



ANNUAL MEETING REPORT
The Guest House at Graceland
Memphis, TN March 19-21, 2019

Theme

The annual meeting theme was determined based on three factors: 1) Prayer; 2) The 25th anniversary of the Memphis Miracle and founding of PCCNA; and 3) The planned release in 2,700 USA theaters and 34 nations of the faith-based movie entitled *Breakthrough*. Thus, the conference theme became “Celebrating 25 years of BREAK THROUGH.” The image used for promotion and cover design of the registration notebook was created by City of Refuge Graphic Designs (Andrew Farmer), and pictured the words “BREAK through” shattering a glass barrier while propelled through space. The opening prayer asked the Lord to “breakthrough our barriers of segregation, separation and isolation. To shatter and destroy prejudice, racism, fear, and injustice...and to make us one.”

Participation

Record attendance at the Memphis gathering was attributed to the 25th anniversary celebration and the momentum generated by several successive years of organizational growth. One-hundred and eighty-two people pre-registered for the event, representing 98 singles and 42 couples. Two additional singles registered on site, for a total of 184. In addition, a large number of community church goers attended the Tuesday evening anniversary service, while a greater number participated in the service, e.g., choir members, worship team, dancers, ushers, security personnel, etc.

Sponsors

Thirteen ministry partners sponsored the Memphis annual meeting, generating a total of \$53,230. That number, combined with registration receipts, allowed the event to break even. Six of the 13 sponsors had partnered with PCCNA in previous annual meetings, attesting to the value sponsors receive when attending the event. In alphabetic order the sponsors were: Baker Publishing Group, Convoy of Hope, Franklin Entertainment, GO2020, Immerse (Tyndale), Infinity Concepts, Israel Advantage Tours, Joint Aid Management (JAM), Museum of the Bible, National Day of Prayer, Outreach Inc., Pray.com, The Chosen. PCCNA is deeply grateful for sponsorship interest and support, and expresses its appreciation by providing complimentary promotional opportunities to sponsors throughout the year.

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Tree Planting

On Tuesday afternoon, March 19th at Mason Temple (World Headquarters of the Church of God in Christ, Memphis, TN), the Executive Committee and COGIC representatives held a tree planting ceremony in parallel remembrance of a sister tree planted in the “Luthergarten” in Wittenberg, Germany on October 1, 2018. Together the two trees commemorated the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation and the 25th

anniversary of the founding of PCCNA and the Memphis Miracle. Rev. David Wells, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, presided over the tree planting service.

25th Anniversary Celebration Service

Under the leadership of P. Douglas Small (Church of God, Cleveland, TN and Prayer Commission chairperson) and Aaron Campbell (PCCNA Memphis Chapter President and Race Relations Commission chairperson), a glorious worship and celebration service was convened Tuesday evening, 7:00 p.m., at Mason Temple. PCCNA members, sponsors, and guests travelled from the hotel to the service on three 56-passenger coaches and private automobiles. The program was called “A Celebration of Reconciliation – Reflecting on our Journey and Praying into our Future.” Program bulletins were distributed identifying three sections to the service: The Past (led by Jeff Farmer); The Present (led by Aaron Campbell); The Future (led by Doug Small). Worshippers were led to the throne by Kevin Davidson, and welcomed by PCCNA Chairperson, Alton Garrison (Assemblies of God). COGIC Presiding Bishop, Charles Blake Jr., addressed the congregation with a strong call for PCCNA to remain committed to its founding purpose, and then shared scripture followed by prayer. The PCCNA Memphis, TN Choir performed two stirring anthems, and the Iglesia Nueva Vida worshipped the Lord in song and dance. A special communion service reminding everyone there is one body united in Christ was conducted by Doug Clay (General Superintendent, Assemblies of God), Charles Blake, and Samuel Rodriguez (President, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference). Doug Small ministered the word with a powerful call for united, prevailing prayer to usher in the next great awakening. As the Holy Spirit moved, and as he concluded his message, Rev. Small opened the microphone for words from the Lord. Several responded with gifts of the Spirit ministering to attenders. COGIC Bishop Jerry Macklin, and former PCCNA chairperson, made final remarks, opening the altars for prayer. The Spirit’s “weight of glory” filled the auditorium as people prayed for one another without regard to race, gender, class, or position. Love was poured out as Jesus Christ the Lord was exalted and the Holy Spirit was given freedom.

Next Gen Cohort

The presidents, bishops, and overseers of PCCNA member denominations and church networks hand-picked a single next gen leader from their tribe to participate in a unique cohort of emerging young leaders. There were twenty who attended the annual meeting, representing 18 different denominations and the three nations of North America. They were a wonderful blend of gender and ethnic diversity, ages 22 to 39. All were Spirit-filled kingdom warriors. Their youthful presence at the Memphis meeting was dramatic

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and welcomed. And the purpose? PCCNA is committed to passing a Spirit-empowered faith and lifestyle to the next generation of church leaders. We purposed to connect them with one another to promote unity in the Body of Christ, and purposed to connect them with PCCNA, so they can walk with us, make us more vibrant, youthful, and hungry for God, and change us if necessary, as together we “Demonstrate Unity in the Power of the Spirit.” Prior to arriving in Memphis, each of the young leaders read the same book, *The Holy Spirit is Not for Sale*, by J. Lee Grady. Once together, they discussed what they read and how it applies to their calling in ministry. They also shared concerns and issues regarding contemporary church work and denominational covering, as it relates the steep decline of millennials in the church. Friday morning sessions were devoted to next gen leaders sharing their discussion outcomes and discernments with the entire conference. Senior leaders were provided an opportunity to respond.

Commissions

Eight commissions met on Wednesday morning. Christianity Unity was led by Dr. David Cole (The King's University); Discipleship was led by Dr. Lewis Alexander (Intimate Life Ministries and the Great Commandment Network); Race Relations was led by Rev. Aaron Campbell (this group toured the National Civil Rights Museum); Women in Ministry was led by Rev. Kay Horner (The Helper and Awakening America Alliance); Communications & Media was led by Rev. Mark Forrester; Next Gen was led by Dr.'s Jeff Farmer & Sterling Brackett (PCCNA Treasurer); Acts 2/Church Health was led by Rev. Alton Garrison (PCCNA Chairperson); and Denominational Leaders was led by Dr. Doug Beacham (PCCNA Executive Committee and General Superintendent of the IPHC). Each affinity group gathered for a half-day and provided notes of their agenda and discussions.

New Members Welcomed

Four new ministry organizations joined PCCNA in the Class of 2019. 1) L'Eglise De Dieu La Grande Commission (Bridgeport, Connecticut), Bishop Kens Celestin; 2) Shiloh University (Kalona, Iowa), President Christopher Reeves; 3) Table of Friends Church (Dallas, Texas), Dr's Kerry and Chiqui Wood; 4) United Pentecostal Council of the Assemblies of God (Chicago, IL), Bishop Thomas Barclay and Pastor Lydia Thomas.

GO2020

The PCCNA evangelism initiative, *Miracle in May*, is an outgrowth of cooperation with Global Outreach Day over a period of three years (Werner Nachtigal, founder and visionary). Designed to mobilize millions of Christians to share their faith in May 2020, virtually every PCCNA member group has entered into a covenant agreement to train and equip as many churches and Christians as possible for this strategic outreach. Because such strong momentum and unity has been achieved across multiple groups, North American leadership felt a single name used by all would bring better focus and promote partnerships. The evangelism initiative has been renamed GO2020. Dave Gibson, missions pastor at Grace Church, Minneapolis, MN, is the national director of GO2020 and was present at the annual meeting to cast vision and encourage involvement.