

the LISBON

focus

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And so two months of this new year have already sped by. Throughout the month of January we made many preparations for the start-up of a new work. Things such as publishing a website, printing and distributing flyers, networking on websites and in facebook groups, and gathering some necessities such as chairs and tables (which included a trip to Costco in Spain – yay – because we also brought home peanut butter and brownie mixes ☺).

Our meeting place is a building we originally looked at for “our” church building, but before we could get a contract on it, someone else had already rented it for a tutoring center. She has a large-ish meeting room in the back. Beau approached her about renting it to us on Sunday mornings while we are waiting for our “own” building. She agreed. Owen (age 4), doesn’t quite understand our current arrangement, so he calls our current location “Liliana’s church” ☺. My prayer is that it does become Liliana’s church. Please pray for her, as we have had many good conversations with her and she has offered to participate “one of these Sundays”.

Maybe some of you have experienced church in a temporary location whether it was in its beginning stages, sharing space/cost with another church, or “enduring” a building project. If you have, you understand the amount of work it is to set-up and take down each Sunday, and the added trick of storing all of the furnishings throughout the week. It is fortunate that this building is close enough for us to load stacks of chairs, fold-down tables, etc. onto a cart and wheel them to the building. Our “nursery toy box” has wheels and our Sunday school supplies are organized on a cart, which gives our children opportunity to fight over who will get to roll what to church ☺. Even our flag “sign” is a mobile solution.



The first week of February was our kick-off Sunday. A few friends came to be supportive and fill some chairs so that any visitors might feel more comfortable. We are offering both an English service and a Portuguese service in this very international area. This Sunday, we had a Nepalese father and his son join us for the English hour and kids’ Sunday school. We have many who have expressed that they plan to visit “sometime” and have had hundreds of visitors on our website, so we’re excited to see what God is doing.

For those who prayed for the bureaucratic holding pattern we were in concerning the storefront we wish to rent... here’s how it unfolded: Beau stopped by the real estate agent’s office one afternoon to check on the process and it just so happened that the owner of the building was there, and he just so happens to be the president of our local government. Beau explained the vision we have for the building and why we haven’t signed the contract yet. He assured Beau we did not need to wait. He would put in writing that we have permission to house a church there. It would seem that we have the green light to move forward. (Visit our website to see a short video about the storefront – www.moores2portugal.com/videos).

We are encouraged that we have received over half of the funds needed for construction, outfitting/furnishings, and 6 months rent up front. Our contract and “remodel” will begin April 1, so it would be ideal to receive funds by or near that date. Would you pray about how you might be able to be involved? If the general or missions budgets are unable to contribute, maybe a Sunday school class could take on one of the following expenses as a fund-raising project:

flooring - \$2,100	lighting - \$1,250
drop ceiling - \$750	sound-proofing - \$500
vinyl signage - \$360	seating - \$750
walls/divisions - \$650	piano - \$1,000

Thank you for faithfully encouraging, supporting, and assisting us in what God has called us all to do around the world.

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