Prayer Letter - Oct/Nov 2017

Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. (Ps. 111:2)

It's so important for us to know the Lord and His works. Sometimes we feel it's too difficult, but the Lord reveals Himself to us. The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, *"Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything." (2Tm.2:7).* To those who love the Lord and have enough strength and desire to spend time and effort to study and meditate over the Word of God, the Lord reveals His purposes. The one who examines His works, can know Him better and understand that He is faithful and reliable in all that He does. Isn't that amazing? Let us examine the works of the Lord and proclaim how great they are! Let us praise the Lord!

Last month we organized a BBQ picnic, attended by some people from outside of our church, in order to celebrate Lukasz's baptism. Lukasz was touched during Todd's preaching at the camp and gave his life to the Lord, so we thought it would be a good idea to have the baptismal service at the campsite. There, we met with Paulina who had also converted during the camp and she wanted to get baptized as well. It's so encouraging to see that those young people *(who participated in our camp)* meet together for prayer time every week, apart from attending meetings in their own churches. It's clear that there is a special connection among them and God blesses them. It's truly beautiful fruit of the camp: holy young people who seek the Lord! I cannot praise God enough for His works among us through your team last summer.

In October, I also preached an evangelistic sermon in eastern Poland, near the Ukrainian border. There were many people there, including non-believers. I shared from the story of Lot who, though he was a just man, made some bad choices which affected his family. The Lord truly worked in those people's hearts; some men cried. I pray that the Lord's Word will bring many to salvation.

In our Bible study groups, we analyze the Gospel of John which we plan to finish in December. We pray for some guidance as to what to study next.

Last week, we began changing the heating system in our church building to gas. It should bring our bills down by 30% and in 3-4 years' time, it should repay itself. Even if in the future we decide to move, the building will be worth more due to gas central heating. The work will last for about two weeks and, since my wife and I live on the church premises, we want to help out with the labor costs and do as much work as we can ourselves, which may mean some restrictions in me preaching until the work is done.

We keep our eyes open for a potential new place, but it's not easy. We thank the Lord for what we have and the building we own. Many churches in Poland have to rent buildings and be under pressures from pro-catholic authorities. Generally speaking, if a church rents a building in Poland, it's perceived as a sect, as it is believed "real" churches should own their buildings. This way of thinking is quite convenient for the authorities who don't tend to favor other churches' activities.

We pray for meetings for brothers. We feel the need to bond more as brothers in Christ and would like to start a new project "Men's breakfast" – an opportunity to talk, spend time and listen to a message on discipleship and spiritual growth.

We pray for a theological conference we would like to organize before the year ends.

This week, we are starting the new season of "Through sport to Jesus." This is a great family event when we get together to play basketball, volleyball and soccer in a rented sports hall. It's not an easy thing to schedule, with so many people studying and living busy lives, but we want to continue having this fellowship and then invite non-believers to church. Please remember this in your prayers.

We pray for Bozena who suffers from cancer and is awaiting another operation in November. The doctors are not very optimistic after her last results. Please pray for peace for Bozena.

We pray for my parents, who both suffer from cancer. My dad, an agnostic, has pancreatic cancer and is facing chemotherapy. My mom - uninterested in Christian things - has had two operations and lots of tests. Both reject the Gospel, though each of them asked for prayer before their operations. We pray the Lord will work in their lives and touch their hearts.

We pray for Denis, our son, who is a youth leader, supported by his wife, Jadzia. This season, he is planning to prepare a few new people for youth ministry and give them more responsibilities under his care.

We pray for the group in Tychy where we do mission work among 10-12 people and sometimes others who join us from outside the church.

We pray for our church's 20th anniversary celebrations and pray that the Lord might remove any obstacles.

We pray for Darek and Irena – a new married couple that started coming to our church.

Thank you very much for your prayers! God bless you Tomasz