

A REPORT CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN POLAND—April 2023

After the war between Russia and Ukraine started, between 4 and 5 million Ukrainian refugees moved to Poland. Because of such an overwhelming number of refugees, we decided to preach the gospel in Eastern Europe, mainly in Poland. In 2022 we had four gospel trips and three shepherding trips in Poland. These trips targeted mainly four places: Warsaw, Krakow, Wroclaw (pronounced like Vroh'-tswahf), and Przemysl at the border with Ukraine. As a result of those trips, just in Warsaw alone 150 new ones came to our welcome dinners, and another 180 left their contact information but never came to our meetings. During the fall term of the full-time training in Moscow (FTTM), the trainees in the Warsaw extension contacted all these new ones, and many saints from the Ukrainian churches who moved to Warsaw continued to care for them. About a dozen of these new ones fully came into the church life, and about 40 are still under our care.

A large house on Puzonistow street in Warsaw (called the Puzo house) serves as a meeting hall for the church in Warsaw and as a place where the saints can stay temporarily. About a year ago over 60 saints were staying there. Since then, the brothers in Poland rented a number of apartments and houses and moved most of Ukrainian saints away from the Puzo house. Yet new refugees are still coming on a regular basis as a small trickle. When they arrive, they stay in the Puzo house for a while, and if they decide to stay in Warsaw longer, we try to move them into the rented apartments.

About a year ago the meeting of the church in Warsaw was between 20 and 30 saints. Many Polish saints still have not returned to the live meetings after the pandemic. Now, because so many Ukrainian saints have moved to Warsaw, the average meeting on the Lord's Day is over 80 saints. We have our Lord's table with all languages combined (mainly Polish and Russian), and then we break up into two prophesying groups, Polish-speaking and Russian-speaking. Each Lord's Day after the meeting we have meals together and love feasts. The saints enjoy this time very much and linger in the hall.

The meeting for the new ones continues. We have this meeting every Saturday evening with a dinner. Each time we have over 50 saints, including many new ones. We have already covered the book *The Knowledge of Life*, and we are now covering the book *The Economy of God*. We go chapter by chapter. Many brothers exercise in sharing.

Furthermore, we initiated reading of the Life-studies over Zoom. Russian-speaking and Ukrainian-speaking saints come together twice a week in the evenings and read Life-studies together. This has proven to be a very solid and enjoyable time for all the saints. Also, we have a number of group meetings where we care for the young people, local saints, Ukrainian refugees, and college students. To our feeling the church life in Warsaw is very sweet.

The leading brothers' meeting now includes brothers from Poland and Ukraine. Every time we come together, we pray for over an hour, and we fellowship in harmony. There is genuine oneness among the brothers and no regard for any language or culture.

The church life in Krakow is very new, and most of the saints are younger. More than 20 saints attend every meeting. They also care for the Ukrainian refugees. We send trainees there almost every other week. Another place that we visit is Wroclaw. We are laboring to establish a church in that city, which is the third largest city in Poland. Recently, one serving brother moved there from Krakow, and one brother moved there from London with his family. Trainees also go there on a regular basis.

Last February FTTA trainees came to Poland for a gospel trip. We believe the Lord opened two new localities to us. One of them is Lodz, and another one is Poznań. Some of our saints live in the two cities, but we believe the Lord gave us some fruit there. This term we started going to both cities with a

view to raising up churches. Since these places are not too far from Warsaw, we hope that this will be a combined labor between local saints and trainees.

Finally, there are 15 trainees in the FTTM extension in Warsaw. 13 of them are Ukrainian, and 2 are from the country of Georgia. Because they cannot be trained in Moscow, they have to continue their training remotely. We try to provide a training atmosphere for them, and we try to make them useful for the Lord's move in Poland. Some of them have family members on the front lines of the war, and some have even lost their dear ones in the war. We shepherd these suffering ones as much as we can.

Please continue to pray for the Lord's move in Poland. May the Lord raise up a prevailing testimony of the one new man in Poland.