

Commemorative Paper  
for the 125 year  
Anniversary Celebration  
of the  
Lutheran  
**Parish of Płock**



Author Minister R. Gundlach, Płock

**1929**

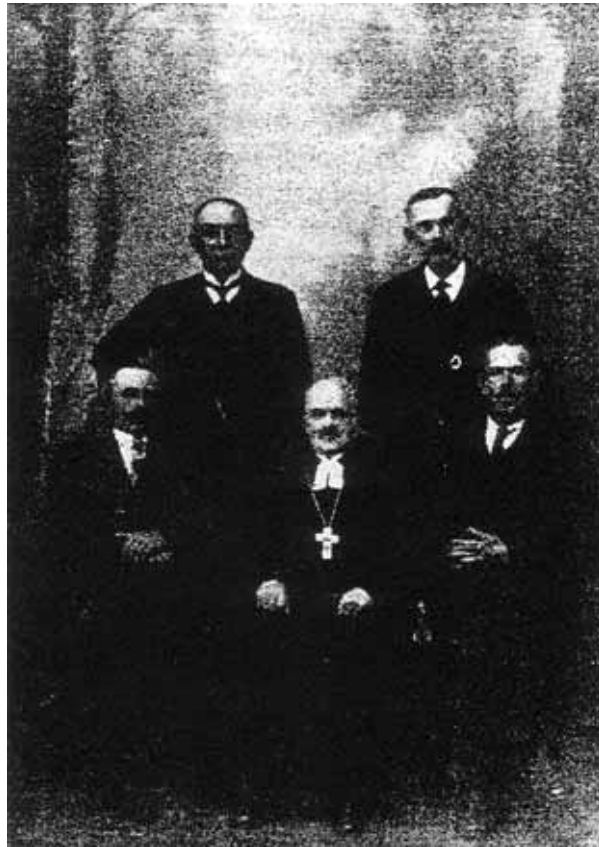
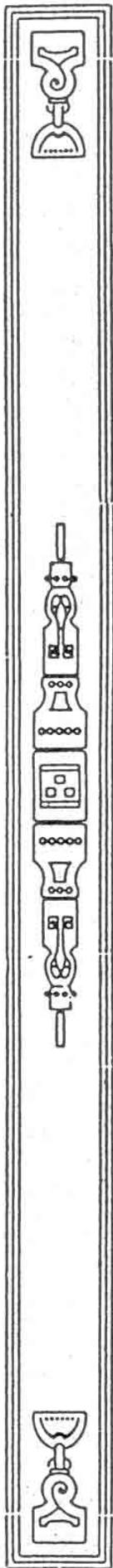
*Translated from the German Original by  
David Ferchau and Jutta Dennerlein*

## Preface

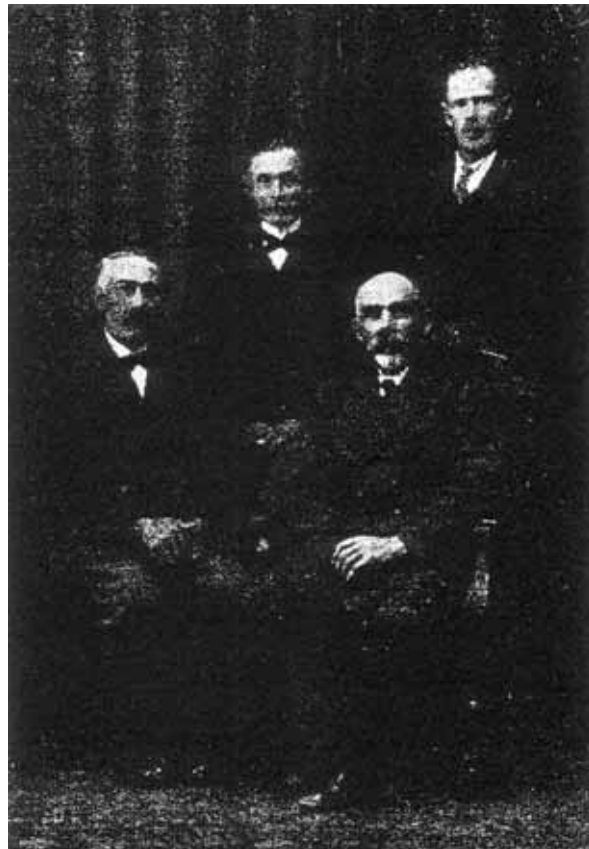
Płock is located on a rise at the right bank of the Vistula and is one of the oldest cities in Poland. In former times Płock was the capital of Masovia and the residence of Polish Kings. At that time the town suffered greatly under the incursions of the pagan Prussians, the Lithuanians, the Teutonic Order and later, the Swedes. In 1795, during the Partition of Poland, Masovia became part of Prussia from which it was turned over to the Duchy of Warsaw in 1807; in 1814 it became part of Russia. It was only after the World War that Poland once again became an independent state.

At the time of Prussian rule (1793 -1807), Płock belonged to the Province of East Prussia, then became the "Departement" Płock in the Grand Duchy of Warsaw and was Voivodship until 1845. At the time of Russian rule, Płock was a "Gouvernement" town; today it is a county capital.

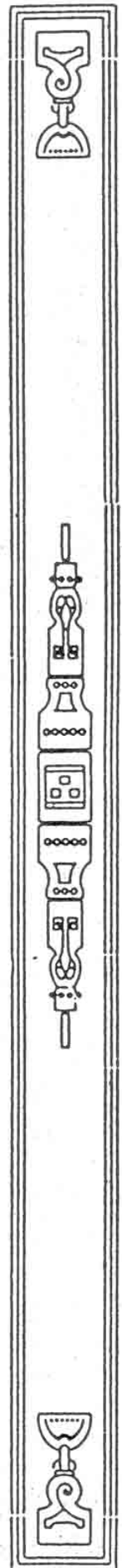
The town consists of an Old Town and a New Town; the latter was built at the end of the 18th century and is the seat of the Bishop and location of the Cathedral. Płock once had 18 Catholic churches; today it has three Catholic churches, one Protestant, one Russian, which is currently being taken down, a Mariavite church with cloister buildings, and one synagogue. In the cathedral are the tombs of the Polish Kings Władysław I Hermann and Bolesław III Krzywousty. Today the town has 35,000 inhabitants, it has three state high schools, two state seminaries for male and female teachers, one state business school for girls, one clerical Catholic seminary, one Catholic high school for girls, one Jewish private high school, and one business school for boys. After the World War Płock received train connection. Daily there are five trains coming and going. For many years there has been a busy boat schedule on the Vistula to Warsaw, Włocławek and Toruń.



Church Council of the Parish Plock



Elders of the Bohemian Brethren





Choir of Boryschewo

### The Anniversary Celebration

30 September 1804



29 September 1929

A memorable Sunday for the Parish of Plock! Because this was the first time since the establishment of the congregation that the founding of the church was celebrated. The congregation was anxious for the celebration. The expectations were fulfilled. Outside the weather was wonderful, so that not only the local congregation members could appear, but even those from the 70 kilometers distant congregation of Rypin. The church was beautifully decorated with greenery and flowers and occupied up to the last seat. The church festival service began around 10 and closed at 2 o'clock in the afternoon only with an interruption of 20 minutes, so that seats could be changed. The Liturgy was performed by Minister Nahrgang from Wyszogród; the first lecture from Rom. 1,14 by Minister Hammermeister from Rawa, the second from Acts. 8,5-8 by Minister Nahrgang from Wyszogród, the third from 2. Tim. 2,8-13 by Minister May from Tomaschow and the fourth from Psalm 26,18 in the Polish language by the local Minister Gundlach. The trombone choir from Maszewo accompanied the singing. Three united singing choirs from Maszewo, Powsino and Boryszewo under the experienced direction of Mr. Wilhelm Freiheit contributed to the elevation of the occasion. The Collection for internal mission gave 146 Złoty.-

Eph. 5, 20. " Always and for everything giving thanks in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father"



Motto: "LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth". Psalm 26, 8.

## Colonization

Today the Vistula region belongs indisputably to the most fruitful areas of our country. Both banks of this broad river are surrounded by flourishing colonies, which extend in the midst of juicy meadows and wonderful orchards in nearly continuous row from Warsaw to Włocławek and Nieszawa. Most colonies were developed here during the Prussian rule (1793 - 1807); others were established by the Polish aristocracy. Already in the year 13 Hundred, since Poland was depopulated by fights with the Tartars, the Kings Bolesław V the Chaste and Henryk I the Bearded sent out messengers, requesting Germans for settlement in Poland.

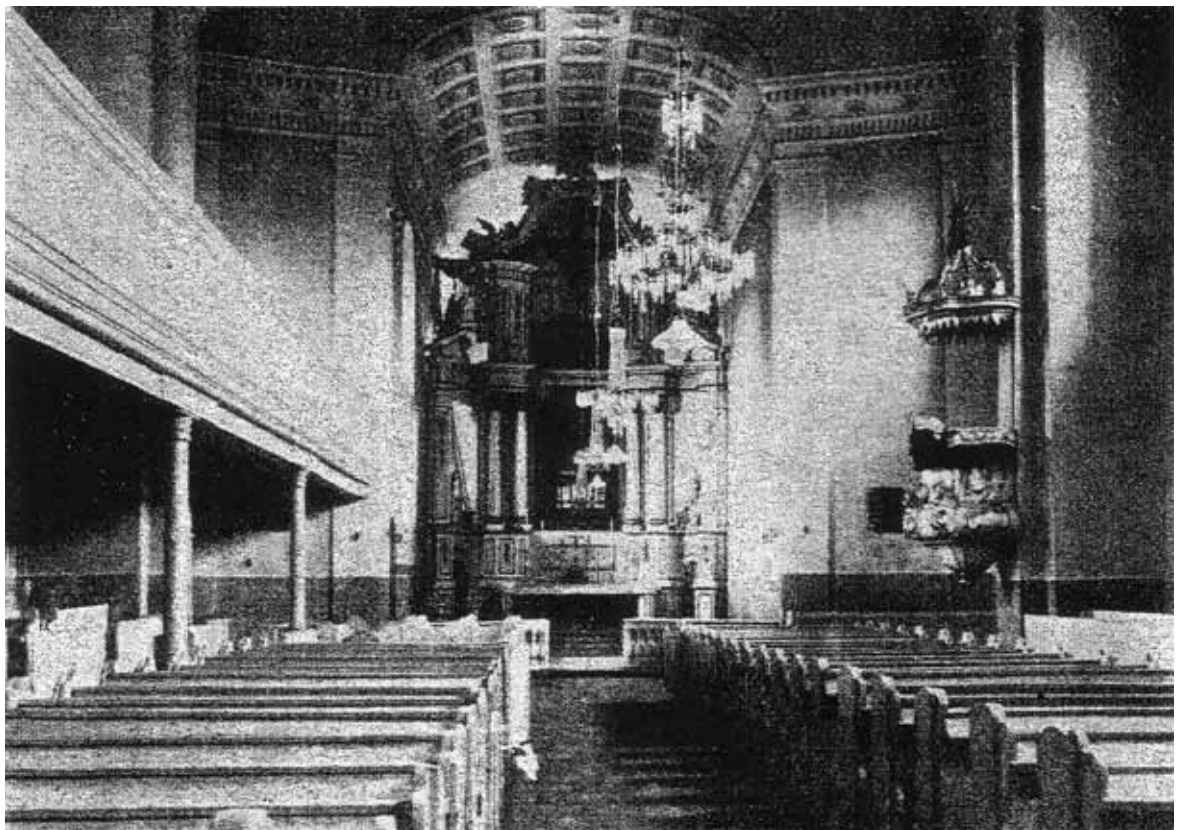
In the year 1772, the First Partition of Poland and in 1773, the Second Partition of Poland occurred, whereby Prussia gained: the Voivodships Poznań, Gniezno, Kalisz, Sieradz, Lenczyca, half of Rawa, Płock, Wielun and Czenstochau. During the Third Partition of Poland in 1795, the Duchy of Masovia, that is the fruitful area on the Vistula, the Bug and the Narew with the Capitals Warsaw, Płock and Łomża fell to Prussia. During the reign of the King Friedrich William II and, after his death (1797) Friedrich William III., these provinces were systematically colonized, that is in the period from 1795 to 1807, German Colonists from all German lands settled in the new provinces, and these were, among others, "Platt" Germans from Northern Germany and South Germans from Württemberg, Baden. The South Germans were commonly called Swabian, the North Germans were incorrectly called Dutchmen although they had nothing in common with Hollanders and could correctly be called "Hauländer" (from the German word "hauen" meaning to strike, chop or axe), since they were settled in forest-rich and swampy areas, where they cleared and burned the land. The Colonists were assigned 15, 30 up to 60 Polish Morgen of land depending upon number of members in their family. From the Prussian government the Settlers received 15 Polish Groschen per Meile<sup>1</sup> and person daily travel fare and the same amount as support until work opportunity was found. The Prussian government gave to the Settlers cattle and farm equipment and released them for some years of the military service. Under similar conditions craftsmen and manufacturers were lured here also.

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<sup>1</sup> A Meile is the rough equivalent of 5 English miles.



The Lutheran church at Płock



The interior of the church at Płock

1807 - 1809 Prussia and Austria lost the largest part of their land possessions: under the rule of the Saxonian King Friedrich August, the Duchy of Warsaw was created. The reign of this king was not favorable to the German immigration, because the passage of foreign soldiers devastated the country. Only after the Congress of Vienna in 1815, when the Duchy of Warsaw was attached to the Russian realm, peace was established again and Czar Alexander I. was among the first to eagerly promote the Colonization of Poland and Russia. Already in former times Polish landowners had settled numerous Colonies on their estates; thus a whole set of church congregations in Poland had developed.



The Rectory at Plock

The beginning of the [Prussian - add. by JD] settlement concerns the colony of Maszewo. In the year 1806, this colony counted 5 families from the Priegnitz, 5 from the Kurmark and 12 from other Prussian provinces, therefore 22 residents, who were settled all during the lifetime of Friedrich William II. The complete occupation of these colonies falls into the governing years of Friedrich William III. In the current colony of Biała, the large colony Schroettersdorf was formed, named so after the current Provincial Minister for East and West Prussia Baron von Schroetter. The Polish citizens of the villages mentioned were encouraged to stay in step with their German neighbors. The occupation of the individual colonies usually took place by lottery, so that even the smallest hint of a discrepancy was avoided. Today's Maszewo formed the focal point for the Colonists from the most diverse Prussian provinces, from as far away as Württemberg, Mecklenburg and Saxony. In Chelpowo, only Mecklenburg and Württemberg were represented; in the younger Powsino



besides the 10 New-East Prussians and 3 Mecklenburg families there were only families from Württemberg. At this same time, several craftsmen came to Płock.

### Church System

Around the year 1798, there were 5879 Protestant families in the chamber district of Płock. Only very few of them could enjoy regular spiritual service. In the whole province during the first years of the Prussian rule, there were only three small Protestant Church parishes, these owed their existence to the good will of one or the other landowner. The only parish that showed some organized structures was Michałki near Rypin.



Dr. Ignatius v. Boerner

Superintendent of the Płock diocese, Minister at Płock 1836 - 1896

The large mass of the people living in the country formed a "herd without a shepherd". They were dependent on the Catholic priest to perform baptisms, weddings and similar church actions. They took the Holy Communion only if a favorable coincidence led a Lutheran minister into their proximity. Otherwise, however, they had to be content with the fact that 'the School Master' read out to them on Sundays and Holidays from lectern.

During the Prussian rule, three military ministers administered to the garrison towns, from time to time they held devotions and also made official civilian acts on these occasions.



They were often missing suitable premises. In Płock, the Believers met in a classroom of the High School.

The garrison, the civil administration and above all residents including the craftsmen and Colonists in the city and its surroundings (2000 souls) perfectly justified a Parish. The Chamber requested a sum of 6000 Taler for the building of a minister's dwelling and a school building; in addition a place of four Hufen in the colony of Schroettersdorf (Biała) was assigned for the use of the Minister.



Minister Oskar Kleindienst 1896 - 1913

But the enterprise suffered a delay. Since the year 1799, negotiations were held over the abolition of the Dominican Cloister in Płock, whose church the Protestant congregation had hoped to win.

The case dragged on at length and it took as long as 1804, to lead the case to a favorable result for the Protestants. Now the Church parish could be established. Since, as it seems, the 6000 Taler which had been granted four years before had found other use, Schroetter requested 8000 Taler for the same purpose, which was also granted by the King.

Before the issue with the Dominican church had been decided, Schrötter asked the King to provide annual salaries for the Płock candidate Minister of 400 Taler and 50 Taler for the secretary, to be deposited in the Provincial Bank. The king agreed to that.

## The Church

Among the 18 Catholic churches in Płock, there was the Dominican stone Church with a monastery of the same designation, located outside of the city. It was built in 1234 for Konrad I., prince of Masovia. In the year 1243 the city and also the Dominican Church were destroyed by the Pommeranians; in the following year it was restored by the same Prince.



Minister Robert Gundlach 1916

In the course of the years it became deteriorated. In 1590 donations were collected and the church was thoroughly reconditioned. The great landowner Chamski assumed the largest portion of this renovation. Church and monastery had a far and wide call. It was among the most beautiful in Płock. In the high altar was the picture of the holy Dominikus - today the Holy Communion; over this picture Christ at the cross, remains until today. Besides that there were six side altars with six depictions of saints. The altars, the pulpit and the benches were painted white with gilded domes and ornaments. All hand carved. The floor consists of sheets of marble. The tower, covered with zinc sheet, carries still today the label "Anno Domini 1715" - the date of completion. With great festiveness Passion services and six Indulgence celebrations were celebrated here annually. The monastery also possessed a large library; what happened to it is unknown.

The monastery was equipped with much property, it had vineyards and also a water mill. Under the church is a long vault with several coffins. At the church was a large churchyard, at which four corners there were four beautifully implemented chapels to serve the Catholic processions. The last of these chapels was cleared away in the year 1912.

The church is a massive building, 152 feet long, 45 feet wide and 37 feet high.



Evangelist Paul Wendland 1926

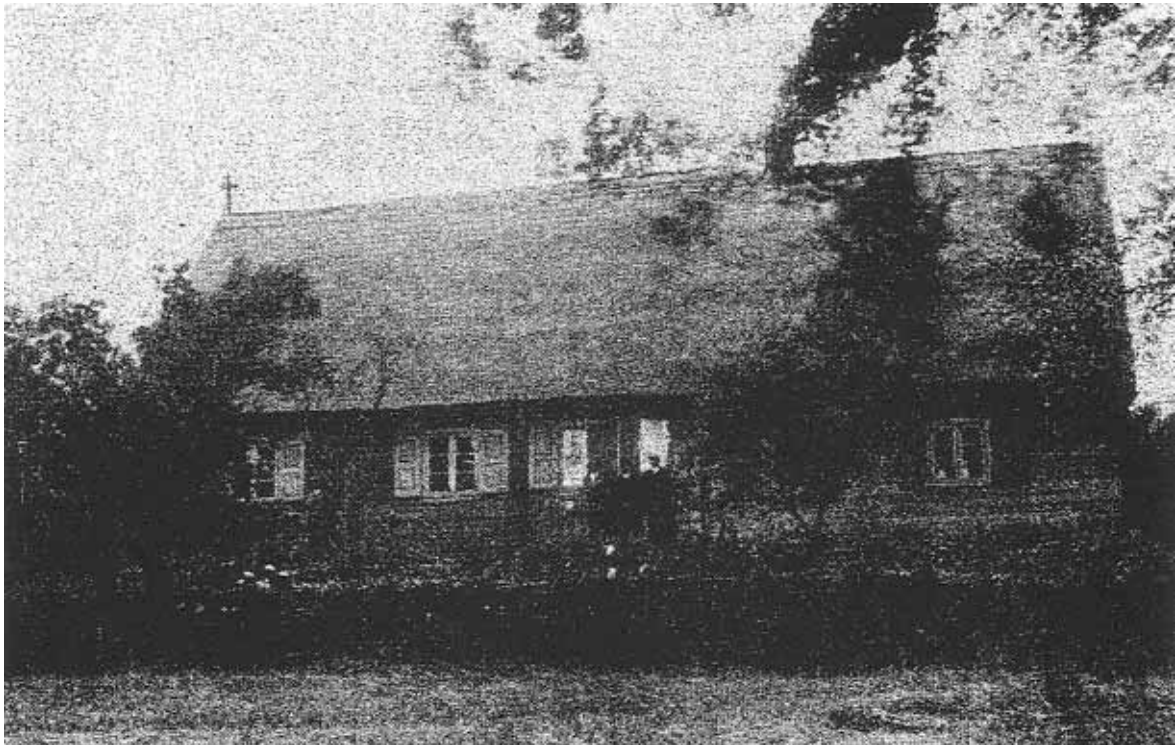
On 9 June 1804, King Friedrich William II, signed a document in Charlottenburg, Berlin, which transferred the Dominican Church and an auxiliary building of the Dominican Cloister to the Protestants in Plock. The Prussian Minister of State Baron von Schroetter had placed the request. Thus, in such a way, the Parish was also endowed with four Magdeburger Hufen of land, which lay seven kilometers from the city.

## Inauguration of the Church

On 30 September 1804, the church was solemnly inaugurated by Minister Hinning from Toruń.

## Ministers of the Parish

On 30 September 1804, Minister Johann Daniel Hellman received his Nomination and Vocation from the Prussian Chamber. In the year 1808, Minister Hellmann asked to be dismissed by the President and Superintendent of the Płock Konsistorium. The Płock governing body, however, communicated to the Konsistorium that they would rather not dismiss Minister Hellmann until the Konsistorium had presented a Candidate Pastor.



School and prayer room at Białobrzegi

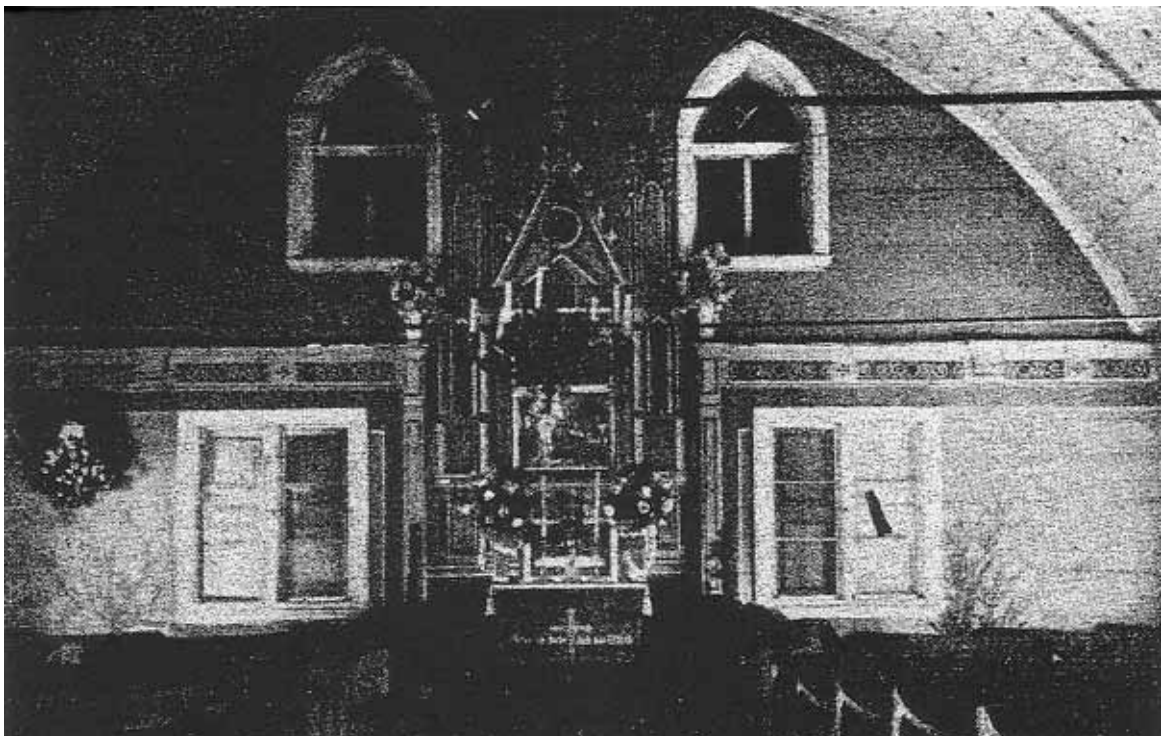
The following applied: Minister Hewelke from Gumbinnen, Minister Powalski from Strasburg and the Theologian Raebiger, a teacher from Schroettersdorf. The Konsistorium of Płock sent the list of candidates to the Ministry with the request to confirm Minister Hewelke. Minister Hellmann now received a foreign passport and departed in August 1808 to Königsberg. On 12 September 1808, the Konsistorium received the message from the ministry that his Majesty had appointed Minister Hevelke to become Minister of Płock. On 29 September 1808 Minister Hewelke received his Nomination with the addendum that Minister Mylke from Wyszogród will carry out his Ordination and Introduction to Office in the Płock church on 2 October 1808.

The Ordination took place in presence of the temporary president of the Konsistorium Mr. Rose "at expense of the Minister Hewelke" and the Inauguration "at expense of the congregation".

It was the 17th Sunday after the Trinitatis; Minister Hewelke held a thanksgiving lecture after the ordination, received the Holy Communion and then dispensed the communion with Minister Mylke to the numerous guests.

Thus Minister Hewelke was not selected by the parish, since the corresponding right was not gained by our church until the year 1849, but he was appointed by his Majesty, the King of Saxony and Duke of Warsaw to be the Minister of the Płock Parish and the President of the Konsistorium in Płock.

Minister Johann Karl Hewelke was born in Toruń, studied theology in Leipzig and Halle, was for two years a private teacher in Züllichau, two years a teacher at the High School in Toruń, six years a teacher and educator at the Cadet Institute in Kulm (Chełmno). He administered for the time up to his appointment to the Parish of Płock and was at the same time Assistant of the Konsistorium.

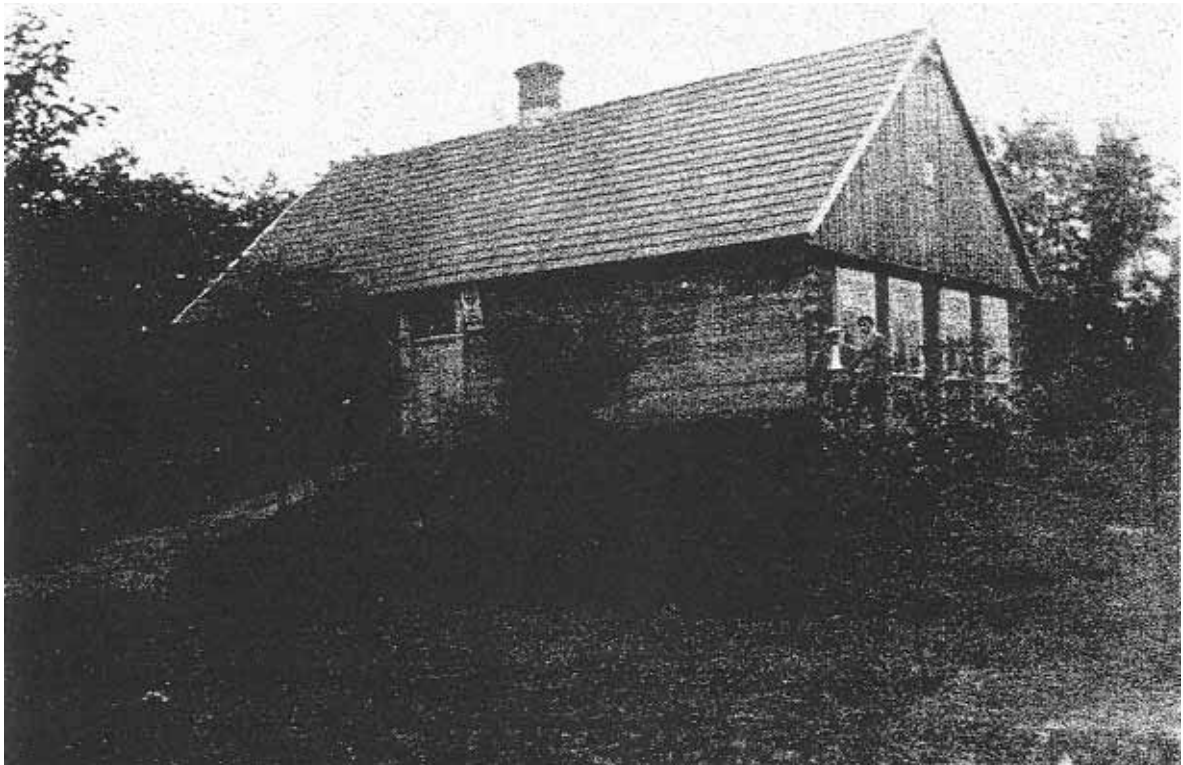


The interior of the prayer room at Białobrzegi

During this time, he completed his theological examination.

Minister Hewelke died in Płock on 14 October 1836, after he had officiated here for 28 long years. Minister Hewelke had two Assistant-Pastors: Karl Friedrich Roetscher, who soon went to Kielce, and Karl Jonscher, who was born in Płock on 4 March 1809 and died, as a Pastor Emeritus, on 6 January 1887 in Łódź.

After the death of Minister Hewelke, the following applied for Minister: Minister Boerner from Wyszogród, Minister William Helbing from Nowydwór and Minister Heinrich Bando from Zgierz; the candidacy of the fourth, Minister Lange from Marjampol, was not accepted by the Church Collegium. Minister Boerner held his trial sermon on the 17th Sunday after the Trinitatis, 25 September 1836, Minister Helbing and Minister Bando on the following two Sundays. In the meantime, Płock was administered to by Minister Alberti. The choice took place under the direction of the member of the Warsaw General Konsistorium and Minister Ludwig from Warsaw on 23 October 1836. Minister Boerner was selected and confirmed by the government. The solemn office introduction took place on 12 February 1837. Present were: Konsistorialrat Ludwig from Warsaw, the Ministers Helbing and Alberti and the President of Płock, Mr. Zaleszczyński.



School at Bielino

Minister Ignaz Boerner, Superintendent of the Płock Diocese was born on 17 December 1807 in Płock; he attended the Voivodship school in Płock, studied philosophy at Warsaw's Alexander University and Theology in Berlin. From 1 October 1828 until the end of 1829, he was Assistant-Pastor of the Superintendent in Płock; on 13 October 1829 he was selected as the Minister in Wyszogród, on 26 November 1829 he was ordained in Płock and from 12 February 1837 up to his death he was Minister in Płock.

Minister Boerner died in Płock on 20 September 1896, as Superintendent and Konsistorialrat, at the age of 88 years, after he served nearly 59 long years here in the ministry; he was buried in the local city cemetery.

Because Minister Boerner was founder of the "Ministers -, Widow and Orphan's Fund in the Kingdom of Poland", the Ministers of the Warsaw Konsistorial district honored him with a Marble Plaque in the church, which was attached to the wall to the right of the altar, it carries the following label: "To the Founder and for many years the Director of the Ministers -, Widow and Orphan's Fund. Konsistorialrat, Superintendent and Minister Dr. Theol. Ignaz v. Boerner, born December 17th 1807, died August 20th 1896 to the lasting memory - the grateful ministers. James. 1, 27." <sup>2</sup>

On 26 November 1854, Minister Eduard Boerner was ordained here in the church, son of the above-mentioned Minister Ignaz Boerner, who was born to him in Wyszogród on 1 March 1833. The Ordination took place on the day that his father celebrated his 25-year office anniversary. On 17 May 1896 Minister Heinrich Wernitz was ordained here and became the Assistant-Pastor to Superintendent I. Boerner in Płock. He stayed here from 18 May 1896 to 28 April 1897.



School at Boryszewo

After the death of Superintendent Boerner, the administration of the parish was entrusted to Minister Kunzmann from Gombin. For the function of Minister in Płock, which had been listed as vacant on 20 November 1896, the following applied: Superintendent Kunzmann

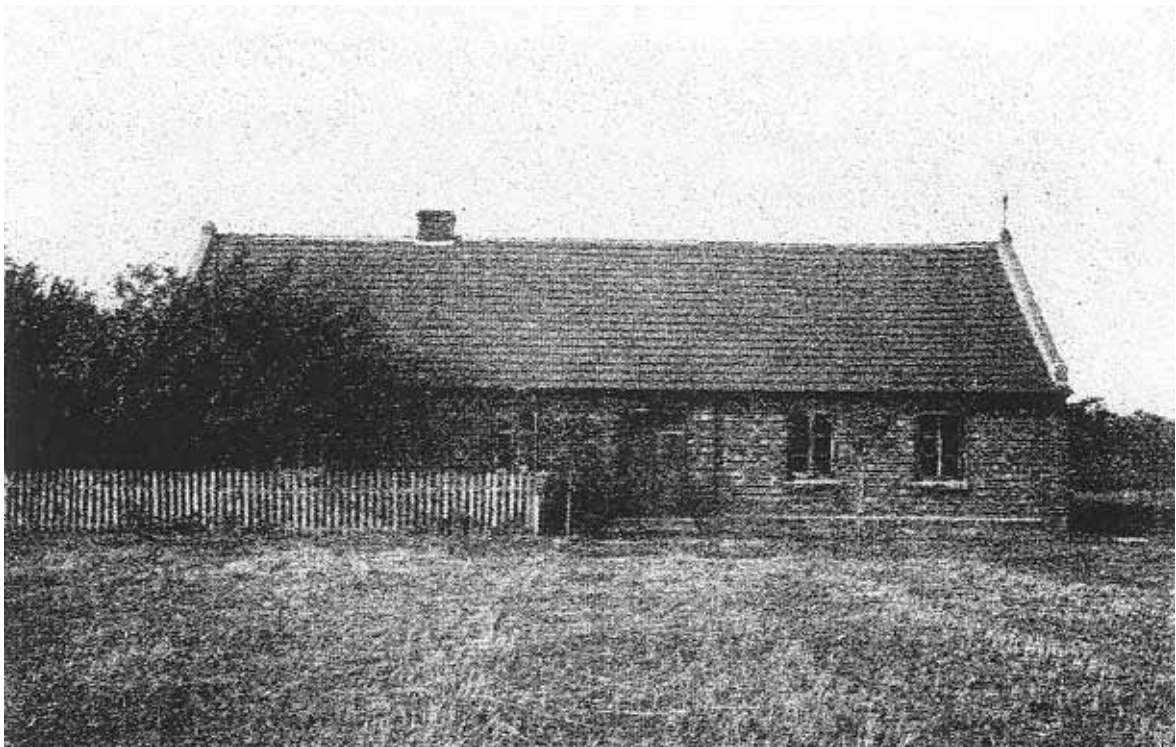
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<sup>2</sup> James Chapter 1, verse 27 is "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."



from Gombin, Minister Kleindienst from Chodecz and Minister Loth from Warsaw. On 30 March 1897, Minister Kleindienst was selected.

Minister Oskar Kleindienst was born on 20 October 1862 in Kalisz. He attended the High School in Warsaw, studied theology on the University of Dorpat, on 8 April 1888 was ordained and assigned as the Assistant-Pastor at the St. Trinitatis Church in Łódź, in the following year he was selected as the Minister in Chodecz. After eight years of blessed activity in Chodecz, he was called to Płock. In the year 1912 Minister Kleindienst got sick, consequently Minister Adolf Süß the current Professor at the Warsaw University, was appointed the Assistant-Pastor on 28 November 1912. After nearly one year's serious illness Minister O. Kleindienst in Płock died in the afternoon on 3 March 1913 at 6 o'clock at the age of 50 years including 16 years of richly blessed active service.



Kantorat at Bronowo with prayer room

During the mourning service in the local church, a letter from the deceased, which he had written some weeks before his death, was read to the many members of the parish. The wording of this letter is as follows:

"Dear Congregation! I want to thank you for all the good, which I have experienced in Płock. Particularly still, I thank for all heartfelt participation, which I have experienced in the days of my illness. I pray to the Father, mine and our God daily, He wants your hearts surrendered to Him so that nobody is lost, that the unbelievers turn from their erring ways to the right way, by tearing up the chains of sin. I go now to my home, if it is God's will that I depart. Heavenward so many times my Soul has longed.

But I can thank God for much love from my family and from your midst, and that makes parting easier because, although I had much light here, now it really goes towards the light. "I am the Light of the World", says the Savior. May his light lead you and me to eternal life! We may appear once before the throne of the Lamb of God as the chosen ones! Your faithful Pastor Oskar Kleindienst."

On 20 October 1912 he held service for the last time; the illness made fast progress, his strength decreased fast. On 8 April 1913 he should have celebrated his 25-year office anniversary, to which he looked forward, but it was God's will that he should celebrate it up there. After the mourning service the coffin with his corpse was carried by Ministers and High school Students to the grave and buried nearby the Grave of the Konsistorialrat Boerner. The large popularity which the deceased enjoyed on the part of the Catholics, could be seen from the fact that half of those gathered at the funeral were Catholics. The trombone choirs of Maszewo and Boryszewo played alternating dirges.



Interior of the prayer room at Bronowo

The administration of the Płock Parish was taken over by Minister Behse from Wyszogród and the administration of the Filial Dobrzyń was taken over by Minister Rondthaler from Lipno. On 14 May 1913 Minister Süß was appointed the temporary administrator of the Parish and the Filials.

The Parish was listed by the Konsistorium as vacant on 14 February 1914. Three candidates announced themselves: Minister Rudolf Schmidt from Pabjanice, Minister Leopold Schmidt from Konstantynów and Minister Robert Gundlach from Rypin. But before the choice Minister Leopold Schmidt withdrew himself.

On 14 May 1914 Minister R. Gundlach was selected and on 20 June 1914 he was confirmed by the Konsistorium. Then, however, the World War broke out on 1 August 1914. Moving from Rypin to Płock was not possible. Only on 17 October 1916 did Minister Gundlach arrive in Płock, while Minister Süß went as Assistant-Pastor to Gombin.

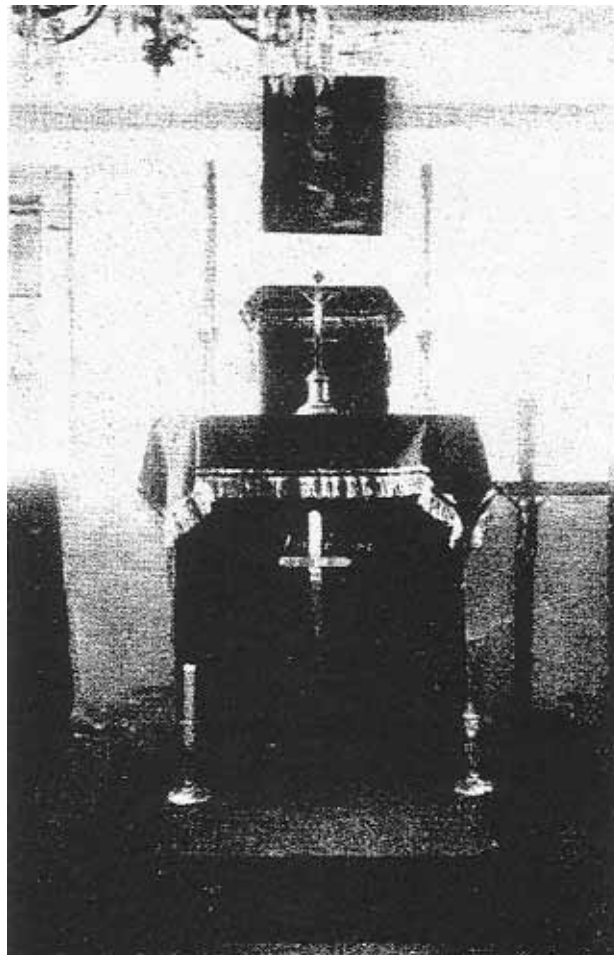


School at Karwosieki with prayer room

Minister Robert Gundlach was born on 17 October 1871 in the Gouvernement city of Łomża, attended there the High School and studied at the University in Dorpat. On 5 December 1897 he was ordained in the Warsaw church and appointed the Assistant-Pastor at the same church. After only one year, he was summoned to the for 19 years orphaned parish in Prasnysz and took over at the same time the administration of the Filials Mława. On 23 March 1900, Minister Gundlach was selected to Rypin and remained there for 16 1/2 years, at the same time he took over the administration of the Parish of Sierpc. Since 1 November 1916 until today Minister Gundlach officiates in Płock, thus 13 years long, and is at the same time administrator of the Filial Dobrzyń. On 5 December 1922 he committed his 25-years office anniversary in Płock.

## The World War

In a most sad time Minister Gundlach came to Płock. The rumbling of war, which already rested heavily on the whole Parish in the year 1914, unloaded itself completely in 1915. In January 1915 the Protestant landowners had to leave their homeland within 3 days. the 15th, 16th and 17th January 1915 will still live for a long time in the memory of our Colonists, because God had bestowed upon them heavy trying days. The way led to Saratow in the cold winter. Relatives from other communities managed as good as possible the abandoned properties, other properties were leased to Catholics. Now the members of the Protestant Parish of Płock and the Filial Dobrzyń had to share the hard fate of being uprooted into a foreign land. Only a handful of Protestants were allowed to remain in the city, and these also should have been driven out, but God had decreed that on this day German troops would occupy the city. In the year 1918 the war events had turned out in such a manner that the refugees were allowed to return from Russia. Most returned already in the spring, the others in the summer.



Interior of the prayer room at Karwosieki

But what did they find here? The war had mostly devastating effects on the surroundings. Even though the fields were cared for by tenants under the heavy-handed German Administration, the houses and farm buildings were plundered almost everywhere, the

windows, the doors and the furnaces were stolen, the halls broken open; in Boryszewo some houses were cleared away completely because they were in the line of fire; the school with its prayer hall in Boryszewo met the same fate.

But when the refugees came back, they already found a new school building in Boryszewo, which they owed to the efforts of the Minister Gundlach. The following year was also a difficult year, because the poverty abounded. Now, however, God is entitled to thanks for his benevolent mercy. Today nobody can complain about poverty.

Exact recording from the year 1915 indicates that 2806 persons from the Parish of Płock were driven out to Russia; on the way and in Russia 341 of these souls died, 143 souls were born there, 2557 souls returned; some remained there. From the Filial Dobrzyń, 299 souls were driven out, 257 returned.



School at Liszyno and prayer room

### **The Church Property**

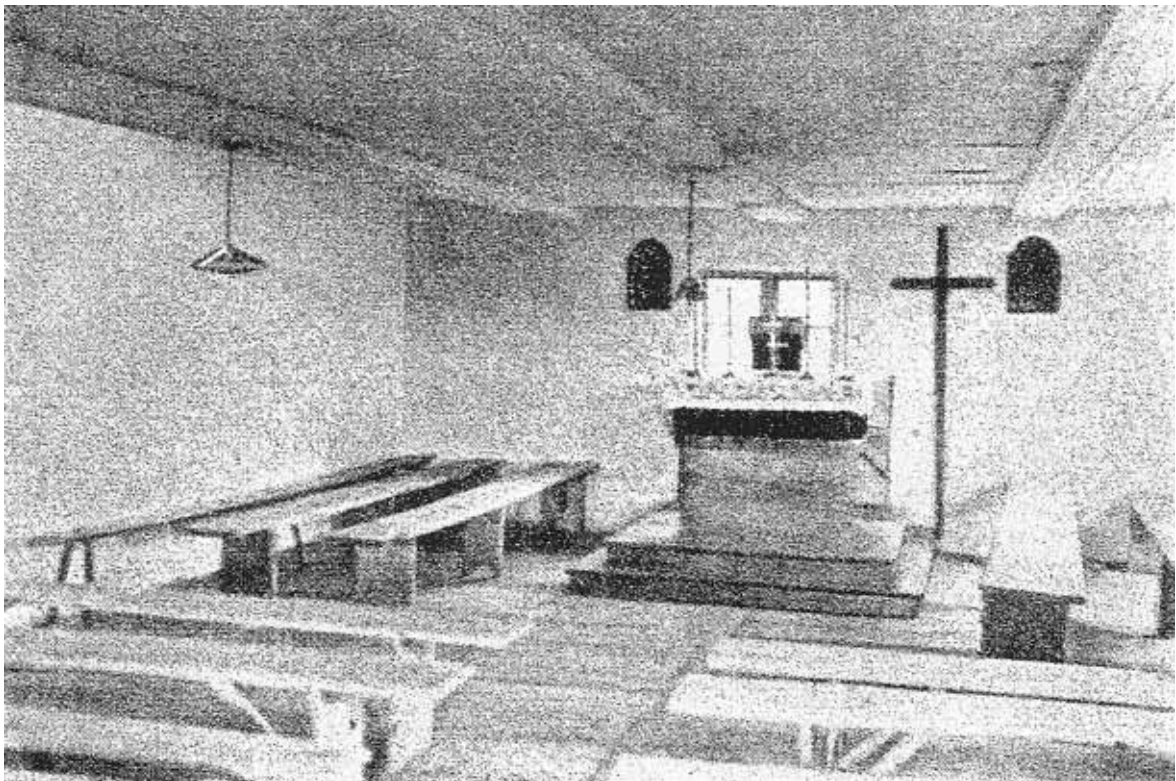
As mentioned above, in the year 1804 the Parish kept four Magdeburger Hufen of land between the properties of William Ohm and Christian Schulz, in the colony Schroettersdorf, today called Biała. This property was delivered by hereditary lease, under the Prussia rule, to a certain Schnepel. The lease amounted to 630 Złoty. In the year 1864, due to the Imperial Ukas, this 54 Morgen and 217 Rods of Parish Land were transferred to the married couple Johann and Katharina Kleber; the remuneration was determined at 554 Roubles 20 Kopecks.

## The Rectory

The Minister at first lived in the auxiliary building of the Church. Only in the year 1854 was the current parsonage built by Minister Boerner for 6,575 Roubles 43 Kopecks. Between the Church and Parsonage building is a small garden, which the Minister uses.

## The Bells

In the Garden of the Minister is an old wooden bell tower; the cross on the same carries the year 1770. When in the year 1804 the Dominican Church was transferred to the Protestants, three bells were in the bell tower: the large bell carried the label: "Anno Domini M.D.C.C. XXIX. Campana haec sub titulo Sancti Dominici. Conventus Plocensis Ordinis Praedicatorum." It originated thus from the year 1729, it was consecrated to the holy Dominikus, the archenemy of the Protestants, and weighed approximately 4000 Pounds. The second bell had the label: "Hoc opus comporatum est in honorem Sanctae Trinitatis A. 1746", weighed 1325 1/2 Pounds. The third small bell, approximately 300 Pounds in weight, which only rang during mass, originated from the year 1601.



Interior of the prayer room at Liszyno

In the year 1831 the middle bell was seized by the Polish Revolution Committee and brought to Warsaw, in order to be used for war purposes. When the revolution was suppressed, the Parish received 48 Roubles 38 Kopecks remuneration. In place of the stolen bell the Maltze family in Plock donated a new bell, they were cast by Petersilge in Warsaw with the label: "Henriette. In the honor of God. Gift of the Maltze family. Plock



1849", with a weight of 1095 Pounds; it cost 600 Roubles. Thus the church again had three bells.

When during the World War, bells and organ pipes were requisitioned by the German Occupation Authority, our church was not spared. On 9 April 1918 the Pewter Pipes of the organ were requisitioned, on 23 May the middle and the small bell and on 18 August the large bell also.

On 26 February 1926 the general parish meeting decided to order two new bells. The Karl Schwabe company in Biała near Kraków was entrusted with the fabrication of these bells.

On 29 September both bells were inaugurated. Both bells carry the label: "To the memory of the years of misfortune 1915-1918. Płock 1926". In addition the large bell, which weighs over 5077 Kilos, carries the label: "A Mighty Fortress is our God!" and the other one, which weighs 2083 Kilos, the label: "God is love! On to Prayer! God is with us!" Both bells cost 10,000 Złoty.



School at Powsino

### **Cemeteries**

The Cemetery of Płock, 6060 square meters large, with a forecourt of 1632 square meters and house for the gravedigger, was probably established in the year 1804. In the previous year the surrounding walls and gates of the cemetery were thoroughly reconditioned and an Iron Gate was bought. The costs amounted to 2000 Złoty. The largest cemetery is in the colony of Maszewo Duże. When it was established, is unknown. The cemetery in Karwosieki was extended in the year 1927. The married couple Michael and Martha Bredefeld gave an

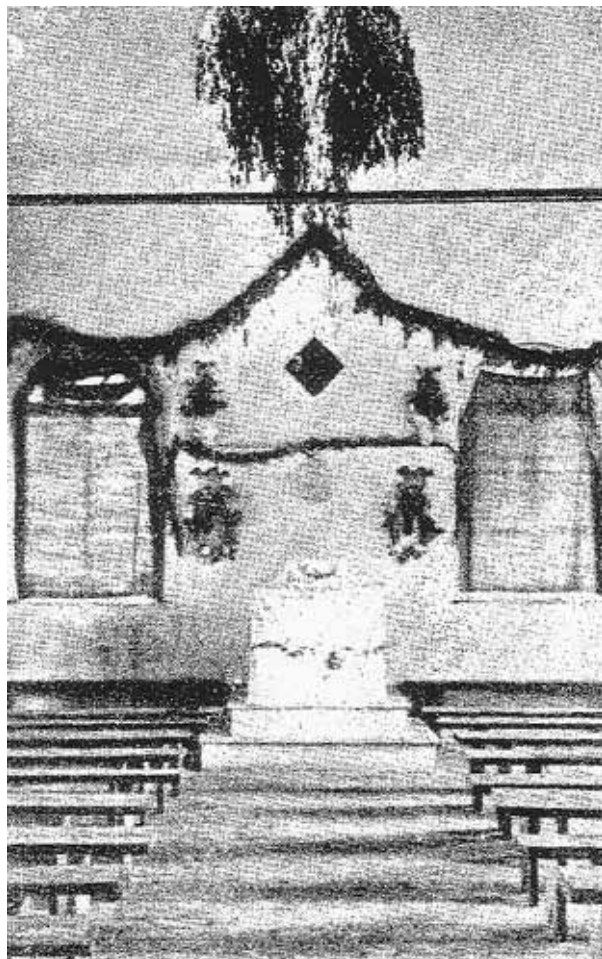


additional 380 square meters of land. The cemetery in Boryszewo received a new barbed wire fence in 1927.

The cemetery in Podolszyce, which was established in 1802 had 8 Morgen and 130 Rods of land; in the course of the years the land was acquired by the Catholic neighbors; today the surface area of the cemetery amounts to only 120 square Rods. In the year 1901, the cemetery was surrounded by a wall. Other cemeteries are in: Powsino, Kruszczewo, Białkowo, Wirginia, Białobrzegi, Budy Borowickie and Proboszczewice. Thus 12 cemeteries.

### The School System

1. The school in Plock was established in the year 1805; in 1836 it was organized exclusively for Protestant children and in 1869 it became a State school. In the year 1923, because of a lack of Protestant children, the school was closed. The following teachers worked at this school: Friedrich Wasgien, Johann Lüdke, Johann Ekke, Karl Semroch, August Padyga, Friedrich Oldach, Theodor Schurig, Eduard Marski, Samuel Piltz, Ferdinand Kramer and Johann Groß.



Interior of the prayer room of the Brüdergemeinde at Klein Maszewo

2. Maszewo. Established 1827. Teachers: Johann Liedtke, Kletke, Furmanski, Joh. Wolf, Fr. Rentz, Joh. Grüning, Fr. Schmidt, Ed. Semerau, K. Groß, Gottl. Kutzner, Gust. Braun, Jos. Gatz, Adolf Drung, Melida Drung.

3. Powsino. Established 1828. Teachers: Fr. Rux, Christoph Hampel, Joh. Kamentz, Joh. Klein, Mich. Hammermeister, Joh. Berg, Joh. Bessel, Ed. Semerau, Wilh. Lücke, Pekrul, Adolf Pankratz, Joh. Mietz, Karl Somschor, Fischer, Wilh. Missol, Josef Freiheit, Gustav Rennert.

4. Boryszewo. Established 1837. Teachers: Joh. Semerau, Joh. Kamentz, Joh. Grüning, Gottl. Huf, Lud. Semroch, Mich. Grams, Aug. Engel, Fr. Ristau, Koeber, Christian Rennert, Wanda Kramer, Arthur Draheim.



Trombonists of Białobrzegi

5. Białkowo. Established 1837. Closed 1927.

6. Białobrzegi. Established 1842. Teachers: Joh. Kettke, Fr. Müller, Fr. Hassenrück, Rud. Semroch, Fr. Ristau, Ludw. Sander, Rudolf Truderung, Fidler.

7. Bronowo Kantorat. Established 1909. In the year 1911 the married couples Ludwig and Dorothea Wiese and Jakob and Amalie Wiese presented the Kantorat community with 4 Morgen and 52 Rods of land with the buildings. Teachers: August Neumann, Leokadia Groß, Gerhard Schwartz, William Berwald, Edmund Liedtke and Otto Lechnitz.

8. Podolszyce. Established 1840 and closed 1880.

9. Karwosieki. Established 1840. Teachers: Mich. Maron, Joh. Lange, Jakob Steinhagen, H. Semroch, K. Lücke, Jak. Janecki, Jak Renn, Herm. Schönig, Rud. Semroch, F. Heise, K. Tews, Josef Seling, Roman Krüger, Melida Drung, William Berwald and Rudolf Truderung.

10. Bielino. Established 1911. Teachers: Karl Matz and Robert Kelber.

11. Liszyno. Established 1860. Teachers: H. Bauer, G. Gläsmann, K. Markwart, J. Moderau, Gottl. Jeroma, Jul. Liedtke, Eduard Braun, Adolf Pankratz, Gottl. Kujat, Jul. Liedtke, Christian Berwald, Edmund Liedtke, Fr. Wolf and Jakob Renn

### **Evangelization**

The Evangelist Paul Wendland was employed in the Płock Parish by the Committee for Internal Mission of the Protestant Church in Poland, he was summoned here on 14 May 1926 and works until today with great boon in the Parish.

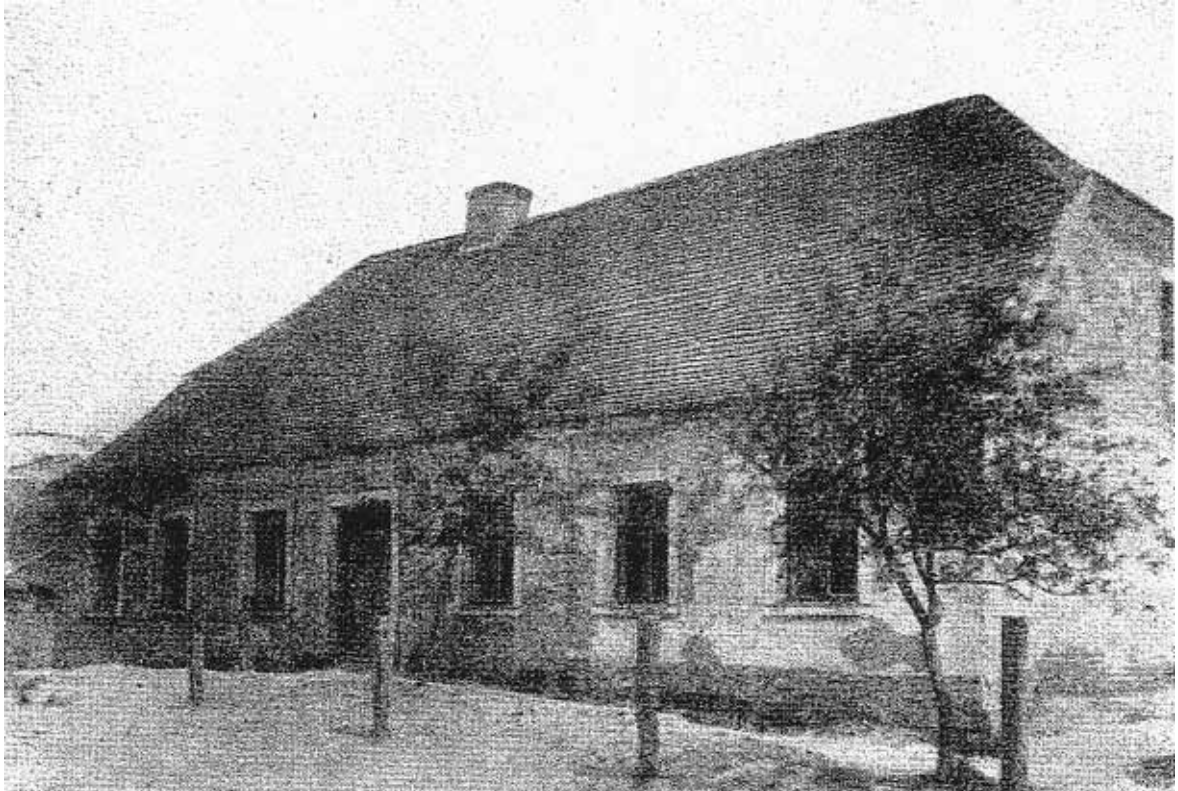


Trombonists of Boryszewo

### **The Church Council**

Up to the year 1807 the members of the Church council Trotz and Szczepański would fulfill the obligations of the newly created Parish. When they were employed, cannot be determined. In the year 1808 the Merchant Wilh. Fieck and Joh. Just were. selected. In the year 1823: Wilh. Baganz and Mandtiuß; 1832: Gottl. Abraham, Christian Licht, Gottl. Maltz and Karl Urban; 1838: the same; 1843: Ludwig Schmoll, Karl Brecht, Andreas Erbacher and Gottfried Siwert; 1849: Gustav Kunzmann, Ludwig Haefke, Andreas Erbacher and Karl Brecht; 1855: G. Kunzmann, L Haefke, A. Erbacher and Martin Draheim; 1859: G. Kunzmann, Robert Blumberg, Karl Groß and Joh. Wolf; 1863: the same; 1870: G. Kunzmann, Moritz Schmidt, Joh. Wolf, K. Groß; 1875: G. Kunzmann, M. Schmidt, Josef Groß and Joh. Rentz; 1880: G. Kunzmann, M. Schmidt, Josef Groß I and Josef Groß II; 1884: G. Kunzmann, Karl Koebke, Josef Groß and Ferd. Richter; 1887: Josef Groß, Karl Koebke, Karl Fantanowski and Heinrich Much; 1893: the same; 1897: Adolf Blumberg,

Ferd. Pauli, Ferd. Freiheit, Gottl. Maß, Mich. Wiese; 1901: the same; 1905: the same; 1909: the same; 1913: A. Blumberg, Robert Kunzmann, Ferd. Kramer, Reinhold Wolf, August Bäcker, Joh. Kübler, Gust. Wiese; 1918: A. Blumberg, F. Kramer, Philipp Schmidt, Ferd. Wagner; 1921: Robert Kunzmann, Daniel Ferchau, Hermann Molzahn, Reinhold Wolf, Joh. Kübler, Wilh. Freiheit, Gust. Dase, Ludw. Wiese; 1925: D. Ferchau, Alfred Groß, Joh. Kübler and Edmund Kübler.



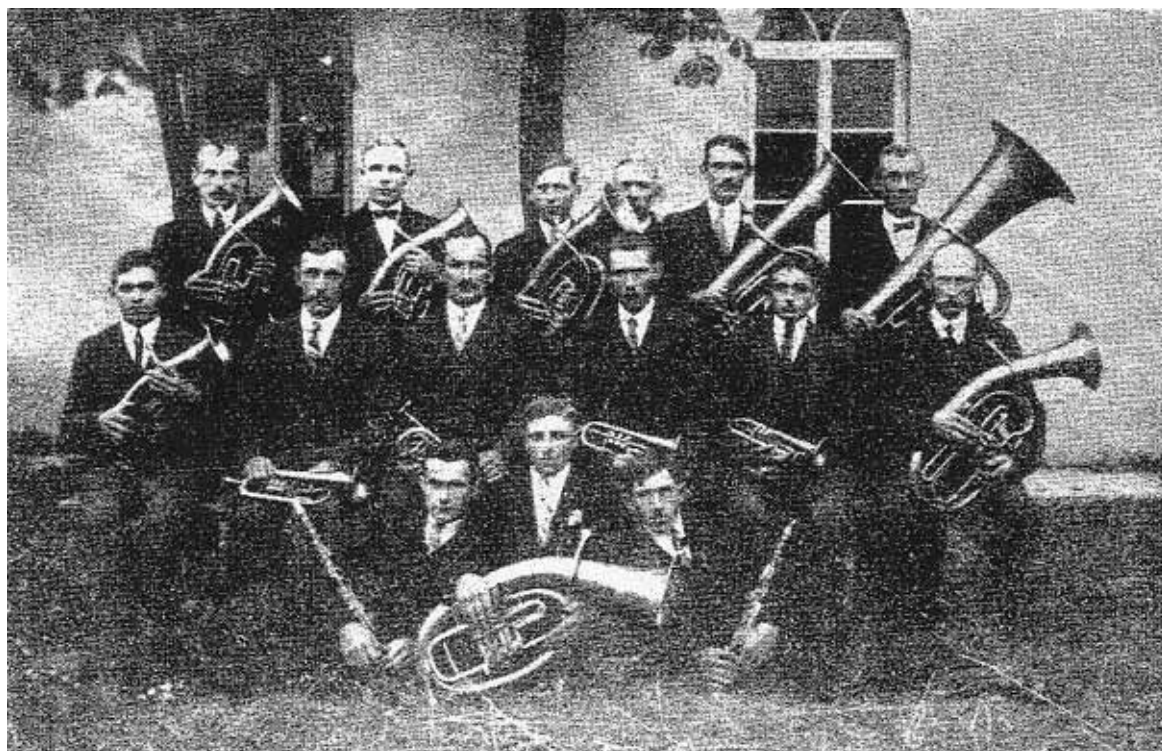
School at Maszewo

### **The Brotherhood**

As at the beginning of the 19th Century German Settlers were drawn into the Vistula region, there came also a number of Brothers, who had belonged to the herrenhutische Diasporagemeinschaften<sup>3</sup>. Some meeting places were created, such as Lwowek in the community of Gombin. In our Parish, a meeting place was also built in Maszewo with a roomy prayer hall, whose inauguration took place on 31 October 1875. The farmers Ferdinand Freiheit from Maszewo and Josef Groß from Chełpowo are cited as actual founders of the local brotherhood community. Ferdinand Freiheit was also founder and for many years conductor of the Brass and Singing Choir.

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<sup>3</sup> The "Herrenhuter Brüder", also called Bohemian Brethren, are a Protestant religious community. "Diasporagemeinschaft" would relate to a religious community and its living conditions as a minority outside their homeland.



Trombonists of Maszewo



Choir of Maszewo



The local Brotherhood is served by curators from Lwówek, at present by Preacher Mark. Assistant brothers or meeting holders at present are: Eduard Kübler from Biała (already for 30 years), William Freiheit from Chełpowo, Leopold Ast from Maszewo and Edmund Kübler from Chełpowo.

### The Filial

The Filial Dobrzyń nad Wisłą, created in the year 1838, belongs to the Płock Parish. The Filial had it's center in Dobrzyń. Since the year 1870 the center is in Głowina.

A large part of the Filial was attached to Lipno in the year 1920, because the distance to Lipno is only 14 km, while to Płock it is 35 km. The remaining part of the Filial now has three schools with prayer halls: Głowina, Lenie Małe and Krzyżanowo, also three cemeteries in the same localities.

The Kantorat Głowina was created only in the year 1870, up to then services were held in rented inns in the small town of Dobrzyń; in the year 1872 Peter Bodach bought three Morgen of land in Głowina for 136 Roubles, whereupon the school building with prayer hall was built and inaugurated on 8 December 1873.

Here the following teachers officiated: Adolf Busch, Hermann Schöning, Wilh. Lüdke, Gust. Meister, Ferd. Golnik, Adolf Jetzke, Adolf Kopp, Joh. Bahr, Otto Leichnitz, Sigismund Jaworski and Julius Wedmann.

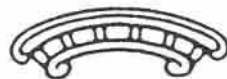


Trombonists of Powsino

The Kantorat Lenie Małe was created in the year 1873; a small wooden school building with a prayer hall was built in the year 1875 with 4 Morgen of land intended for the use the Kantor. Later a bricked house was built, which until today serves the Parish. Teachers were: Matthäus Abend, Fred. Lembke, Otto Braun, Andreas Krampitz, Ludwig Müller, Aug. Lembke, Rudolf Doms, Daniel Purat, Alexander Brudnicki and Ernst Liedtke.

The Kantorat Krzyżanowo was created in the year 1851. Already before, in the year 1842 Karl Ortelsdorff bequeathed 6 Morgen of land to the school and ¼ Morgen to the cemetery. Here were the following teachers: Andreas Treichel, Zirke, Paul Janecki, Joh. Gentzler, Joh. Deppner, Friedrich Deppner, Joh. Maliszewski, Friedrich Ristau, Friedrich Heise, Ferd. Golnik, Gottlieb Schneider, August Lembke, Karl Tews, Kurt Wächter, Melanie Blank and Julius Elgert.

Church Elders of the Filial were: 1837: Daniel Hohenfeld, Johann Berger and Martin Liedtke. 1850: D. Hohenfeld, J. Berger, M. Liedtke and Friedrich Roggenbach. 1854: the same. 1857: Martin Dreger, Stephanus Schultz, Peter Liedtke and August Werner. 1860: M. Dreger, P. Liedtke, S. Schultz and Joh. Liedtke. 1867: P. Liedtke, M. Dreger Christian Stramm and Paul Müller. 1875: Karl Berger, Chr. Stramm, Wilh. Sonström and Daniel Deske. 1880: K. Berger, W. Sonström, D Deske and Andreas Bodach. 1884: K. Berger, Gustav Dreger, Andreas Sonström and Daniel Deske. 1888: K. Berger, Michael Steinke, G. Dreger and Ferd. Sonström. 1893: the same. 1897: Ferd. Sonström, K. Berger, Andr. Bodach and Jakob Pekrul. 1905: Ferd. Sonström, David Schwentke, Andreas Klempner and Friedrich Wegert. 1909: Theodor Wegert, D. Schwentke, Ferd. Sonström and Julius Pekrul. 1913: Theodor Wegert, Eduard Sonstöm, Julius Bonkowski and Eduard Dreger. 1928: Otto Bonkowski, Ludwig Weimer, Eduard Sonström, Gustav Wiese, David Schwentke and Peter Liedtke.





## Statistics

### Pastors:

Joh. Daniel Hellmann, 1804 – 1808.

Joh. Karl Hewelke, 1808 – 1836.

Ignatius Karl Wilhelm von Boerner, 1836 – 1896.

Oskar Kleindienst, 1897 – 1913.

Robert Gundlach 1916

### Parish Plock

Year	Bapt.	Deaths	Marriages	Confirm- ands	Year	Bapt.	Deaths	Marriages	Confirm- ands
1796	13	3	3	4	1845	171	106	34	64
1797	9	7	5	1	1850	183	123	26	83
1798	24	7	7	6	1855	145	263	41	79
1799	14	3	7	8	1860	209	133	43	72
1800	23	5	4	17	1865	245	136	43	101
1801	24	4	6	14	1870	225	126	34	91
1802	45	8	11	18	1875	163	116	36	84
1803	20	5	10	10	1880	162	125	46	102
1804	36	19	20	25	1885	205	162	38	84
1805	131	56	52	35	1890	186	172	25	80
1806	105	47	35	31	1895	191	95	43	94
1807	91	81	31	28	1900	183	93	36	85
1808	76	62	21	58	1905	157	138	21	110
1809	79	39	14	39	1910	165	111	34	109
1810	61	52	14	39	1915	23	16	-	20
1820	67	50	10	30	1920	162	158	25	115
1825	103	59	20	46	1925	149	83	25	101
1830	135	103	34	74	1926	134	84	25	54
1835	114	131	26	97	1927	134	68	25	73
1840	158	108	27	54	1928	122	80	38	79

"One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the LORD,  
and to inquire in his temple."

Psalm 27,4.