

# Serving the people of Poland since 1954 Polish Christian Ministries December 2022

"She will bear a son and he will be called Immanuel" ... God is with us. (Isaiah 7:14)

## **HOW MUCH LONGER**



The Russian aggression in Ukraine has lasted more than nine months. We continue to ask, "How much longer?" How much longer will the destruction and suffering continue? And now in Poland we are asking: How much longer will housing be available? How much longer will the food last? Already, we've had to turn away families because the shelves were emptied. Still, our Polish partners continue doing what they can. The distribution center at Warsaw West is still helping 700 families each week. Warsaw

South is providing hot meals for 120 people five days a week. Many of our churches are still housing refugees in their building. Transports continue into Ukraine to help those affected by the ongoing Russian attacks and weakened infrastructure. **We are so thankful for God's provision through supporters like you.** 

Please consider making another gift to help provide care for the Ukrainian refugees. Needs per month at today's prices are as follows:

- 1) Distribution centers: \$30,000
- 2) Ostróda Camp & Ożarow hostel: \$40,000 for food/utilities
- 3) Transports to Ukraine from various Polish cities: \$30,000 to send 30 tons of food

#### FINDING REFUGE

Several of the Polish churches are housing refugees in their church buildings. The families pictured here are staying at the church in Bielsk Podlaski. Help is needed to



pay for increased utility bills. The price for heating has skyrocketed. A ton of coal costs 4 times what it cost just one year ago (i.e., from 650 PLN to 2,583 PLN). PCM is committed to helping the Polish churches meet these challenges as they seek to be places of refuge for these families.



## UKRAINIAN CHAPLAINS CONFERENCE

Several Ukrainian chaplains gathered this week at Warsaw West for a two-day conference. The service they render to the people in Ukraine is invaluable. Please join us in praying that God will protect them and give them the necessary strength, wisdom, and compassion to

minister to those who are in such dire circumstances.

#### TRANSPORTS TO UKRAINE

The churches in Sosnowiec and Katowice recently worked together to organize a transport of supplies to Ukraine. Their focus is to send supplies to churches in Ukraine who can then distribute them to those in need as a means of spreading the Gospel. Many of the other Polish churches are organizing similar transports into Ukraine.



## **ICOM 2022**

It was great gathering with thousands of mission-minded believers at the International Conference on Missions in Columbus, OH. It is always wonderful to be reunited with some of our Polish partners and to interact with many attendees who have a heart for ministry in Poland. We are thankful to have visited with several of you who support PCM. Thanks for partnering with us!

## A HOLIDAY VISIT

Aleksandra (Ola) Dziedzic is a first-year student at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, IL. Ola is from Ostroda, Poland, and has been raised up as one of the young leaders in the church there. It's been her dream to study at Moody as she pursues a degree in youth ministry and we are thankful to have played a small part in making that dream come true. Ola spent the Thanksgiving holiday with us and we are glad to report how well she is doing in school. We thank God for young leaders like Ola.



## STATESIDE CHURCH VISITS



It was so good to worship with the Grove Church of Christ in Gambier, OH. This church has been faithful supporters of Kostek and Maria Jakoniuk in Bielsk Podlaski for many years. We are thankful for their continued prayers and support for the churches in Poland.

Prior to ICOM, the PCM Board of Directors met at the Fairfield Christian Church in Lancaster, OH. We thank God for the men and women on our Board who serve so faithfully. It was also wonderful to meet with the mission team of the church. A big THANK YOU to the Fairfield CC for hosting us and for their continued support and prayers.





In mid-November, we visited for the first time with David Behlman and the Sugar Grove Church of Christ in Soldier's Grove, WI. We are thankful for this church which has just recently started sending funds to assist in the Ukrainian refugee relief efforts.

Poland Bound 2023			
Date	Focus	City	Cost (does NOT include airfare)
Feb 1-13	North Central Tour of Churches	9 Polish cities	\$700 (pastors & leaders welcome)
Feb 15-27	South Tour of Churches	9 Polish cities	\$700 (pastors & leaders welcome)
May 12-24	Teaching English	Ptock.	\$850 (Messiah University students)
May 19-28	Cabin Wall Repairs	Ostroda Camp	\$700 (Bob Sylvester)
May 26- June 4	Cabin Wall Repairs	Ostroda Camp	\$700 (Bob Sylvester)
May 26- June 4	Equipping & Training Leaders	Katowice	\$700 (Mt. Gilead C/C, Indiana)
June 2-11	Cabin #1 Build Bathroom	Ostroda Camp	\$700 (Andrzej Korytkowski)
June 2-11	Community Service	Warsaw West	\$700 (Tomoka CC, Florida)
June 23-July 5	Children's Day Camp	Sosnowiec	\$700 (White River CC, Indiana)
June 23-July 5	Children's Day Camps	Sandomierz	\$700 (White River CC, Indiana)
June 23-July 2	Community Service/Outreach	Lublin	(Fairmount CC, Virginia)

Several short-term trips to Poland

are being planned for 2023. We especially encourage pastors/church leaders to join us on one of the February tours. For more information, please see our website or contact Dave Hatfield.

#### "3 FOR 3 IN 3"

Our initial goal of raising \$300,000 in three years (2020-2022) was realized, but the needs were still great. Thus, we extended our goal to \$400,000 by the end of 2022. We rejoice to report that to date we have received \$422,124.81. Thank you to all those who have given. Of course, funds are still needed, so we will continue to dream big for Poland.



#### PLEASE GIVE

PCM is seeking to provide funds for the following Ukrainian refugee relief:

- Distribution centers: \$30K/month for food
- Ostróda Camp, Polish churches, and other housing: \$40K/month for food
- Transports to Ukraine from various Polish cities: \$30K/month to send 30 tons of food.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

#### Praise God for ...

- ... the successful kidney stone surgery for Paul Howey, PCM Board member.
- ... ICOM this year in Columbus, OH, as Tony Twist led us in the theme of prayer/fasting.
- ... the completion of the church roof at Biala Podlaska (window installation is next).
- ... the many connections made at ICOM with partners in missions, both new and old.
- ... the Polish churches and Ostróda Camp as they continue to care for Ukrainian refugees.

## Please pray for ...

- ... an end to the war in Ukraine.
- ... our friends in Ukraine who are without power (heat, lights, internet) as Russia continues to destroy necessary infrastructure in Ukrainian towns and cities.
- ... wisdom, perseverance, and strength for our Polish partners as they serve Ukrainian refugees and transport supplies into Ukraine.
- ... a favorable response to the recent appeal letter requesting aid for Ukrainian refugees.
- ... Warsaw West as they finish a six-week Trauma Care program for Ukrainian children.
- ... the distribution centers in Poland to be fully funded to provide adequate food for the refugees.
- ... the Biala Podlaska church as they need \$30,000 to cover "new windows."
- ... Fryderyk Domaradzki, the pastor in Lodz, as he undergoes medical testing.
- ... Lukasz Osik and the church in Wyszków as they must find a new meeting place.
- ... our Polish ministry partners who are facing exorbitant prices for coal and heating as the winter approaches.
- ... the ongoing church building projects in Poland.

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