

THE SCHICKS

MAKING THE BLESSING OF THE GOSPEL
ACCESSIBLE TO THE 38 MILLION PEOPLE IN POLAND

A Message from Your Ambassadors

Dear Prayer Partners,

We are back in Poland after a whirlwind of a furlough! The Lord gave us many wonderful ministry opportunities, some planned and some unplanned. We were also blessed with some great family opportunities: we met our grandson, Joseph Whittemore, for the first time; cheered for Johanna at her college graduation; went to the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter with Ryan; visited Leslie's mom at her new home; enjoyed a family reunion; and competed in our first Sprint Triathlon under our family's team name: "Climb Mountains." We are grateful to God for using us, and for all His blessings and protection along the way. We are glad to be back - back in Poland!

Our goals for these next six months can be summed up in three words: Transition, Expansion, and Development. Please read the stories below which explain these and other important developments.

Yours for Christ,

Ed & Leslie Schick

Transition

We chose our first location in Poland to be Lublin, primarily because it was home to the best language school in the country. While we were there, we served at the Lublin Baptist Church. There is a good team of missionaries that serve in Lublin, and we have very much enjoyed their friendship. Now that we have completed our formal language training, however, we feel the Lord is calling us to serve in a different city or town that doesn't have as much missionary support.

You may remember that towards the end of last year, we began praying for each of the Baptist churches in Poland and asking God where He would have us serve next. *We are looking for a young, developing local church, with a Polish pastor already in place: a church that seems poised to grow, but could use the extra fire power we can provide.* That search was stalled on account of Leslie's early return to the States in the early part of this year. A couple of weeks ago, we signed a 6-month lease and moved to Warsaw, in order to pick up where we left off in that search.

Some of our goals related to this transition are as follows:

- 1) Purchase a car so we can get to other cities easier and more quickly.
- 2) Contact the pastors of the churches in the towns where we may potentially serve.

CONTACT INFO

Schicks*

ul. Świdrska 127A
03-128 Warszawa
POLSKA
S2P@EdSchick.com
www.EdSchick.com

Sending Church

Grace Baptist Church
Brunswick, OH

Service Agency

Central Missionary Clearinghouse
PO Box 219228
Houston, TX 77218
281-599-7411
www.cmcmissions.org

** Remember, you can always connect with us on Facebook or even call us in Poland via a US number 330-460-6207 (before 3p EST).*

- 3) Visit the churches and interview the pastors and church leadership where we may potentially serve.
- 4) Determine where God would have us to serve next.
- 5) Find an apartment and move to that new town.
- 6) Begin serving as an associate pastor at a local church.



Ed at Second Baptist Church

Expansion of our National Evangelism and Discipleship Training Ministry

During these next six months, we hope to work on expanding our National Evangelism and Discipleship Training Ministry. Warsaw is home to some key organizations connected with the Baptist Union: the Baptist Theological Seminary and Conference Center and Słowo Prawda (Publishers of Christian Materials). We hope to take advantage of the fact that we are centrally located in Warsaw and present our ministry in these organizations, as well as in other key churches throughout Poland.

Development of Better Stateside Partner Communication

You are important to us, and communication with you, our Stateside Partners, is a vital part of our ministry here in Poland. Our son, Christian, works as a copywriter for a website development company and has given us a strategy to improve our website in order to better serve you. We would like to implement some of those changes. We also need new, updated prayer cards and as well as other presentation materials. During these next six months, we hope to develop better Stateside partner communication by improving these key tools.



The Trumpeter of Krakow Skit

Big Thank-You's

We cannot talk about our whirlwind of a furlough without also recognizing so many of you who generously supported us, housed us, fed us and even gave some good old-fashioned sweat. Thank you, we are so very grateful to each of you. Hebrews 6:10 says, "God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do."

You may wonder, "Why the sweat?" Because our household goods have been stored in Michigan, and because our kids on the east coast are transitioning into new housing situations, and we ourselves have made Virginia our new US residence, three of our trips from the Midwest to the East Coast also involved pulling a trailer full of household goods and furniture. We felt like part-time movers (Mom and Dad's Moving Company), but it seemed

that every time we went on the road with the trailer, that part of the country had a major rainstorm. One partner let us open up our trailer in his garage to dry out our furniture.

Another partner, getting more than he bargained for, rolled

up his sleeves and spent several hours helping us dry, repair and rebalance a very heavy load of furniture, so that we could more safely travel the rest of our way home. We made it back! Thank you, Russ and Bill! And, thank you again to each of you!



Our Rig Partially Loaded

A Little About Apartment Shopping In Poland And Our New “Attic” Apartment

Here in Poland, one can either rent or buy an apartment; and among the rented apartments, chose a furnished or unfurnished apartment. We always rent furnished apartments to enable us to have a smaller footprint, which gives us greater flexibility and movability. For example, we don't have to hire a bigger or second truck to haul our furniture like we do in the U.S. A well-furnished apartment is one that has furniture that is both comfortable and well suited for the space and includes some basic cookware and dishes.



Moving Day in Warsaw

Our new apartment is in the northern section of Warsaw called, “Tarchomin.” We've nicknamed this apartment, “Our Attic Apartment,” because it is built on top of our landlord's garage. The ceiling is sloped, and all the windows are sky lights. The price was very reasonable, and it was the only apartment advertisement in which the landlord was specifically open to 6-month tenants. Ed has a separate office space, there is a place to park our car, as well as a first-floor garage for our bikes. We are not far from the Wisła River with its brick pathway along which we can jog or bike. Our new address is: ul. Świdrska 127A, 03-128 Warszawa, POLSKA. (For those of you who like to “Google Earth” our place, you can only see it from Płudowska Street.)

The Heart of Our Ministry

The core of what we do in Poland is to help people to know and understand God's plan for their lives and to follow that plan. This applies to both the evangelism and discipleship aspects of our ministries. When people decide to follow Christ; when they become healthy, strong and growing believers. When they know, understand and fulfill God's mission for their lives, they will experience God's love as He provides for their most importance needs, as He resolves their greatest problems and as He gives multiplied blessings that bring them and those in their community joy, happiness and fulfillment. In the US and in Poland we continue

to run across those who have lived their lives outside of God's plan. We have seen the great destruction and devastation this brings in the short-term and long term. We want to see people saved from this and living life God's way here on earth and in the future beyond. Because of God's grace and calling and with your partnership, we continue to help rescue Polish people for Christ.

Financial Report

Our **committed support** is at 85%. However, the remaining gap (15%) has been supplied through special one-time gifts thus bringing our **monthly support** to the 100% level. If we had 100% committed support, the special gifts could fully fund our projects. Our **Car Fund** of \$10,000 has been met! We need \$3,000 for our **Literature Fund** to translate the companion discipleship booklet to "Story of Hope" entitled "The Way to Joy." Breesport Baptist Church in NY donated \$1,624 for Gospel Balls in Poland. Our goal is to do a Gospel Ball evangelism training presentation in every established church in Poland and leave at least one Gospel Ball for ongoing ministry in that city.



Gift Announcement by Pastor Doug

Prayer and Praise Items

On Our Knees and Giving Glory to God

1. Praise: Safe return to Poland and a successful move to our "Attic Apartment."
2. Pray: God will open the doors for at least two Good Soil Evangelism or MTAG Groups, even during these six months of transition.
3. Praise: for sufficient funds to purchase a car in Poland. Prayer: for wisdom in the search, purchase, registration and insurance.
4. Praise: for good healthcare and prayer for continued healing: Shortly after our arrival in Poland, Ed started seeing dots and flashes in his field of vision due to a posterior vitreous detachment and a small hemorrhage in his right eye. Subsequent examinations with the ophthalmologist have shown that the vitreous in the right eye has now fully pulled away with no further tearing and none likely (good news). As a preventative measure, the ophthalmologist performed a photo coagulation (73 laser stitches) to help the retina stay attached in the area where the hemorrhage took place. Ed does continue to see dots and some peripheral flashes, but the doctor expects them to go away in time. Ed has a follow up appointment in September.
5. Prayer: That God will lead us to a young, developing local church, with a Polish pastor already in place: a church that is poised to grow, but could use the help and training we can provide.
6. We ask for special prayer as we mourn the loss of Leslie's older sister, Jean, who passed away unexpectedly on May 18th. We thank God that Jean expressed a unique and special interest in spiritual things, including reading the Bible this past year. Little did we know it would be her last. We will all miss Jean very much. Please also pray for Leslie's mom as she works to close out Jean's affairs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 31 – Sep 1 Weekend visit to Lublin to reunite with report to our friends there.
Sep 6-8: We will be joining the Second Baptist Church of Warsaw on a church wide retreat in the Mazurian Lakes area. This will be a great opportunity to get to know the other believers in this church.



*Leslie with her Siblings and Mom in 2013
(Jean is in the back row on the left)*



Granddad with Joseph



Team, Climb Mountains at the Hagerstown Sprint Triathlon