

# Serving the people of Poland since 1954 Polish Christian Ministries April 2023

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. (Eph. 3:14-17a)



As we reflect on our recent trip to Poland, we are reminded of the power of prayer. Through prayer, God protected us on the road and in the skies. He kept us healthy even when in close contact with Covid and other illnesses. He was present to provide hope as we sat face-to-face with weary pastors and with Ukrainian refugees as they told their stories. Prayer is the greater work that makes all things possible. So, we THANK YOU for your prayers. We THANK YOU, as well, for your donations so lives can be touched with the gospel in Poland and Ukraine and beyond.

### **400 DAYS**

Unbelievably, it's already been 400 days since the Russian invasion began in February of 2022. For 400 days the Ukrainian people have been resisting the invaders. For 400 days the Ukrainian refugees have sought to survive. For 400 days the Polish churches have been working nonstop to provide assistance to those in need. We pray for an end to the war, but until then, as long as God provides, we will do all we can to make a difference.



Several of the Polish churches continue to host Ukrainians in their building. Some report that 30% of their congregation are now Ukrainian. It has shifted to a time of adaptation, as Poles and Ukrainians are learning how to live and work together, both inside the church and in society as a whole. We pray for the churches and their leaders as they seek to honor God and make Jesus known within this new reality.



Transports of food and supplies are regularly organized and sent into Ukraine by the Polish churches. Often, the destination coincides with the towns and cities where the family members of the Ukrainian refugees live. PCM sends funds twice a month to help make these transports possible.

### REFUGEE RELIEF



In March, PCM sent \$86,000 to Poland for the purpose of Ukrainian refugee relief:

1) Distribution centers in Poland - \$17,000 for food

2) Ostroda Camp, Polish churches, and other housing - \$36,000 for food and utilities 3) Transports to Ukraine from various Polish cities - \$32,000

# **POLAND BOUND SPRING/SUMMER 2023**

Date	Focus	City
May 12-24	Teaching English	Płock
May 19-28	Cabin wall repairs	Ostróda Camp
May 26-June 4	Cabin wall repairs	Ostróda Camp
June 2-11	Cabin #1 bathroom	Ostróda Camp
June 2-11	Community service	Warsaw West
June 12-22	NW Tour of churches	Five churches
June 23-July 5	Children's day camp	Sosnowiec
June 23-July 5	Children's day camps	Sandomierz
June 23-July 2	Community service	Lublin
	May 12-24  May 19-28  May 26-June 4  June 2-11  June 2-11  June 12-22  June 23-July 5  June 23-July 5	May 12-24 Teaching English  May 19-28 Cabin wall repairs  May 26-June 4 Cabin wall repairs  June 2-11 Cabin #1 bathroom  June 2-11 Community service  June 12-22 NW Tour of churches  June 23-July 5 Children's day camp  June 23-July 5 Children's day camps

Several short-term trips to Poland have been organized for the spring and summer of 2023. We are excited to announce that ALL TRIPS ARE FULL. Orientation sessions for these trips have gone well. **Trip costs are due no later than April 15th, 2023.** Please send to our Michigan address: **10747 Culver Road, Brighton, MI 48114**. For more information, please see our website (www.pcmusa.org) or contact Dave Hatfield.

# PREPARING TO GO



This past week, several of PCM's Poland Bound teams met on Zoom with our Polish ministry partners to prepare for the various summer initiatives. The excitement is building as opportunities are outlined, roles are assigned, and preparation begins. Please be in prayer for these volunteers who are making plans to go and be the hands and feet of Jesus this summer in Poland.

### **NORTH CAROLINA TOUR**



In March we had the opportunity to visit four of our supporting churches in North Carolina: Poplar Chapel Church of Christ (Jamesville, NC), Mt. Pleasant Christian Church (Greenville, NC), New Testament Christian Church (Roanoke Rapids, NC), and the First Church of Christ (Washington, NC). Each congregation was eager to hear an update regarding the Polish churches, especially in relation to the Ukrainian refugee situation. We are so thankful for each of these churches and their faithful commitment to pray for and support our ministry in Poland.

# PORTAGE, MI



The Oakland Drive Christian Church in Portage, MI, has supported PCM for several years. We visited this church just after returning from Poland so our update was hot off the press. We thank God for congregations like Oakland Drive who faithfully uphold us in prayer,

bless us with words of encouragement, and provide financial support.

### **JAN & NORMA**



Besides churches, there are also several individuals and families in the States who regularly support PCM. One such couple is Jan and Norma Wesner from Plymouth, NC. We recently enjoyed lunch in their home and learned more of the details of Jan's life. Born in Poland in 1943, he and his family spent four years at the Wildflecken displaced persons' camp in Germany after the war. They finally were allowed to immigrate to the States in 1950. His story is full and interesting, and we give thanks that Jan and Norma faithfully support our work so that the good news of Jesus can be proclaimed in his homeland.

### **SUPPORTING CHURCHES**

PCM wants to say **thank you** to all of the churches who gave in 2022 to support our efforts in the nation of Poland. The gospel was proclaimed and many Poles and Ukrainians have come to faith in Jesus. Below are the top 35 giving churches. More churches will be listed in the upcoming eNews updates.

Tomoka Christian, Ormond Beach, FL Fairmount Christian, Mechanicsville, VA North Liberty Church of Christ, North Liberty, IN Christ's Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA Gateway Church of Maryville, Maryville, MI Compassion Christian, Savannah, GA Brownstown Christian, Brownstown, IN Calvary Church, Alexandria, VA North Shore Community Church, Kirkland, WA Church of Christ at Manor Woods, Rockville, MD New Hope Christian, Whitestown, IN College Park Christian, Normal, IL Central Christian, Ocala, FL Fairfield Church of Christ, Fairfield, OH Southport Heights Christian, Indianapolis, IN Western Hills Christian, Lawton, OK First Christian, Fairfield, IL First Christian, Greenville, IL Traders Point, Indianapolis, IN Christ's Church, Jacksonville, FL Salem Christian, Richmond, KY

First Church, Northville, MI
Calvary Chapel, Canterbury, CT
Brighton Christian, Brighton, MI
Union City Christian, Richmond, KY
Post Road Christian, Indianapolis, IN
Lighthouse Christian, Oceanside, CA
Springfield Church, Springfield, GA
Mountain View Community, Culpepper, VA
Christian Church at Rome, Rome, GA
Jefferson Street Christian, Lincoln, IL
Kissimmee Christian, Kissimmee, FL
Islands Christian, Savannah, GA
Tomahawk Christian, Hedgesville, WV
Bloomsburg Christian, Bloomsburg, PA

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

#### Praise God for ...

- ... the generous response from supporters to enable the work in Poland to continue.
- ... the Polish churches and Ostroda Camp as they continue to care for Ukrainian refugees.
- ... the deepening relationships developing between Polish and Ukrainian believers.
- ... the ongoing transport of goods into Ukraine.

### Please pray for ...

- ... an end to the war in Ukraine.
- ... wisdom, perseverance and strength for our Polish partners as they serve Ukrainian refugees and transport supplies into Ukraine.
- ... the Polish churches as they adjust to a new Polish/Ukrainian reality.
- ... the Poland Bound teams as they prepare to serve in Poland.
- ... the church in Radom who are in need of a pastor.
- ... the church in Wyszkow as they must find a new meeting place.
- ... the PCM Board of Directors as they meet to pray, review, and plan for the future.
- ... David and Sandy Hatfield's schedule:
- April 23-25: PCM Board of Directors meeting (Brighton, MI)
- April 29: White River Christian, Noblesville, IN
- April 30: Cumberland Christian, Indianapolis, IN

If your church is interested in having PCM connect with your congregation in person or via Zoom, please contact David at <a href="mailto:dave.hatfield777@gmail.com">dave.hatfield777@gmail.com</a> or call him at 810-923-0226.

Donate





Polish Christian Ministries | 740 N. Shortridge Rd. #19094, Indianapolis, IN 46219-9403

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