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JUNE NEWSLETTER NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

DEACON ORDINATION AT FIRST SLAVIC CHURCH

Throughout history, the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ was built up by the Holy Spirit through special ministers who "served the tables". The morning service at the First Slavic Evangelical Baptist Church on May 29thwas dedicated to ordaining three men for the deacon ministry. Aleksandr Puz', Sergey Moiseyenko, and Vasiliy Moskalets, who were "tested and full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom", were ordained as deacons. They were accompanied by their wives: Irina Puz', Anna Moiseyenko, and Esther Moskalets. For more information, <u>read an article by V. Kunets, pastor of the First Slavic Church</u>.



New deacons, their wives, and pastors

REGISTRATION FOR THE CORAM DEO PROJECT IS RESUMED

The registration of students for training in counseling under the program of the International Institute of Counseling "Coram Deo" is being resumed. Classes start on October 4 at 6:30 pm. Classes will be held throughout the week in the evenings and two full days on Saturday and Sunday.

> Training is paid. Read more on the Association's website - click this link.



RAIN IS NO OBSTACLE TO BAPTISM

Despite the unfavorable weather conditions, six people from Grace Avenue Bible Church were baptized on June 5th, 2022. The ceremony took place outside during the Trinity celebration. For more about this, <u>read on the Association's website – click this</u> <u>link (in Russian only.)</u>



"I have decided to follow Jesus!" This is what the baptism ceremony declares

PRISONERS NEED GOD

The Pacific Coast Association's prison ministry has existed for over 25 years. The ministry team is led by Viktor Butayev and regularly visits detention centers and prisons where the prisoners are sentenced for an extended period of time for convictions related to drugs, alcohol, theft, and murder. Every year, California prisons receive five to six thousand new inmates. About twenty percent of them are of Slavic descent. Read more about this ministry here (in Russian only.)



Prison Ministry Team

YOUTH CAMP

For the fourth time in a row, the Living Stones and Grace Avenue Bible Churches had a joint youth camp. This year, the event took place on May 27th through the 30th at the beautiful camp at Mt. Hope in Forbestown, CA. Seventy young men and women ages thirteen years and over were able to attend this Christian camp. For more information, read an article by S. lotko.



Camp participants

EVENING OF APOLOGETICS WITH CARL KERBY

Vasiliy Stupin, pastor of the Good News Church, reasons that in today's age of the information war, the youth must be strengthened to be bold witnesses of Jesus Christ and be able to defend their faith. That was the theme of the apologetics conference which took place at The Good News Church on May 21st. Is evolution a myth or a scientific fact? That was the issue that the youth of six various churches from Washington discussed as they gathered together for an evening of learning from Carl Kerby (Reasons for Hope). Read more on the Association's website.



The conference drew a large amount of youth

CAMPS AT WEST SACRAMENTO CHURCH

Slavic Baptist church of West Sacramento is heavily investing in working with youth and teens. Two times a week, there are home Bible studies where they get to sing, fellowship, and meditate on God's Word. Every summer they also have youth and teens' camps. For more about two of those, <u>read on the Association's website at this link (in Russian only.)</u>



Lessons out in nature

SEMINAR AT A CHURCH IN SEATTLE

A seminar on the topic of "Growing a Small Church" took place in a small church in Seattle. The speaker was the leader of the Missionary Department of the Pacific Coast Association, Vadim Yurchak. For more information about the seminar – click this link.



During the seminar

FATHERS AND SONS

On Saturdays, Bryte Legacy Center has children's and teens' meetings. During the meetings, fathers and sons study together, read God's Word, and memorize Bible verses. This time, in the season of the Father's Day celebration, The Bryte Legacy Center had a culinary master class for the boys. <u>Read more about it here (in Russian only.)</u>



This is not as easy as it seems—to make Uzbekistani bread - lepeshka

CHURCH PICNICS

Many churches by now have made it a tradition to have June picnics with the entire church. Typically, it begins with a short service, followed by a time of getting to know others and fellowshipping with each other, as well as a time where the church and youth play various games. A picnic is a good reason not just to relax and have fellowship, but also to invite unbelieving friends to get to know us and who we are.

For more about how the picnics went in various churches, <u>read here – click this link (in</u> <u>Russian only.)</u>



A wonderful location with a wind orchestra; what else could be better for a vacation? (Grace Family Church Picnic)

"MYSTERIOUS ISLAND" – VBS AT GRACE FAMILY CHURCH

A children's summer camp took place on June 13th through the 17th at *Grace Family Church,* Sacramento. One hundred ninety-four children were able to attend the "Mysterious Island" of adventures and new discoveries. Forty of the attendees came from families that do not attend church. Over the course of the entire week, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., the children discovered more about God through Bible lessons, skits, sports, science experiments, and crafts. Read more about it in an article which can be located here (in Russain only.)



The story captivated the entire audience

CELEBRATION WITH SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

On June 12th, Bryte's Sunday School had a festive graduation ceremony for children with special needs and their parents. In order to have everything like it would be in a regular school, the children were clothed in special blue graduation robes, and joyfully entered the stage accompanied by music, and being cheered on by their parents and teachers. This was a very festive and memorable moment for all! For more information, read in an article by N. Smolikova (in Russian only.)



Graduates with their parents, teachers, and local church pastors

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PERSONALLY KNOW GOD?



"Would You Like to Personally Know God?" – this was the cover of the booklets which the members of the New Hope Church of ECB distributed on Sunday, June 19th on the streets of Anatolia. Close to four thousand booklets were passed out!

Besides this booklet, there were other DVD packets distributed including "The Life of Jesus", along with an invitation to church events to get to know people better, as well as a letter in both English and Russian explaining how people can get to know God, as well as prayer support. For more – visit the Association's website (in Russian only.)

YOUTH ON A MISSION

This year, on June 4th to 12th, the youth of the Bethel Slavic Baptist Church had a wonderful opportunity to go on a missions trip to Salt Lake City, Utah. The goal of the trip was to help the local brothers and sisters in evangelism. Six different youth and school-age groups came from all over the U.S. in order to serve together at the Gospel Grace Church. <u>Read more information here (in Russian only.)</u>



The youth were able to turn even the undesirable work of collecting garbage into a fun activity – read the article on the site.

THE GREAT COMMISSION TODAY

The Great Commission is Christ's commandment to us to carry the Gospel throughout the world. This mission is not subject to time or circumstances. Vadim Yurchak, the director of PCSBA's Missionary department, tells in his interview about how brothers and sisters of the Association fulfil this commandment. Read <u>the article by I. Karkhut here (in Russian only.)</u>



Vasily Khripunov with his team during street evangelism in Poland

ATTENTION!

Pacific Thrift Store is looking for cashiers. You must have a work visa, and be able to converse in both English and Russian.

(916) 514-0154.

NEWS OF OUR PARTNERS

59TH CONVENTION OF THE WESTERN UKRAINIAN UNION

"The Path of a Pastor" – this was the theme of the 59th Convention of the Western Ukrainian Union of the ECB Churches, which took place on May 27th-29th in California's capital, at the Ukrainian Resurrection church. As part of the congress, a number of reporting and election meetings, seminars, and services were held. Valeriy Antonyuk, the head of the All-Ukrainian Association of ECB churches, was an honorary guest at the convention. Each of the speakers emphasized a specific characteristic of pastoral ministry, as well as the challenges that pastors are faced with today. Time and time again, there were reminders that without the Lord's help, we cannot do anything; that is why we need to always be "in touch" with Him. For more information, read on the website of the Pacific Coast Association (in Russian only.)



Q&A session at the convention

HUNDREDS OF ATTENDEES OF A CONFERENCE AT BELTSI SAY TO GOD: "HERE I AM, SEND ME!"

A record number of attendees came to the spiritually edifying conference: "Here I Am, Send Me", which took place on May 29th at the Ark Church in Beltsi, Moldova. The total audience attendance exceeded 1,350. The main result of this conference was that numerous church members and guests repented. Hundreds of people heard the voice of God and responded in beginning a new chapter of their lives. Many of the participants who were not able to come forward, due to such huge numbers, were able to pray to God from their seats. <u>More information can be located at the Union of ECB of Moldova's</u> <u>website (in Russian only.)</u>



Conference attendees

PREACHING AMONG PAPUA NEW GUINEANS

Along with their two children, Yevgeniy and Irina Kostantinikov spent about eleven years ministering the Gospel among this exotic people. God moved this family and they responded to this invitation—something that not everyone would be willing to do. They left their homeland of Ukraine, moved "to the ends of the world", to Papua New Guinea, and began to preach the Gospel there.

Watch an <u>interview of this family with V. Yurchak (click this link)</u>. And if God is moving you to pray or financially support their ministry, you can learn how to do so <u>in an article</u> <u>on the website (in Russian only.)</u>



Newly baptized members of the Papua New Guinea church

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

ANNUAL SBC CONVENTION IN ANAHEIM

Another annual Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) took place in Anaheim, CA on June 12th through the 15th. The last similar SBC convention that took place in CA was over 40 years ago. Over 8,000 delegates and 2,500 guests were able to attend this convention. The Pacific Coast Association had an opportunity to share about their ministry as part of a wide array of ministry presentations and various ministries, teaching institutions, and ministries of the SBC. Read more about the convention in an article by I. Mileyev (in Russian only.)



Representing the Association during the convention

BIBLE PRESENTATION LASTING 1.7 KM

On May 5th to October 31st, the home of Martin Luther in Eisenach will be showing an exhibit of the Whitman Bible—the only Bible that fully illustrates the New and Old Testaments in color. The interactive exhibit is about **1.7 km** long and includes **3,333** illustrations of Bible stories painted over 331 panels, which are laid out on the walkway leading to the castle. Every illustration has a QR code, which the visitors can scan to be able to hear the corresponding Bible passages in German, Spanish, and English. The exhibit is dedicated to the 500-year anniversary of the German translation of the Bible. For more details about this unique presentation, read on the <u>Evangelical Focus – Europe</u> website.



Exhibit entrance

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REFUGEES

June 20th was the International Day of Refugees. According to some calculations, there are over 82 million internal and external refugees in the world, many of whom are Christians. In the first few weeks of the military conflict in Ukraine, the neighboring countries were able to welcome at least 3.5 million people. In Nigeria, because of the Islamists' attacks, Christians are forced to leave their homes and flee. The takeover by the Taliban in Afghanistan, the oppression of minorities by the military in Myanmar, and land disputes in various other regions where followers of the mainstream religion are driving Christians out of their homes and villages - all this leaves many Christians homeless.

Lift up your prayers to the Lord, so that His children would have God's peace in the midst of such oppression, pain, and destruction. Pray that they would be comforted by the thought that our citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20). *Source:* Barnabas Fund

EVENTS

GALA DINNER FOR WOMEN

The Association's Women's Ministry is planning to have a gala dinner for women of all ages, both those who are involved in various church ministries, as well as those who

would like to find out what their ministry could be.
Theme: "Rest in Christ" (Matthew 11:28-30)
Main Speaker: Nicole Gorban
Date: July 23rd
Time: 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Location: Bryte Church. Address: 1000 Sacramento Ave, West Sacramento, CA 95605
Cost of Registration: \$22.00
If you have any questions, contact Inna Bondar at: (415) 279-3130 or through email: moorka@sbcglobal.net.

For registration, click this link: **REGISTRATION**



WOMEN'S CAMP "SALON OF IMPERISHABLE BEAUTY"

The "Salon of Imperishable Beauty" camp will be held **in September** at the Zephyr Point Conference Center.

Theme: "...One thing is needed" (Luke 10:42.)

Dates: 23, 24, and 25 September, 2022.

Address: Zephyr Point Conference Center, 660 Highway 50, Zephyr Cove, NV 89448 **Registration fee**: \$133.00. From August 15 - \$143.00.

Registration will start on July 23rd on the PCSBA website. More details here.



If you have some news you would like to share with others, please send them at pcsbaca@gmail.com.

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