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MAY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

ONLINE MISSIONS FORUM

Due to the pandemic, the Forum which was initially scheduled for May 2020, was rescheduled a number of times, but finally it took place on May 21, 2022 online. The initial theme was changed to the one that is more relevant to our days: “Church during the great calamities (war) in serving the community (refugees)”. The speakers included theologians and pastors from Ukraine, Poland, and the U.S. In addition, four of the American Unions and Associations of the ECB churches shared about their missionary ministry experience.

The recordings of [the first](#) and [second](#) sessions of the Forum can be seen [on the YouTube channel](#) of the Association. [For more about the Forum read here \(in Russian only.\)](#)



SECOND SLAVIC BAPTIST CHURCH ORDAINED ADDITIONAL EIGHT SERVANTS!

Eight new servants! Someone will say: “Isn’t that too much for one church?!” The answer is no, especially if the church is the size of Second Slavic Baptist Church, which has over a thousand members, and the number of members continues to grow. Three pastors and five deacons were added to the church’s team of ministers. May the Lord bless their ministry!

[Read here about the ordination \(in Russian only\)](#) which took place on May 22, and [watch the recording of the church service on the church’ YouTube channel](#).



The new ministers with their spouses sit in the front row

OUR YOUTH: WHAT ARE THEY INVOLVED IN?

What are the interests of the youth of our churches? What are they involved in? Where are they? P. Makletsov, the Association’s youth leader answers these questions – [read an article on the Association’s website \(in Russian only\)](#).



Bad England witnessing to youth about him becoming Christian

SPECIAL ISSUE OF GOD'S VINEYARD MAGAZINE



This special issue of the magazine is dedicated to the events in Ukraine. It is sad to observe what is happening there, but faith in the Lord gives us the ability to look to the future with hope. [You can read the magazine here, at this link \(it's in Russian only.\)](#)

You also have an opportunity to subscribe to receive either the printed or online versions of the magazine. You can reach out to the editors of the magazine at the following email: pcsba.divinevineyard@gmail.com. The cost of the printed subscription is \$25.00 per year; and the online subscription is \$10.00 per year.

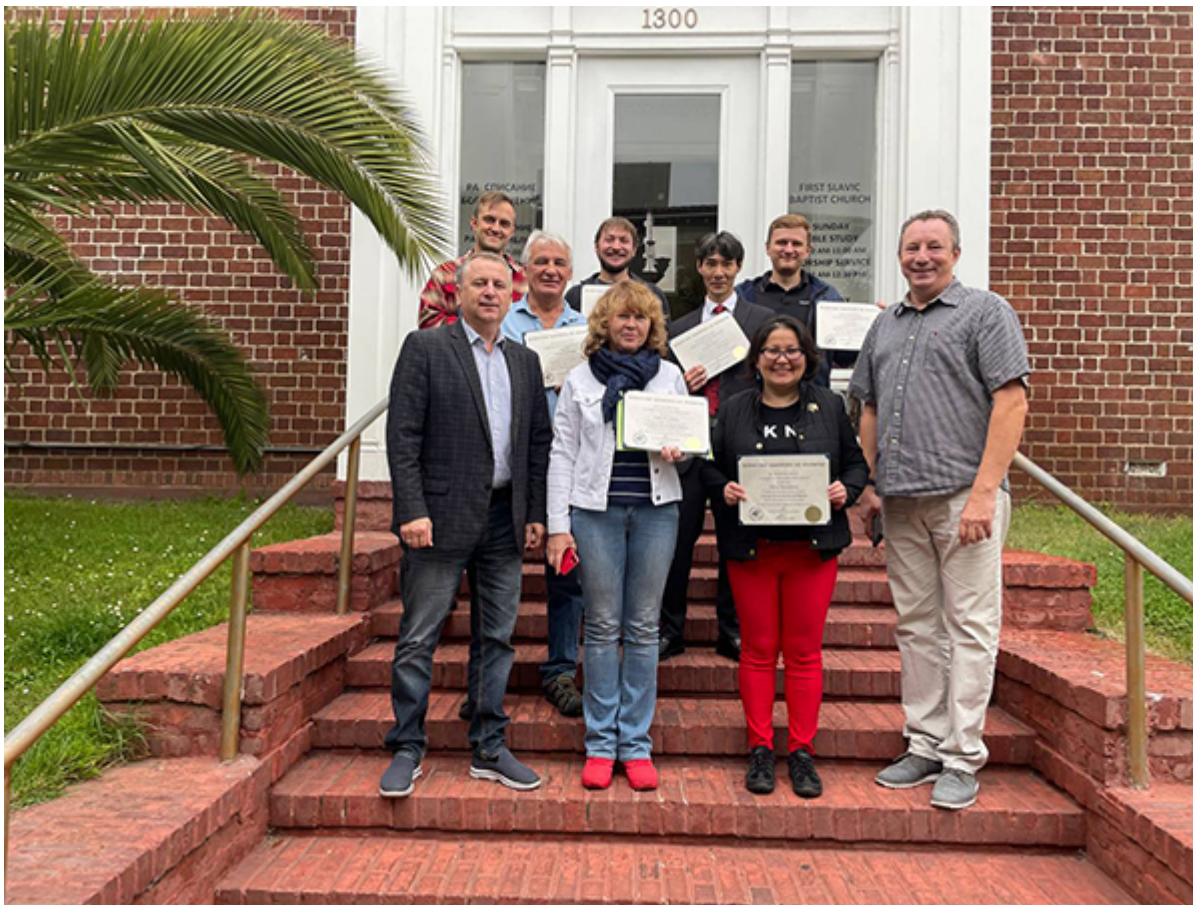
ORDINATION AT THE WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

On May 15, The Word of Life Slavic Baptist Church had an ordination service during which Sergey Padurary was ordained as a pastor. Pastor of the Ukrainian Baptist Church, Vadim Dashkevich took a part in the ordination service. The other honorary guests also included I. Mileyev, and the pastor of the local American church, Don Schmidt. For more details [read in an article by I. Mileyev on the Association's website.](#)



EDUCATION – SPIRITUAL POWER

The main goal of PCSBA's Education Ministry is to provide Bible training to pastors and servants of the Slavic churches, to improve the quality of church service, and to be established in the right teaching. These goals are achieved by the Blagovest Bible Institute of Ministry. For more about how this is accomplished over the course of many years, [read in an interview of the ministry leader, A. Pronin – click this link \(in Russian only.\)](#)



Seven Graduates of the A.A. Program in San Francisco

OUR DAYS NEWSPAPER IS CELEBRATING 56 YEARS!

Although it's not an anniversary, but it's still a noteworthy date, isn't it? It takes a lot of effort to release a weekly 8-page Christian newspaper which is read in 44 countries. This difficult ministry is done by a faithful servant and editor, Ivan Nikolayevich Bruyako, his wife, and other volunteers. [Read more details about the newspaper in an article on the Association's website \(in Russian only.\)](#)



Long-standing Servants of the Newspaper, Tamara and Ivan Bruyako

POLAND – MINISTRY TO REFUGEES

For over two months, one of the pastors of the Grace Family Church, Joseph Sheremet, along with his daughter Julie, and wife Oksana who was able to join them later, have been serving daily to the Ukrainian refugees in Poland. This ministry is difficult because they are encountering people with pain and suffering, but they are also experiencing great blessings as well. Along with providing aid to those who suffered from the war, there is an opportunity to testify to them about God, eternal life, and the Gospel.

[Read two short updates from Joseph \(in Russian only\)](#), in which Joseph shares about his experience and what are the results of this ministry.



Picnic for Refugees

MINISTRY TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS

The fate of the widows and orphans even in such a blessed country as the U.S. is difficult, nonetheless. The issue isn't so much in the financial hardships as much as it is in the emotional. It's the burden of losing the one who was such a support, has defined your position in society, and was an encouragement and a friend. The leader of the Widows and Orphans, Ministry Tatyana Senin, shares about the ministry and the issues that they have to deal with. [Read about it here \(in Russian only.\)](#)



During One of the Meetings at the Slavic Baptist Church of West Sacramento

MOTHERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Many of the Association's churches celebrated Mothers' Day on May 8. On that day, [mothers were recognized at the church service](#), much was said about mothers' important role in the lives of every person without exception. The women themselves also had gatherings where they spoke about the importance of raising children properly, and the importance of mothers in sharing the Gospel to their own families. For more [about how this day of celebration took place at Second Slavic Baptist Church, read here \(in Russian only.\)](#)



Celebration Participants

FAMILY – CIRCLE OF POWER

This was the motto of the Family Day at the Slavic Church of Honolulu on May 15. The event took place outside in a regional park of Kapi'olani. For the first time since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, the church was able to have such a massive

event which emphasized the importance of the family as the union of one man and one woman created by God in His likeness and image and for His purpose. About 140 people joined this joyful celebration including families of guests from Ukraine, Belarus, as well as attendees from Washington, California, and New Jersey. [For more information, read on the Association's website.](#)



Children also Participated in the Church Service

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Such a service was decided to be held by the First Slavic Baptist Church “House of the Gospel” in San Francisco. Many of the church members went to the Lord during the pandemic, and some were not even able to say goodbye. So it was decided to meet on May 15 for church members and relatives to share memories, pray together, and encourage each other. [Read more about this on the Association's website \(in Russian only.\)](#)



After Fellowship at the House of the Gospel Church

WHY MEXICO?

Some are having camps in the serenity of the pine forest, some at the shores of the Pacific Ocean, and some at the Mexico desert. Why Mexico? What is the purpose, and for whom? The youth from Bryte Church who went to San Quentiono, Mexico on April 8 to 16 to have a children's camp, provide answers to those questions. Over a hundred children from poor families in Mexico were able to attend the camp. In addition, in just a few weeks before the camp began, the construction team was able to build the church "from the ground up". [More information can be found here \(in Russian only.\)](#)



Building a Church in Mexico

MY CHURCH

Every member of the local church identifies with his church and says, “this is my church”. Anatoliy Mironov provides more details about one of these “my” churches. As a assisting pastor at the House of Prayer Church, he speaks with great warmth about this small church, its people, and ministries. [Read his article here \(in Russian only.\)](#)



House of Prayer Church

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

On May 5, the Christians of America joined together in fasting and praying for the country and the future of the nation, for the president and the government, for the churches and the young leaders, for the peace in Europe. and for the prevention of ecological catastrophe. The churches of the Pacific Coast Slavic Baptist Association participated in praying through the online marathons and evening prayer meetings. For more details, [read on the Association's website \(in Russian only.\)](#)



PRAY ABOUT THE RE-OPENING OF THE SIERRA PINES CAMPGROUND

Our campground, Sierra Pines, will be shut down for the entire summer season of this year. It is located on the land belonging to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and is obligated to follow the rules established by the jurisdictions of the El Dorado County, U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. At the moment, these agencies are still assessing the damage and remedial measures from last year's fire, which engulfed a huge area of almost 90,000 hectares and passed through the camp. Continue to pray for those doing any necessary work at the campground, improving ecological conditions, and for the speedy re-opening of the Sierra Pines Camp so that they would be able to host Christian camps and family vacations. [More information can be found on the Association's website.](#)

INTERVIEW WITH ALEKSANDR SAVCHENKO

Doctor, poet, theologian, author, and pastor – that is how people know Aleksandr Petrovich Savchennko who recently came to the U.S. from the war zone in Ukraine, Mariupol. [Watch his interview on the Association's YouTube channel \(in Russian only.\)](#)



Aleksandr Petrovich Savchenko (on the right) and Igor Voronov, the leader of the Association's radio ministry

NEWS OF OUR PARTNERS

WONDERFUL MEANS OF SALVATION

In the last few years, the church of the Evangelical Christian Baptists in the district of Dmitriyevka, Nikiforovskiy region of the Tambovskiy province, has become a living center of spiritual attraction for gypsies. The Gospel, presented to one of the illiterate gypsies who begged for alms, at the end fell into the hands of a gypsy who could read. Soon it bore a fruit. The man became a believer and began sharing his faith with his relatives. Suddenly, he became an outcast in his community. However, the Lord continued to do His work. And what it led to, [read on the website of the Russian Union of ECB – click this link \(in Russian only.\)](#)



A Group of Gypsy Believers after The Baptism Service for One More Young Member

OUTREACH CONTINUES

The All-Ukrainian Union of the ECB churches shares updates on the continuing evangelization among the locals who evacuated from the Donetsk region. The pastors who remained in the region are having services in 3-4 churches. The churches in Bakhmut, Vremennom Yare, and Soledad are filled beyond capacity. Many of the unbelievers are coming here. The church service is happening not only in the cities, but also in the villages in the open air. Recently some supplies and Christian literature were transported there.

Source: [Website of the All-Ukrainian Union of Churches of the ECB \(In Ukrainian.\)](#)



Church Service in a Village

UNION OF ECB OF MOLDOVA RECEIVED A LETTER OF GRATITUDE FROM THE COUNTRY'S PRESIDENT



This good news was published by the Moldovan brotherhood [on their website](#). Maya Sandu, the President of the Republic of Moldova pointed out the self-denial with which the believers of the Moldovan Union of ECB churches were providing the resources

and shelters for refugees from Ukraine, the majority of whom were women, children, and the elderly. She thanked everyone and expressed her appreciation for their efforts. [You can read her letter here \(in Russian and Moldovan only.\)](#)

XXXVI CONVENTION OF THE RUSSIAN UNION OF ECB

On May 19-20, 2022, there was a XXXVI Convention of churches of the Russian Union of Evangelical Christian-Baptists. The convention was attended by 550 delegates and guests from all regions of the country. The motto of the convention was: "The World Needs Christ!" The convention was acclaimed by the president of the Worldwide Alliance of Baptists, Thomas Maki, and the general secretary of VBA Elijah Brown, representatives of the administration of the President of the Russian Federation, the leadership of Moscow, the representatives of the ECB unions:

Bishop and chairman of the Union of ECB of Belarus, L. E. Mikhovich, the chairman of the Union of Churches of ECB of Kazakhstan, S. A. Kandaurov, the general secretary of the union of ECB of Armenia, Asarut Nagapetyan, and other denominations. The convention elected Peter Valterovich Mitskevich to continue serving as the Chairman of the Russian Union of ECB for another term, and Viktor Vladimirovich Ignatenkov as the vice-chairman. The team of ministers for serving at the Russian Union of ECB was also approved from the number of the regional assistants.

[For more information, read on the website of the Russian Union of ECB. Photo slideshow of the convention's opening can be found on this page – click this link \(in Russian only\).](#)



NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

SAD NEWS

In last month's newsletter we talked about the [plans of the Rockland, and Bryte churches to host a Christian conference for pastors of the Muslim countries in the Middle East](#). The conference was anticipated to happen at the Tyre Church led by the Pastor Muhammed who is well-known to a few of our churches. It was anticipated that Pastor Muhammed will soon come to Sacramento, and then the final decision will be made about the conference.



On May 19, the news came that Pastor Muhammed was found dead in his car. There is an ongoing investigation, but there is suspicion that he may have been murdered. Earlier, in a conversation with the pastor of Rockland Church, N.A. Bugriyev, he mentioned that he has problems and that he is experiencing great pressures from outside.

Please pray for his family, the church, and all of the believers of the surrounding cities where he was serving, and for all the poor that he was feeding daily from his table. They will experience truly difficult times in the coming days.

The recording of the memorial service [of Pastor](#)

[Muhammed can be viewed here.](#)

WHAT'S COMING FOR CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA?!

New research done by the Center of Cultural Research of the Arizona Christian University (Barna), showed that only 37% of the Christian pastors in the U.S. are holding to the biblical worldview. One thousand pastors participated in the survey. The survey had 54 questions relating to the worldview. 44% had to do with God, creation, and history, 43% with personal religious practice, 43% with sin, salvation, and relationship with God, 40% with the person's character and the nature of man; and 40% about lifestyle, personal choices and relationships.

Additionally, the survey results state that the absence of biblical worldview in pastors does not mean that they are supporting the opposing views such as humanism or Marxism.

[The full version of the article can be found here.](#)

Source: [Christian Today](#).

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

ATTENTION TO GMAIL USERS:

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