

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS AND CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Merry Christmas dear brothers and sisters!

The Savior came into the world Who through His sacrificial love brought victory over sin, death, enmity, and darkness in which the world was. The heavenly Father had His plan from eternity, and when the fullness of times came, He sent His only begotten Son Jesus Christ into the world.

The Christmas celebration is a celebration of God's glory that was revealed to the shepherds and the residents of Bethlehem when they humbly bowed before the baby Jesus! Without the genuine humility it is impossible to see the heavenly beauty and the glory of Christ.

Let us bow before Him in these days of celebration, and let us allow Him to enlighten our hearts with the glory that is out of this world! Glory in the Highest, peace on earth, and good will for men!

Merry Christmas and a happy upcoming New Year!
Ivan Mileyev

ANNUAL NEW YEAR WEEK OF PRAYER

We invite all believers to unite in joint prayers for themselves, our families and brotherhood. The plan of the prayer week from December 31 to January 6 is given [in this brochure - click here \(in Russian only\)](#).

MEETING OF MINISTRY LEADERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The December's meeting of the ministry leaders and their spouses for Christmas celebration has become a tradition. During such a meetings, every one of them briefly shares about the blessings of the past year, as well as difficulties and prayer requests. These gatherings are useful not just for mutual encouragement, but also because the leaders and their spouses could get to know others in the ministry and could have a sense of unity of purpose and mutual service. [For more about this year meeting, click here.](#)



Fellow-workers

THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S CHURCH VISITS

From the very beginning of his ministry, our Association's current president had a goal: to visit all of the Association's churches. This is a very difficult task because he serves not only in our Association, but whose main place of employment is in the Southern Baptist Convention where he also has other responsibilities. But despite extreme business, Ivan Vladimirovich faithfully completes his goals. In accordance to his [reports which can be found on the Association's website,](#)

he had over 40 churches and elders' visits and meetings this year. He was more than once in some churches. Read about his latest visits on the Association's website: «[Christmas celebration in San Jose](#)» and «[Hayward Church Visit](#)». Both articles are in Russian only.



Church at Hayward

CHRISTMAS GATHERING OF WIDOWS AND LONESOME

The Association has a special ministry for the widows, orphans, and lonesome. Thanks to the efforts of this ministry, many church pastors began to pay more attention to church members who lost their spouses due to various circumstances or is lonesome. There are special gatherings for them where they could get a much needed spiritual and physical nourishment.

During the Christmas season, a few churches had various gatherings for widows and lonesome. For more about these gatherings read an article located on [the Association's website – click here \(in Russian.\)](#)



A ten-year anniversary of widows and lonesome at Second Slavic Church

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE

A Christmas celebration for special people, both children and adults who have special needs, was hosted on December 18th. [Read about this in an article \(in Russian\) by N. Smolikov](#), who is the Association's ministry leader.

«BLESS HIS NAME»

«Bless His Name» - this was the theme of a special women's prayer meeting which took place on December 12 at Grace Ave Bible Church (Previously known as Third Slavic Church). The women studied the Word of God and then united in prayer. The Association's Moms in Prayer Ministry leaders were also invited. For more about this evening, [read an article by N. Koryaka on the association's website \(in Russian.\)](#)

**PASTORS, PLEASE PAY ATTENTION!
WE OFFER YOU FREE HELP!**

Some of the churches of the Association either don't have the church website or have very outdated websites.

If anyone needs help in developing a church website or Facebook page, contact the Association's information department.

Email us at pcsbaca@gmail.com.

NEW MINISTRY AT GRACE FAMILY CHURCH

Youth and English ministries of this church partnered with Prison Fellowship Ministry this year. This ministry has a program called Angel Tree where the prisoners can ask the ministry representatives and volunteers to visit their children at home and give them Christmas presents. Grace Family Church took 25 addresses and visited such homes. For more about this ministry, listen to our radio programs next month.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AT PALO ALTO

Palo Alto group had a Christmas celebration on December 15th. This local body welcomed a large singing group from Sacramento headed by Nicolai Neverov. During this celebration, there were a lot of wonderful singing, gift giving, and holiday cheer. They read the Bible and talked about the meaning of Christmas. [More pictures can be accessed here \(in Russian.\)](#)



Guests and Hosts

NEW HOPE CHURCH AT THE ANNUAL IGNITION OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

On December 1, 2019, the New Hope Church took an active part in the 20th annual lighting of the New Year tree in the Rancho Cordoba.

About 60 members of the church and youth took part in evangelism: they sang carols, distributed books of Gospel, as well as hot tea and cocoa. Despite the cold and rain, everyone was very cheerful and optimistic about the preaching the word of God. Thanks God!

The church pastors will share the story of this event on the Association's radio next month, or it can be listened to in the recording published on the Resources - Association's Radio Programs - 2020 Recordings page (in Russian only.) [More photos are on the website.](#)



Small evangelists

CHRISTMAS PLAYS AT CHURCHES

Our churches have a lot of talented people and that can be seen through the fully dressed Christmas plays at the Association's churches. If you were not able to visit these churches live and hear the story of the birth of the Savior, you can view recordings of the plays on the YouTube channel of churches:

- «Free Slave» at [First Slavic Church](#). The play took place on December 7 twice, at 4:00pm and at 6:30pm. The recording is currently being edited and will be uploaded in the near future. The previous Christmas recordings, however, can [be accessed on this playlist](#).
- «Christmas». Fully-dressed musical organized by the Rockland Church and held on December 14 and 15. [View the recording here.](#)

PASTORAL CARE OF MISSIONARIES IN EUROPE

Over the course of many years, the Association's missions department provides care for missionaries in Europe. At the end of November of this year, Joseph Sheremet, a pastor from



Good for brothers to be together!

the Grace Family Church, visited our missionaries in Europe. [Read about his trip on the Association's website.](#)

A GOOD TRADITION AT ROCKLAND CHURCH

For a few years now, the youth of Rockland church along with their pastor N. A. Bugriyev visit homes that have children or adults with special needs. They greet them, give them presents, after which the pastor invokes a prayer of blessing over the house and its members. This year, they were able to visit twenty families. Listen to the radio program next month about this ministry.

DECEMBER UPDATES OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The next session of the institute was held in Montebello on December 14. Ivan Leshchuk taught the Christian ethics.

Sergey Sannikov taught "Peacekeeping" classes at the Master and Bachelor program at Bright Church on December 21. In parallel, classes were going on in San Francisco where Vadim Yurchak gave lectures on the Old Testament.

In Spain, in the city of Valencia, Vyacheslav Komlev held a training session on December 22. He taught the New Testament Review. The group consists of twenty students.

The Lord abundantly blessed us this year too. His mercy is great! Merry Christmas!

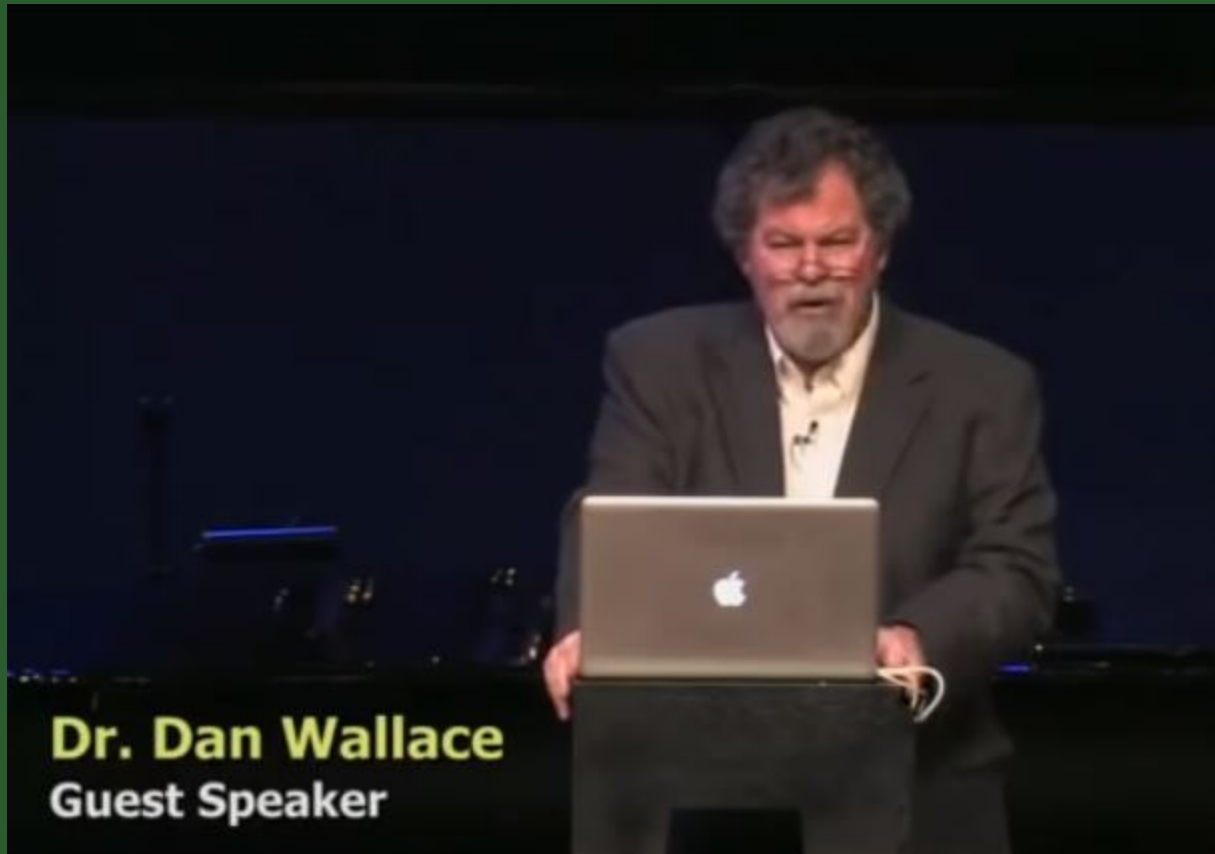


The group of students in Spain

THE BEST WORLD-FAMOUS GREEK MANUSCRIPT SCHOLAR WILL TAKE A PART AT THE “JESUS ON TRIAL” CONFERENCE

Dr. Daniel Wallace, a professor of New Testament at the Dallas Theological Seminary, will be one of the speakers at Jesus on Trial Conference. He is considered to be the best world-famous Greek manuscripts specialist of the New testament. His textbooks are widely used in secular and Christian universities and have been translated into over 15 languages.

[More information can be found here.](#)



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.

- ["Take Up Your Cross". M Orlov, minister from St. Petersburg](#)
- [Missionary trip to India. V. Klimov](#)
- [Announcement of new speakers for "Jesus on Trial Conference". N. Kostyuk](#)
- [Christmas events in Sacramento. N. Bugriyev](#)
- [Summing up the past year. I. Mileyev](#)
- [News](#)
- [Christmas Greeting. I. Mileyev](#)
- [Christmas Greetings. G. Gavelovskiy.](#)
- [Happy New Year, 2020!](#)

INVITATION TO AN ANNIVERSARY SUMMIT

Forum of Churches of NRC-EBF invites anyone to celebrate an anniversary summit which will take place on February 19-22 in Germany. The summit's theme: I will show you great and mighty things! (Jer.33:3). The registration is open on the forum's website www.spasenie.eu. You can also find more details of the summit and the forum's ministry on that website.

MISSIONARIES VISIT THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

This fall, two missionaries from Moldova visited a few churches in Sacramento and shared about their wonderful, sacrificial, and sometimes very dangerous ministry at the Arctic Circle. Right after their visit to Sacramento, they headed back north. [Read their letter here.](#)

BIBLE EDUCATION WITH EURASIA PRECEPT MINISTRIES

The Eurasia Precept Ministries, Sacramento Bible Institute announces first-level admission. At the beginning of the training program, everyone is invited. During the first three sessions, anyone can register and be admitted to the Bible Institute. [More details about training and registration are given on the Association website.](#)

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

CHRISTMAS IN CAMBODIA

Do they celebrate Christmas in Cambodia? Of course not. Since Cambodia is a Buddhist country, Christmas is not a government holiday, and no one gets a day off. This day is a regular workday that is no different than any other days. However, for a missionary from Ukraine Yevgeniy Evva, this was a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel of Christ by proclaiming that this is the birthday of the Savior of people from all nationalities. [Read a pre-Christmas letter from Yevgeniy here \(in Russian only.\)](#)

A GERMAN BAPTIST PASTOR IS BEING EXPELLED FROM RUSSIA

A German pastor and entrepreneur who resided in Russia for 25 years is being expelled from Russia. The accusation by FSB states that as a citizen of Germany, Beringer covers up his motives through religiosity, is calling citizens of the Russian Federation to disobey the established laws of civil obligations, is at odds with the Russian Orthodox Church, and creates a safety threat for the Russian Federation. He is leaving behind wife and two children. [More details can be found here \(in Russian only.\)](#)

PRAYING NEEDS OF THE HOPE TO PEOPLE MISSION

The mission known to many as "Hope for People", Rovno, Ukraine, calls on everyone to pray for their ministry in different countries of the world. Specific needs are listed [in their letter posted here \(in Russian only.\)](#)

The Jesus movie is shown around the world for over a quarter of a century. Just like in the early years since its release, the story portrayed in it continues to change people and give them salvation. One of the amazing testimonies of the movie's impact was documented in a recent letter of the "Jesus Film Project" - it [can be found on this page](#).

If you would like to have access for future showing of the Jesus movie, you can download it from here:

- [iPhone and iPad version](#)
- [Android Version](#)

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.*

- On January 17-18, the Second Slavic Baptist Church will host the conference "Hospitality, Orderliness, and Church Security". Among the issues discussed will be the following:
 - Church Safety
 - Danger of Drugs and Vaping
 - Self-Defense Tactics
 - Medical Aid
 - Evacuation
 - Creating a department of safety in churches of America

The conference starts on Friday at 6:30 pm; on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Participation in the conference is paid. Registration fee is \$ 30.00 per person. Registration is open here: <https://secondslavic.com/index.php/conference.html>. Everyone is welcome, but especially pastors and church administrators. For questions, contact Pavel Tsvirinko by phone (916) 719-5071.

КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ
"ГОСТЕПРИИМСТВО, ПОРЯДОК И
БЕЗОПАСНОСТЬ ЦЕРКВИ"
17-18 января 2020 г.
Пятница, в 18:30 ч. Суббота, в 9:00 ч.
РЕГИСТРИРОВАТЬСЯ НА: secondslavic.com/conference
\$30 за человека
По вопросам обращайтесь, пожалуйста, к Павлу Цвиринько по тел. (916) 719-5071

- Безопасность церквей
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- Эвакуация
- Организация отдела безопасности в церквях Америки

Second Slavic Baptist Church
6601 Watt Ave, North Highlands, CA 95660

- Families with children with special needs are invited for one day trip to the Serra Pines camp on Saturday, February 1, 2020. For registration and for all questions, call Natalya Smolikova phone (916) 833-5510.

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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