

Jimmy and Katia Rocks

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The call in action

Dear Friends,

We hope this finds you well. We can't quite believe that 2021 is nearly over. We are glad to say that the pandemic is under control here.

In the last few months we have finished our first New Wine Discipleship School, which went really well. Those who took part grew in their faith and many have taken on more responsibility in the church. We had a graduation ceremony and service at the end of August, and the service was led by the students. We are currently in the process of planning the next course, due to start in March. Amanda, who led the last course, will be stepping down. Gustavo, who was a student on the last course, will be leading the next course. He and his wife, Miriane, are very active in the life of the church. Do pray for the next course, that God would bring along a good number of students, that more leaders would be raised up and pray too for the course leaders.

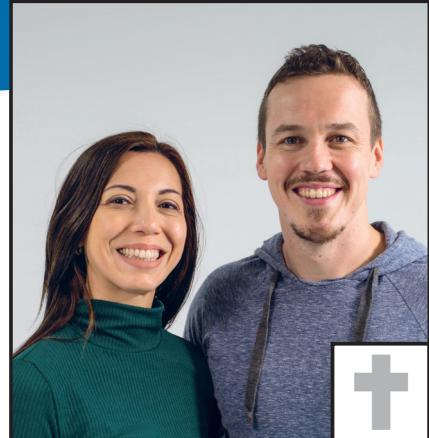
We also finished the marriage course. The course was great, giving couples tools to better communicate and work on various areas of their marriage. We finished off the course with a night of pizza and dancing.

Also in August we started a monthly men's night – for this the church feels more like a bar with a pool table, darts, card games and music. As part of the evening there is a short talk and an opportunity to share with each other and pray for one another. The evenings have been well attended, strengthening friendships and there have been new faces coming along. Please do pray for the strengthening of this area of ministry and that more men would be reached through it.

We have started up some new house groups, including one led by Katia and myself, which is made up of folk who are newer to church.

In October we had a children's outreach event at the church to commemorate Brazilian national children's day. Over half the children who came were not from the church. The afternoon was full of games, music, snacks and an evangelistic talk.

As life gets back to normal here and as the weather is getting better, we are stepping up our evangelism. We started an experimental evangelistic service in



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.



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New Wine Discipleship School
graduation.

a hostel – two young ladies who work there have become part of our church and they are very keen to reach guests.

We have also been back out on the streets with our prayer gazebo, offering prayer to passers-by. Many people stop to receive prayer and many are touched by the presence of God. At the time of writing we are gearing up for an evangelistic event with Christian rappers in one of the favelas in our neighbourhood. There will be popcorn and other snacks, rap songs performed and testimonies given about the transformative power of the gospel. In December we will also be on the beach, offering prayer and having an outdoor evangelistic service. We might also have some baptisms in the sea. Do pray that we will be fruitful in our evangelism, that many would come to know Jesus and go on to be disciples of his.

We are excited to see how God is changing lives here. We are seeing teenagers come to faith in the youth group. The parents of a family who have been coming to our church for a while have gone into rehab for substance abuse. Cristiane and Nelson have been on the edge of church life for a few years and are now wanting to break with destructive patterns. As a church we have helped them to find Christian rehab centres, and their wider family members who attend our church are taking care of their two children aged 12 and 10. Please pray for God's healing and restoration for their family.

As a family we got away for a week in August, heading to Gramado in the south of Brazil. The weather is cold there and it feels very different to the rest of Brazil. Joanna and Davi are well, they are enjoying school and particularly enjoying the sports they are playing – in Joanna's case volleyball and in Davi's football. Things will be busy for us in the run up to Christmas, we will wind down a bit after, then church activities and outreaches will ramp up again in February.

Early next year CMS mission partners in training Andy and Kati Walsh will be joining us to help expand our church's outreach to those on the edge. Please be praying for Andy, Kati and their daughter Eva as they prepare to serve the Lord here. Pray for God's provision, and guidance for the work they will undertake here.

Now that quarantine restrictions have been eased in the UK, we will start to make plans for our home leave. At some point in 2022 we will be visiting our link churches and hope to connect with as many of you as possible

Please keep us in your prayers. It's been an exhausting couple of years leading the church through a lot of transition during the pandemic, and we are praying for God to renew us. Pray for God's provision for us as a family, that we would stay close to Jesus and would be used powerfully here to extend his Kingdom.

Blessings,

Jimmy, Katia, Joanna and Davi



Photos from top to bottom: Men's night at Vineyard Floripa; Children's outreach in October; Family break in Gramado in August.

GOING FURTHER WITH CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

We live in a violent world but CMS partners in Africa and across the globe are bringing change, hope and freedom to lives wrecked by war. You can help bring the peace of Christ to lives torn apart by conflict too. Find out more at churchmissionsociety.org/christmas2021

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

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