

May 2012

Dear friends,

Greetings from Wrocław, Poland. As we come to the end of the second semester of classes in the B.A. program we thought you would enjoy reading about additional programs and activities offered at EST.

### **Academy of Third Age - Spring/Summer 2012**

Spring in Wrocław is the time for various events, shows, festivals and other cultural and educational events addressed to all Wrocławians and visitors. An equally interesting offer from Evangelical School of Theology is addressed to people over 60. EST's program of Academy of Third Age includes five events in May, June and July: lectures, trips and a fourth edition of Protestant Culture Festival of which EST was a co-organizer.

At the beginning of May, EST held a lecture on women in the Bible. The speaker was Dr. Sławomir Torbus, an EST faculty member. Dr Torbus presented the historical and cultural background on the lives of women in the Bible.



**From May 19 to 27, 2012** EST organized the fourth edition of the Festival of Protestant Culture. The event was organized in co-operation

with Baptist and Pentecostal churches. All the Academy of Third Age participants attended most of the festival events. Three of them were held on the EST premises.

On Saturday, May 19, there was a lecture on the history of evangelicalism by EST President, Dr. Wojciech Szczerba as well as a concert by the Angelus Silesius Ensemble choir. The concert was interlaced with brief talks on the gospel tradition by Dawid Słusarczyk, a Lutheran organist from Wrocław. The meeting at EST came at the end of a walk "In the footsteps of Protestant art" – a guided tour of various Wrocław churches and places connected with Wrocław Protestant tradition. On Tuesday, May 22, we had an evening dedicated to missions in Central Asia and India. The program included refreshments with snacks from other parts of the world and discussions with missionaries.



On Wednesday, May 23 there was a lecture "Protestants and the cross" given by Prof. Jan Harasimowicz, an outstanding expert on Protestant history, culture and art. The lecture was held as part of the ecumenical (Jewish-Christian) series of meetings – District of Four Temples (Jewish, Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox). Many Academy of Third Age participants take genuine interest in Polish-Jewish dialogue as well as in Catholic-Protestant dialogue. *(Photo: White Stork Synagogue in Wrocław.)*

The **June** program of Academy of Third Age also includes two city tours. The first one, on June 5, is a tour "Wrocław – a city of interdenominational dialogue". On June 16 the program will be a visit to a Polish Catholic Church in Wrocław. The event will be hosted by the priest of the Polish Catholic Church who will give us a tour of his church, tell us about the history of it and describe the distinguishing characteristics of the

denomination. (Note: There is a difference between the Polish Catholic Church and the Roman Catholic Church in Poland. From Wikipedia: "*The Polish Catholic Church is an Old Catholic denomination in Poland which belongs to the Union of Utrecht. It is a member of the World Council of Churches and the Polish Ecumenical Council. It is not affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church nor is it in communion with the Pope. In 2012 the Polish Catholic Church had roughly 20,000 members.*")

In **July** we are going to offer a talk on Brain Diet – how nutrition affects our intellect. Over the years our cognitive function decreases, memory weakens and learning does not come as easy. Right diet allows us to preserve our cognitive function as long as possible by providing our brain with needed nutrients. The talk will show the connection between diet and cognitive function in the elderly.

After a month long break the Academy of Third Age will start again in September with a new series of talks, workshops, tours and training courses. Additionally, beginning in the fall EST will also offer English lessons for people who are over 50 years old. The participants will be able to choose their level of English and develop it further.

**Prayer requests:**

1. Recruitment of students for various programs for 2012-2013 academic school year.
2. Students in BA program as they finish classes and take final exams.
3. Pray for Lidia Harcej (Assistant to the Chancellor) who is on medical leave following a stroke in April. Pray for those responsible for Lidia's work load while she is on leave.
5. Wisdom as faculty and staff work on fundraising projects. See details below.
5. Euro 2012 (European soccer tournament) will be played in Poland and Ukraine during the month of June. Wroclaw is one of the host cities for the games. Pray that all goes well between fans, the various teams and safety as people travel.

**Evangelical School of Theology needs to raise additional funds for various programs and projects: B.A. program, School of Leaders, School of Apologetics, School of Biblical Languages, Open Theological Academy, and Academy of Third Age. The amount needed is \$10,000 a month either in one-time gifts or in regular monthly support.**

<p><b>In the US gifts should be sent to:</b></p> <p>Evangelical School of Theology Debra Ferguson, CPA Assistant Treasurer 2495 Barker Road Oxford, NC 27565 USA</p>	<p><b>Outside of the US gifts can be sent to:</b></p> <p>Unia Ewangelikalna w RP, ul. sw. Jadwigi 12, 50-266 Wroclaw POLAND PL 21 1020 5242 0000 2102 0174 8656 Bank PKO BP S.A. PKO BP S.A III Oddzial Wroclaw ul. Powstancow Sl. 60 53-333 Wroclaw, POLAND SWIFT/BIC: BPKOPLPW</p>	<p><b>In Canada make checks payable to:</b></p> <p>reSource Leadership International #200 - 5726 Minoru Boulevard Richmond, BC V6X 2A9 CANADA</p> <p><b>Indicate that funds are for Evangelical School of Theology in Poland</b></p>
--	--	--

Thank you for your prayers and financial support for the ministry of EST in Wroclaw and Poland. Continue to pray for those who are studying at EST, faithfully sharing the good news and teaching/training others to serve our Lord.

*With thanksgiving,*  
Dr. Wojciech Szczerba, Rector  
Marek Kucharski, Chancellor  
Dr. Piotr Lorek, Academic Dean