



APRESENTADO POR  
  
 IGREJA CRISTÃ MARANATA

# BRAZIL'S LARGEST CHURCH IN VOLUNTEERS

The Maranatha Christian Church practices a culture of gratitude to maintain its temples and gathers countless volunteers for the common good.

**F**ounded in 1968, in Vila Velha, Espírito Santo, the Maranatha Christian Church (MCC) is present in over 100 countries, spanning all continents – with over 5,000 temples in Brazil alone. One of its distinguishing factors is the sense of community the institution brings to the places it occupies.

Evidence of this is its strong commitment to volunteer work, carried out by the faithful in support of a greater cause: the eternal gospel of Christ. "If you are a member of the church and clean a room, you have not received anything, but you did it out of love for the cause. This is good for the soul," says Gedelti Gueiros, president of the Maranatha Christian Church.

This has even become one of the pillars of the MCC. And even the pastors are part of this culture. During the time they take care of the church, they do not receive any compensation – as they live an experience of gratitude. "We understand that ministry is not a profession,

it is a project of faith," emphasizes the president.

## VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY

With over 5,000 churches spread across Brazil, in addition to 90 Maanains, the maintenance and care of the spaces are voluntary. According to Pastor Josias Junior, Communication Manager of MCC, the church members, by nature, are already volunteers. "The faithful already see themselves as debtors to God and therefore set aside a portion of their time for volunteering," he says.

Other forms of faith also rely on social work that helps local communities. This is the case with the projects "Amazon Mission" and "Sertão Mission," which provide access to basic healthcare for remote regions of the country,' as Pastor Amadeu Loureiro Lopes, who is also a doctor and a member of the Brazilian Medical Association (AMB), explains.

## BRINGING HEALTH AND THE GOSPEL TO ALL

Social projects are part of the International Christian Mission Maranatha. For Pastor João Cidade, responsible for organizing the projects, missions and outreach efforts are social and evangelistic actions. "Medical care, access to health, and medications alleviate urgent situations, but what changes the soul is the gospel."

Together, the projects have served over 17,000 patients, performed 25,000 procedures, and distributed 32,000 doses of medication, with the support of over 200 healthcare professionals and more than 500 volunteers.

The volunteers in the missions and healthcare professionals involved in the project fund their own travel expenses. At the project's base, the International Christian Mission Maranatha assumes the costs of accommodation, transportation, and meals – in partnership with local municipalities.

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## VOLUNTEER LEADERS

AMONG PASTORS,  
DEACONS, AND WORKERS

The work involves attending to over 5,000 temples in Brazil and abroad, as well as providing voluntary assistance and preaching in hospitals, children's shelters, among others.

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