

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

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE PACIFIC COAST SLAVIC BAPTIST ASSOCIATION!

What now seems like such a long time ago, the first PCSBA convention took place on October 12-14, 1928. It was there that a decision was made to create a Union of Slavic Baptist churches. The first committee was also selected there, with Nikolay Radionov as the committee's leader.

Ninety-Five years passed since then. Right now the Association is made up of 35 churches from five U.S. states, and its ministry has been spreading not only locally but also to European and South American countries.

Glory to the Lord for the path traversed by the Association, for the blessings that have accompanied the ministry of the churches and members of the Association, and for the work that has been done by its departments and leadership. May the Association's main focus continue to be on spreading the Gospel around the world and to all peoples.

Happy anniversary, Pacific Coast Association of ECB!

A brief historical overview of the Association can be found on the Association's website: <a href="Our History">Our History</a> (in Russian) | <a href="History">History</a> in Faces.



#### 85TH CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION



The Conclusion of the Convention - Group Picture

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHURCHES WITH ANNIVERSARIES** 

On October 8, two of our churches celebrated their anniversaries: Bryte Church celebrated 95 years, and Grace Family Church celebrated 20 years. Both churches have gone through a long journey with various trials and challenges, but by the grace of God, they are continuing to serve the Lord.



We congratulate these churches and wish them God's further blessings, spiritual and quantitative growth, and many successful deeds for the glory of God and the salvation of people.

For more about these churches'

celebrations, read on the Association's website: <u>Bryte Church</u> | <u>Grace Family</u> <u>Church</u> (in Russian only).



#### **NEWS FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

As has been previously announced, the Education Ministry began training sessions for the AA Degree in English. They are also continuing previous training sessions as

well. Read more about this in an announcement <u>by the head of this ministry, A.</u>

<u>Pronin (in Russian only.)</u>

#### THE SPRING OF LIFE CHURCH BUILDING DEDICATION

Several months ago, this church in Anderson, South Carolina, asked us to pray for a solution to a church facility issue. They were renting a church building, and the owner of the building decided to sell it on short notice. The Slavic church either had to buy this building or find another place to meet for worship.

God miraculously answered this need and these prayers, and helped the church purchase a building on credit that the church had previously rented. On October 8, there was a celebration and a dedication of the church to the Lord. Read more about it in an article by the church pastor, M. Kucherenko (in Russian only).



Prayer of Dedication

# **WOMEN'S RETREAT, "NOT AS I WISH"**

On September 22-24, about 100 women of various churches from our Association gathered at the shores of Lake Tahoe to meditate on and have a deeper understanding of the Word of God, to commune with God and to understand His will

for us, as well as to have fellowship with one another. At this retreat, called "The Salon of Imperishable Beauty," which was prepared by the First Slavic Baptist Church, they talked about how the will of God is "good, and acceptable, and perfect," and about how to know it and obey it in our lives. Read more in an article by N. Yurkov on the Association's website (in Russian only).



Retreat Participants

# DAY CAMP FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The camp idea was proposed by N. Smolikov, who is the head of the Children with Special Needs ministry. There was a fun and educational program for children, with Bible lessons for them and their parents. It brought a lot of joy to children and gave much-needed support and encouragement to the parents, who are working so diligently in their everyday care for these special children. For more information, read an article by L. Vashilin (in Russian only).



They made these themselves!

# HARVEST CELEBRATION AT THE MISSION BIBLE CHURCH

On October 8, Mission Bible Church had their harvest celebration. The church service was for both English and Russian speakers, and of course, the program was in both languages. There was a special emphasis on the necessity of and readiness for the last harvest, which will come for every person when they will have to give an account to the Lord for their lives. Details can be found <u>in an article by N. Yurkov on the Association's article</u> (in Russian only).



CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO UKRAINE

Every year, beginning in 2014, the Revival Baptist Church in Vancouver, WA collects and sends presents to orphans in Ukraine. The Christmas Gift Drive is organized by the efforts of dozens of volunteers with donations from hundreds of generous givers. Children and teens are especially zealous in this regard. This year, the church was able to collect 800 presents. Each one is an expression of love and care for those who are in need. For more, read <u>an article by M. Cherenkov, pastor of the Revival Church.</u>



It took a great deal of effort to prepare all these gifts!

#### **BAPTISM IN SAN DIEGO**

Six people from this church were baptized and made a covenant with God. They confessed their faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and their personal Savior and expressed their desire to live a life that is wholly dedicated to God. For more, read an article by S. Debelinskiy (in Russian only).



Safe Journey, Beloved!

# **IMPACTING CHILDREN'S HEARTS**

On September 30, Bryte Church hosted a conference for directors and Sunday School teachers. Many people from various churches of the Association were able to come from Sacramento, West Sacramento, Rancho Cordova, San Francisco, Concord, Fresno, Hayward, as well as Minnesota and South Carolina. For more about the conference and the conference speakers, <u>read an article by Z. Yanovskiy – click this link (in Russian only).</u>



#### CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

On September 1-4, there was an annual United Youth Camp, "Created in the Image of God." Nine churches from northern California actively invited their youth to this event, and as a result, more than 600 people were able to attend. The main speaker was Andrey Sava, a pastor from Fresno, CA. Read more in an article by E. Sokolovskiy on the Association's website.



Praise God for Our Youth!

#### **BAPTISM AT THE ROCK-LAND CHURCH**

On October 14, Rock-Land Baptist Church had a special occasion. Fifteen young men and women were baptized in the river as they made a proclamation of their faith and commitment to God. This moment was a new chapter in their lives which they will remember forever. Dressed in white and having wreaths of flowers on their heads, the ladies were a symbol of purity and hope. Read more <u>in an article by A. Ryabichenko – click this link (in Russian only).</u>



### WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT FINANCES?

On October 12 and 13, New Hope Church had an interesting and insightful conference, "What Does the Bible Teach About Finances?" and how it practically plays out in our lives. The speaker was Roman Shempel, author of *Christian View of Personal Finances*. For more, read an article by K. Gophman (in Russian only).



**CELEBRATION FOR SACRAMENTO RESIDENTS** 

On October 15, Cornerstone Church had an Old-Fashioned Country Festival. The church campus was decorated in an old western theme, and many guests dressed in costumes of the past. Over 500 people attended this event. There was a sermon, wonderful music, and great fellowship. More details <u>can be found in an article by the Cornerstone Church's Media ministry</u>.



#### **MUSIC CONFERENCE**

On September 29, Bryte Church had a music conference, which was organized by the PCSBA's Worship Ministry. Many conductors, choir members, and musicians were able to attend. The speakers were Andreas Pats and Ivan Mileyev. For more about the conference, <u>read an article by S. Yanovskiy (in Russian only).</u>



#### **MISSIONARY NEWS**

#### MISSIONARY RETREAT IN GREECE

On September 19-20, there was a pastors' retreat near Athens. About to 80 people were able to attend. The Association's president took an active role as a speaker, and then visited Spain to meet with missionaries who are supported by the Association. Read <u>his article about the trip – click this link.</u>



Retreat Participants

#### **MINISTRY IN POLAND**

Joseph Sheremet and his family, who are serving in Warsaw and is one of the missionaries supported by the Association, provides an update about their ministry. He shares about their current projects and how God is blessing them in their ministry, and asks for prayer support. Read his report here – click this link (in Russian only).



# **NEWS FROM TARREVIEJA, SPAIN**

On October 1, four souls joined the church by proclaiming their commitment to the Lord. The young men and women became members of Light of Life Church. The baptism was officiated by Viktor Kovba. More details can be found here (in Russian only).



**UPDATE FROM THE ARSHULIK FAMILY** 

Vitaliy and Irina Arshulik, who are missionaries in Brazil and are supported by our Association, continue their ministry, and the Lord abundantly blesses them. Read their <u>newsletter on the Association's website (in Russian only).</u>



Meeting for Family Couples

# **NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATION'S PARTNERS**

### ONE MORE BIBLICAL COUNSELING MODULE WAS COMPLETED

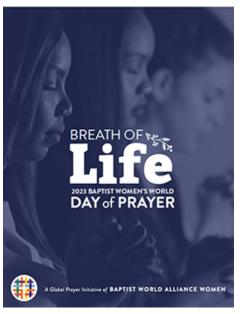
At the end of September, Bryte Church hosted the fourth module of the biblical counseling "Coram Deo" course. This module was taught by instructors from Germany and Belarus: The Director of the International Counseling Institute, Aleksey Tolochyants, Sergey Drozd, Bishop, Assistant of Chairman of the Belarus Union of ECB, and Yelena Kolpakova, who is part of the Coram Deo team in Germany. For more about this module, its content, and what was insightful about it, read <u>an article</u> <u>by F. Avramenko, coordinator of the Sacramento region (in Russian only).</u>



Students and Teachers of the Fourth Module

#### **NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

#### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S PRAYER**



The Baptist Women's Alliance will have an annual Day of Prayer, which the women of our churches are encouraged to participate in. To find out more about the prayer agenda for the day (in Russian), visit the Association's website. English version can be found here.

# **EVENTS**

#### **MISSIONARY REUNION**

The missionary reunion is an annual meeting where people can hear what the Lord is doing through missionary work around the world.

This event is for everyone: missionaries, those who are concerned for the work of missions, those who are supporting this ministry (through prayers, finances, etc.), and those who would like to hear more about what God has done over the last year. It would be especially great to see church pastors there, since no ministry can continue without the support of churches and their pastors.

Everyone who is active in missionary ministry is encouraged to participate in a "ministry exhibit" where each one will have an opportunity to represent their ministry. If you would like to do that, contact Sergey Tkachev at (714) 655-4034 by November 1st.

**Registration of reunion participants** – <u>on the website of the Missions</u> <u>Department.</u>

**Registration Fee:** \$15 (lunch included) – all proceeds are for the Missions Ministry.

**Date and time**: November 11| 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** Grace Family Church, 7031 Watt Ave, North Highlands, CA 95660.



Previous editions of the newsletters can be found on the Association's website: for the last year | for all the years.

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.

#### The Editorial Team:

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