



## SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

### THE REGISTRATION FOR THE 85TH CONVENTION IS NOW OPEN



This year, the 85th annual convention will be on October 27-28 at the Second Slavic Baptist Church. Since this is a convention with re-elections, the heads of ministries, members of the committee, audit committee, and other committees will be giving their reports. There will also be a report about the expenses of the previous year, a presentation of the budget for the upcoming year, and more.

The church delegates can register at their churches or online on the Association's website. Evening services are open to the public. For more about the convention and registration, [read here – click this link](#). The [schedule is available at the convention's website](#). The PCSBA President's [video invitation is available here \(in Russian only\)](#).

### FROM THE LIFE OF THE LIVING STONES CHURCH

Similar to our other churches, this was a very eventful summer for the Living Stones Church. There was [a baptism of eight people](#),

a [children's camp](#), and a [church camp...](#) A. Cherneva covers more about these events in her articles. Click the links in the paragraph to view the details.



*May the Lord bless them!*

## **SPECIAL EVENT IN RENO**

On Sunday, August 27, for the first time in 15 years, a mission outreach event was held in Reno in the format of a family party among the Russian-speaking population. There were a lot of preparations for this event. First of all, there were many fervent prayers about each part of this big celebration. [Read more in an article by L. Vashchilina \(in Russian only.\)](#)





*The Gospel was presented to the people through paintings by famous artists*

## **FEAR OF GOD IS THE FOUNDATION OF SUCCESS**

In an effort to develop and strengthen their male leadership, Bethel Church organized a men's retreat on August 31 - September 2. The men had an opportunity to spend two nights in "The Lord's Land" camp at the shores of Mendocino. Together with their pastor, Vitaliy Lakhno, they discussed what it means to have true fear of the Lord, and how to resist ungodly fear. [More details can be found in an article by V. Lakhno \(in Russian only.\)](#)



*Discussion at the table*

## **GOD IS OUR REFUGE**

The Moms in Prayer Ministry prayer breakfast, which happens at the beginning of the school year, took place on September 9 at the Second Slavic Baptist Church in Sacramento. Over a hundred women from various churches of the PCSBA were able to attend. The main purpose of the meeting was to pray for the children and teachers in the upcoming school year. [Read more details in an article by O. Drovorub](#), who is the leader of Moms in Prayer Ministry of the Association.





*Participants in joint prayer*

## **BAPTISM AT THE CHURCH IN SAN FRANCISCO**

On Saturday, September 2, 2023, four new souls were added to the First Slavic Evangelical Baptist Church, “House of the Gospel,” in San Francisco. May the Lord bless you on your new Christian path, dear brothers and sisters, as you journey on your way to eternal life with the Lord! [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)



## **FAMILY CAMP IN HAWAII**

On September 1-4, 2023, the Honolulu Slavic Church (HSC) organized a family conference at the Maculae Camp, which is located on the north-western side of Oahu island. Over 100 people attended this three-day event. Children and adults



attended the seminars of the guest speaker, Vadim Yakim. The topics of the conference were about family dynamics, overcoming the problems of modern parenting, the roles of parents in forming a strong bond with their children, and included a time for questions and answers related to family problems. More details [available in an article by A. Kovalev \(in Russian only\).](#)



## UPCOMING ISSUE OF GOD'S VINEYARD MAGAZINE



A new issue of the magazine is ready for print, and it has a lot of interesting materials. This issue is, to a certain extent representing, representing the upcoming convention, and the topics that are covered in the magazine are a reflection of the theme of the convention.

Besides that, the magazine also has a lot of interesting and edifying articles. For example, “10 Golden Rules of Every Pastor” will challenge the way you think about the work of a pastor, and his personal approach to this ministry, and much more. For more, [read an article by the magazine's editor, L. Pavlyuk \(in Russian only\).](#)

## NEWS FROM THE EDUCATION MINISTRY

In his article which can be found on the Association's website, A. Pronin, who is the leader of the PCSBA's Education Ministry, gives an update about what the Blagovest Institute of Ministry does in teaching, and where. [Read more details here – click this link \(in Russian only\).](#)



*V. Yurchak is teaching in Valencia, Spain*

New application process for the A.A. program in English

## **The registration for the concentration of “ASSOCIATE OF CHURCH MINISTRY” program is now open**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:



It is designed for church members who would like to study the Bible to learn to preach, to teach, and to serve in small groups, as well as to do evangelism.

The duration of the program is four semesters, 66 academic hours, including 176 hours of lecture time, and approximately 800 hours of independent study.

The training will be in online format with a presence required on Zoom.

The training days: Every second Monday and Tuesday from 6:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.



The cost of registration is \$420 per semester. For more information, contact Aleksandr Pronin at (916) 832-0025 or [proninab@mail.ru](mailto:proninab@mail.ru).

## GOD'S HAND IN EVERYTHING

On September 10, 2023, the Spring of Life Church had a baptism service for 23 people. The church leadership continues to see the work of God in their midst as the people confess their faith in Jesus Christ. This is the second baptism service in this church this year. Altogether, 42 people were added to the church. [Read more in an article by I. Karabut \(in Russian only\)](#).



## EVANGELISTIC CONCERT IN SAN FRANCISCO

On September 17, the House of the Gospel Church in San Francisco had an evangelistic string concert consisting of Aleksandr Popov's students. The church guests were able to hear wonderful melodies, to think about the Word of God, and to think about eternal life. [More... \(in Russian only\)](#).





*Violin group of A. Popov's studio*

## **AROUND GOD WITH THE FAMILY**

On August 24-27, the Good News Church had their family camp in Tacoma, Washington. The special guest was pastor Stanislav Gruntkovsky, who is responsible for family ministry in the All-Ukrainian Association of ECB Churches. Four hundred and sixty two people were able to attend the camp. During the camp, they also had a baptism at the lake. [More... \(in Russian only\).](#)



*New souls are added to the church!*

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## MISSIONARY NEWS

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### MISSIONARY TRIP TO EUROPE

Vasily Khripunov, who serves at the Association's Mission Department and is in charge of local missions, went to a number of European countries, including Ukraine, Poland, Germany, and Spain. Read more about his trip and ministry in these countries – [click this link \(in Russian only\)](#).





*Preaching among gypsies in Bukhara, Uzbekistan*

## **MISSIONARIES IN BRAZIL ARE REPORTING...**

The life of a missionary is a life of being constantly on the move: various meetings, studies, church services, working with people, and preaching... Lately, this also includes receiving refugees from Ukraine, helping them to gain stability, and helping them both spiritually, as well as in material needs. [Read an article by the missionary family, the Arshulik family, in their letter](#) which can be found on the Association's website (in Russian only).



*Children's ministry at a school*

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

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### **MINISTRY OF THE MOLDOVIAN UNION IN TURKEY**

Christians from ECB churches in the Budjak region of Moldova have been making evangelistic trips to Turkey for more than 20 years, while maintaining contact with already existing evangelical churches in Turkey. This ministry became even more active after the tragedy which befell Turkey in February of this year. The Gagauz people living in the territory of Moldova speak a language very similar to Turkish. For the most part, it is Christians of this nationality who carry out mission outreach among the Turkish population. It is interesting how God is using these humble Christians, who are not wealthy and do not have many means, in order to save people for the Heavenly kingdom. [More can be found on the website of the ECB of Moldova \(in Russian only\).](#)





*Christians brought their gift of love*

## **MISSIONARY WORK CONTINUES!**

Because of the military conflicts, over 6.2 million Ukrainians are now refugees. Even in the first year of the war, the Evangelical-Baptist union of Ukraine showed initiative in creating a task force in Europe. Pastors who are called to this task force are coordinating and developing missionary ministry among the Ukrainian diaspora to 17 countries. This group is helping in establishing churches and preaching the Gospel. Despite the most severe military conditions, the missionary work of The All-Ukrainian Union of ECB continues! For more [about the group](#) and [about their work](#) (in Ukrainian only).



*A retreat for Ukrainian ministers in Europe, organized by the task force group*

## **I WANT MY CHILDREN TO BE CHRISTIANS!**

Thailand is one of many places where missionaries of the New Fields Ministry are serving. Preaching among Buddhists is a difficult ministry. However, the Lord continues to save people. Here is a testimony of one of the missionaries there: “Please let my children help you in training other children.” In other words, “I want my children to be Christians!” This was a request of two families whose parents were asking us to invite their teenage son and daughter to our team. They see the church as a place where their teens can grow, learn, and have friends. The parents of both families are educated people, and one of them continues to be a devout Buddhist. And so, our team has three new members. We are training children of our school at the church about how to live and grow in Christ! We are praying that their parents would also join us. [More...](#)





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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

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### PRAY FOR THEM!



When you are living in abundance, without any kind of persecution for your faith, it is easy to be complacent and to forget that our brothers and sisters in other countries are suffering for their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Very often they not only lose their possessions, but also their lives. The Voice of the Martyrs

Ministry shares about the persecutions, imprisonments, and other forms of suffering Christians endure around the world for their faith. They are calling everyone to pray for these brothers and sisters, and to share in their pain, as well as to ask the Lord to strengthen them so that they would be able to remain faithful to God for His glory and for the testimony of those around them. More information can be found on the organization's website, <https://www.persecution.com>.

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## IMPORTANT SPIRITUAL QUESTIONS

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### WHY WE DO NOT SPEAK IN TONGUES

Indeed, why aren't Baptists speaking in tongues?! Are they truly not baptized by the Holy Spirit as representatives of some Christian denominations claim? Or is there another explanation for this? Pastor D. Zhrebnekov of Grace Family Church, who has a Master's degree in Theology, provides a brief explanation for this [in an article which can be found on their church website](#)



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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 [pcsbaca@gmail.com](mailto:pcsbaca@gmail.com).

### ATTENTION TO GMAIL USERS:

Check **All Mail** and **Spam** folders for missed incoming emails.

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