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Dear praying friends,

We hope and pray you are all doing well.

Today is a very special day for our family, as we celebrate Leonor's 15th birthday! We had a quiet (just as she likes) and joyful celebration, with her favorite food for lunch (butter chicken!) and her favorite dessert too. **Join us in praying for Leonor to keep growing in the knowledge of the Lord and that the joy of the Lord is her strength!**



Regarding covid restrictions, things are getting a bit more relaxed. Diogo is back to school (Leonor will only go back on the 19th of April). Churches can meet, but as we are not yet officially registered, we still meet on Zoom. The process of registration is ongoing and we expect to have it completed in a couple of months. **Please pray for this process to go smoothly and also swiftly.** As we wrote in the previous newsletter, we are on a transition process. Last year, as we started to consider registering our community, we sought the Lord to guide us in this. We could understand we needed a more clear perception on our local identity. Though we started with the purpose to reach out to

surfers in the city, the Lord brought a variety of people into our community. We see it as a reflection of the nature of Christ's church: people from different walks, ages, even nationalities, who gather under the name of Jesus. A family that loves, follows and worships Jesus and where everyone is welcome. So, after praying, talking and listening to people around us, we made the decision to register our community with a Portuguese name: a Casa - Comunidade Cristã em Viana (Home- Christian community in Viana). Our Logo is in the making by Mafalda, a designer by trade, and very soon you will see the change in our social media platforms. **Pray all is for His glory and that He accomplishes His purposes in and through us!**

Nuno, Marcelo, Vera, Ulises and Verena are taking part on an Alpha course that started early in the year. There are a lot of people being part of it, mostly non believers., but also priests and people with a catholic upbringing. It has been a blessing for our community, as other people from the area see us there along with catholics in a friendly dialogue (as much as we want to avoid it, in small cities like Viana, it is almost impossible not to be looked at as a sect if you are not connected with

the catholic faith). Because of this, some people have been more keen on joining our bible studies, specially women. A new Alpha course is starting soon, and the same people from our community will take part and invite non believer friends. **Please pray the Holy Spirit works in the lives of those who have been invited and that they may come to saving faith in Jesus.**

Anita is one of these women who recently joined us. She is meeting with Vera every week, to pray and study the Word. She is also joining our women's bible study and the Sunday gathering. She has a lot of questions and is facing a very difficult time in her life. **Pray the Lord continues to reveal Himself to her and that He protects her from the enemy.**

**Keep praying for Vera's husband, José, that the Lord sets him free from the darkness he lives in. Pray also for Vera, that the love, grace and strength of the Lord fill her to overflow.**

*(in the pic, our family and Vera's going up the hill last saturday)*



In His strength,

Nuno, Gila, Leonor and Diogo