

# Poland Evangelical Mission

June, 2012

Most of the time God chooses to do his work through people.

He even tells us to ask him to send people to do his work.

Below are stories of people that are the results of those prayers.

## *God uses a Polish grandmother and a caring pastor to bring about ministry in Poland*



The Staeven's will get a first hand glimpse of what God is doing in Poland, and get to be a part of it too!

Aaron, Shelley and Jaeger Staeven are excited to travel to Poland in July, where they will serve Polish youth at Camp Eden.

Shortly after the death of Aaron's Polish grandmother, he met Cezary Komisarz who visited Aaron's church, Trade River Evangelical Free Church in Grantsburg, Wisconsin. It was Aaron's curiosity about his family's heritage that led him to attend the PEM service. But, it was his pastor who was prompted by the Spirit to suggest that Aaron consider a short-term missions trip. Aaron, Shelley and Jaeger prayerfully considered the opportunity, and witnessed God opening doors to make the trip possible.

The Staeven's are happy to assist at Camp Eden in whatever capacity is most helpful. They believe that God will bless their experience in Poland and that they will grow in their relationship with God and each other. And, they look forward to building lasting friendships.

## *Words spoken years ago result in an internship in Poland*

Five years ago in church we heard pastor Jan Tomczyk speak, and after the service we went and talked to him. After talking, we felt God was telling us to go to Poland on a missions trip. This year the pieces have finally fallen into place.

We are looking forward to this trip and are excited for how God will use us, and how he will work in our lives.

The amount of time that God has called us for, has opened the door for me to serve in the capacity of an internship. This is exciting as well. I will be able to use the gifts he has given me, and that which he has been developing in me during the time of my pastoral training. I will be given a chance to preach, and be involved in church ministry. I am intrigued to see how God will use this experience to edify his body to further the work of his kingdom.

I am also very excited to share the gospel the best I can while teaching English at camp, and to counsel campers as we grow friendships during our time in Poland. God has blessed our family in our faith as we prepare for our trip, and we are anxious to see what is next as we hop on the plane to meet our Polish brothers and sisters. This is truly a God-given opportunity!

For more stories, turn to the back page.



Jim Grossman is a student at Crossroads College in Rochester, MN. He and his wife, Kassie, and daughter Lillie, are from Grand Rapids, MN, where they attend the Ev. Free Church.

*Poland is a place of extraordinary opportunity for ministry!*

*PEM partners with churches and individuals outside of Poland that want to help Polish evangelicals reach their nation with the gospel of Christ.*

## *Passion to use theater arts in ministry leads to Poland connection*



**Bethany Peterson, of Deer River, MN looks forward to working with the evangelistic ministry of Jarek and Monika Siech this summer through several Polish churches.**

I have been acting since I was eight or nine. I had watched my parents perform in church plays, in melodramas, and my father specifically in mimes and skits. For me though, it all started with the part of a schoolgirl in a melodrama put on by a local acting school/theatre in Brooklyn Park, MN. I fell in love with the stage, the different characters to play, the costumes, and the ability to entertain and invoke emotions in the audience. Since that time I have been involved—through acting, set design, writing, directing, or musical help— in multiple school productions, church plays, youth group dramas, evangelistic drama groups and mystery dinners. When I graduated from high school in 2007 I became a part of a discipleship group called Generation A.C.T.S. where I participated in the worship band as well as the drama team. We would do traveling services throughout the southeastern part of the U.S. In 2009 I decided to further my education at Azusa Pacific University, but chose to concentrate on music and art rather than acting, and sadly since that time I have not been a part of much in the arena of drama. In the last three years, though, I have not lost my love for performance art. I am hoping through the opportunity to join DAR in Poland, that I will be able to use my abilities in the arts to expose the love of God to as many people as possible in the form of stories. Just like Jesus did.

### *One good summer deserves another!*

In the fall of 2010 my mother and brother took a trip to Minnesota, and there they met Jarek and Monika Siech who run DAR (a ministry through the arts in Poland). As soon as my mom saw their performance, she thought I might be interested in ministering with them there.

I was excited about going. Upon arriving, I was so warmly received that I quickly felt as though those with whom I ministered and fellowshiped were family.

While there, I improved my performance skills, ministered at camp, and traveled with a troupe in evangelistic ministry to five cities. We worked through local churches, using mime, clowning and related art forms through which to share the gospel. It was an awesome opportunity to sow seeds of truth.

I am looking forward to return again this summer, and once again to be a part of this ministry. I pray God will use it to change lives.



**Carman Idoni of Linden, MI, will spend a second summer in ministry in Poland this summer.**

## **You can be a part of what God is doing in Poland by intentionally *Praying...Giving...and Going \****

*\*if you cannot go, perhaps you could help someone else go.*

### *Ask God especially this month:*

- ☒ *To help the Staevens, Grossmans, Bethany Pederson and Carman Idoni as they plan for summer ministry in PL.*
- ☒ *To empower Polish churches as they are engaged in a variety of outreach ministries this summer.*
- ☒ *To call churches and friends outside of Poland to stand with Polish churches financially and through prayer.*

## *Please pray for Poland often!*

PEM, 1928 Commonwealth Blvd., Chanhassen, MN 55317

Emails: [admin@polandem.org](mailto:admin@polandem.org) (for finance & business); [info@polandem.org](mailto:info@polandem.org) (for ministry issues).

Phone numbers: **administration and business, 952-448-5643; ministry, 612-825-7273**

*website: [www.polandem.org](http://www.polandem.org)*