

IN THIS ISSUE...



NEWS OF DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

RENEWED VISION OF THE ASSOCIATION

During last year's 80th convention, there was a decision for the renewal of the Association's vision. The content may be found at the Association's website pcsba.com under [About Us -- Our Mission and Vision](#) section. The Association's leadership decided to follow this vision without wavering, and to make sure that the churches of the Association abide by it.

The Association's President, I. V. Mileyev shares his plans how the Association is going to achieve it - [click here to listen to a recording](#) (In Russian.)

GRADUATION OF THIRTEEN MASTERS OF DIVINITY

Thirteen ministers of different from different churches completed four-year training at *Moscow's Theological Seminary*, and on January 20th they received the diplomas and the titles of Masters of Divinity. We wish them God's blessing and success in ministry to God and people. To access the pictures of the ceremony [visit the Association's website - click here](#).



THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S NEWS

On January 19 and 20, there were another set of sessions in the “Blagovest” Institute of Ministry. Ivan Mileyev taught Missiology in the B. A. curriculum at Bryte Church. In addition, Ivan Leschuk taught Christian ethics at Castro Valley church. Sergey Pronin taught apologetics in the AA program at the Cornerstone Church. Finally, Igor Dronov taught “New Testament Survey” and Sherwood Haisty taught Theology in the English-speaking group at Bryte.

On January 6th there was another session in Montebello where Aleksandr Pronin taught Pastoral Epistles. On January 14th he also taught “Hermeneutics” at the extension of “Blagovest” in Florida.

Please pray for the teaching sessions in Naples, Italy which will take place on January 26-28 during which Andrey Romanov will teach “New Testament Survey”. The Association’s Department of Education really needs your spiritual and prayer support.

SEVEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MINISTERING TO CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

“Special children with special needs” - that is how the society calls the children that are different. There are those who avoid such children, some families with such children separate themselves from everyone else and go through their pain and distress alone. It is wonderful when there are people with open hearts who are willing to help, understand, support, and lighten the burden.

For seven years, Viktor and Natalya Smolikov have ministered to families with “special children”. They have a “special child”, too, and as those who have endured a lot, they can truly sympathize with others. Recently they celebrated their own special anniversary along with other families, and other volunteer helpers. [For more details, read an article by Tatyana Lavrushenko - click here](#) (In Russian.)



WHAT'S NEXT?

So, what's next? Should we continue releasing the Association's Newsletters or should we stop? If we are to continue, then how can we stir the churches of the Association to raise their interest in these newsletters and increase the number of subscribers? Which information should be published, how to organize it, and what not to publish? Where can we find new fellow-workers, and how to attract them? This was discussed during an annual information department staff meeting.

While presenting newsletters statistics to the staff, the head of the department told her testimony. Once, when she was completely dejected by almost absent feedback of the readers and was thinking about quitting her ministry, she received an unexpected call and... Read the rest of the story [in the article on the Association's website](#) - click here.



Fellow-workers of the department at the time of an annual meeting on December 29th.

From left to right: Emiliya Guseva (reporter), Ilya Gusev, Steve Mizera (English translation editor), Andrey Zabolotnyy (translator), Irina Zabolotnyy with their son

Roman, Olga Avetisova (head of department) and Svetlana Timofeyeva - guest at the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be a new section of the newsletter: "Ask a Pastor...". If you have a question, and would like to ask pastors, email us at pcsbaca@gmail.com. You can also send it in by [filling out a form located at this page](#).

We promise to keep your identity anonymous, so feel free to be transparent without fearing any consequences. If you do not wish to use your own name, you may use a pseudo name.

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE

Unfortunately, the system of distribution that the Association uses (MailChimp) doesn't always allow the users an access to the previous newsletters. That is why we decided to create our own archive, so that the Association's history can be preserved through the newsletters. This archive can be found [on this page - click here](#).

FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MINISTRY IN PALO ALTO

On January 14, 2018, there was a special service of celebration of missionary ministry in Palo Alto. A group of dedicated brothers and sisters from the *Russian Baptist Church of Bryte*, under the leadership of Vadim Yurchak, regularly holds services there on Sundays at 4:00pm.

It is not easy for our brothers and sisters to minister in this way. With two hours of driving one way after the morning service at their church, followed by 3-4 hours of fellowship at Palo Alto, and then another two-hour drive back, and then back to work in the morning...however, every Sunday the church's minivan is filled with volunteers who have ministered in this capacity for a few years now.

[Read an article by I. V. Mileyev who visited this group during their five-year anniversary - click here.](#) (In Russian)



WHY IS THIS WORLD SO INHUMANE?!




This was the theme of the winter camp of *Slavic Church of Yuba City*. There were many interesting questions raised, one of which was: "Why is this World so Inhuman?"

[Read a summary of the camp by the church pastor Andrey Parhomenko - click here](#) (In Russian.)

WINTER CAMP OF CASTRO VALLEY CHURCH

The Lord constantly and in many ways blesses the local churches. For one church He sends interesting guests and speakers, for another he allows it to acquire a building, for another it may be something else. N.

Yurkova shares about how God blessed Slavic Church of Castro Valley during their church's winter camp in her article, [located on the Association's website - click here](#) (In Russian.)



CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR CHILDREN IN MOLDOVA

A group of representatives of different American churches, including the members of *Grace Family Church* from Sacramento, in partnership with the Eurasia Mission, visited Moldova at the beginning of the year. The goal of the trip was to preach the Gospel to unbelievers in the cities and villages during the Christmas season. Pastor Vasiliy Zavorotnyy of *Grace Family Church* shares more about the visit.

PRAY FOR THE MORAL CONDITION OF CALIFORNIA!

Legalization of the use and sale of marijuana, forceful education of children in the agenda of LGBTQ - which propagates non-traditional sexual orientation, is already showing local influence. Pray for God's mercy for our state, for wisdom for parents in raising children in this difficult time, and about the protection of our youth from the

evil days - days of societal departure from God's standards.

[Click here, for more details](#)

* **LGBTQ - Is the unification of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgenders.**

THE ASSOCIATION'S RADIO – broadcasts of the past month

[During the past month, the following programs](#) were aired on the association's radio - see list below. In order to listen to a program of interest, please click on its name. All programs are in Russian only.

- [New Year's Greeting. I. Mileyev](#)
- [New year's Greeting. A. Pronin and N. Yurkov](#)
- [Trip to Israel. N. Bugriyev](#)
- [Training in the "Coram Deo" Program. First Module. I. Verstak and R. Peycheva](#)
- [Convention of the Mid-Western Association of ECB. M. Avramenko](#)
- [Annual prayer for the youth. Sermon by L. Kioroglo](#)
- [Plans for the New Year 2018. I. Mileyev](#)
- [Information about the "Good News" Church, Tacoma. V. Stupin](#)
- [News. Bible Truck. G. Gavelovskiy. About the "Coram Deo" training. I. Verstak](#)

NEWS FROM VARIOUS PLACES

CELEBRATION OF TWO ANNIVERSARIES

On January 20th at *Russian Baptist Church of Bryte*, there was a celebration of two anniversaries: the 50th anniversary of Correspondent Bible Courses and the 25th anniversary of *Moscow's Theological Seminary*. The celebration was attended by the alumni of CBC and MTS, guests from Russia, local brothers and sisters, and all guests who were willing to rejoice in this celebration. The dean of MTS P. Mitskevich shared information about the journey and persecutions of Russian believers and about the history of the ministry of both training centers CBC and MTS.

[The presentation of P. Mitskevich, article and pictures can be located on the Association's website - click here.](#)



EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Winter retreat “The Treasure Chest” based on the book of Ruth for the Sunday School leaders and their spouses will take place on **February 2-4 at Sierra Pines Camp**. Guest Speaker-S.S. Tarasenko.
Please respond if you can attend the retreat with your spouse, and if you can bring your helpers with you. For more details, please contact Oleg Lahno at (916) 802-4140 or Natalya Lahno at (916) 335-6391
- All families with special needs children are welcome to come to the next prayer meeting which will have time dedicated to fellowship of fathers of children with special needs. During this time your children will have a Bible lesson as well as lessons in music and arts. The meeting will take place on February 3, from 10:00am-12pm followed by joint reception time! This meeting will take place at Slavic Baptist Church of West Sacramento located at: 1716 Willow Ave, West Sacramento, 95691, starting at 10:00am. For information contact Natalya Smolikova: (916) 833-5510
- Museum of the Bible - the Bible Truck, is moving to Rancho Cordova and will be on the territory of “New Hope” church from February 6th through 18th. Church Address is: 10720 Coloma Rd. Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. The tours are available on different languages from 2:00 pm through 8:00 pm. For questions about the language of the tour and the times, contact the church pastor Genadiy Borisovich Gavelovskiy (916) 945-8658.
- If you have any spiritual education, then you are invited to the first meeting of Slavic Theological Collegiate during which there will be a discussion of various theological questions. The meeting will take place in the Association’s office at

639 Welland Way, West Sacramento, CA 95605 on **February 16**. The meeting will take place at 7:00 pm. For registration and questions call Vyacheslav: (916) 519-0919.

- On **February 24th**, Grace Family Church located at 7031 Watt Ave., North Highlands, CA 95660, will host a meeting of PCSBA's ministers including youth leaders. Leaders of the Association's departments are also welcome.

The meeting's emphasis will be on the present and the future of the Association's churches as well as the reports of "What needs to be changed in church service in light of the changes in Association with the assimilation and influence of culture on the second and third generations of immigrants".

Specific spiritual goals for 2018 will be discussed as well as in the light of the PCSBA's vision, a system for assessing the effectiveness of the ministry of each local churches will be defined.

All those who are not indifferent to the present and future of our churches are invited to attend.

- Другие мероприятия Объединения, проводимые в феврале месяце:

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3 - Retreat for the directors of Sunday Schools and their spouses - Meeting of the heads of the churches' missionary departments - Mothers' prayer group and Bible studies for children with special needs - Department of Education - teachings session in Florida	4 - Retreat for the directors of Sunday Schools and their spouses
5 - Retreat for the directors of Sunday Schools and their spouses	6	7	8	9 - Department of Education-Teaching session at Bryte	10 - Department of Education-Teaching session at Bryte - Fellowship of	11 - Meeting of fellow-laborers in the prison ministry

					widows and orphans, Bryte Church	
12	13	14	15	16 - PCSBA's department heads meeting	17 - Department of Education-Teaching session at Castro Valley Church	18 - Day of the family- fellowship at Slavic Baptist Church of Honolulu
19	20	21	22	23	24 - Pastors' Meeting - Women's conference - Conference in Fresno - Teaching session in Montebello	25
26	27	28				

PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Pray** for peace in Israel and around the world
- **Pray** for the state and federal government, for peace and welfare of our cities
- **Pray** for our brothers and sisters in the persecuted countries.

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

ATTENTION TO GMAIL USERS:

Check All Mail and Spam folders for missed incoming emails.

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The Editorial Team:

I. Mileyev- Editor in Chief
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S. Mizera – English Translations Editor



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