**PENTECOSTAL/CHARISMATIC KOINONIA 2017: A Report on Pentecostal/Charismatic Engagement with the Greater Christian Community, with a Focus on North America** Presented by David Cole, PCCNA Liaison to the Greater Christian Community  **PCCNA Christian Unity Commission** In May of 2015, the PCCNA executive committee approved the formation and establishment of a commission that would assist in the facilitation and expansion of the work of promoting Christian unity among member denominations and organizations, and also between Pentecostal/Charismatic Christians and other members of the Body of Christ. A number of PCCNA organizations have appointed C**h**ristian Unity Liaisons (see list below), who serve as ambassadors on behalf of their Church families while cooperating in Christian unity efforts within and beyond the PCCNA. In addition to the work each Liaison does on behalf of Christian Unity throughout the year both individually and in communication with other Liaisons, they gather annually as a group as the PCCNA Christian Unity Commission, in conjunction with the PCCNA annual meeting.

**Currently appointed Christian Unity Liaisons from various PCCNA organizations:**

Rev. David Moore—International Church of the Foursquare Gospel. david.moore@tku.edu

Rev. David Cole—Open Bible Churches, Open Bible Faith Fellowship. david.cole@tku.edu

Rev. Harold D. Hunter—International Pentecostal Holiness Church. hdhpctii@gmail.com

Rev. Steven Land—Church of God. sland@ptseminary.edu

Rev. Frank Patrick—Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. piper.patrick@icloud.com

Rev. Cecil M. Robeck, Jr.—Assemblies of God. cmrobeck@fuller.edu

Rev. Anthony Suarez—National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference. tonysuarez@nhclc.org

***We prayerfully anticipate the addition of more Christian Unity Liaisons from other PCCNA member churches!***

Other activities and initiatives that merit the awareness and/or involvement of our Pentecostal/Charismatic family:

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** This event with special emphasis on unity between Christians takes place all over the world each year from January 18-25. It has been instrumental in gathering diverse groups of Christians together for prayer, Scripture reading, preaching, worship and fellowship. This year’s theme, *Reconciliation: The Love of Christ Compels Us* (II Corinthians 5:14-20), was developed, along with some liturgical resources for worship, by an interdenominational team from the nation of Germany. Germany was selected as the host nation to prepare this year’s materials in part as an aspect of celebrating the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s nailing of his 95 Theses to the Wittenburg church door in 1517, a date seen by many as the birth of the Protestant Reformation.

**Church of God (Cleveland, TN) Engages in Dialogue with Mennonite Church USA** The Church of God hosted a delegation from the Mennonite Church USA in Cleveland, TN on October 16-18, 2016. Areas of focus for the historic gathering included learning of one another’s histories, theologies of the Holy Spirit, and approaches to spirituality. The next meeting of the new dialogue partners will be hosted by the Mennonite group. Church of God participants: David Han, Cheryl Bridges Johns, Jackie D. Johns, David Roebuck, Christopher A. Stephenson, Daniel Tomberlin.

**Assemblies of God-Catholic Dialogue in Springfield, MO** For nearly forty years Springfield-area pastors, along with faculty members from Evangel University and Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, have met regularly with members of the Springfield-Cape Girardeau Diocese of the Catholic Church. Gatherings have led to friendships and resource sharing, and annually for the past four years a joint worship service has been held during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The annual service rotates between Evangel Temple and a local Catholic church.

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**PCCNA Liaison Involved in Canadian Unity Efforts** Rev. Frank Patrick, Christian Unity Liaison for the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, is a participant in the Evangelical-Catholic Dialogue, which is co-sponsored by the Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops and the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. The dialogue has been ongoing for the past decade, and in recent years has dealt with the issues of Salvation, Grace, Justification, Works, and Witness. The most recent session included reflection on the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops’ recent publication, “Our Evangelical Neighbours: A Catholic Reflection on Evangelical Christianity.” Rev. Patrick is also an observer on behalf of the PAOC at meetings of the Canadian Council of Churches.

**Society for Pentecostal Studies** The 46th annual meeting of SPS takes place March 9-11, 2017, in St. Louis, MO at Urshan College/Urshan Graduate School of Theology. This year’s theme is “Pentecostalism and Culture,” and speakers include Drs. Amos Yong, Cheryl J. Sanders, Charles Taylor and Nestor Medina. [www.sps-usa.org](http://www.sps-usa.org).

**Christian Churches Together in the USA** CCT is sponsoring a Forum on the Persecuted Church at First Presbyterian Church in Newark, New Jersey on March 2-3, 2017. CCT has held annual meetings of church leaders since years of discernment and organizational meetings led to its official formation in 2006, providing a table for Christian leaders to build relationship and work together, including representatives of Pentecostal, Evangelical, African American, Protestant, Orthodox and Catholic communions. Over the past decade several Pentecostal denominations and organizations have participated in this annual gathering and its interdenominational initiatives. [www.christianchurchestogether.org](http://www.christianchurchestogether.org)

**Evangelical-Catholic Dialogue in the USA** This dialogue has been active for the past decade, officially co-sponsored by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. The most recent meeting, took place in Bismarck, ND, October 13-15, 2016, and dealt with the relationship between justification and sanctification. Pentecostal-Charismatic representatives from a number of church families have been involved.

**International Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue** Last summer the International Catholic–Pentecostal Dialogue published its final report of the most recent round of conversations, which took place from 2011-2015. The report was entitled *Do Not Quench the Spirit: Charisms in the Life and Mission of the Church*, and was published in the Vatican’s *Information Service*, which also included an official Catholic response written by noted Catholic Charismatic Father Raniero Cantalamessa, who has served for over thirty years as the Preacher to the Papal Household. Among the participants were PCCNA Liaisons Rev. Cecil M. Robeck, Jr., Rev. David Cole, and Rev. David Moore.

**International Lutheran-Pentecostal Dialogue** Representatives of various classical Pentecostal churches and the Lutheran World Federation member churches recently began a five-year dialogue. Through annual meetings, the partners will seek to better understand each other, including at the local level, to appreciate each other’s theological and spiritual traditions, and to find ways for common witness. The first meeting took place September 15-20, 2016 at Asia Pacific Theological Seminary in Baguio, Philippines, a seminary of the Assemblies of God. The theme of the dialogue is our “Christian Identity” in light of Luke 4:18-19. The next meeting will be held September 24-30, 2017 in Wittenberg, Germany, and will focus on proclamation, evangelism and mission. Among the Pentecostal team members is PCCNA Liaison Rev. Cecil M. Robeck, Jr.

**International Reformed-Pentecostal Dialogue** Representatives of various classical Pentecostal churches and a delegation from the World Communion of Reformed Churches met at the Latin American Biblical University in San José, Costa Rica December 2-6, 2016. This meeting was the third session a series of annual meetings which is focusing on mission, with this year’s theme being “Ministering to the Needs of the World: Mission and Pneumatology.” Among the Pentecostal team members from North America were PCCNA Liaisons Rev. Cecil M. Robeck, Jr. and Rev. Harold D. Hunter, along with Rev. David Daniels from the Church of God in Christ.