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## **JANUARY NEWSLETTER - 2023**

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

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#### **JANUARY MEETING OF THE PCSBA PASTORS**

Another meeting of the PCSBA pastors took place on January 18 over Zoom. The meeting continued the previous theme of how the churches can help the new wave of immigrants, while at the same time preaching the Gospel to them. [Details can be found in an article by I. Mileyev.](#)

#### **TWO NEW CHURCHES HAVE JOINED THE PCSBA**

Two churches with the same name, but from different states, recently became members of the Pacific Coast Slavic Baptist Association. One of them, “Spring of Life” church, is located in South-Eastern Mukilteo, WA. Pavel Belev is the current head pastor there. The other Spring of Life Bible Church is a very young and newly-formed church in Greenville, South Carolina, Aleksandr Salfetnikov is the head pastor of the church.



Pavel Ivanovich Belev, head pastor of the Spring of Life church, South-Eastern Mukilteo, Washington



Aleksey Sergeyeich Salfetnikov, head pastor of the Spring of Life Bible Church, Greenville, South Carolina

We welcome these churches in our Association, wish them blessings from the Lord, and hope for successful cooperation with them in serving to God.



*Spring of Life Bible Church after their first service, Greenville, South Carolina*



## GRAND OPENING OF A NEW CHURCH BUILDING

Cornerstone Church has acquired a new building and had their grand opening service on Christmas, December 25. About 150 people attended the service. Congratulations to the Cornerstone Church!

The church service was evangelistic. For more information, [read an article by S. lotko – click this link \(in Russian only\).](#)



*Welcome to the new church building!*

## HISTORY OF THE MISSION BOULEVARD BAPTIST CHURCH

The PCSBA has so many diverse churches: some are big, while some are small; some have been open for decades, while some are newly-planted; there are Russian-, Ukrainian-, and English-speaking churches with names that are only in English, while some that have Russian-English names. Every church has their life's story. Mission Boulevard Baptist Church recounts their life's story of thirty-two years. [Read more in an article by Nina Yurkov, who is a member of that church.](#) You can also get to know the histories of other churches by visiting our website: [About us – Our history – History of our churches.](#)



*Mission Boulevard Baptist Church today...*

## **THE MISSIONARIES RETURN HOME**

For over six years, the family of Vyacheslav Mikhailovich and Nina Nesterovna Tsvirinko served in Moldova. However, in December of 2022, due to some health issues, they were forced to leave their ministry and return to Fresno, California. For more about their ministry in Moldova, and to find out what their plans are right now, [read an article by O. Avetisova on the PCSBA's website \(in Russian only.\)](#)



## **VIDEO DEPARTMENT IS UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT**

For many years now, the Video Department has been led by Aleksandr Vivsik from First Slavic Church in Sacramento. He served faithfully and sacrificially as he was sharing with others on PCSBA's YouTube channel about various ministries of the Association, about conventions, and various events. At the end of 2022, he had to leave this ministry because of some health issues.

In December, Svyatoslav lotko from Grace Avenue Bible Church was nominated as the head of the video ministry, and then affirmed for this ministry. [For more information about him, read an article on the association's website.](#)





We are grateful to Aleksandr Vivsik for his many years of ministry, and are praying for God to bless Svyatoslav, who has agreed to continue this ministry!

### **BAPTISM AT THE GOOD NEWS CHURCH**

On January 7, 2023, The Good News Church in Tacoma had seven people who were baptized, confessing their faith in Christ. “To baptize is one of my favorite parts of being a pastor”, said Pastor Vasiliy. “To see their joyful faces as they are coming out of the water is a great blessing.” [For more information visit the PCSBA’s website \(in Russian only.\)](#)



*Pastoral address to the new church members*

### **BETHLEHEM VILLAGE IN BRYTE**

“Christmas Block Party” was the name of the huge church-wide event that took place on December 16, 17, and 18 at Bryte Church. Over 8,000 people visited the event, and over 12,000 cups of coffee and hot chocolate were served. [Read more about this event in an article by S. Iotko on the Association’s website \(in Russian only.\)](#)



*The Bethlehem village...*

## **CHRISTMAS BINGO**

Christmas celebrations are a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel with people. Bethel Slavic Baptist Church took advantage of such an opportunity, and hosted a Bingo night with an intellectual games for both children and young adults. [Details can be found here.](#)





*During the game*

**PREACH TO PEOPLE ABOUT CHRIST!** That is what the head of the PCSBA's radio ministry, I. Voronov, is exhorting us to. Brief 15-minute recordings with ministry reports, sermons, and testimonies can have such a tremendous impact on people and preach the Gospel to them. If you would like to do this as well, get in touch with I. Voronov at: (916) 768-0907 or through email: [interportland@yahoo.com](mailto:interportland@yahoo.com). [More details can be found here \(in Russian only.\)](#)



### **MOMS IN PRAYER MINISTRY IN 2023**

God-honoring moms continue to believe and pray for God's protection over their children, schools, and various institutions, as well as plan events which could be helpful in growing this ministry. For more about what the PCSBA's Moms in Prayer ministry has in store for 2023, [read an article by the head of the department, O. Drovorub \(in Russian only.\)](#)



*Meeting of the women's committee*



### **MEET OUR TRANSLATOR – ANDREY ZABOLOTNY**

The PCSBA's Information Department has people whose ministry is not noticed by many, but without whom the news updates would not be possible. One such person is our translator, Andrey Zabolotnyy, who is a pastor at the Slavic Baptist Church of West Sacramento and has a Theology degree. S. Iotko, who is the department's correspondent, interviewed him. The full [interview can be accessed here \(in Russian only.\)](#)

### **WHERE IS GOD?**

This was the name of a play put on by the Christian theater, "Quo Vadis" theatrical group. The goal of the play was to show that God is close to us in all of life's circumstances. The play took place on December 24 and 26 at the Second Slavic Baptist Church in Sacramento. For more about how this play was organized, what it is about, and where to find the recording, [read an article by A. Sergyuk on the Association's website \(in Russian only.\)](#)





*Сцена из постановки*

## **HOLIDAYS UNITE CHURCHES**

On January 8, guests from First Slavic Baptist Church in Sacramento visited First Slavic Baptist Church “House of the Gospel” in San Francisco. The Christmas greetings and blessings, choir singing, and children’s program, as well as the preaching of the Word and prayer, encouraged brothers and sisters of the small church in San Francisco. [Details can be read in an article by O. Chanova \(in Russian only.\)](#)



*Scene from the play*

## WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT SUICIDE?

The recent news that one of the prominent ministers of the church had committed suicide shocked many, encouraged some in the war against the church, and perhaps seriously puzzled some.

For those who have received similar news and are asking many questions, the pastor of Grace Family Church, Dmitriy Yuryevich Zhrebnekov, prepared a short article with a study of a biblical approach to the problem of suicide. [Read it here.](#)



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## NEWS OF OUR PARTNERS

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### NEWS FROM EURASIA PRECEPT MINISTRY

Precept Ministry Institute began their ministry in Sacramento in 2000, and from that point on, it went through four graduating classes. The most recent graduation took place at the end of 2022, with eight people in the graduating class, fully completing the program and receiving their diplomas. There is a new training session that is now enrolling to start classes in February 2023. For more information, please visit the December newsletter of Eurasia Ministry's director Vasilii Filat - [click this link](#), and subscribe to the newsletters by [visiting the Institute's website – click this link](#) or through email: [contact@eurasiaprecept.org](mailto:contact@eurasiaprecept.org). All newsletters are in Russian or Romanian only.

### **ATTENTION! New class is open for enrollment at the Precept Ministry Institute**

Precept Ministries is announcing a new class for “Evangelism and Discipleship”. Classes will begin on February 11, and will happen in an **online** format. [Read more details on the website \(in Russian only.\)](#)



  
Библейский институт "Служение наставлением"  
курс:  
**ЕВАНГЕЛИЗМ И УЧЕНИЧЕСТВО**  
Евангелие от Иоанна и 2 Послание к Тимофею  
**11 - 24 февраля**  
пон-пят 5:30pm-9:30pm  
суб 9:00am-4:30pm  
[info@sacprecept.com](mailto:info@sacprecept.com)



## "NEW FIELDS" NEWS

The New Fields Mission, led by Willie Dick, publishes monthly newsletters that highlight the mission and its staff's ministry around the world. [Their December 2022 letter in Russian is available here.](#) [You may subscribe for their letters on the mission's website.](#)

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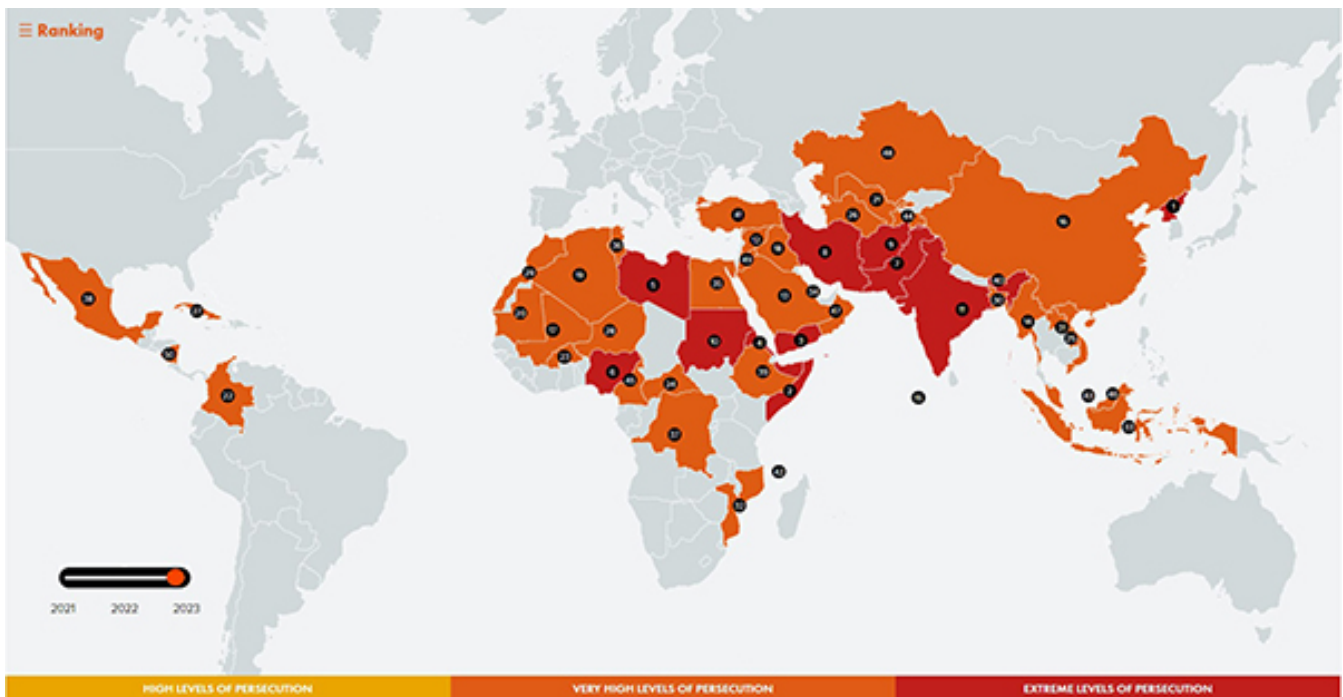
## NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

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### PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IS AT A RECORD HIGH

Since Open Doors began observing the persecution of Christians around the world in the past 30 years, there hasn't been a time of such severe persecution. In a published article in January, the International list of Open Doors identification for 2023, 50 countries were named where Christians are experiencing record-high persecution for their beliefs. First place belongs to South Korea. Last year, 5,621 Christians were murdered, most of whom were from Nigeria.

Please pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters, and for their perseverance in the faith. For more details, visit [the website of Open Doors – click this link](#).



*Map of countries where Christians are being persecuted*

## **MARRIAGE UNION IS A UNION BETWEEN “ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN FOR LIFE”**

This was a declaration of the leaders of the Anglican church on Wednesday, January 18 as they refused to perform same-sex marriages in their church. The decision was finalized after five years of deliberations.

At the same time, the bishops of the Anglican church intend to officially apologize to the LGBT+ community for the “rejection, isolation, and hostility” with which they were faced at churches, and for the impact that it had on their life, says the declaration. However, the organized church will still uphold traditional values and will not officiate same-sex marriages, even where same-sex marriages are legal since 2013.

Source: [CBS News](#).

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## **PCSBA’S EVENTS**

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### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

To find out about the full year’s schedule of meetings and events of the Association and the executive committee of the Association, visit the PCSBA’s website under the

[Calendar – click this link](#).

### **IGNITING A PASSION TO PRAYER**



Moms in Prayer are inviting you to benefit from a teaching session about “Igniting a Passion to Pray,” which will be taught in English over six lessons. The beginning of the sessions will be on 02/27/2023. For registration and further information, call or send a text at: (916) 239-5282. The location of the sessions will be announced later.



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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:**

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- A. Zabolotnyy - Translator
- S. Mizera – English Translations Editor
- S. Romanov - English Translation Proofreader
- S. Timofeyeva - Russian Version Editor
- S. Iotko - Correspondent



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