

## *Reaching* \_ugano

Steve & Samantha Padilla Regional Missionaries to Switzerland

## The Kingdom is advancing!

We are very excited to share what God is doing in Lugano, the largest Italian-speaking city of Switzerland. Since our arrival we have seen the hand of God moving and we can truly say that the Lord has a plan for this region!

September 1st 2023 was the day of our arrival. With the help of God, we found a very nice accommodation and then we immediately began the process of Visa application as EU citizens. It is quite a long process, we thank God everything turned out good.



On September 8<sup>th</sup> we met our very first contact in the city, a young mother looking for a Pentecostal church. From then until the month of December, we tried to develop a relationship with her, and we were able to organize three home meetings.



Later, a family who had moved near Lugano from Southern Italy found us on social media and on January 21st 2024 we have had our first service in a Hotel Room in a strategic location of the city. We're still gathering there and, at the moment, we've had 15 meetings with an average attendance of 8/9 people.

We want to express our gratitude for the support we're receiving from the appointed missionary Rev. Amber Hackenbruch since her arrival. Sister Hackenbruch visits us once a month, recently in company of two young AlMers from the US who have joined the Swiss team.



We want to thank our home church in Italy. They cover us with prayers, encouragement and support: some brothers and sisters visited us in church a couple of times and they also came for a prayer walk in the month of May.

We're also very thankful to the Regional Missions, the local Leadership and the GSN fellowship. The GSN have been our reference point during our settlement, they warmly welcomed and supported us, especially during the GSN events.



The year 2024, however, has been a turning point for the church of Switzerland. In February we had a leadership meeting led by our General Superintendent, Rev. Paul Brochu. In that meeting it was decided to have the first Swiss National Conference in the month of May in Geneva.

The Conference was greatly blessed and there was a group of six from Lugano, we consider it a major victory! We are living in a very exciting time as we see the Church of Switzerland advance in our city and in the rest of the nation!

At the moment we continue having Sunday services almost every week as well as personal Bible studies. We believe the Lord will keep being faithful with us and we appreciate your prayers for this area of Europe.

In Jesus name we will win this city! Steve & Samantha Padilla