



St Michael's Church
Stoke Gifford



Mission Partner of the Month - April 2026



Katia Rocks *co-pastoring a Vineyard Church in southern Brazil*

Katia would like to thank everyone at St Michael's for our prayers and support this year, for herself, Joanna & Davi, and her church in Florianópolis. It is great to report that Katia is still cancer-free and feels the experience, though horrible, has strengthened her ability and desire to proclaim the Kingdom of God with those she meets.

There have been great answers to prayer this year, as we joined Katia and the church praying for a larger venue in which they could

meet. God moved in a wonderful way on their behalf, and a room right next to theirs became available. They were able to rent it and remove the wall between the two spaces, creating a larger area for their services. The space is beautiful and comfortable for everyone who comes. The even better news is that the church has continued to flourish, and on some Sundays, it already seems full again!

Katia is immensely grateful and encouraged by our prayers and for the financial support that we have given her as a church. She points out that it is because of this support that they can remain there and continue the ministry that the Lord has called and equips us to do. She is asking for prayer, though, over the last year they have experienced a decrease in financial support & as it stands, their funding is not sustainable long term.



Katia and the church have been praying for a man named Elias. He was diagnosed with throat and mouth cancer. One Sunday afternoon, he invited them to his home and they had the opportunity to share the love of God with him. Katia also shared her

own journey with him – how God cared for her, healed her, and above all, the salvation that is only found in Jesus. They prayed for Elias, prayed for miraculous healing over his physical body, but also prayed for salvation. In that moment, tears ran down his face as he asked for forgiveness for his sins and accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour and, that same afternoon, he asked to be baptised right there and then.

Katia and the whole family will be visiting Bristol this summer and it will be lovely to catch up with them in person. Katia asks that we pray that while over here they manage to visit all the churches that support them and also that they will manage to get some rest while visiting.

- Give thanks for their enlarged Church meeting space and their growing church
- Pray for wisdom and strength for Katia and for Andy Walsh as they pastor the church
- Pray for Katia's financial support to increase to a sustainable level
- And pray for great outcomes from their visit to the UK this summer



Katia will be speaking at the 6:30pm celebration at St. Michael's on 12 July!

Katia's link to the CMS website: [Katia Rocks, Brazil - Church Mission Society \(CMS\)](#)

St Michael's Link Person: Karen Needham

Other St Michael's Mission News

- **Moldova:** Pray for the many widows being helped with gifts of coal and food through the Gotesti Church Winter Help outreach. Many husbands have died as a result of alcoholism.
- **Encounter Christianity** is looking to recruit another Secondary school teacher due to the high demand for their services.
- **Iran:** Pray for wisdom and courage for believers facing fear, displacement and uncertainty in their daily life; for healing for the nation, for an end to violence and for lasting peace; and that the light of Christ would shine through the darkness, bringing hope and transformation to Iranian communities. (From Open Doors)
- **The Brickworks:** Pray for the cataract camp taking place after Easter with operations for over 200 patients; and for John & Poppy Spens and Ben Sweetnam hoping to visit South Sudan in early June.
- **Bristol Churches Shelter.** As this winter season has now ended, thank God for all those who volunteered & pray for the final guests to move forward with greater confidence & peace.