

# POLAND



## LOCATION

Legnica, Poland

## LOCAL PARTNERS

Bruce & Linda Thomas

## DATES

July 9-21

## ESTIMATED COST

\$2,500

## TEAM LEADERS

Dave & Deb Mogle

## WHY THERE?

Fewer than 1% of Polish people are Evangelical Christians, which is a smaller percentage than in most Muslim countries. Most Polish people will say they are Catholic, but in reality, they are confused about their standing with God. Their greatest felt need is to learn English, so teaching English is a way of opening the door to forming relationships and sharing the Gospel. We will be going to help our missionaries, Bruce and Linda Thomas, to run an English immersion camp and a VBS-type program for children.

## WHAT WILL WE DO?

The VBC team will have primary responsibility for running a VBS-type program for children ages 7-11. We will also serve as conversation partners with Polish teens and adults who are trying to learn English. These conversations may provide opportunities to share about our own relationships with Christ. We may have other responsibilities as well for helping with the English camp for older children and adults. The camp includes an opening kickoff on our first Sunday, programming from about 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, optional activities in the evenings, an outing with the campers on Saturday, and a closing program the last Sunday.

## WHO SHOULD COME?

- Adults willing to teach Bible lessons, English lessons, games, or crafts.
- The Thomases would like to see some families come, so the Polish people can interact with American children or teens.
- Participants younger than 18 must be accompanied by a parent who will also serve.
- You will need to be able to walk 5 minutes to the camp and 15 minutes to the train station and be physically able to assist with camp activities.
- The optional outing includes some mildly strenuous hiking.

## TRAVEL

A flight of about 11-12 hours followed by a bus or van ride, possibly 3-4 hours from the airport.

## LODGING

We will stay in a modern hotel that has air conditioning.

## GENERAL INFO

Location: Legnica is in southwestern Poland, about 4 hours from Warsaw.

Climate: Poland's climate is similar to ours. It will be hot in July, but the building where we will hold the camp stays cool.

According to the Thomases, "Poland is a land of paradoxes. There is a unique mix of old and new, traditional and contemporary, order and chaos, tolerance and prejudice. Polish people are group-oriented, yet individualistic; pessimistic; yet persevering, looking back while looking forward."

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The area where we are going is generally very safe from a crime standpoint. The food and water are safe, too.

Poland does not operate on a 24/7 schedule that we are accustomed to, so one cannot expect businesses to be open all hours.

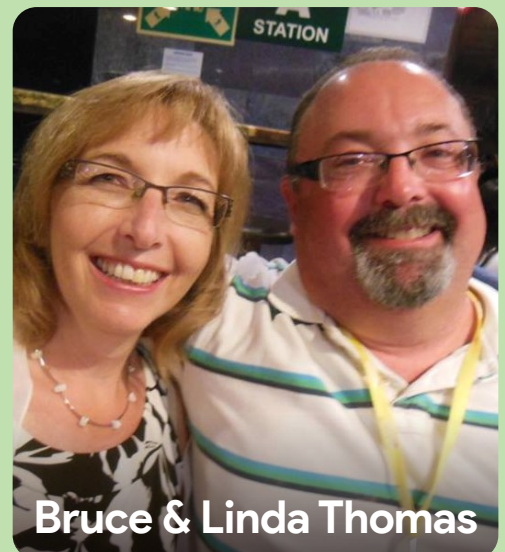
For this trip we will have special training sessions to prepare our VBS curriculum and materials, as well as to learn more about Polish culture.

## PRAYER POINTS

Pray that God will raise up the team members He wants to go on this trip. Pray for safe and smooth travel, for open hearts, for the opportunity to build the foundations for continuing relationships between the Polish people and our missionaries, the Thomases. Pray that each of us on the team will grow in our walk with the Lord.

“Never pity missionaries; envy them. They are where the real action is — where life and death, sin and grace, Heaven and Hell converge.”

**Robert C. Shannon**



**Bruce & Linda Thomas**