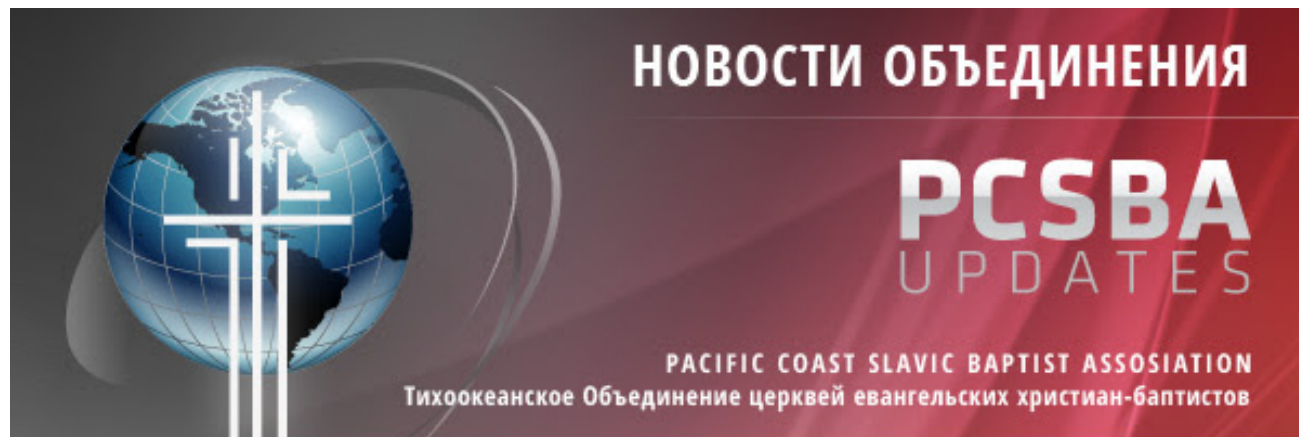


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## **MAY NEWSLETTER - 2025**

**NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

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### **ANOTHER MEETING OF MINISTRY LEADERS**

Once every two months, the ministry leaders of the Association gather to give an account of their work and share about what is happening in their department. Another one of these meetings took place on May 16. The Association's president organized a mini training for leaders, and then every person shared about what was happening in their department during this time. Everyone had something to share about the success, as well as the challenges of their ministries. At the end, they had some time of sharing personal and ministry needs. [More details ... \(in Russian only\).](#)



## **FIRST CREATIVE ARTS CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

On May 17, over thirty people came to First Slavic Baptist Church for the first Creative Arts Conference. Five of the Association's department leaders gave a brief presentation and invited participants to join them in ministry. After that, there was a time when poets, authors, and artists from local churches shared a little about themselves, read their poems, and showcased their artwork. [More details....](#)



*Conference Participants*

## **CELEBRATION OF SPIRITUAL UNION AND MINISTRY**

On the beautiful Sunday morning of April 27, 2025, Grace Avenue Bible Church in Sacramento had a special celebration – their church's 26th birthday. The central moment of the church service was the ordination of deacons, officiated by the President of the Pacific Coast Association, Ivan Mileyev. Hundreds of people gathered to congratulate the church and share the joy of this wonderful day with them. [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)





*Ordination...*

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

During the last convention of the Association, Bible Church of Bellevue, WA was added to our Association. Who are they? How are they serving the Lord? What is uniting us? Ivan Shepel, who is the pastor of the church, provides answers to these questions – [read more at this link \(in Russian only\)](#).



## BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH ONE OF THE CHURCHES

During the last convention of the Association, Bible Church of Bellevue, WA was added to our Association. Who are they? How are they serving the Lord? What is uniting us? Ivan Shepel, who is the pastor of the church, provides answers to these questions – [read more at this link \(in Russian only\)](#).



## DAY OF THE FAMILY AT THE HONOLULU CHURCH

On Sunday, May 18, Slavic Church of Honolulu celebrated their annual Day of the Family. As usual, this event took place in a park located near the famous Diamond Head. Close to 200 people were able to come to this event, which included guests from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California. God especially blessed this day by providing sunny weather after about a week of rains, and even sent a rainbow! [More details... \(in Russian only\)](#).





## YOU ARE NOT ALONE

On this special evening on May 9, widows and lonely ladies gathered together at the Second Slavic Baptist Church to remind each other of an important truth: "You are not alone." The event was a warm reminder of God's presence, and the attendees were able to find encouragement for their hearts and nourishment for their souls. [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)



## MUTUAL CHURCH FRIENDSHIP

On May 18, a group from the Evangelical Christian Church of Montebello (pastor Valeriy Konopelkin) paid a return visit to Slavic Evangelical Baptist Church of San Diego (Escondido, pastor Sergey Debelinskiy). They had a wonderful time when they praised God together, were encouraged by the Word, had fellowship over cups of coffee, and thanked their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for everything. For more, [read an article by S. Debelinskiy](#) (in Russian only).

This is a wonderful example of mutual church friendship! How wonderful would it be if more churches, especially the youth, were able to visit other local churches in an effort to encourage and attract more people and youth to these churches.



*Guests from the church in Montebello*

## **“LABORATORY OF THE SOUL”: HOW THE BIBLE OLYMPICS BECAME A PLACE OF SPIRITUAL REFLECTION**

During the last days of April, the Spring of Life Church in Washington had a memorable and joyful event – Bible Olympics for children ages 7 to 12. This was not just a game, but a result of a lot of work spanning many months of spiritual discipleship and instilling love for the Word of God.

The theme of the Olympics was the parables of Jesus Christ – deep, living, and simple examples that the Lord used to teach important truths of eternity. [More details...](#) (in Russian only).





## EASTER BIBLE BRAIN-RING

On Sunday evening, on April 20, Grace Avenue Church had a special Easter church service and held a Brain-Ring for Sunday School children. Children ages 6 to 13 participated in this event. This was a wonderful time when children could not only compete, but also work hard at remembering the biblical truths as they meditated on Scriptures and shared what they already knew. [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)





*Brain-Ring team participants*

## **MARRIAGE BY GOD'S DESIGN**

From March 28 to 30, the Family Ministry of Bryte Church had their fourth annual retreat for married couples at the Embassy Suites in San Rafael, CA. The theme of the retreat was: “Four Seasons of Marriage,” and focused on capturing the stages of married life along with their joys, challenges, and opportunities for growth. The main speaker was Willie Laben from Germany; he is an experienced mentor and counselor, and specializes in marriage and family issues. [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)





## CHURCH PICNIC AT GRACE FAMILY CHURCH

On May 17, Grace Family Church organized a large-scale picnic! By 10:00 a.m., a lot of cars filled Ancil Hoffman Park, some of which were full of impatient children who came with camping chairs, followed by mothers who carried fruits and pies, while the heads of households came much earlier to set up the tents, tables, and prepare the bounce houses and trampolines for their children to enjoy! [More details can be found here... \(in Russian only\).](#)





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## MISSIONS NEWS

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### MINISTERING TO THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF UKRAINE

Beginning in 2016, there has been an ongoing ministry for those who have suffered as a result of the war in Ukraine – ministry to the widows and orphans. The ministry is called “Heart to Heart,” because healing happens when one heart responds to the pain of another. Many of those who benefit from this ministry have never been to church, and do not know God, but they have deep pain and scars of war. These meetings provide a time when they can get some support, mental and spiritual healing, hear the message of Christ, and experience the love that they are longing for. [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)



*One of the camps for widows and orphans*

### NEW MISSIONS FIELD

After I. Mileyev visited Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay last year, during which he became familiar with the everyday ministry of other Evangelical pastors and their teams in these regions, the Missions Ministry of the Association made a decision to create a mission in that region that will focus on serving the tens of thousands of Slavic immigrants who have come to these countries as a result of war in Ukraine and Russia over the last three years. The mission will be created in a joint partnership with the Union of Baptists of these countries, and its center will be located in Buenos Aires. The head of the Missions Ministry of the Association, Vadim

Yurchak, went there to get more information about the ministry opportunities and the partnership with the Evangelical Union of these three countries. His report [about the trip can be fund here \(in Russian only\).](#)



*Flag presentation of countries represented at the convention*

## **MINISTRY IN SPAIN**

Read a letter by Viktor Kovba about the life and ministry of the Light of Life Church at Torrevieja, Spain. Viktor is the founder and is pastoring this rapidly-growing immigrant church. [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)





*During the church picnic*

## **MINISTRY IN POLAND**

Meeting with pastors, visiting Ukraine, California, and Washington, hosting a family evening at the church, a baptism service, and an Easter celebration is what J. Sheremet is sharing about in his newsletter, which [can be found at this link \(in Russian only\).](#)



*Family evening at the church*

## **KENYA'S JANUARY-MARCH NEWSLETTER OF THE MINISTRY**

Embrace a Street Child, Kenya is the name of one of the ministries that is supported by our Association. Kenya has a lot of homeless children on the street. Placing them into families, sharing the Gospel with them, and teaching them some profession is what they are doing. For more about this ministry, [visit this page](#), and to read a newsletter for January to March, [you can click this link](#).





*Reconnect Camp – a camp for children, and their parents and guardians*

## **GYPSY- MUGATES – MINISTRY CONTINUES**

What would you do if you had the task of caring for 36 children, mostly boys who cannot sit still, who constantly provoke each other, and who do not know what discipline is? In the words of one unbelieving teacher who spent one hour with this group: “You are saints if you are able to endure all of this and still remain kind and welcoming people.” [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)



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## INTERESTING INFORMATION

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### **CURRENT STATE OF THE BAPTISTS TODAY; AN HONEST CONVERSATION**

This was the name of the “Zion” program which had an interview with Mikhail Cherenkov, who is the pastor of the Revival Church. The program covered many controversial issues with an attempt to evaluate the state of churches which are called by the term, “Baptist.” [To watch this interview, click here \(in Russian only\).](#)





Бaptизм Сегодня: Честный Разговор | Программа "Сион" / "Zion" program.

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## NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

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### EURASIA MINISTRY UPDATE

This summer, Eurasia Ministry will accept 30,000 children from 13 countries from Eurasia and Israel. Some of them grew up in a Christian setting, while others are those from predominantly Muslim regions of the Middle East and Azerbaijan. It takes only \$30 to send a child to the summer camp and provide him with Christian literature. The mission is asking everyone who is not indifferent to the lives of these children to respond to this great need. [A donation link can be found here](#), and to read a letter about the ministry, [you can click this link](#).



## **LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL IN THE MIDST OF DESTROYED VILLAGES**

The Kovcheg Missionary Group recently visited the Kharkiv region of Ukraine, and they testify that this trip was a testimony of how God's love and care penetrates even the farthest and most neglected regions of Ukraine. During these few days, a team of those serving in Khmelnytsk, as well as those who serve in a local church, The Light of the Gospel in Belakley, and a missionary named Aleksey Salfetnikov visited 12 villages where they could provide not only humanitarian aid, but also hope, warmth, and the living Word of God. [More details... \(in Russian only\).](#)





*After giving out presents at the local church*

## **ANOTHER MODULE OF CORAM DEO IS NOW OVER**

“Taste Its Sweet Fruit” was the name of the ninth module of the International Institute of Biblical Counseling, “Coram Deo,” that is dedicated to studying the foundation of biblical counseling and helping spouses. This module took place at the beginning of May and was hosted by Bryte Church in West Sacramento. [T. Senin shares about her impression of the module](#); she is the head of the “Moms in Prayer Ministry” of the Association, and is a student (in Russian only).



*During the “Romantic Evening”*

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

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### **KAY ARTHUR, BIBLE TEACHER AND MINISTRY FOUNDER, PASSED AWAY**

Kay Lee Arthur, who was a world renowned author of over 100 books, a Bible researcher and the founder of Precept Ministries, passed away on May 20, 2025 at the age of 91 in Chattanooga, TN in the presence of her family. She will be remembered for her love for the Lord and for His people. Kay was a wonderful beacon of grace and truth for everyone who came in contact with her. For more about her and her ministry, [visit the Precept website](#).





## GIANTS ARE LEAVING – ONE MORE LOSS

On May 17, the Slavic Christian brotherhood experienced another great loss: Benjamin Markovich Kreyman went to be with the Lord. He was a great pastor, preacher, and forefather of the Evangelical movement; he was of Jewish descent and placed his faith in Jesus the Messiah, as he became a well-known composer and was used by God in many Evangelical Churches of the post-Soviet Union era. He wrote a lot of choir and solo masterpieces, some of which became classics of modern Christian music. For more about his enormous ministry and his testimony, [read on the website of the Association \(in Russian only\).](#)



## **40-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOMS IN PRAYER MINISTRY**

Dedicated women of the American “Moms in Prayer” Ministry celebrated their 40-year anniversary with the theme “Victorious.” The celebration took place in a beautiful mountainous region of South Carolina on May 9 and 10. This was a wonderful gift for Mother’s Day for more than 900 attendees from 20 countries and different states. There were a lot of testimonies of God and His victories, about how He is the One who fulfills His work in the lives of praying mothers, for them and their children, regardless of whether they have been praying for many years or are new to the ministry and were there for the first time. The attendees were able to feel welcome in Christian fellowship, enjoy a well-prepared program, and enjoy the beautiful nature of the surrounding mountains as their hearts were full of excitement, rejoicing in the closeness of the presence of God. [More about the celebration can be found in an article by T. Senin \(in Russian only\).](#)





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## ANNOUNCEMENT

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**ATTENTION!** Pacific Thrift Store has an opening for staff in the warehouse and sales of the store. Qualifications: work permit, knowledge of conversational English and Russian. For more information, visit the store at: 6101 Watt Ave., North Highlands, California 95660, or call: 916-514-0154.

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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.

\* \* \*

### The Editorial Team:

I. Mileyev- Editor in Chief

O. Avetisova - Editor

A. Zabolotnyy - Translator  
S. Romanov - English Translation Editor  
S. Timofeyeva - Russian Version Editor  
S. Iotko - Correspondent



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