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 appreciate all those who sent us to Poland to share God's plan to save people from their sin. More people have now heard the Gospel (evangelism). More people have been challenged to a closer walk with Christ (discipleship). And more people have been led to consider how they are living out their call from Christ and using their skills and opportunities to further his work (mission). In the following sections we will show how our

three basic aims: evangelism, discipleship and mission are being accomplished in recent months through our Gospel Group, local church (Blisko Boga), English Camp, informal meetings and Christian literature. While Satan is sowing chaos through false science, Covid-

19 panic and ethnic conflict, the work of God in Christ continues on through those who serve him faithfully. Faithful Christians are more valuable and necessary to spread the healing influence of Christ in the ever-darkening culture in which we find ourselves. Thanks for your faithfulness in the field where the Lord has placed you.

Z Bogiem (God be with you),

Ed & Leslie Schick

GOSPEL GROUP - Our Gospel Group started the year with the goal of finishing the Story of Hope booklet ("Historia Nadziei") by the end of the year. Covid-19 forced us online, but it also enabled us to add more people. For a time we were doing two meetings a week! But as we've approached the end, things have gotten more difficult. As the restrictions were lifted and summer began, people became more active (thank the Lord!) but also more unavailable. So it has been hard to meet to finish up the Bridge to Life, eight-word summary of the forty stories from



Police Guard Reagan Statue

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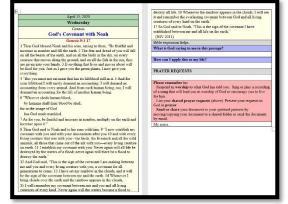
the Bible. This summary brings together all the teaching about how God's rescue plan can give a person full forgiveness, reconciliation to God and the hope of heaven. Some in the group are struggling as they face the dilemma of changing what they always have believed. This is a spiritual battle and for some Polish people, this can go on for quite a while. Our group has planned a back-yard picnic to conclude our study. Members will meet individually with each other until we are able to plan a new group with a new direction. **ENGLISH CAMP** - Camp was terrific! We had about 40 kids from ages 7 to 14. Of the 40 kids, only two were "churched" kids, so most of the kids were hearing the Gospel for the first time. We worked closely with the pastor and wife from the Baptist church in Zelów, a sister church of our church in Warsaw. We were glad to be a part of the team. Both Ed and Leslie taught two English classes every day. Ed taught the advanced level group, and Leslie taught the middle level group. In addition to his typical English lessons, Ed was able to incorporate the Gospel into his English classes, using the Story of Hope. We also taught the Gospel Ball and led the



Ed & Leslie Pass out 5-Color Bracelets

singing in English and Polish during the all-camp meetings as well. It was great to see the Lord working among the kids throughout the week. We look forward to seeing how the Lord will continue to grow the seeds that were sown.

TIME WITH GOD - Our "Time with God" (TWG) devotional continues to be used by more and more people. It is a simple tool used to help us have a quality time in God's Word, listening to his voice and instruction to us about who He is, what He has done for us, and how we should live in response to his plan for our lives. The content is in a Microsoft Word file and contains a date, title, Scripture passage, Bible expositional helps, spaces to write your response, a reminder to respond in worship and prayer and an encouragement to share it with others. All these activities are designed to fit into a few minutes at the beginning of each day and have



Time with God Daily Devotional

the power to help believers become heathy, strong and growing. We learned this spiritual discipline in our early Christian life, and it has been what has sustained us in difficult times and has kept us on God's path of blessing. If you are interested in trying these out, please write or call us. We are hoping to publish a Polish version as well.

PARAPETÓWKA - Parapetówka - (tów = toof) is a Polish version of our English term "housewarming party." A "parapet" in Polish refers to a windowsill which is the only place to put your food when you first move into an apartment and don't have any furniture yet. We moved into our new apartment in early March and hoped to have this party at the end of the month. Most of you can guess what happened to those plans. We finally had the party on Sunday, June 21. Leslie themed it as an early celebration of the 4th of July. She made a double big batch of chili, apple crisp, French butter cookies white frosted with blue and



Open House at Our New Apartment

red sprinkles as well as good old-fashioned chocolate chip cookies. Ed hung the American and Polish flags up. About 44 people including local relatives, church members and even a few from our Bible study group joined us for a wonderful time of celebration. The weather was nice (except for a few minutes of downpour), so people enjoyed the large balcony. Many people brought plants and other nice gifts, although the greatest blessing was having the people together in our home. We plan to have some of them over again in smaller groups and families. Now our friends know where we live and how the Lord has blessed us with this apartment.

ZELÓW CHURCH - We first heard about the Zelów church because the new pastor and his wife came from our Warsaw church, which now supports them like a missionary at a daughter church. We finally got to meet Pastor Greg and Joanna at the English camp. They have a special story about how God led them into ministry. Pastor Greg worked at a business for a number of years, but sensed God's call into ministry. It was a long road because when he first completed his seminary studies, he was not able to pass the test that would qualify him for starting a pastoral ministry. Through a hand injury and other changes in his circumstances, he was able



Skobel Family

to pass his final qualifications and was introduced to a small church south of Łódź. The congregation has now grown from 5 to 20 attenders and has a potential to reach many more people in the area. They are currently meeting in a small room in the church. They can meet in the auditorium during the warm months, but in the winter they face a dilemma of heating a large auditorium for the small group. On the other hand, the small group has outgrown the room they had been using. They are praying for more growth, increased income and wisdom to know how to expand their ministry to more people while providing the space necessary to conduct quality worship services and youth meetings. If you would like to specifically pray for and help this pastor and church, please let us know. We will visit them August 9 to preach and present our mission training ministry.

PRAYER AND PRAISE ITEMS - On Our Knees and Giving Glory to God

- 1. Praise for being able to meet again without restrictions. I recently preached the "short sermon" on "Lions in Proverbs". We learned about how to be bold in the face of threats.
- 2. The "Way to Joy" discipleship booklet is still on track for level 2 review. Please pray that I will find willing and qualified reviewers quickly.
- 3. We attended a fitting and God glorifying funeral for our dear our dear friend Bożena who died during the time of isolating restrictions. Our church's pastors were there and many from our congregation. Her daughter and sisters were very moved by our presence, because we were in a Catholic cemetery and they knew we weren't Catholic. She put her faith in Christ and was baptized in the Spring of 2019. She asked us for evangelism materials, training and a Bible for her neighbor. She invited others to a Gospel concert. This is how we remember Bożena. Her friendship and testimony of the Gospel will not be forgotten. "Blessed are those who die in the Lord . . . their (good) deeds will follow them." Revelation 14.
- 4. Legalities Pray for our change of residence registration, new car registration and our new visa to stay in Poland long-term.

- 5. Praise that a God-fearing, family values Polish President was re-elected for a second term.
- 6. The effects of Covid-19 restriction are diminishing but missionaries are still finding it hard to travel and reunite with their families. We had to rebook our tickets and add a lay-over to our travel in September because we can't risk arriving late to prepare for our son's wedding.
- 7. Our family has two weddings this Fall: Christian and Nishon (Tyler) on September 19 and Johanna and Tyler (Homon) on November 7. Johanna needs to transition to a new job near her new apartment in Fredrick, Maryland. Praise that all of them have kept employment and Hannah got a promotion. Pray for the many new in-law relatives we are getting to know.
- 8. Finances have been good due to the faithful and sacrificial giving of those committed to keeping the light of the Gospel shining everywhere in the world. We are seeing more opportunities for helping Polish pastors and ministries who are on the front edge of reaching people for Christ. If you are interested helping them, use the name "Growth Fund" to designate your gift. These ministries are growing through their outreach to people who have not heard the Gospel and are not attending an evangelical church.
- 9. Praise for good health and a nearby woods and aquatic center to exercise outside of our "office" in our home once a day.
- 10. We are officially members at the Second Baptist Church. We had one ministry planning retreat recently and will spend some time with fellow members in the mountains. Ed will be preaching twice at our church and once at the Zelów church.
- 11. Pray that our furlough will have many safe miles as we report to churches, visit family, take care of minor medical needs and attend to material needs. Please read our Furlough Schedule and let us know if you would like us to visit or report to your church or small group.
- 12. We continue to learn Polish as well as develop presentation materials for Poland. We are also in need of updating our materials for American Partners.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep9R - Arrival in Richmond, VA Sep13S - Goodwill Baptist Church, Henrico, VA Sep19A - Christian & Nishon's Wedding, Richmond, VA Sep20S - Remnant Church, Richmond, VA Oct1R-3A - Clarks Summit University, Clarks Summit, PA Oct4S - Restored Church, Wilkes Barre, PA Oct11S - Grace Baptist Church, Daytona, FL Oct18S - Beacon Baptist Church, Palm Beach, FL Nov7A - Johanna & Tyler's Wedding, Fredrick, MD Nov8S - Frederick Christian Fellowship, Frederick, MD Nov15S - Heartland Community Church, Medina, OH Nov17T - Family Visit, Valparaiso, IN Nov22S - Hope Community Baptist Church, Sterling Heights, MI Nov27F - Second Reception for Newlyweds, Sterling Height, MI Nov29S - Stony Creek Community Church, Utica. MI Nov29S - Monclova Road Baptist Church, Monclova Road, MI Dec20S - Grace Baptist Church, Brunswick, OH Jan5T - Return to Poland



Christian & Nishon



Johanna & Tyler