

# **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER - 2023** NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

#### **BE QUICK TO DO GOOD AND SAVE AT LEAST SOME!**

A terrible disaster recently befell Turkey and Syria. A huge number of people died as a result of a strong earthquake. On behalf of the churches of the Pacific Coast Slavic Baptist Association, we express our sympathy and condolences to the people who have suffered as a result of this tragedy. We pray that the Lord will show His mercy and would comfort those who are now in need, both spiritually and physically. Today, more than ever, we can actively show the love of God to the survivors in these countries and be used in the process of saving at least some of them from eternal condemnation. <u>Read more in the article of the President of the PCSBA, I. Mileyev.</u>



**TRIP TO VALENCIA** 

The head of the PCSBA planned a trip to Spain as far back as 2020, but due to the pandemic, it had to be postponed until January 2023. The purpose of the trip was to teach about the building up of the church, to visit the church services in Valencia, and to meet with the local church leaders. <u>Read the details in the article by I. Mileyev</u> - click this link.



During one of the meetings in Valencia

## THIS IS HOW IT ALL STARTED!

The pastor of a newly-formed church in South Carolina, Alexei Salfetnikov, talks about how soon after he moved to a new place of residence, God put it on his heart to open a Slavic church there. The opening of the Bible Church "Spring of Life" in the city of Greenville took place on January 8, 2023. The opening was attended by I.V. Mileyev. <u>Read more here (in Russian only.)</u>



Happy birthday, Spring of Life Church!

## **ONE MORE NEW CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

On February 19, 2023, the founding meeting of the new Spring of Life Church was held in Anderson, South Carolina. A lot of work has been done behind the scenes in order to make this happen. The whole church team invested a lot of effort and prayer into planting the new church. The President of the Pacific Coast Association assisted in this process and led the constituent assembly. Read more about this <u>in an article</u> by the church's pastor, M. Kucherenko, on the Association's website (in Russian <u>only.)</u>



Happy Birthday to the "Spring of Life" Church in Anderson!

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE BAPTIZED!**

On Sunday, January 29, Bryte Church had a water baptism. Twenty-nine people entered into a covenant with the Lord. Most of them were born into Christian families and raised in the church, with the age range of 16 to about 30. Many of them are already actively involved in ministry, and it looks promising that they will be active leaders. The baptisms were performed by two new pastors of the church: Yuri Sheiko and Petr Kondrashov. This was the first experience for both of them in fulfilling this great commandment of Christ. <u>Read more here (in Russian only.)</u>



## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR TRANSFORMATION

Ukraine is being transformed before our very eyes... But are we being transformed? Are the Slavic churches of America missing their opportunity for transformation, or in danger of getting stuck in the past and losing their purpose? Pastor Mikhail Cherenkov asked himself these questions during his recent missionary trip to Ukraine. Read more in his article published on the Association's website (in Russian only.)



Distribution of humanitarian aid to local residents

## THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND MY SONG

This was the slogan of Roman July and his friends, who organized an evening of the arts on February 5, 2023 at the Rockland Baptist Church. The event brought together more than three hundred people, and was timed to coincide with the celebration of the 55th birthday of the performer and the 75th birthday of his mother, Diana July. <u>Read about this event on the Association's website (in Russian only.)</u>



Anniversaries - Diana July and Roman July

## **BRYTE CHURCH'S MEN'S CAMP**

On February 10-12, Bryte Church hosted a men's retreat with the theme of "Read, Pray, and Act". There were a few generations of men – fathers, sons, grandfathers, and grandsons. They were able to spend some time together out in nature near Sacramento and contemplate the issues of faith and family, pray together, and also benefit from active sports, activities, cooking, and woodworking. <u>Read more here (in Russian only.)</u>



Camp participants

### **CHRISTMAS CONTINUES**

Christmas is one of people's most favorite seasons, especially for children. And if these are children with special needs, they do not understand why all the solemnity and excitement of this holiday ends at the end of December? This time, the Christmas celebration for special needs children was filled with new and unforgettable memories and a sense of responsibility. And it lasted until the end of January! <u>Read more in an article by N. Smolikova (in Russian only.</u>)



#### **BE ON THE ALERT AND PRAY**

On January 29, The New Hope Church put on a play dedicated to the parable of the ten virgins. About two hundred people attended this event. The entire church service, including the sermon, was dedicated to one of the most well-known biblical stories, the reality of which is becoming more and more true every day. <u>Read more in an article by K. Gofman (in Russian only.)</u>



## **RETREAT FOR FATHERS AND SONS**

This is the fourth annual men's retreat for Grace Family Church for fathers and sons. This year it took place on January 26-29 at Paradise campground and was attended by 160 people: fathers, sons, grandfathers, and grandsons. The main organizer was Valentin Tarasov, who started to seriously think about how little time fathers spend with their children, and how little they know about them. Read more about the retreat <u>in an article by S. Timofeyeva, here (in Russian only.)</u>



Group Picture



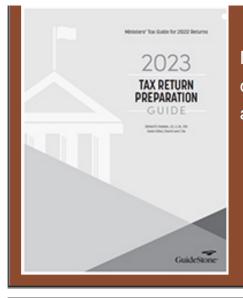
# TREASURER AND FINANCE MINISTRY OF THE ASSOCIATION

Nowadays, it is very difficult to do anything if there isn't at least some finanical support. This is especially true as it relates to the ministry of such a large organization as the Pacific Coast Slavic Baptist Association. How is the budget of the Association made up? How are the donation

funds distributed and spent, and who is involved in all this? - <u>the Treasurer of the</u> <u>Association, A. Gol, tells more about this</u>.

# DO NOT MISS IT! HELP FOR CHURCH ACCOUNTANTS

Tax filing season has begun, and there are brochures produced by the <u>GuideStone</u>, a Christian organization, to help church accountants clarify many questions about how to fill out the paperwork of the hired pastors and their tax forms. You can find the brochures here:



Tax Return Preparation Guide

More information about this organization and the documents that they have can be found at <u>https://www.guidestone.org</u>.

# NEWS FROM THE MISSIONS FIELD

# THE SHEREMET FAMILY IS ALREADY IN WARSAW

As previously reported, the Sheremet family of Grace Family Church answered the Lord's call to move to Poland as long-term missionaries. At the end of January, Joseph Sheremet, together with his wife and two daughters, flew to Warsaw, Poland. The third daughter will join them later. Read their <u>first newsletter about how they</u> were welcomed, how they settled in, and what their current needs are (in Russian only.)



Blessing in the church on the eve of the family's departure to Poland

#### "WE MOVED!"

This is how Alik Shipuk, our missionary in Spain, titled his newsletter. A few years ago, he and his wife and children went on a missions trip to Italy, then to Spain, where God blessed their ministry and established a new Slavic church. For a long time, they gathered in one of the Spanish churches, but after the lease expired, they had to look for a new place. Praise God that He is never late to help. <u>Read the details in A. Shipuk 's letter (in Russian only.)</u>



New church meeting room

## **OUR MISSIONARIES IN POLAND**

Two families, Fyodor Gonchar and Andriy Odemchuk, from the Good News Church in Tacoma, went on a long-term mission trip to Katowice, Poland to help Ukrainian refugees and support the local community. I. Karhut interviewed them, and the interview can be found here (in Russian only.)



#### INTERVIEW WITH VICTOR KOVBA, MISSIONARY FROM SPAIN

God is leading this man and his family in an amazing way! He was born in an unbelieving family. At a certain point, someone happened to give his sister the New Testament and although he tried to read it many times, he wasn't able to understand anything. He ended up marrying a woman whose grandmother was a Baptist. God continued to work with both of them, and through problems and various difficulties, He brought them to Himself. Moreover, he made Victor a pastor and a missionary. Listen the story of his life and ministry and read an article on the <u>Association's website.</u>



While serving in the church of Tarrivieja, Spain

# **AMERICAN NEWS**

## WHAT IS THIS? A NEW WAVE OF REVIVAL?!

Beginning on February 8, there has been an ongoing, 24-hour church service at the university in Asbury, Kentucky where people confess their sins, renew their commitment to the Lord, and are praising God. It began with a usual, and somewhat simple, chapel service of a few students, and it grew and expanded to other colleges around the U.S. "What is this?" is the question pastors of various denominations ask. Is this the revival that so many Christians have been praying for?" The pastor of the Grace Family Church made an analysis of what is happening there - read the article here.



## **EVENTS**

#### **IGNITING A PASSION TO PRAY**

Dear ladies! You are invited to a sixweek course about prayer, **"Igniting a Passion to Pray".** The course consists of six parts:

- Opening My Heart to Pray;
- Knowing My God Praise;
- Lord, Purify My Heart Confession;
- Developing a Thankful Heart Thanksgiving;
- A Heart to Stand in the Gap Intercession;
- Putting My Prayers into Action.

The lessons will begin on Friday, February 24, at Bryte Church at 6:30



p.m. located on 1000 Sacramento Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95605, Room 202. The lessons will be both in English and in Russian, every Friday for the next six weeks.

Registration is required at **(916) 239-5282.** The registration fee is \$25.00. Space is limited, so don't delay!

## **MISSIONARY MEETING**

First Slavic Church of Sacramento is inviting all youth who have gone to the mission fields with Mikhail Savin, as well as all volunteers, to meet with Mikhail Savin on February 26 at 6:00 p.m. During the meeting, Mikhail and other missionaries will share their missionary ministry experience over the past 25 years, and about their ministry together with the youth of Sacramento.

The meeting will take place at First Slavic Church, located at 7238 Cromwell Way, Sacramento, CA 95822. Watch Mikhail Savin's invitation here: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7ZmrCEUbRo (in Russian only.)</u>



# **CONFERENCE OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

On **March 18, 2023, the** Second Slavic Baptist Church will be hosting a conference for Sunday School directors, teachers, and teaching assistants.

The theme of the conference is "From Problems to Opportunities". The main speaker, Jennifer Dyachenko, will share her experience working with children. Then



there will be some time for questions, discussions, and an opportunity to share experiences with different situations as they relate to the theme of the conference.

The conference will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We invite everyone to attend such a beneficial conference. Registration is required to participate. Registration fee - \$10.00.

For registration questions, please contact Zhanna Yanovskaya by phone (916) 798-5838 or

email zhanna22@yahoo.com. REGISTRATION

# **"GO LIVE" MISSION CONFERENCE**

You are invited to the "GO LIVE" Conference, which will take place on March 18, 2023 in Tacoma, WA. We pray that this conference will be a time of encouragement, growth, and Going LIVE for Jesus in practical ways so that "Jesus inside of you would be seen to everyone around you!"

# WHAT TO EXPECT:

- 1. Powerful messages on growing in faith
- 2. Practical seminars on sharing the Gospel
- 3. Evangelism at local malls and public places
- 4. Mission Opportunities in 2023 for local and international missions
- 5. Worship Night with "Spring of Life" Band
- 6. And more...

WHEN: 3/18/2023. Doors open @ 9:00 a.m. Conference starts @9:30 a.m.

WHERE: Good News Church. Address: 7209 S. Puget Sound Ave, Tacoma, WA 98409

**REGISTRATION**: It is required and a link will be provided soon

here: https://t.me/+Kj9hsin7tE80NzQ5.

# SUGGESTED DONATION: \$20.00

Let's start Going LIVE by adding your friends and sharing about this conference with everyone you know! Stay tuned for more updates. Be blessed and be a blessing!

Official channel: <u>https://t.me/+Kj9hsin7tE80NzQ5</u>



If you have some news you would like to share with others, please send them at <a href="mailto:pcsbaca@gmail.com">pcsbaca@gmail.com</a>.

## ATTENTION TO GMAIL USERS:

Check All Mail and Spam folders for missed incoming emails.

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