Olsztyn, Poland

October, 2026

The Schaapman's news and more.

After the first Passover, when seeing the blood of the lamb on their doors God passed over the homes of the Israelites, Pharaoh ordered Moses to get up and leave his people. As all the people journeyed out to Sukkot there is a short, almost parenthetical, statement that is of great interest, **“many other people went up with them”.**
These were Egyptians and possibly other nationalities as well.
We do not know the exact circumstances, but while the ten plagues fell on Egypt these **‘other people’** responded with a fear of God and left all to follow Him and His people to the promised land by faith.
This demonstrates God has always been calling peoples from all nations to Himself. It did not begin with the great commission. God used Israel to reveal Himself to the nations as He does today through the Church.

Thank you everyone, as always for your prayers, support, and encouragement. The Lord has opened some doors and done marvelous things I want to share with you.

Summer evangelism: last time i mentioned how the Lord had brought along some young guys who are very zealous for Him.
Some of them expressed real interest in learning the sketchboard and touring different cities in Poland for a couple weeks this summer preaching Christ.

It was then followed by many months of silence.It turned out that Marcin and Maciek, who were the leading guys in evangelism from my city Olsztyn, both experienced serious burn out.
I was sad for them, and am still working with them to recover, as well as sad that the summer plans went up in flames. I confess this to be the reason for my silence, or neglect in writing an earlier prayer letter.

"**THEN"**, God raised a ministry out of the ash heap!
"**THEN"** frequently serves as a massive structural pivot or a marker of sudden, divine intervention. Rather than acting as a simple, passive transition, "**THEN"** often signals a dramatic shift in reality—moving a narrative from darkness to light, judgment to grace, or human helplessness to divine action like when Israel was hemmed in by the sea, cliffs and Pharaoh's army, "**THEN"** Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land."
Or in Psalm 73 when Asaph had become envious of the arrogant when he saw the prosperity of the wicked, "till I entered the sanctuary of God; **then** I understood their final destiny." Psalms 73:17

It was similar for me "**THEN"**, thanks to the Lord's doing God opened the way! "Men make their plans, but the Lord directs their steps."
Piotr, a pastor's son from Iława and Michael from Ełk organized different missions with a team of young people to bring the gospel in several cities and they invited me to join them.
Keep in mind in this northern area of Poland there are approximately 0.01% evangelical Christians. Jehovah witnesses are around 0.3%.

Ostrołęka: a city of 51,000 people with two small (15-30 people) evangelical churches.
The boys managed to recruit 15 zealous young people for a week of evangelism. One family donated the use of their large house for the team. A generosity made the cost of the week very affordable for all.
I stayed in the pastor's home and was delighted to meet their four foster children. The parents have such a good relation with them and the kids are happy to learn of the Lord. One daughter (16 years old) even joined

us and told me her testimony. She loves the Lord and wants to serve Him. What a joy to see.
Each day included a time in the word, prayer, worship and training.
I was surprised, and glad to learn many of them told me they have been using the questionnaire we developed in Montreal, and that it was their best evangelism tool.
I have worked with many youth and youth groups in Montreal from Canada, the U.S. and abroad, but I must say that I am very encouraged to see the commitment to Christ of these Polish youth and their desire to make Christ known.
Praise God for the many who heard the gospel and received gospels.
The week ended with the Sunday service where we had one person who we met on the streets come. The team was very encouraged.





Time in the word (left) Pastor Krzysztof and family





Sharing the gospel on the street and in the mall



Sharing a meal together

Katowice: A city of 275,000 people.
“**THEN” Jacob** invited me to the south to help him in his summer ‘reach the city' mission. I went with Ryś (17 years old) from my city. He wanted to learn how to preach the gospel using the sketchboard.
Ryś did well, and by the end of the week he preached his first message. We shared the gospel with many over the week in Katowice, as well a day trip to Kraków.
The highlight for me was when we did some evening meetings on the last day and had around fifteen people each message. After the last message there was a lady in her mid-thirties, Claudia, who we talked with for 1.5 hours. She was so broken having just come through a divorce and she was receptive to the gospel. At the end she prayed on her own to be saved. Jacob, the local evangelist, is getting his wife to follow up with her. Please pray for Claudia.
Ryś and I waiting on the train to Katowice



The team (right)





Sharing a meal. Jacob and Piotr's mom's cooked delicious Polish dishes for us each day. How nice! Jacob (on my right) and Hartwig (on my left) are evangelists with O.A.C. Piotr (front left) accepted Christ 6 months ago and wants to learn how to preach in the open air.



An evening meeting



Learning the sketchboard



Ryś finishing his first message



Ryś sharing the gospel with the youth. Please pray for Ryś. He got saved through the internet, and found a good church online too. He has lots of potential, but is in need of a large dose of self discipline so that he may be fruitful.

Lidzbark: population around 7000 people, but with its beautiful lake Lidzbark attracts many tourists in the summer.

“**THEN”** I was invited to preach at a small church, new to me, in Lidzbark some months back. I believe it is the only evangelical church. They had to let their pastor go due to his having become a zealous flat earther.
It is a church with no more than 15 people all over 50 years old, but they love the Lord. They need young people.
Praise God we were able to return with a team of 9 young people to reach out with the gospel.



Here are Piotr and Ewa (R & L) with a brother from the church. Piotr is the main elder and oversees the ministry in absence of a pastor. Please pray for their son Dawid (24 yrs.). He is a wonderful person. I had a very long talk with him. He made a profession for Christ some years ago, but recently feels the need to ‘explore’, since he was raised in a good Christian home he does not know if the gospel is objectively true. I am genuinely concerned for him.



The team and a couple from the Church



The boys



Ryś preached his second message in Lidzbark by the lake and some of the team shared their testimonies. The mayor of the neighbouring town was there and said he found it was good to see young people sharing the gospel.



Sharing the gospel

Ełk: with a population of 62,000 people.
“**THEN”** Michał….
I worked with Michał in both Ostrołęka and Lidzbark, in fact he was the one who recruited the team for me in Lidzbark. He is only 17, but has exceptional Christian character. He really wants to preach the gospel. I promised him that if he wants to learn the sketchboard, he can come to Olsztyn, stay with us and I will teach him, or I would travel to Ełk (3 hour drive) and teach him there and we can go out on the street together. Well this last weekend he called and invited me to Ełk. I packed up the car and I stayed at his parents home and taught him the sketchboard. He had been working on his message before my arrival, so it was just the illustrative part he lacked.
On Saturday afternoon the youth group met, and after I shared a word we had a meal together then hit the street. There Michał preached his first message in his own city. He acknowledged it is different doing it in

your own city because people know you, but he added ‘it is a small cost for what Christ has done for me.’



Michał working hard



Just as Michał was ready to begin preaching a large group of youth were passing. He enthusiastically invited them all to stay and they did. Praise God, he did very well for his first time. The team shared the gospel with many people too.

Afterwards I was talking with one young lady in the youth group. Michał had invited her to come to the group some months back and she now attends regularly. She said her family is strictly Catholic and they do not know she attends the youth group. Please pray for her as she is very open and interested in the gospel.

On the return home a pastor asked if I could drive his daughter Iliana (17 years old) home, since their home was enroute for me. This summer she took part in three missions and she told me how it has helped her become bolder in her faith though she is a real introvert. I can see that she is gaining a real heart for the lost. What a joy! It is even affecting her choices for upcoming University. She would really appreciate prayer too. I give praise to God for how He is raising an army of young soldiers for the kingdom. They need much prayer as they are now at the crossroads of many life altering decisions: University, work, where to live (Poland or abroad), marriage…etc.

On the University campus:
Now that University has begun I will be back on campus. I will continue going to the park and mall with some of the youth who joined us on mission this Fall and Winter. The mall has worked well to date, but it is private property, and we could be asked to leave at any time. Please pray we can find alternate venues, and that mall security will continue to ignore or not see us.

Montreal street, and door-door ministry;
Marty and the team continue strong on the street as the weather is still nice. Praise God that though the new Bill 9, restricting religious expression/prayer in public caused initially some fear in the team when it came out in September, but it has not affected them much in the end at all.
Soon Marty will start door to door and always needs prayer for workers. It is a very fruitful work among the University students, but few Christians are up to the tast.
The metro ministry continues without a glitch. They are there every Thursday evening 50-52 weeks a year and sometimes have over 10

volunteers at a given time. The location is great for fishing for souls as the stream of people is constant and the bait (the gospel) is always beautiful.
In all these ministries please pray for the gospel to go out with power, and for people to trust Christ.



Ludmiła: You will remember her, the zealous Ukrainian sister who had cancer, and was living in Poland. Well, her cancer returned and the Polish cancer care hospital did all they could for her but it returned with a vengeance. They told her she did not have long to live. She wanted to return to Ukraine, so the Polish government arranged for an ambulance to take her to the border, over 400 kms away, then arranged for a Ukrainian ambulance to meet them and take her the rest of the way.
She went to be with the Lord while being transported in Ukraine to her home. Here is an interesting paraphrase of 2 Cor. 5:8 that seems to fit the way Ludmiła lived: "That's why we live with such good cheer. You won't see us drooping our heads or dragging our feet! Cramped conditions here don't get us down. They only remind us of the spacious living conditions ahead. It's what we trust in but don't yet see that keeps us going. Do you suppose a few ruts in the road or rocks in the path are going to stop us? When the time comes, we'll be plenty ready to exchange exile for homecoming."

Preaching:
I continue to make progress in preaching through Exodus monthly in two different churches in Polish. In fact this month I have preached in 4 different churches. I personally profit greatly from studying the word to preach and earnestly pray God's people do too. Please pray for these churches. There is a greater need for more hunger for God, His word, and a vision/ passion for the lost.
Oh God, "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes."
Isaiah 54:2

Kornelia:
In case you ever wonder why I say little about her it is because she prefers me to say as little as possible, but I am very grateful for her helps

from translating my sermons, giving me regular Polish lessons, keeping our home impeccable and the cats happy, and doing all the administration (car, home insurance, bills, arranging repairmen, doing all my docs for me to get my Polish residency card…..and much more) since it is in Polish. While we lived in Canada Kornelia was a child care worker for 16 years and liked the English phrase “home keeper”as opposed to the derogatory Polish equivalent “kura domowa” meaning house hen. So, needless to say, she is living the dream as a happy home maker to the glory of God. I am sure I have said more than I should already.

Proverbs 31:10: "An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above rubies."

I knew that coming to Poland was not going to be a walk in the park. I am full of praise to God for His faithfulness to His promises and for doing exceedingly abundantly above all I could ask or think. To Him be glory, honor and all praise.

I know the way forward is one of prayer and trusting God for great things. I do not have sufficient words to express my gratitude for your support, and prayers and comradery in the gospel making it all possible with God's working.

Blessings in Christ Jesus, Tony & Kornelia

Please feel free to correspond with us at tonyschaapman@gmail.com
We would be delighted to hear from you.

If you would like to contribute to our personal financial support, or ministry expenses such as the printing of tracts, travel..etc. please send all funds to

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