuguese people being more involved in the local Evangelical churches.



Thank you
for all your prayers!

The Portuguese language

The official language of

9

countries:

Brazil, Cape Verde, Macau,
Mozambique, Portugal, Angola,
East Timor, Guinea-Bissau,
São Tomé and Príncipe

The

6th

most spoken language in the world

Spoken by about

230

million speakers worldwide

numbers = números



Verde

Amarelo

colours = cores

Azul

Vermelho

Hello!
How are you?
My name is John.

Olá!
Tudo bem?
Meu nome é João.

animals = animais



A Taste of Portugal

"Serradura"

Sawdust Pudding

Please let an adult help you with this

You need

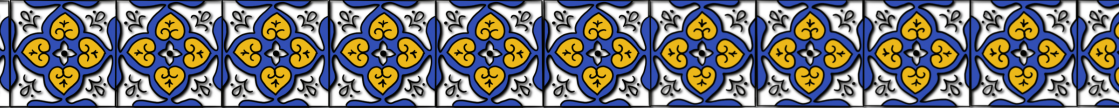
4 eggs
370g sweetened condensed milk
400ml milk
250g heavy cream
4 tbsp Sugar
250g Digestive biscuits
Grated Coconut



1. Mix the Milk, the condensed milk and 4 egg yolks in a pan and stir while on the stove (medium heat) until it turns into a thick cream.
2. Mix the heavy cream and the sugar and whisk until stiff.
3. In another bowl whisk the egg whites to fluffy consistency and gently mix them with the whisked heavy cream.
4. Crush the biscuits until they are like a fine dust. You can use a food processor for this.
5. Get a dessert bowl or glass and start layering all the mixtures as follows: biscuits, sprinkle of the grated coconut, condensed milk mixture, biscuits, coconut, heavy cream mixture, biscuits, coconut.
6. Decorate it with any fruit you fancy and pronto! (Portuguese for ready)

→ "Enjoy your meal"

Recipe and Photo by IngloriousCooking



Find your way through Portugal



ACRE International

Annual BBQ



Faith Mission Centre

**JUL
01**

Free Entry
Freewill offering for the work

7pm

The Faith Mission, Portadown Centre
131 Mahon Rd,
Portadown, Craigavon
BT62 3SF

www.acregospelmission.org

João Câmara

Pastor Moises Fernandes



My name is Moises Fernandes de Araujo, I am 53 years old and I am married to Zélia. We have 2 daughters, Aline Kely, who is 18, and Alane Cristine, who is 12. I serve as the Pastor of the Ebenézer Regular Baptist Church in the town of João Câmara, since 15th October 2022.

I was born into a Christian home, and during my childhood my parents took me along to all the various meetings in the church. But I did not make any personal decision to follow Christ for myself. It was only when I became an adult that I took that step of trusting in the Lord for salvation. I had lived in a way which was displeasing to God, but one day, through His grace, He saved me and liberated me from the chains of sin.



For a number of years I attended an evangelical church in the town of Macau, and in this church I sought to serve the Lord. I helped with many different ministries, including evangelistic outreach, couples ministry, leading the meetings and as a deacon. After serving for a period of time I realised that in order to serve the Lord better, I should study His word in a deeper way. And so, at the end of 2012, after speaking with my family, I made the decision that I would go to Bible College the following year. I spoke with my Pastor, and he wisely suggested that before I go to college, I would go to serve full time with a church, and then, if they agreed, I would be sent to college. I accepted this call with joy and began leading the congregation at the beginning of 2013.

However, this new role within the church lasted for a little more than a month, as I received the diagnosis from my doctor that I had Leukaemia. I had to begin treatment straight away, and so in March 2013 I started chemotherapy treatment, and this lasted until September 2013. I give praise to God that by the end of the treatment, the cancer had gone into full remission, and I was considered cured. These few months of treatment brought many difficulties, and various other health problems related

to the chemotherapy, but through it all, God still gave me the desire to serve Him. At the end of 2013, it was decided that I should be sent to bible college, and so in 2014 I began studying, which continued until the end of 2017. Following my studies, in January 2018 I became the Pastor of a church in Carnaubais, and the Lord kept me there until October 2022.

Following my time in Carnaubais, I accepted the call to go to be the Pastor of the church at João Câmara. The church follows the following program; Wednesdays: Prayer meeting, Saturdays: Bible study, Sundays: Worship services. The ladies meet once a month. During the week I go on visitation around the homes in the area, and often do evangelistic outreach also. At the end of March we will start doing open air meetings outside the homes of our church brothers and sisters. We also have a project ongoing at the moment to build an annex onto the church building, which will be used for our children's ministries.



I want to thank everyone who has supported us in prayer and in financial giving, it is a real blessing to us. Please continue to pray for the work in this town that God would give us wisdom as we seek to move the work forward.



João Câmara is a municipality in the state of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil. The municipality was founded on 29 October 1928.

João Câmara borders eight municipalities, three of which are Touros to the northeast, Pureza to the east and Parazininho to the north.



Please pray:

- Giving thanks to God that the cancer has gone into full remission.
- For the work in João Câmara.
- For wisdom as they seek to move the work forward.



Media Matters Peter Moore

It has been just over a year since I joined the work of Acre and in that time, I have been working alongside the home team of Victor, Keith, Karen, Jeff, and Marianna. Primarily I have been working with the media side of the mission which you may not be overly familiar with but by the end of this article you will hopefully have more of an understanding of what it is that I do.

As you read through this magazine you will be looking at one part of the work that I am involved with, a collaborative effort with Jeff. Prior to each edition being released Jeff requests a report or article from the workers and he edits them before sending them through to myself and I then go about designing each edition of the magazine and figuring out where to place each of the articles and accompanying photos. The initial work in designing the format of the magazine was probably the biggest task of this work as we went through many changes before finally settling on a design that was suitable for our needs.

Each month we produce a new video for our Mission Matters series on Facebook and YouTube, the most recent of which (at the time of writing) was about the work of Revive, our youth side of the mission focussed on 18-30s.



As a team we come up with a topic for each video and then I go about arranging a time and place to meet, then with my car packed full to the brim with the necessary equipment I go and get the video recorded. This is just the first step of the process as I then need to get all the recordings onto my computer and edit them together, syncing with the audio and cleaning up the image to try and

ensure consistency to reduce the number of distractions a person may have to contend with when watching the video. In this day and age of social media the average attention span has decreased dramatically. The editing process can take from a few hours to a couple of days, depending on the complexity of the video.

We would ask for your prayers that as we develop this side of the work, that God would lead and direct us in the way forward and that through this aspect of the work, that many people will hear about the mission, about what we do, and about how to find the Lord Jesus for themselves as their Saviour.



Aside from Mission Matters I am also involved in making promotional videos for the mission. These videos help us to reach a wide audience of people, and again in the modern age of the internet, most people will go online to find information, and with most of our younger audience now using social media, we can spread the news about upcoming mission teams, for example. Hopefully, you will have seen some of these posts online but if not be sure to follow our accounts to keep up to date with the work.



Please pray:

- For the work of Revive, that the work would continue to grow and reach more young people.
- For the media side of the work, that it would be used to help bring the work of Acre to more people and in turn that more people would hear the Word of God.

Supporting our missionaries in the place of prayer

Acre International is blessed to have many people who stand behind the work in prayer each month. Across the country, there are several prayer groups which meet monthly and faithfully pray for the needs of the mission and its workers. In this edition of InTouch, we will read of the Portadown Prayer Meeting, which is run by Gordon McNeill. Gordon has written this summary of the prayer meeting, which has been meeting since the 1970s...

The Portadown Prayer Meeting began during the 1970s in the home of Stanley and Eileen Troughton on the Tandragee Road in Portadown. At various times all of the well known and well remembered missionaries visited the meetings, bringing reports of the Lord working wondrously in Brazil, which was then the only mission field for Acre. Over the years the lands of Portugal and Lanzarote were added to the work.

Having been saved myself in 1981, and attending the same Church as Stanley, I was invited to the meetings. I came from a non-evangelical background and didn't know what a missionary was. I first attended in 1983, and have been involved since then, almost 40 years later. After Stanley and Eileen moved home, the meetings continued both in the CWU hall and the Brownstown Hall.

Eileen passed away a number of years ago, and by then the mantle had passed to myself to lead the prayer meeting. Pre-covid lock-down we had up to 25 faithful supporters attending. During the restriction period, 5 of our elderly members were called home.



We recommenced our meetings in September 2022, and now have a group of 10 to 12 folk who come to the meetings. We are hopeful that others will soon feel able to return.

Over the years that the meetings have been ongoing our supporters have contributed significant amounts of financial support for the work. This continues to the present day and we are so thankful for all the faithful giving to the Lord's work.

We're thankful for the members that we have who join with us each month, and we pray that others will get involved too, and that with God's help we will continue.



The work of Acre is a great work, and one which the Lord has abundantly blessed, responding to the great sacrifices which many of His servants made in this work. The exhortation of the Apostle Paul is still relevant today: "Brethren, pray for us that the Word of God may have free course, and be glorified" (2 Thess 3:1).

Here is a list of our other prayer meetings, if you would like further information please do get in touch:

Bangor:

First Friday of the month - 2.30pm

Carrickfergus:

Last Saturday of the month - 7.30pm

Kells:

Last Friday of the month - 8pm

Lisburn:

Last Thursday of the month - 8pm

Lurgan

3rd Monday of the month - 2pm

Mid Ulster:

Last Tuesday of the month - 8pm

Omagh:

Third Thursday of the month - 8pm

Portadown

3rd Monday of the month - 8pm



10 years of ministry Ricardo & Sandra

The work in Lanzarote continues by the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this year we will celebrate 10 years as a missionary and pastoral family in the Evangelical Christian Church of Arrecife, on the Island of Lanzarote.

Several generations have passed through the church in the last 50 years, and Acre International has had a presence here now for almost 37 years, with 3 of its missionaries having pastored the church.

Today, a small group of faithful people have been preserved down through those years, and now in the current decade, the Lord has sent us a new group of people, who have been working for the spread of the gospel on this Island.

Despite difficult moments and challenges, we have the call of God upon our lives to be in this work, and of course there are also many times of joy as we see the hand of God at work.

Our family has grown up. Our children are blessed and cared for by God. Yuliam has settled in Berlin, Germany. Andrea is studying Architecture in Tenerife. Daniel is protected by the Lord and he is by our side. May God protect and take care of our children.



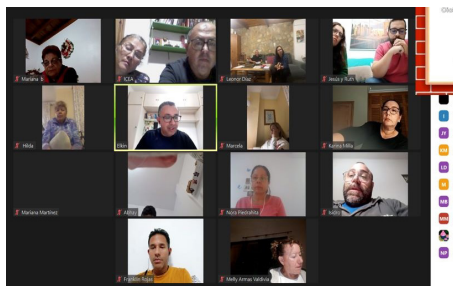
A few weeks ago we had a visit from Keith and Karen Lindsay, and David Middleton. They too could see the new generation now present in the church here. During this time, God blessed us with a good assembly of FIEIDE (Federation of Independent Evangelical Churches in the Canary Islands). We were visited by 35 people including pastors, delegates, youth and ladies ministry coordinators. We had a great team from the church who helped with all of the various arrangements.



Andrew Reid, coordinator of the School of Theology of the Federation, led the preaching. 21 students from our church are studying the biblical training course with the Moclam Institute. We have our group meetings once a month by zoom. Meanwhile, we are also running a discipleship course called 'the heart of Christianity', which is attended by 8 people recently converted, and 4 unbelievers. We believe this course will help the new converts to grow in their faith and lead them to baptism, and for the unbelievers that it will help them to see the gospel message more clearly, and lead them to faith in Christ.

2023 is a year of challenges, expectations, and a lot of work. In May, the local assembly of our church will meet and have the responsibility of deciding upon the re-election of myself (Ricardo), as the pastor for another 5 years. May God guide this decision, I have peace and I believe that the Lord continues to bless our ministry here.

Outside of the church, the various outreach opportunities are beginning to open up again. We have been able to go back to the nursing homes to meet with the residents there, and we hope to be able to get back into the Tahiche prison also to bring the gospel to the people there. We also hope to be able to get back to the children's work in the squares of Arrecife. I am also able to go back into the hospital at the invitation of the chaplaincy roughly every 6 weeks to conduct a meeting there.





At the end of April our church will host the 'expository preaching retreat and workshop'. This event will welcome about 50 pastors, teachers and preachers of God's word, and will be held at the retreat centre in Nazareth. We would ask you to pray for this event and for God's help.

Once again we want to thank each one for praying for us, we thank God for each of you who support us in this work. God is good. May He continue to bless you all.



Please pray:

- For the work that Ricardo and Sandra have done over the last 10 years.
- For the 21 students taking part in the Biblical training course.
- For the various outreach opportunities as they open up again.
- For the expository preaching retreat and workshop.

My Response

☐ I would like to receive your monthly prayer letter/magazine

☐ I would like a gift aid form

☐ I have enclosed a gift of £..... to help present the Gospel message to the millions of people in Brazil, Portugal, Lanzarote and Northern Ireland.

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Please send to:

Acre International, 30 Carnglave Manor, Spa, Ballynahinch, BT24 8XE



Acre Youth Event for 18-30s
1st Saturday of the month
Connect Hall, Dromara

For more information

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