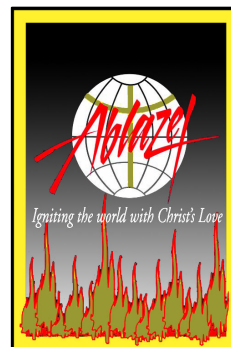


***"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." – Ecclesiastes 4:12***



Dear Friends in Christ,

Well, June is here and we are very excited about coming home. We are putting the finishing touches on our first year of classes and work here in Poland. We are also getting ready to say goodbye to the many friends we have made this year. We are not the only ones leaving Cieszyn. One of our Polish friends, Monika, is going to work in England. Please pray that she will find safe opportunities to work and make Christian friends. Going to England is a popular way for Poles to find jobs and make money that is not possible in the sluggish economic situation currently in Poland. Also, our Chicago friend, Tracey, who teaches at a language school here is going home for the summer. We pray for safe travels and smooth transitions. Heather Weiss, our fellow volunteer here is going home to Michigan after two years on the mission field here in Cieszyn. We pray that the Lord continues to bless her work with His people throughout the world. She will be sliding into a position at MOST Ministries, which we hear is a fine organization. So, if you and some friends want to see Poland or the world, and you want to spread the gospel that is vital to our salvation, please call World Mission and see where they need you, please call MOST Ministries and talk to Heather, or please talk to your pastor and see where he wants to go.

Twelve Heads Are Better Than Two

This past weekend we had the great opportunity to see our fellow volunteers for one last time, before some of them go back to the States. We met in Bratislava, Slovakia, the current home town of our fearless leaders, Rob and Gerlinde Lindsey. You can take a look at the crew below. Mandi is in Sopron, Hungary; Radka and David are in Tisovec, Slovakia; Rex and Linda are also in Tisovec, Slovakia; Harriet is in Gliwice, Poland; Rachel is in Aszod, Hungary; and Heather is right here with us in Cieszyn. It was good to see everyone and reflect on what the Lord has been doing in here in Europe around us. It is a blessing for us to be here and at the symposium we talked about our experiences and learned from one another about how to make our work here as effective as possible. We came back with many ideas for the next several weeks and for our work next year. The gathering was also an opportunity to say good-bye to those who will not be returning the field in Europe. Rex and Linda will be returning to their congregation in Wisconsin. Mandi will also be returning to Wisconsin. And, as we mentioned above, Heather will be going to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to begin work with MOST Ministries. At the conference we learned that there will be another volunteer coming to Cieszyn next year. Though we do not have any other information, we are eager to meet our new partner and we thank God for the help. Please pray for this person as they prepare for their mission work.

Moving On and Moving Up

The seniors are taking their dreaded matura exams. For several weeks they have been coming to school dressed in their finest suits, only to get locked in a room and forced to take tests. Not a lot of fun. This past week they finished the English portion of the test and rumors say that they all did pretty well. Continue to pray for these students as they finish their testing and contemplate their future.



Mandi

Radka + David = Vasek

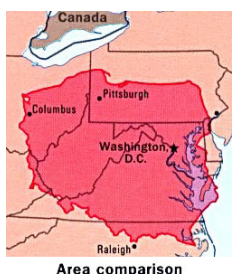
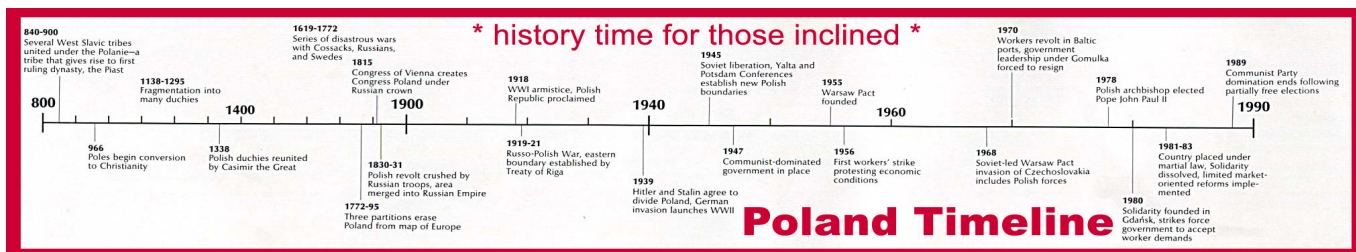
Rex & Linda

Harriet

Rachel

Heather

Through the Ablaze! initiative, LCMS seeks to share the Good News of Jesus with 100 million unreached or uncommitted people by 2017, the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. No matter where we are, each of us has opportunities to share God's love with those around us. What opportunities do you see in your church, workplace, or neighborhood? LCMS also lists opportunities at www.lcmsworldmission.org. Check it out!



We are a ministry of
People of the Book
Lutheran Outreach
(POBLO) which
enables Christians to
build friendships
with Muslims to
reach them with the
Gospel.

Christian Friends of
New Americans
(CFNA),
Rev. Tony Boos and
Kristi Roegner,
Missionaries
3738 Morganford
St. Louis, MO 63116
314-773-0126 x-332
314-239-2367 cell
www.cfna-stl.org
www.poblo.org



Our Summer Plans

We are planning on leaving Poland June 16. We are still in the process of looking for jobs and would be happy to hear of any opportunities in the Springfield – St. Louis area. We are going to Jon's brother, David's, wedding on June 24 in Carlinville, IL. We will be in the States for 6 weeks, and then we are heading back to Cieszyn to take a month-long Polish language course and to help at the Rainbow Harvest Camp. It is an English children's camp first started by Jasia Gazda about ten years ago. We have been told that Jasia brings the gospel to the children, and we are eager to help in any way that we can. We have known others that have participated in these camps, and their experiences have been extremely positive. If you want to learn more about these camps or how to sponsor a scholarship for a child please check out the website: <http://www.eemn.org/content.cfm?id=2099>.

If you would like to see us and talk to us in person, we will be around this summer. If you would like for us to stop by your church and talk, we are eager to share more of our experiences. Please let us know what would be a good date. We would like to visit as many churches as possible on the weekends and during the week in the evenings. For the coming year of work we are in the need of some additional prayers and support. If the Lord leads you to support us, donations can be sent to LCMS Mission Senders * 1333 S. Kirkwood Rd. * St. Louis, MO 63122 * with "Poland Benning Support" in the memo line.

More Ways to Get Involved

Last month, we shared a little bit about other volunteer opportunities in Poland. We think it would be really exciting if some of our supporters could find a way to participate in a short-term mission trip abroad. We don't want to give the impression, however, that going somewhere is the only way to share God's Good News. Learning about mission work, praying for missionaries, giving to mission efforts, telling others about God's mission, sending missionaries, and celebrating God's plan of salvation are all ways to participate in the Great Commission.

Recently, we have been thinking about other mission efforts that could benefit from the above mission responses. In particular, we thought about the opportunities that Americans have to reach out to immigrants in their communities and of one mission in particular that serves this purpose. Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA) in St. Louis, Missouri, has been working to develop relationships with Muslims and New Americans over the course of several years. We were fortunate enough to be able to help for a short time providing childcare for parents who were learning English as a Second Language. CFNA is a domestic mission that we believe is worthy of your time and participation. If you would like more information, please refer to the contact information to the left of this paragraph. You can also learn more about this mission on the LCMS website at www.lcms.org.

Prayers and Praises

- * That we have the opportunity to reconnect with friends and family at home this summer
- * For missionaries who will be transitioning back to life in the States – thanks for God's faithfulness during their time here and prayer for God's guidance as they share their stories and readjust to life in the U.S.
- * For current and new missionaries, that they be blessed with health and prayers and financial support for the coming year
- * For our friend, Monika, as she endeavors to find work in England
- * For Jon's brother, David and his fiancée, Rachel as they finish preparations for the wedding and get settled in St. Louis

Thank you for all of your continued encouragement and support. We could not do this without your help.

Jonathan and Jordan Benning

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