



LIVE!
ERASMUS

Narrative report 2022

Live! Erasmus initially started with an international student alpha (organized by the Navigators Studenten Vereniging Rotterdam). After that we continued with two groups of around ten people to do Discovery Bible Study (one group on the Friday, one group on the Saturday), apart from each other. At some point we decided to join together on the Friday evening, which caused some people to leave due to availability on the Friday. Because we wanted to keep meeting those people, and we wanted to provide a place for people fresh out of alpha, as well as having a place of corporate worship, we decided to start meeting once a month on Sunday as well. The decision to initially start Sunday services once a month instead of weekly was because of the size of the group, which was quite small at this point (around 10-15 people who were coming consistently). Last year in April (at Easter), we kicked off Sunday services. During one year (April 2022 - May 2023) we had a Sunday service once a month, consisting of worship, teaching, small group discussions and lunch afterwards. We also helped organize two additional international student alphas during this year. From this June onwards we will increase the number of Sunday services to every week. This decision was made because we saw many people leaving to other churches/communities who did have weekly Sunday meetings. We figured, if we want to be a community church and have impact on the neighborhood and the Erasmus University, it would be better if we offer the opportunity to meet each other and God in this place every week, instead of once a month. This makes it easier to invite people and we might become more visible for students and the neighborhood. We have yet to see what the impact will be, but we are hopeful and expectant to see many people come.

Another great update is that some people from our sister church (from the Ethnos Network) from Birmingham, Alabama, have come to visit us in May to help evangelize on campus and to encourage one another. It has been great to experience such a strong connection with people from the other side of the world and they helped a lot with reaching students as well. We have seen some new people joining alpha and our Sunday service already because of their help.