

First Annual USCC Spiritual Meeting

The USCC Standing Committee on Spiritual and Cultural Development (SCD) is pleased to announce the first Annual Spiritual Meeting scheduled to take place on Sunday, January 26th, 2014 after Molenya which will begin as usual at 10:00am. The Annual Spiritual meeting is being held in response to a recommendation that came forward from the 2012 USCC Annual Convention.

This meeting will focus on a psalm written by our Executive Director JJ Verigin in response to a request from the Union of Youth Council for a more concise and contemporary explanation of our Doukhobor Life Concept. The psalm is reprinted below in Russian and English. The Standing Committee on SCD feel that this psalm would be an appropriate theme to initiate what we hope will become an annual event. JJ Verigin has agreed to be part of an interactive session delving into the meaning of the psalm facilitated by Colin Markin, Community Representative for SCD from our Kootenay South Communities. We plan to have this first Annual Spiritual Meeting televised, just like the Annual Youth Festivals, so that everyone will have an opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts.

Arrangements are being made to have the meeting telecasted in Grand Forks, Kelowna, Vancouver, Victoria and Calgary. Also, all interested persons unable to be part of the above telecast sessions will be able to go online in their own homes and watch and participate as well.

Господи Благослови,

Вероучение Духоборца

Из чего состоит наша вера? Из закона Божьего и учения Христа. Кому мы кланяемся? Ни иконам, ни посредникам, ни правителям сего мира, а искре Божьей в каждом человеке. Как мы относимся к другим вероисповеданиям? Все, что в согласии с законом и учением мы принимаем. Какая наша жизненная задача? Знать, понимать, и выполнять закон Отца, учение Сына и волю Святого Духа. Как мы это делаем? Следуя путём труда и мирной жизни, не быть рабами тления, и не жертвовать жизнью даже одного ребенка для блага всего мира. К чему мы стремимся? Чтобы подойти ближе к источнику беззаветной любви и восстановить Царствие Божие на земле. Ждём мы какой-то награды в жизни или после смерти? Наша награда есть победа власти любви над любовью власти, запись наших имён в книге жизни и достижение вечной памяти в Царствии Небесном.
Богу Нашему Слава.

Lord Give Us Thy Blessing,

The Spirit Wrestler's Creed

Of what faith are we? We believe in the Law of God and the Teachings of Christ. To whom do we bow? Not to icons, intermediaries, or the rulers of this world, but to the spark of the Creator inherent in every person. How do we regard other religions? All that is consonant with the Law and Teachings we accept. What is our purpose in life? To know, understand, and fulfill the Law of the Father, the Teachings of the Son and the Will of the Holy Spirit. How do we do this? Through toil and peaceful life, by being free of

corruption, and by not sacrificing the life of even a single child for the welfare of the world. Towards what do we strive? To draw nearer to the source of unconditional love and to build God's Kingdom on Earth. Do we have any expectation of reward in this life or after death? Our reward is the triumph of the power of love over the love of power, the writing of our names in the Living Book, and attaining eternal consciousness in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Our God Be Praised

Best Regards and prayers for all:

USCC Standing Committee on Spiritual and Cultural Development

- JJ Verigin Executive Director
- Jim Horkoff Executive Committee Chair
- Michael Davidoff Executive Committee Liaison for SCD
- Barry Verigin Grand Forks Community Representative for SCD
- Edna Sapriken Kootenay North Community Representative for SCD
- Colin Markin Kootenay South Community Representative for SCD

Live video coverage of the 1st Annual Spiritual Meeting will commence at 10 am -

To view this live event, go to the USCC Website Video Streaming Page:

<http://www.usccdoukhobors.org/galleries/livestream.htm>

You can also participate in the event via text message. Contact the Brilliant Cultural Centre USCC Office for more information. **250 365-3613**