December, 2016

# The Schicks

Making the Gospel Accessible to the 38 Million People in Poland

## A Message from Your Ambassadors

Dear Prayer Partners,

As many of you know, we came back to the U.S. two months early because our son, Ryan, was in a motorcycle accident (See other section). Thankfully he survived and is recuperating in a VA medical center in Richmond, VA where we are also residing temporarily. Our furlough plans are still going forward even though Ed may be traveling alone at times while Leslie cares for Ryan. Please use our contact information to keep in touch. We are deeply grateful for all the love and support shown to us at this time. As we celebrate Christ's coming to heal a world filled with sin and hurt, we are even more deeply reminded how much we need Christ during this trial in our family. We are also looking forward to a new year filled with great opportunities for the Gospel even as the Lord puts us in places and with people that we did not expect to meet. Please pray that we will grow in our witness for Christ both here and in Poland.

Ed & Leslie Schick

## **Ryan's Recovery**

Our son, Ryan was involved in a tragic motorcycle accident on October 18. He survived the crash and was airlifted to a trauma center in Dayton, OH. The U.S. military immediately flew us from Lublin, Poland to his bedside where his brothers and sisters had already gathered. We soon learned that his head injury was extensive due to the high impact and in spite of his helmet. He battled cranial pressure for 5 critical days while the doctors and nurses did everything they could to keep him alive. As we prayed and waited his pressures finally improved and subsided. Though his chances of survival improved he still suffered from severe lung problems and many other maladies caused by the high impact crash. He slowly regained consciousness and his heart and lungs began to function more normally. Trachea and feeding tubes were necessary because his lungs needed a long time to heal. Eventually he was transferred from the civilian hospital in Dayton to Walter Reed Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. There he made further progress in healing while the doctors treated various medical problems and evaluated his readiness to enter a rehabilitation program. On November 22 he was transferred to the VA Medical Center in Richmond, VA. He has made steady improvements in rehabilitation while the remaining medical issues have been treated as needed. The Lord has given us back our son from the dead and has put his wonderfully created body back together piece by piece. Every day since he regained consciousness, we have witnessed a miracle of healing and progress. We hope to see Ryan not just recover physically, but also become stronger spiritually than he was before the accident. We are so very grateful for the massive amount of support from our family, partnering churches, friends, military personnel not to mention the doctors, nurses and medical helpers who have

cared for him with great skill. For those who wish to get news about his progress, please see the special tab on our website (www.EdSchick.com).



Ryan Visited by His Fellow Band Members

#### Ministering to the Needs of Polish Pastors

The Lord uses the gifts of believers from many countries and cultures to evangelize the world. When Christian leaders visit other countries, they gain new insights and encouragement to do more in their home country. It also allows them to develop a better global perspective in world evangelism. Ever since Poland became more open to missionaries, Polish pastors have been hosting American missionaries, pastors and many other guests there. Though their help is greatly appreciated in Poland, American ministry leaders rarely invite Polish pastors to visit the U.S. We would like to challenge you to pray for and support two Polish pastors who would greatly benefit from visiting American churches.

# **Story of Hope - Translation Project Update**

The Story of Hope project has continued to move toward completion. We have had a little slow down as Leslie and I had to come back early to the U.S. but we hope to continue moving forward with the completion of the first translation and the start of the review process. Please pray for the full funding of the project to pay for the translators and printing.

#### Schicks to Poland Financial Summary

Monthly Support	87%
Monthly Need	\$700
Need for next 12 Months	\$8,400
Story of Hope	\$1,700
Car in Poland	\$10,000

Most of our support comes from churches and individuals who give on a regular basis. Some of our support (30%) comes from single gifts. If our regular monthly need is met, we can effectively spend our time focused mainly on ministry in Poland. Please consider how you might provide speaking opportunities, funding for travel, housing and food for two special Polish guests in our country.



Pastor Henryk, Pastor Mariusz and Baptismal candidates in Chelm, Poland

### **Transportation Needs**

For our first two years in Poland we been able to use public transportation to meet most of our travel needs. As our ministry moves into its next phase, we are planning to travel from city to city more as we seek a place to minister in a developing church. We will also be visiting key churches to as we finish translating the Story of Hope and begin using it for evangelism training.

#### **Important Upcoming Dates**

Our home base for our furlough is Richmond, VA. We will be traveling to the following places to meet with our partnering churches and individuals. January 18 February 14 - Ed in North Detroit Area January 22 Grace Fellowship Church, Gladwin, MI February 5 Stony Creek Community Church, Utica, MI; Monclova Road Baptist Church, Monclova, OH February 12 New Harmony Baptist Church, Caldwell, OH March 3-14 Ed & Leslie in Florida March 5 Grace Baptist Church, Port Orange, FL March 12 Faith Baptist Church, Winter Haven, FL March 21 April 10 Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania April 21-27 Cleveland Area May 18 U.S. Furlough End and Return to Poland

## **Prayer and Praise Items**

On Our Knees and Giving Glory to God

- 1. Glory to God for sparing Ryan's life and giving him great progress for recovery. Pray for those who treat him and family members who care for him.
- 2. Praise the Lord for witnessing opportunities with students, neighbors and others in the community.
- 3. More progress on Story of Hope Translation
- 4. For the opportunity to host a Polish pastor to meet with churches and believers in the U.S.
- 5. More monthly support funds for a car in Poland.
- 6. Personal language study while on furlough.
- 7. Fruitful meetings during our furlough.
- 8. For Christians to be men and women of integrity who love and live the truth.



Schick Family Christmas 2016

# God Hears Our (Your) Prayers

We just wanted to let you know how big of impact people can have when they pray. Many people heard about Ryan's accident and sought to help in various ways. On one occasion when I had to leave Leslie at the hospital in that first week, the doctors asked her to consider approving a disabling but life-saving surgery for Ryan. She immediately went to the hospital chapel to pray. After asking God why she couldn't find a chaplain, a church member called her saying he was at the hospital but didn't know where to find our family. He prayed with her and was God's chaplain for that day. The church he was from was not local nor was it one but was from the other side of the state. This man was determined to help us and his (and your) prayers were answered at that critical time. Fortunately Ryan did require the surgery and has healed in that area of his body.

# **Contact Info**

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Sending Church Grace Baptist Church Brunswick, OH

# Service Agency

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Websitewww.EdSchick.comFaceBook"Schicks to Poland"<br/>(Page and Group)

# **Contact Info in Richmond**

Fisher House - Box 107 (Schick) Richmond VA Medical Center 1201 Broad Rock Blvd Richmond VA 23249

804-675-5000 x 2344 Ed & Leslie (Fisher House) x 6169 Ryan (Polytrauma B Room 204)



Ed near the hospital chapel.