

Serving in Poland



SEND
International

February 2020 – By Christian Johnston

www.send.org/johnston

God is good

Returning to the States last September was perhaps unexpected on my end, certainly though it wasn't unexpected by God. My brother and sister-in-law kindly waited for me to be back home before having their wedding reception. Pictured below you'll see my family unit, my parents, my brother and sister-in-law, and my precious nephew. I'm thankful for these quirky people God has given me and it was a true joy to be present to celebrate with them.

My first few months back in Georgia truly flew by, speaking with churches, meeting with old and new partners, visiting friends and family, sharing how God has been at work around me and others in Poland. I've had and continue to have a great time sharing as God provides the opportunities. This has also been in no small part thanks to the willingness of His people to join into what He is doing.

I originally came home fairly under-supported financially and that has drastically changed in the past months. Suffice it to say, it's evident God has been meeting the needs and I'm confident support levels will be where they need to be before heading back to Poland. In the meantime, I'm continuing to share and invite new people to join in.



Pictured above: My parents, my brother and sister-in-law, my nephew, and myself at my brother's wedding ceremony.



Pictured above: Winter in metro Detroit and myself, the strange Southerner who loves cold and constantly snowy winters.

Home service

Visa trouble back in November led to conversations with my field and with the home office. Due to the visa I was bound to be in the States longer than anticipated, and so I've technically switched over to 'home service' for the time being.

What does this mean for me? Well, the extra time in the States has provided a unique opportunity to gain additional skills and insights to help with my job back in Poland. I've taken up residence for the coming months in Detroit, Michigan, to spend time in SEND's home office to work towards this goal.

I'm working on a number of projects in the office and gaining administrative experience that will work well in one of the roles for my field, that of an administrator.

All the while I will continue working towards meeting the financial support needs and on acquiring my Polish visa.

Perhaps unexpected-this additional time in the States, I'm glad for the opportunity to be better prepared for what God has ahead once I do return to Poland soon, God-willing!

Detroit

With my time up north I'm glad to get to know colleagues I typically only get to communicate with via email a bit more personally. A great perk of spending time up here!

Coming from the south it's also a nice change of pace to have a consistently cold and snowy winter, though I'm being told this is a mild winter. I do have a somewhat similar winter in Poland, however the snow typically doesn't stick in Wrocław like it does here.

I'm glad for the opportunity to enjoy what is left of the winter, I'm deepening existing relationships up here and developing new ones. Keeping in mind the mandate to be witnesses wherever God places us, I'm glad for now to do so in Detroit.

I anticipate working in SEND's office won't be the only endeavour while here. I look forward to serving this community and God's people in Detroit and I look forward to when He makes the way for me to return to Poland.

At some point I'll have to drive over to Washington D.C. to have a meeting at the Polish embassy about my visa, and of course I'll return to Georgia before I do fly back to Poland. The timing of these things is still unknown for now.

While I wait I'll continue working on what God has laid out before me!



Pictured above: The Polish embassy in Washington D.C., where I'll have to go once the visa is in order.

Praises

- For God's provision with the financial support needs
- For a good place to stay in the Detroit area
- For peace with the unknowns of the coming months
- For the opportunities provided to gain more skills to help with ministry in Poland
- For the colleagues and friends making my transition into Michigan life so much easier

Prayers

- For the remaining financial support
- For my Polish ability
- For continued opportunities to share with existing and new partners
- For my visa (appointment time at the embassy unknown as of yet)
- For my Polish to persist with the additional time spent outside of Poland
- For the ongoing work of the church in Poland to reach the Polish people, for encouragement and boldness in proclaiming the Gospel

Follow my ministry page by scanning this QR code:



Contact Information: Where to send support:

Christian Johnston
 ul. Łaciarska 36/1
 50-146 Wrocław, Polska
 christopoland@gmail.com

SEND International
 PO Box 513
 Farmington, MI 48332
send.org/johnston
 1-800-SEND-808

Contributions are solicited with the understanding that the donee organization has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.

NOTE: \$45/mo. is equivalent to 1% of my monthly support. Over time partners can no longer partner for various reasons, if God so leads, I would be honored to have you in partnership with me!