

Jimmy and Katia Rocks

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The call in action

Dear friends,

We hope this finds you well; we are also well and plugging away here in Florianópolis.

We have seen new folk come to Christ including a young lad called Bruno. He told us that he had been an atheist two weeks previously! We have also initiated a new congregation plant in the city of São José, which is part of the larger Florianópolis area on the mainland. Please keep this new venture in your prayers – our aim is to grow the group and start a Sunday morning congregation of our church there in a bid to reach others with the good news of the Kingdom.

In August, Katia’s mum came and stayed with us for a few weeks, allowing Katia and me an opportunity to get away together for a few days in order to switch off.

The women’s crafts afternoons have started back up and are drawing new people into the life of the church. We also started a jiu-jitsu class as an outreach. A member of a church, Diogo, knew an instructor called Fernando who gave jiu-jitsu lessons as a social project and we began talking about how we could work together as a church. I met with Fernando to talk through the project in the supermarket that Diogo runs. As I was talking to him, I felt a sharp pain shoot down the back of my neck and not having any neck problems, I thought that it could be a word of knowledge and so asked him if he had any pain in his neck. He told me that he had injured it a few days prior while competing in a tournament. I explained to him that healing is one of the ways God likes to get our attention and show us he is real and that he loves us. I asked if I could pray for him, so there and then in the entrance way of the mini-market, we prayed and he was healed and regained full mobility. It led to a great conversation about God.

The project itself got off to a good start but due to some personal issues in Fernando’s family, we have put the project on hold and are looking to see how we can best help them as a church. Please pray for Fernando and that his family would come to know Jesus, and for the future of the jiu-jitsu project.

The women’s ministry, headed up by Katia, has been going well. They have been meeting every fortnight, looking at issues such as depression. The meetings are strengthening relationships among the women and drawing others alongside.

In September, Katia and I headed to take a conference in the city of Montenegro, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. The theme was “the Kingdom of God”, focusing on the work of the Holy Spirit both inside and outside the church. On the Saturday afternoon, I ran a workshop on power evangelism for the youth, teaching how to effectively pray for folk on the streets, sharing some stories and offering some practical advice on the subject. We then went to a local park to put what we had learnt into practice and gathered to pray. As we



Name: Jimmy and Katia Rocks

Location: Florianópolis, Brazil

Our call: To share the good news of Jesus, to make followers of Jesus and to plant new churches that will impact the local community positively.

Our role: We are leading a church that we planted, sharing Jesus and training others to do the same.



Jimmy and Gustavo talking with a group of street dwellers before praying with them

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formed a circle, I saw a young family approach and had the strong sense that the husband was suffering from a bad right knee. However, I was unable to stop him at that time as I was getting ready to send people out.

We then dispersed into small groups and a young man in my group asked about an image he had been given of a man with a baseball cap, glasses and a t-shirt when we were earlier praying in the church. He asked if I thought it could be the Lord speaking and whether we should pray for the guy who had just passed by and which fitted the description. I replied: "you will only know for sure if you offer to pray for him".

We approached the husband and his family and the young man explained the image he had been given and asked if there was anything we could pray for. The husband replied "yes, I have a bad right knee" and so we prayed for him. The pain he had felt left his body and we then prayed for the rest of the family who encountered the peace of God. This led to a great conversation about Jesus and we invited them to visit the church where I was ministering at the conference. We had many similar encounters that day and the group have since been inspired to make that outreach a monthly event.

As a church, we have also organised some social events to strengthen community life and invite new folk along to. We had a 60s, 70s and 80s themed party, which went down really well and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part.

In October we started a new five-part discipleship course called "The Way", which runs through the basics to maturity over five bi-monthly sessions. On the same weekend, we celebrated Dia das crianças (national children's day) and our children's ministry team organised a collection for disadvantaged children within a local favela. The children at church collected toys, wrapping them up nicely with some sweets, and wrote handwritten letters to the children who would receive the toys. On the Saturday we headed to the favela with some of the older children from church to distribute the gifts to the children there and partnered with an Assemblies of God church. It was so great to see the evident joy on the faces of the children, both those giving and those receiving gifts.

Love from us all,

Jimmy, Katia, Joanna and Davi

Photos from top to bottom: A little boy who received his present at the outreach in Siri Favela; enjoying some much needed time away; a family selfie at the ice-cream parlour; the Vineyard Floripa's 60s, 70s and 80s party.



GOING FURTHER WITH CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

Christmas appeal: People are being excluded from life because they have physical or mental health struggles, or because they're not "normal". This Christmas, you can invite everyone to join the feast by giving to CMS at: churchmissionsociety.org/christmas

If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400

You can give to Jimmy and Katia at:
churchmissionsociety.org/rocks

Contact details:
jimmyrocks1@gmail.com
kkatia_700@hotmail.com

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