

The Polish Link *September 2016*

« **16** *The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.* **17** *Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.* **18** *And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.*»
James 5.16-18

Greetings from Poland!

SUMMER 2016

God is amazing – He blessed us with another GREAT summer for ministry, friendships and conversions. We had the opportunity to be involved in **4 different locations** this **July 2016** in order to lead ministry among kids and evangelism in new regions : Soccer Camp in **Łódź**, VBS camp with street kids in **Biała Podlaska**, evangelism in **Łuków**, and Camp ministry at **Camp Kunów**.

We were blessed by the ministry of the **Short-Term Cloverdale Team** with: (from left to right) – **Jenny Fenske** (it was her 7th time in Poland!), **Jessica Fenske** (her 4th time!) and 2 new younger recruits, **Ashleica Esmond** and **Amy Doerkson**. They brought lots of experience with music and singing – both in English and Polish, then crafts, games and well-prepared testimonies of the work of God in their lives.



It would have been impossible to do what we had prepared without their precious help and gifting – and their unconditional love for the children. **Praise the Lord for STM teams!**

Many Team members from Canada have come back many times to serve in Poland as they have realised the great need of this unevangelized field right in the middle of Europe – less than 0.3 % country-wide. They also love the great hospitality and food Polish people offer them!

SOCCER CAMP 2016 – a new way to lead evangelism!



As we led a **NEW Soccer camp** in the city of **Łódź**, we were able to see 32 kids coming to the church, many of them for the first time. Pastor **Jan Puchacz** of the Evangelical Church of Łódź (center of picture, in white T-shirt) was very impressed to see the way the church could connect with so many families in just one week! With local Polish youth and leaders, and with our Canadian team, God blessed us with the capacity to lead a great soccer camp, a new way to lead evangelism in the poor area of Łódź where the church is located.



The chapel room was small, but we could fit 32 kids with their leaders! Games, Bible times, meals, crafts - all in one room! Thank the Lord for the great expertise of Polish people to come up with quick logistics and solutions!



This time of ministry led us to the great blessing of getting to know the **local church youth** (some of it on right). We met them through youth meetings to prepare them for the soccer camp ministry they took part into. They did a great job learning how to lead their teams and share the Gospel with children. One of them, **Natalia**, came to me, beaming with joy, as all her kids in the 'After-lunch Team time' wanted to pray and ask Jesus to be their Savior! The results are huge, praise God!



We had the blessing to meet **Julia** (center on left-side picture, with our Canadian leaders Jessica and Jenny), a 14-year old teen who just loves the Lord with all her hearth. She led one Bible lesson with kids, and is showing such a heart to become a missionary one day. **We want to bless her with our prayers and love!**



Pastor Jan invited us to come back next year! We praise the Lord for this great step forward for the Gospel. **Who wants to be part of this next one?** 😊

KIDS' CLUB

As part of our work to plant a church in that town, we led a VBS camp in a park in the middle of the city. Just a couple of months ago, we were informed that the Kids Club in the city closed down. That decision changed many of our plans.

So **Gnel and Gosia**, workers living in the town, found a nice park where we could lead our activities.



Around 20 children from the Kids' Club showed up! The new situation gave us the freedom to speak to the children about the Lord Jesus, and to present them the Gospel. We made a great step forward in knowing them more closely, a step very important before someone can listen to what we have to say!

Soccer games were a must for them all, so we did what we could! Kids in **Biała Podlaska** are quite good in that sport, since the city hosts a famous Training Center for soccer players, and a Physical Education School. So they won all the games against Canadians – we had NO chance!



Many kids asked, "*When will you come back?*" Well, this

request breaks our hearts, and we would love to start our own kids' club in that city. As part of the **FAIR project**, we pray as to how and where we could go forward with such a ministry in the coming year. We need a young man/couple who could lead this with us, and a place.



The Lord will guide and provide in time!

CHURCH PLANT

The **church in Biała Podlaska** was very grateful for the work we could lead with the kids – most of them from poor families, where the need for love and care is often greater.

The whole group could meet for a church service on Sunday at the house of **Krzysztof and Alicja**. May the Lord bless those who are making such a sacrifice to have the church meet and fellowship!



CAMP KUNÓW

For many years in a row, we have joined again this year the **Family camp the Evangelical church of Lublin** organizes every year. The Canadian Team were able to help with singing and evening sessions.





We had an excellent teaching provided by an American missionary, with 'Truth Project' material, now translated in Polish.

This camp was a great occasion for us all to fellowship with many believers who were part of the ministry we led over the years. There is time for work, and there is time for rest and fun!

We have invested much time and resources in that Camp over the years, and it is nice to see that many churches and Christians are using it for their retreats, baptisms, conferences and other activities.



CAMP KUNÓW – a place to meet the Lord and great people!

EVANGELISM IN ŁUKÓW

Pastor and missionary Ben Layer planted a new church in the city of **Łuków** only 3 years ago. It is going through some rough times, and we decided as a Team to join pastor **Jacek Duda** and **brother Tadeusz** to lead a full day of outdoor evangelism on the main square of the city.



Hundreds of New Testament and brochures were handed out to people coming close by to hear our singing and testimonies. We are praying that our discussions and encounters will give fruit and will bless this small church in town.



We are SO thankful to the Lord to be able to share with you such exciting news – and this is **because of YOUR PRAYERS and INTERCESSION for the Polish people. REALLY.** THANK YOU for your partnership with God and with us in this mission field. Let's continue to be the people of Elijah in our prayers.

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