

A Wonderful Year of Ministry in Review.

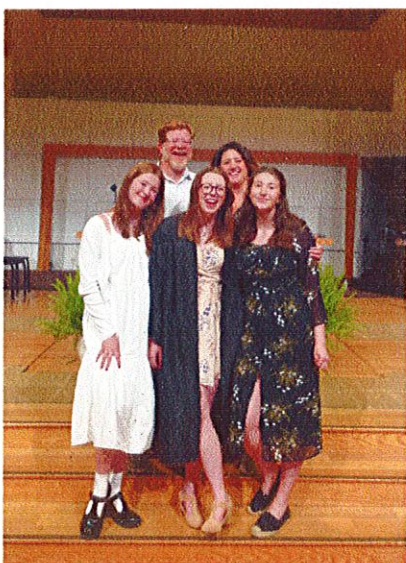
As we welcome the new year, we want to look back at 2023 and praise God for his faithfulness to the church in Poland.

We began 2023 in the USA. One of our main objectives was to help Maia during her freshman year of college, making ourselves available as she transitioned to life in the USA.

In February we traveled to Poland, where we received an absolutely enormous blessing when we were granted permanent residency cards that we have been working toward for many years.

During March, we traveled out to the West Coast to visit the churches in California and Oregon that have faithfully partnered with us for many years.

Since we usually spend holidays far from family, it was wonderful to celebrate Easter this year with both Sarah's parents as well as Ben's.



In the spring, we traveled thousands of miles giving ministry reports to supporting churches in Canada, Virginia, Michigan, Missouri, Texas, Illinois, and New York.

In May, Mikaela finished her bachelor's degree from Bethlehem College and Seminary. We were able to attend her graduation ceremony and rejoice together with her in God's blessings over the last four years. At this same time, Maia finished her first year of college, a milestone in the process of a third-culture kid adapting to life as an adult in the USA.

I had the opportunity to spend the first week of **July** in the Netherlands with a group of Christian publishers from nearly forty countries who are working together with Desiring God Ministries to make God-exalting resources available around the globe.

In the summer, we packed up all our belongings and put them in storage. We said goodbyes to our two daughters and flew back to Poland.



We rejoiced greatly to be reunited with the two church families in Poland. At the very end of the summer, we had a baptismal service in Łuków, where two new believers were baptized and three were added to the Łuków church family. Then, a week later, we held a baptismal service in Siedlce where we rejoiced to add three born-again believers to the church. Growth in these church

plants has come so slowly over the years, that these two celebrations were simply glorious and full of joy.

In September, we willingly jumped back into our responsibilities at the two church plants. Sarah and Aleyna serve in the music ministry: playing the piano, and violin as well as leading singing. They also heartily enjoy serving in the children's ministry at both church plants. I happily returned to preaching at the Sunday worship services.

In partnership with Grace to You, we published seven new booklets in the "Answering Key Questions" series **in October**. We've been working on this project for a couple of years and were excited to make new titles available, bringing our total to fifteen. We had the finances to print three thousand copies of each new title and have been busy distributing them to local churches around the country.

There is now a small group of English-speaking ladies who have joined the Siedlce church. To minister to this group, Sarah began an English-speaking Bible study **in November**. Then one of those ladies asked Sarah if she would lead the same Bible study for the ladies of her home church in the Philippines. So, on top of the many ways that Sarah serves the two church plants, she has added these two new Bible studies.

In December, not only did our two older daughters fly to Poland to spend Christmas with us, but Mikaela brought her fiancé to introduce him to the country of her childhood.

We are very excited to see what God will do in 2024 and one of the blessings we look forward to is welcoming a son-in-law into our family.

