



NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION'S UPDATED BYLAWS

Over the course of a few years, the church pastors and leaders of the Association have been thinking that the Association's bylaws as of 1998 are somewhat outdated and are not addressing the demands of our time. During the 81st convention, the Association's committee was entrusted to revise the bylaws and present an updated version with the necessary changes. The participants of the 82nd convention received the updated bylaws, which were affirmed at the convention and went in effect as of October 19, 2019. The revised bylaws can be accessed [on the Association's website – click here](#). Currently the bylaws are only available in Russian.

MISSIONARY CONGRESS 2020 ORGANIZERS' MEETING

On April 17, the organizers of the Missionary Congress 2020 had another meeting. Despite the pandemic, uncertainties of the end of the quarantine, and removal of restrictions concerning gathering in large numbers, the organizers decided not to delay the congress, which was already rescheduled to fall, but to continue working to make this event possible. For more information about the meeting, read [on the Association's website – click here](#).

THE ASSOCIATION HAS NEW MINISTRY

Over the course of about a year, there was a dialogue about opening a very important new ministry in the Association, the family ministry. After a long search, a new minister was identified to lead this ministry. Igor Zhukov is a pastor of family ministry in Slavic Evangelical Missionary Church of Orange County. To find out about the goals and plans of the new ministry, [visit the Association's website – click here](#).



MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION'S DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

On April 24th, the association's ministry leaders had another meeting. During this meeting, the leaders shared updates of their ministries and their experience of ministering during the quarantine. For more about this meeting, [read a summary of I. Mileyev – click here \(in Russian only.\)](#)



ZOOM Meeting of the Association's Department Directors

CHURCHES AND MINISTRIES IN THE MIDST OF PANDEMIC AND QUARANTINE

LIFE OF THE SECOND SLAVIC CHURCH



Transitioning of all the ministries of a large church online is not an easy task, it requires a lot of effort. There are new demands, new challenges, there is some training in how to use new technology, adapt to new circumstances, and make difficult decisions. Valeriy Petrovich *Brutsky-Stempkovsky* who is the head pastor of Second Slavic Church talks about that in a summary published on [the Association's website – click here to access \(in Russian only.\)](#)

PANDEMIC – A REMINDER THAT JESUS IS COMING

Although it is difficult for a large church to adapt to the times of isolation and quarantine, it may be even more difficult for smaller churches and congregations. Valeriy Olegovich Konopelkin, who is the head pastor of Montebello Church, brings a reminder: “The Lord controls the entire situation. The Lord knows what is happening in the world, in the United States, and in other places, what is happening in our families, as well as in our hearts. We can trust Him in everything and not be overly anxious about the future. The Lord tells us to cast our cares upon Him, and He will take care of everything.”



[Read an interview with him on the Association's website – click here.](#)

NEW EXPERIENCE OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Leonid Bezinskiy, who is one of the pastors of House of Prayer Church, shares his thoughts on what is happening today, and shares his ministry experience under the new circumstances. [Read about his insight here \(in Russian only.\)](#)

WHY DID GOD ALLOW THE PANDEMIC?

This was the question that RAM news correspondent asked N.A. Bugriyev. Although it is difficult to answer this question, the pastor of Rockland church had a very good answer. Watch a video clip on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) where he gives an answer to this question as well as two others. The recordings are in Russian only.



DIFFERENT TIMES, DIFFERENT STANDARDS

Somehow, the pandemic has placed us in a different world and new conditions. Pastors who are not up to date in social media and modern technology all of a sudden were placed in a situation where they had to start using it for ministry in their own church ministries. However, do they realize that new conditions will present new challenges? G. B. Gavelovskiy talks about that in [his radio interview – click here to listen to it \(in Russian only.\)](#)



FIND THE PRESCIOUS IN THE MIDST OF THE FEEBLE!

What lessons can we learn from the pandemic? What can we learn during this time? How are Christians to live through it? Joseph Sheremet, who is a pastor of Grace Family Church and the Association's Committee member, shares his thoughts in an article that can be accessed [on the Association's website – click here \(in Russian only.\)](#)

TO HAVE OR NOT TO HAVE THE COMMUNION IN THE MIDST OF QUARANTINE?

This question was asked, and since the quarantine has been extended, is continued to be asked by many pastors as well as members of the churches. During the Holy Thursday, some churches delivered bread and wine to all of their church members, and then came together during an online meeting to partake of the communion. Some churches, however,

are delaying the communion until the end of the quarantine, but what to do in case the quarantine is extended even more? What to do if this situation will happen again in the future?

If you are a Christian and a member of a local church, share your thoughts on this question. Please give your response by filling out an anonymous [survey on this page – click here](#).

THE STORE NEEDS OUR HELP!

Out of all of the ministries of the Association, the quarantine hit the Pacific Thrift Store the hardest. The store completely shut down its operation, and the employees were sent on an unpaid leave; the stream of donations also ceased. In his short interview, Pavel Tsvirinko who is the store manager is encouraging us to help the store through our donations and time as soon as the quarantine will end. [Listen to interview recording here \(in Russian only.\)](#)

DEPARTMENTS ABOUT THEIR MINISTRIES DURING THE QUARANTINE

The leaders of a few ministries shared about how their ministries changed during the time of quarantine. Listen to their stories here. All recordings are in Russian only.

- [Ministry to the Children with Special Needs](#)
- [Widows and Orphans Ministry](#) (radioprogram)
- [Education Ministry](#)
- [Prison Ministry](#)
- [Youth ministry](#) (second part of the radioprogram)

PRAY!

1. For those infected by the Corona Virus and for their speedy and full recovery
2. For Churches to be allowed to meet in church buildings
3. For employment to those who lost their jobs due to the pandemic
4. For the rebuilding of the economy both in our country, as well as others around the world
5. For us to be ready for the second coming of the Lord

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.

- ["What are we to do during this difficult time?" V. Stupin](#)
 - [Update on the ministry to orphans and widows in Ukraine. O. Kopchuk](#)
 - [Remembrance of the sufferings of Christ](#)
 - ["Christ has risen!" Greeting from I. Mileyev](#)
 - [All will be well! Do not be discouraged!](#)
 - [Visit to North Korea. T. Pristupa](#)
 - [Ministry to children with special needs during the quarantine. N. Smolikova](#)
 - [Missionary Ministry in China. T. Pristupa](#)
 - [Ministry to widows and orphans during the quarantine. T. Senina](#)
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WE RECEIVED EASTER GREETINGS!

The Evangelical unions have a tradition of sending Easter greeting to one another. Our Association sends greetings to other unions and associations, and we also receive responses of greetings. Usually we receive a lot of them every year. This year, however, possibly due to the quarantine and the concerns related to the pandemic, we received fewer greetings but we still have some. Click below to access the greetings from a given party who sent us their greeting.

- [ECB Union of Russia](#)
- [ECB Union of Moldova](#)
- [Russian-Ukrainian ECB Union of America](#)
- [Miron Family, Moldova](#)
- [Bible Mission](#)

EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION! *If you would like to have events' announcements to be included in our newsletters, please email that information to pcsbaca@gmail.com no later than the 23rd of the current month.*

- **ATTENTION! INTERESTING DISCUSSION!**
On May 1, the Slavic Theological Collegiate will have a video conference with the theme: "Church in the Pandemic Conditions – Making Sense of the First Wave." The main presenter will be Michael Cherenkov, and additional presenters will be: Ivan Leschuk, Sergey Borushko, and Aleksandr Pronin. If you are interested in this subject, access the full text of the announcement [on the Association's website – click here \(in Russian only.\)](#)
- **QUESTIONABLE TECHNOLOGY**
On May 15, at 7:00 p.m., *the Slavic Theological Collegiate* is planning to have a live radio broadcast on 1690 FM on the subject of "Questionable Technology". The following topics will be discussed:
 1. 5G technology as an internet web with ultra possibilities
 2. Simplified perception of advanced technology (High–Technology)
 3. Which generation (3G, 4G or 5G) of the internet web assumes total control of humanity?
 4. Should we be afraid of the 5G technology
 5. What are Christians to do in light of the introduction of new developments?

The discussion will be led by Ivan Leschuk, Sergey Borushko, and Vyacheslav Komlev. Later, the recording of the program will be uploaded to [the website of the Slavic Theological Collegiate](#).

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
- O. Avetisova - Editor
- A. Zabolotnyy - Translator
- S. Mizera – English Translations Editor



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