

# the LISBON

*focus*

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## thanksgiving

Undoubtedly, one of our favorite holidays, humbling us, reminding us of all of the ways God has shown us His grace. A special blessing this year: because of the generosity of several supporting churches, we were able to organize and host a conference for the Iberian Peninsula missionaries in Spain and Portugal. A dear Pastor friend and his wife from Texas spent the week with us to encourage us from the Word and the fellowship among the missionaries was sweet and uplifting. The theme was “look what God is doing” and in each service, one or two missionary families shared some specific ways God was working – ways only God can work. It was unfortunate that while we were a few hours from our home over Thanksgiving, our car broke down for the third costly repair in just a few short months. As we discussed whether or not we should (or even could) replace it, we were reminded that before or immediately following each breakdown, we “randomly” received a special offering that covered the expense. Since we cannot afford to replace it, we decided instead to thank God for the car that allows us to see His faithful provision and though we do not trust the car (ha ha), we do trust the One who faithfully provides for us.

## christmas

This month has flown by as it seems we have had the calendar scribbled full of school programs, dinners, parties, get-togethers, and special services. A special blessing was seeing an English student that has attended English classes for 7 years now, attend the church Christmas party, which was officially her first church event. Though she has heard the gospel before through English class events, we hope that this step was a sign of a softening of her heart. Please pray for Manuela.

## some direction...

In our last letter, we shared that we were in an information gathering stage concerning our area and the direction we should go to begin a new work here. God has closed and opened some doors, thus narrowing our options to the way He would lead us. We currently have one affordable building option (please visit our website to see it on video [www.moores2portugal.com/videos.html](http://www.moores2portugal.com/videos.html)), and while it is a great option, it poses the challenge of raising \$15,000 for start-up costs including construction, furnishings, and 6 months of up-front rent. It also requires a change to a licensing document that has been submitted but as far as we can tell, has made little progress through our bureaucratic system. Since God has not yet closed the door, we are still pursuing this option, praying for the necessary money (of which we have already received \$7,500!) and praying that this document will move quickly through the necessary channels. HOWEVER, in an effort to not lose momentum or waste precious time, we have prayed for another place that will at least allow us to begin a Bible study. Beau has spoken to the owner of a “tutoring center” about renting a large-ish room she has available for party rentals to host a Bible study on Sundays. After a week or two of giving it some thought, she agreed and quoted us a reasonable hourly rate. This arrangement is supposed to be finalized after the New Year and we are anxious to see what God has planned for this venue. Please pray for the owner, Liliana, and for God to work in her heart. And pray that God would give us direction and stamina for the upcoming events of 2018! Happy New Year! May God bless your church and your family as you serve Him.



**Beau and Valerie Moore**

P.O. Box 191 Springfield, MO 65801 [beau2portugal@gmail.com](mailto:beau2portugal@gmail.com)