

THE SCHICKS

DEVELOPING A HUNDRED POINTS OF LIGHT FOR THE GOSPEL IN POLAND

A Message from Your Ambassadors

Dear Prayer Partners,

Having completed another successful Camp Grójec, we would like to reflect on the joys, victories and challenges facing us as we build Christ's work here. Our relationships among team members have deepened and our contacts with people in the community have broadened. We are thankful for your part in praying for us and supporting us in many tangible ways. While it seems like some spiritual battlefronts in our world have weakened or been over-run with evil, the Lord has allowed us to increase the light of the Gospel in this dark corner of the world.

Z Bogiem (God be with you),

Ed & Leslie Schick

CONTACT INFO

Schicks

Laskowa 16A M45
05-600 Grójec
S2P@EdSchick.com
www.EdSchick.com
804-332-5101 (US)

Sending Church

Grace Baptist Church
Brunswick, OH

Service Agency

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



Camp Grójec

Our Camp Grójec was a 3-day (Thursday-Saturday) VBS-like ministry to 45 mostly unchurched children in Grojec. This year, we were able to rent the local public elementary school, which proved to be big plus. We had four, forty-minute workshops each day: Bible, English, crafts and sports, led by our Heartland Mission Team from Ohio. The Bible lessons featured Noah, The Ethiopian Treasurer and Nicodemus. The Gospel was presented many times to the children through the Bible lessons, through the Bible learning activities as well as through the trick illustrations presented by the Polish pastoral intern from Otwock during our general sessions. The senior pastor from Otwock, Pastor Michał, was great in whipping up enthusiasm and yet focusing the children on the most important spiritual points.

Recreational Outreach

In my many years of outreach and growth ministries, I have heard about methods that ministry leaders claim should or even must be used to have success in evangelism. While many of these might be helpful or very effective in certain places and conditions, sometimes it's best to keep things simple and patterned after the Lord's purposes. Jesus went where people were and sometimes joined with them in day-to-day activities like fishing or even special events like weddings.

Last year during the first Camp Grójec, we drove to the recreational center just to spend a few moments in prayer. It is a place where many people, especially young people come to hang-out, play some sports or hold other community events (ex. community yard sale). This year we were able to spend more time there to play basketball, soccer and volleyball. Pastor Michał and others carefully invited young people. Others prayed and engaged the parents in basic conversation to introduce and explain what our ministry group was doing. I was able to join a few boys in playing soccer. Our group quickly grew to six. When it was time to go, I started to explain who we were to a father standing nearby. "Yes," he said, "I already know about your group." This was one of the best and deepest direct community interactions we have had in many years. What a joy! This is also the place where Leslie often connects with Karolina, one of our best participants in the camp.



An American BBQ

We crowned our Camp Grójec closing program with an American Barbeque, which was a big hit among the parents and children alike. We served hot dogs and hamburgers, chips and a real novelty - Rice Krispies Treats. For nearly all of the Polish participants, this was their first experience with Rice Krispy treats, so they added an aura of authenticity to our American Barbeque. Some of the questions we got were: "Are they spicy?" (Perhaps the peanut butter ones looked spicy.) "Should we put them on the table with the hamburgers, or should they go with the deserts?" And then of course, "How do you make them?" For 100 plus people, that would have been a challenge. But thanks to Heartland's "Food Factory" participants, we were able to not only make 100 Rice Krispy Treats, but also press 75 hamburger patties in short order. More than just an occasion to share some authentic Americana, the barbeque gave us a wonderful opportunity to have extended conversations with



the parents who had been sending their children to our day camp. We realize that, more so than after last year's Camp Grójec, we have become the face of Christ and the face of the Gospel in this small community south of Warsaw. Praise God!

Jewish Cemetery Project

The week following our Camp Grójec, another mission team came to Grójec to help restore and renovate the local Jewish cemetery, which had gone into disrepair through neglect and vandalism during WWII and the years following. It had been an eye-sore and a constant reminder of sad times when a hatred for the Jewish people reigned in this part of the world.

While the team of cemetery workers was led by believers, many unbelievers joined in the work as well. The work was hard. Pastor Michał gave solid spiritual leadership to the group, so that the Gospel was clearly presented each day.

Among those who joined in the work were Rafael & Monika – but this was not the first time they had heard the Gospel.

Halina, (who has played a similar role as the Biblical character of Lydia, for our small group of believers in Grójec) had first witnessed to Rafael & Monika 12 years ago, giving them a Gospel of John. She had prayed for Rafael & Monika since then over the years. Fast forward to the cemetery project, Monika, who has some Jewish roots herself, was very impressed with the believers as they worked together. She and her husband listened with interest when Halina told them about our once-a-month worship services at the local school. That Sunday, Halina waited outside the building for Rafael & Monika to arrive, hoping they would come. They did come. Halina had a special time of introduction and welcome for Rafael &



Monika at the end of the service, so that we could all greet them. We hope to see more of Rafael & Monika in the weeks and months to come. We were reminded again of Psalm 126:6 “Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.” We pray that the seed of God’s Word will continue to take root in the hearts and lives of these and many others here in Poland.

God Will Repay

We finally arrived in the departure area of the Warsaw airport having gone through a difficult check-in process. A simple mistake on my part cost us extra funds to fly to our destination. We had a few minutes to spare but not enough time to start office work. So I decided to spend the extra time in a small chapel not far away. The bigger chapel is in the main check-in area and there are scheduled masses as well. Only in Poland. So I prayed and shared what was on my heart with the Lord knowing He has provided everything for us. You could say He has us fully insured (or assured) so that we will always have everything we need. When I finished praying, I looked to my right and there was a slotted box with the words “Bóg zapłacić.” I could not get a good handle on the special Polish word for “pay,” but I knew the first part of the message “God pays.” God is able to pay or in this case “God will repay” implying “He will repay you for your generosity.” In both cases, the message pointed to the assurance that God will take care of you so long as you

believe and are generous in your worship of Him. Simple mistakes and downturns in support can sometimes test our faith, but He has everything covered.

For a number of years, our financial support has been sufficient to maintain healthy balances that supplied our basic ministry needs along with enough funds to support growing ministries and believers who have been faithfully working and leading in these key areas. We never once took this faithful support for granted and it allowed us freedom to not have to spend as much time in partnership development as we had during previous times.

Now we face some challenges. Some churches have closed or are in a financial downturn. Pastoral transitions sometimes can threaten previous commitments to our ministry. Individuals pass on or sometimes lose interest. The recent war in Ukraine brought much interest to our ministry. But this has waned even while the war continues. In addition, inflation and higher costs of living forced a raise in our salary and a rise in ministry expenses.

All these whittled down our reserve balance and now we must take definitive actions in regards to partnership development. Please pray about what the Lord would have you to do to support the Lord's work here in Poland. If you have specific questions, please get in contact with us. We continue to commend the faithful core of partners that have not only supported us but have asked about our specific needs from time to time. We believe partnerships are a two-way relationship. This may be a time when the Lord wants us to renew and strengthen them.

PRAYER AND PRAISE ITEMS

On Our Knees and Giving Glory to God

1. We took a short trip to the US to witness the **wedding of Ryan & Elizabeth Schick** on June 7, 2025. Please pray for them as they begin their new lives together.
2. On May 30th we welcomed our **4th Grandson, William** Wilberforce Schick, into the world. It was a blessing to meet William at the hospital and to be there with Christian & Nishon, Calvin and William when they all met each other for the first time.



3. Leslie and I took an early train to Krakow Sunday morning (July 21) so as to prepare for the Heartland ministry team arrival on Monday. We managed to get to a church service at the **Bible and Mission Church** (4th Baptist) which meets at the Galaxy Hotel. We were received warmly and were asked to give a report including questions. There was one ministry leader who had started a new group in a smaller town outside of Krakow. The similarities of his ministry to ours in Grójec was a great encouragement to him.



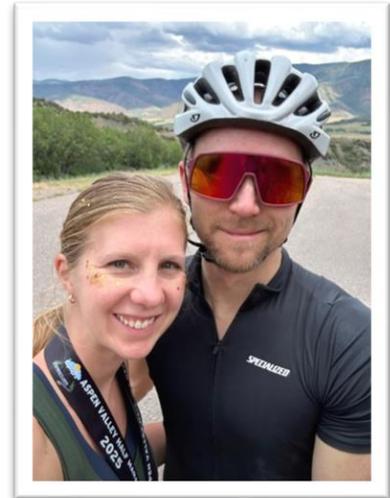
4. Applying for new **Polish Residency Cards** is a task we have to do once every three years. The gathering all of the appropriate documentation is no small task. We have completed our application process, and we are now awaiting a decision from the Polish government. While the government officials have been known to give all foreigners a hard time in the process, most American missionaries are welcomed to Poland in the end. Please pray that God will oversee our applications through to the end of this process.

5. Please pray for **two teenagers** here in Poland, who both have been struggling with some great personal needs this summer. We have been ministering to both sets of parents.

6. **Financial needs** and more ministry partners. About \$500 per month.

7. **Grójec Ministries** - Weekly Bible Study, Monthly Church Service (2nd Sunday), Mother-ministry leaders.

8. Please pray for our son, Kyle and his wife Hannah. **Kyle** was in a serious **bicycle accident** in Aspen, CO on August 16. While it appears that it will take some time for him to recover from his injuries, we are thankful than none of them seem permanently life altering. We are very thankful for Hannah's faithful support in his recovery.



*Meeting the Greatest Needs of Poles
through the Truth of the Gospel*

