



Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.

Dr. T. DeWitt Smith, Jr., President

Dr. Tyrone S. Pitts, General Secretary

November 5, 2008

Dear Progressive National Baptist Convention Family,

Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. is holding our "Planning for Progress Summit" November 30-December 3, 2008. The World Council of Churches will also be holding their United States Conference: "Making Peace: Claiming God's Promise" December 2-December 4, 2008. Both will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. We are encouraging the members of our convention to attend both sessions.

During our "Planning for Progress Summit" meeting, we will follow-up on the Lydia Group recommendations to our convention to discuss how we should reconstruct our convention to make it more efficient and effective. All member churches in our convention can send representatives to participate in these important discussions. During the sessions, we will also be focusing on issues that relate to the future of PNBC and its relevance both national and international. Included in this exciting week will be Social Action/Public Policy issue briefings and forums on:

- "Climate Change and the Black Church"
- "The Upcoming Agenda for Congress and the New Obama Administration"
- "Crafting the Black Church's Post Election Legislature Agenda": *A participatory workshop aimed at setting a comprehensive advocacy agenda for the Black church*

The Prison Ministry is also inviting representatives from our member churches to an informative luncheon on Tuesday entitled: "What Shall We Then Do?"-Creating a New Vision for the PNBC Prison Ministry.

A power-packed luncheon is planned on Wednesday focusing on, "Race, Prophetic Preaching and Ministry". *Luke 4:18: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised"*. Come and witness dialogue and the Word concerning this timely subject.

We invite you to all of this week's activities. Our Mission Ministry Department will come together to discuss re/new vision strategies for PNBC's mission direction. Grace and Race, is a women's leadership forum that addresses anti-racism and sexism.

As you are aware, due to the financial situation of the convention, we will not be able to pay your housing or transportation to this exciting summit. In lieu of no registration fee for the PNBC Summit, there will only be a cost for the Wednesday luncheon. However, there is a registration fee to attend the WCC Conference and you may register on their website at: www.wcc-coe.org.

Please plan to attend this once in a lifetime event. Enclosed in this mailing is a brochure of our PNBC Summit with highlights of the WCC Conference and the Omni Hotel Housing Form. This information may also be found on our website.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Tyrone S. Pitts, General Secretary