

PRAYER LETTER – February 2019

February in Poland is a rather cold month – there are more church events happening indoors than outdoors, which encourage us to reflect, pray and trust in the Lord.

“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.”

We pray for a meeting with our town mayor with regards to a potential new building. We have found an old building for renovation, which is 10 times cheaper than the one we considered buying when we would have all the necessary resources. If the price is much lower, or even symbolic, we will consider purchasing and renovating it. At this stage, we will need to see if the building meets our needs. Doubling the number of seats in a new chapel is not the only condition. We have many reservations and we hope that our conversation with the mayor will either shed some light or make it clear that this isn't the right place or time. Please support us in praying about it.

The meeting is planned for the second half of March. We believe that when God shuts a door, He doesn't forget to open a window. We want to be prudent and seek God's guidance as well as unity in our church council in this matter – a sign of God's will for our congregation. The current price of the building for adaptation is \$36,800; the building nearer to us and in a better condition has a current price of \$368,000).

We pray for the work going on with Sunday schools. Recently, Kamilla has prepared a lesson on healing the paralyzed man. In order to make the lesson more accessible for the young ones, Kamilla made a stretcher to demonstrate what this scene might have looked like by asking us to carry the children one by one. After the Bible story, children had crafts when they made their own little stretcher in order to retell the story to their parents at home.

We pray for spiritual growth for the Bible study group in Tychy. Recently, I shared from a Peter's letter about putting all our cares on Jesus because He cares for us. If we don't do that, the devil will prowl around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour by using those cares that we failed to leave at the foot of the cross. We are to be sure of what we believe in, knowing that Christians all around the world struggle with similar suffering and spiritual fight. God is actively involved in strengthening us. Christ Himself will give us the crown of glory if we submit ourselves to Him in humility.

We pray for Szymon who had an accident during a morning school run. He works with the disabled, has a wife Ania and three little children. During a school run he broke his leg in three places and had to be operated on. He is going to be off work for six months. We pray for his quick recovery as well as for wisdom and strength for Ania when she has to step up regarding various household duties.

At the beginning of February, we organized an evangelism outreach in church. We showed a film *“Genesis – Paradise Lost”* which, apart from the topic of creation, talks about the fall of man and the need for salvation offered by Jesus Christ. The directors explain how the world was created in six days according to the Bible. Of

course, there was a lively discussion afterwards. There are many questions and ambiguities when it comes to the topic of creation – especially in our culture built on socialism that taught God had not designed the world, but it had been created through the big bang. It was important for us to show that Genesis is a reliable message from God to people; in this book, God is not trying to teach us biology, chemistry or physics to show how exactly He created the world, but, most importantly, we see why He created it and made the first humans.

Over 20 people from outside of our church came to watch the film with us and filled it to the brim, which is a good number in the Polish reality. After the film, the number of those who follow our sermons online has increased and one person has been attending church regularly.

I pray for my preaching ministry. This month, I have prepared a series of sermons entitled “Spring Cleaning.” Spring in Poland is the time of tidying after winter; people take care of their gardens and houses. Do we need “spring cleaning” in our lives? Of course, many of us do. First sermon in the series was on “spring cleaning of our hearts,” the second was on “spring cleaning in our homes” and the third one “spring clean your relations in church.” Each sermon touched upon different areas of our Christian life and ministry; in all of those we need God’s order to experience His blessing and true spiritual fulfilment in our relationship with God, our marriage, family, ministry and relationships within church. Those sermons seem to speak to people and because of that I have many meetings with married couples planned during the week. Please remember them in your prayers. We can see that God is working among us to prepare us better for His ministry.

We pray for the worship team. We are facing a decision whether to expand our current worship team by two new members or start a second one. Marek, who has recently become a Christian and got baptized, is a musician, and Lukasz who attends our church with his family and wants to become a member, plays various instruments too. Adam, who has led the group after Jacek’s death, needs our prayers.

We pray for evangelism planned for May and June as part of The Bible Week events. We want to reach families, children and young people with the Gospel message. The title we chose for this year’s evangelism is “The Gospel that Changes Everything.”

Thank you for your prayers and support. May God bless you.

Tomasz&Kamilla