



"Preach the gospel, die and be forgotten."
- Count Zinzendorf.



Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for God's goodness to our family through 2016. We spent exactly six months of the year in Poland and now six months in the USA.

There are many of you that we have not yet visited, but after having driven 20,000 miles or so in the last six months we've had the chance spend time with quite a few of you! We have been in a different church almost every weekend and it has been such a joy. You have showered us with love, kindness, good food and comfortable beds. When there are 5 years in between visits, it makes fellowship that we finally have that much sweeter. Although I have made a couple trips alone, we have done most of the traveling together as a family. The kids have had to miss some school, but are able to keep up with school for the most part.

The church in Siedlce is doing well. The three elders have had some struggles, but they continue to faithfully serve in spite of the difficulties. Two people have been saved and baptized in the months that we have been away and since that baptismal service two more people have made a profession of faith. The church is unified and encouraged. The state of the church in Siedlce has made our time in the USA much easier.

Mikaela is in 10th grade at Calvary Baptist Academy here in Midland, MI. She had the opportunity to play on the volleyball team this fall, her first experience playing organized sports and she did really well. She also passed stage one of drivers training and has her driver's permit. Maia is in 7th grade at the same school and also played on a volleyball team this fall. She is playing on her ukulele as I write and enjoys plucking out songs on the guitar and piano. Aleya is in 3rd grade and doesn't sit still for a minute. The house where we are living has a yard and she is out playing in all weather, riding her bike when there is no snow, building snow men and sledding down hills when there is.

We are spending Christmas with Ben's family in Michigan. It has been 14 years since we have had the chance to celebrate Christmas with them, and we feel God has blessed us beyond measure and far more than we deserve.

Thank you for all you do for our family, for remembering us in prayer. We appreciate you.

Merry Christmas from our family to yours!

May your 2017 be full of the Joy and Peace which can only be found in Jesus Christ!

Ben, Sarah, Mikaela, Maia and Aleya Layer

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