



King Memorial Service To Honor Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker

The Midwinter Board meeting will convene January 18-23, 2015 at the Westin Virginia Beach Town Center, 4535 Commerce Street, Virginia Beach, VA.

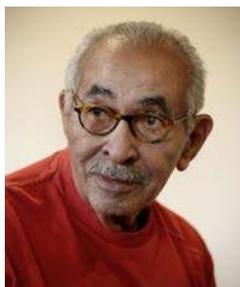
The week will be kicked off with our Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebratory/Memorial Service. PNBC claims Dr. King and his supporters in the Civil Rights Movement as the founding spirit of our convention. As such, Progressive ought to have one of the most prominent, outstanding, and spiritually empowering services in the country.

Provisionally placed at the beginning of the year, PNBC's King service ought remind us of our spiritual DNA, what it is that distinguishes us from other denominations, and to be clear about our mission: to be the voice of the voiceless.

This is what Dr. King and the courageous men and women who stood with him and who marched with him represented. This is the purpose for which Progressive was founded.

If we use this service as a call to be clear about our purpose and mission, we will stay on course and grow more powerful in our influence.

By the time we meet in Virginia Beach, the mid term election will be over. At this writing, we cannot tell which party will have a majority in the Senate. But with the events of the past year- past six years really- it is clear that there is a need for our prophetic voice and action.



I urge all of our Progressive family to make this coming Midwinter Board meeting a sacred pilgrimage where we will plan our social justice agenda and develop a strategy to implement it.

Our preacher for this service will be the inimitable Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr., Pastor-Emeritus of the Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago, IL. All of us know that for many years, Dr. Wright has been a trumpet of conscience in this nation. He will challenge us with his insightful, passionate proclamation.

But the highlight of the evening will be that Progressive will honor one of our founding fathers, Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, Pastor-Emeritus, Canaan Baptist Church, Harlem, NY.

Religious leader, activist, scholar and author, Reverend Walker is internationally known for his contributions to the Civil Rights and anti-apartheid movements. A chief strategist for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Walker was one of the key architects of the 1960-64 civil rights campaigns and he is one of our own.

Progressive family, make every effort to be present. Let's make the PNBC MLK Service the most outstanding service in the country. It will be our call to mission. The highlights of the week are provided in the Midwinter Board Meeting Week at a Glance detailed in this newsletter.



From The President's Desk

A Word From President Perkins



I pray that this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the blessings of God in your life.

Over the course of the past couple of months, I have had the wonderful privilege of visiting many of you in your regional setting, sharing with many of you in your church services, responding to several requests for celebratory acknowledgements from PNBC, listening to many of you share your thoughts and concerns, and trying through previous emails to keep you abreast of some of the issues that we need to be aware of and to participate in.

At the end of this whirlwind experience, I can only say that I am more excited about PNBC and our future than I've ever been. There is a sense of optimism for which I am grateful, but in order to capitalize on it, we must face the raw reality of the challenges that lie before us as well as to prepare ourselves to take advantage of the opportunities God has presented to us.

I have come to feel that we really don't know what we have in PNBC!

For example, we are blessed to have a headquarters with staff that work for us on a day to day basis. This is unique among the African-American Baptist denominations.

Our headquarters is located on almost six (6) acres of land located in the heart of Washington, DC. That's huge! What that means is that we are one of the largest African-American landowners in the nation's capital! Don't take that for granted.

In the Lincoln Heights section of DC which is the section of the city that our headquarters is located in, we have tremendous opportunity to anchor any development that takes place in that area.

We are a sleeping giant in DC! We are an international organization, but nobody knows we're there! We must change that! And we will change it! If we don't do something to make ourselves known in the city, developers

and the powers that be will simply ignore us and do whatever they want to do in that area without any input from us. Though not likely, it is conceivable that if we don't take better care of our property, they could try to take it from us. It is not out of the realm of possibility. We must be vigilant! As Jesus said, "Watch and pray..." (St. Matthew 26:41).

DEFICIT ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN

In the same vein, the first challenge we have is to become a financially sound organization. In the two months that I have been in office, it has become clear that PNBC is not generating the necessary income to sustain our operations. Each of the past two months, we have had challenges meeting our payroll and other expenses. This is due in large measure to the fact that we do not have enough churches who pay their 1% membership fee on a monthly basis.

To address the challenge that we face, we have been able to cut spending in some areas. But to address the issue of eliminating past indebtedness, meet some pressing needs, and have some monies for general operating expenses, I recently asked the Executive Committee to support a DEFICIT ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN that will conclude by the time we meet in January, 2015 for our Midwinter Board Meeting in Virginia Beach, VA. In this campaign, each church is asked to contribute \$1,000 over and above their 1% membership fee, with contributions made by the time we meet in January.

Our Deficit Elimination Campaign goal is \$300,000 which will be used to eliminate some past debts, do some needed repairs on the Nannie Helen Burroughs School, and meet some other current obligations.



If you can't contribute \$1,000, give the best you can. However, with at least 300 pastors/churches committing to be a part of the DEFICIT ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN, we could raise the funds needed to set us on sound financial footing provided we also commit to pay our 1% membership fee on a monthly basis.

THE NEXT 30 DAYS!!!

We really need at least 50 pastors to commit to send their Deficit Elimination Campaign contribution to headquarters now or within the next 30 days so we will have some funds to operate. Be sure to indicate Deficit Elimination Campaign on your contribution.



President Perkins observes Nannie Helen Burroughs School roof repairs

Dr. Johnny Ray Youngblood, pastor of the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY has been asked to serve as point person for this effort and he has graciously accepted this responsibility. He will be reaching out to you on behalf of this campaign. Please pledge your support to this worthy cause.

Again, I say, we have such a wonderful opportunity to make PNBC the strong witness for God it was intended to be. We just need the money to do all that God has set before us. **THERE IS NO MINISTRY WITHOUT MONEY.** I urge you to support this campaign so we can breathe new life and energy into PNBC. **GOD WILL NOT FAIL US, LET US NOT FAIL HIM! MAKE YOUR PLEDGE**

TODAY! LET ME HEAR FROM YOU PNBC!

THE CANCEL THE BLACK JESUS LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN

I don't know how many of you have seen the show that airs on the Cartoon Network entitled, BLACK JESUS. As I ask around, some people have seen it, others have not.

If you have not seen it, go to YOUTUBE and just look up BLACK JESUS. If you are at all a spiritually sensitive person, your sensibilities will be shocked! It is offensive and blasphemous!

In Wikipedia, the following storylines summarize episodes No. 1 - 6:

When Jesus and His "homies" fail to buy some marijuana, they decide to grow it in the neighborhood garden.

Jesus and the crew find their garden but get into trouble with the local Mexican gang, who demand money from them.

After being extorted by Mexican gangsters, they are left with no money for fertilizer for their weed plants, so they execute a manure heist at the Compton Boarding Stables.

And, unfortunately, it gets worse and worse!

This show is an attack on our faith as Christians. As Christians, we believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that He died on the Cross for our sins. We believe He was raised from the dead and that He rules and reigns in our world and in our hearts.

All Christians should be outraged that the Cartoon Network has chosen to trivialize and thugarize Jesus. But Black people in particular should be outraged! Whenever Jesus is portrayed as a serious person, He is never portrayed as Black. A couple of years ago, I read that *The Passion Play* being

performed in Newark, NJ was shut down because they were going to have a Black man play the role of Jesus.

Whenever He is portrayed in movies as being serious, He is never portrayed as Black. But when He is portrayed as a thug, a weed smoking, forty ounce drinking, uzi carrying brother from the hood, He is portrayed as Black.

This is targeted to our youth and its effect is to undermine their faith. All of us are old enough to know that it is our faith in Jesus that has been our only source of hope and empowerment to endure all the horrifying experiences we have endured in our past.

Our foremothers and forefathers did not have fabulous estates, stocks and bonds, businesses, or land to pass on to us. All they had to pass on to us was a faith in Jesus that encouraged us to believe that no matter how bad things get, the Lord would make a way somehow. We're having a hard enough challenge in getting that faith in our youth without the help of this blasphemous show. If our children don't have faith in Jesus, they will have no future to speak of.

I am asking every PNBC constituent (clergy and lay people) to join the campaign to sign a letter to Ms. Christine Miller, CEO of the Cartoon Network asking that she cancel this outrageous show.

If you haven't already received this information in an earlier email, go to pnbc.org and follow the instructions on how to participate.

Pastors, show a couple of clips to your church members and friends so they can get enraged and participate also.





“Our Post Election Agenda: Restoring the African American Village”

By Rev. Kip Banks, Sr.

As of this writing, the forecasts are that the US Senate will change from Democratic to Republican control and that the overall US Congress and state and local governments across the land will become more conservative. Furthermore, these new conservative governments are expected to pursue a right-wing agenda of rolling-back many of the social policy gains that have been enacted under the Obama Administration including seeking to dismantle the Affordable Health Care Act.

This says that it is time for the African American Church, just as it has in times past, to rise-up and to take action. Indeed, I am grateful that under our new President, Dr. James C. Perkins, the Progressive National Baptist



Pastor Kip Banks, Sr.
Interim General Secretary



Convention (PNBC) has a bold plan to equip pastors and churches and to be a voice for the voiceless. Please make certain that you’re on board with us by sharing your contact information with us at office@pnbc.org.

When it comes to the problems plaguing Black America, often critics will say that the problems are

rooted in the pathologies of urban Black culture, like crime, violence and out of wedlock births. Others place the blame solely on the door steps of broad socioeconomic factors like racism, poverty and unemployment. However, it is rare that one provides an honest, balanced assessment of what ails Black America, yet this is what Dr. Robert M. Franklin, former President of Atlanta’s Morehouse College, does in his book entitled *Crisis in the Village: Restoring Hope in African American Communities*.

In this book, Dr. Franklin issues a call to strategic action to reverse the decline of families and children’s well-being, the moral authority of churches, and the moral drift in many schools and colleges. Dr. Franklin’s focus is

rightly on the task of “child-making” because the future of Black children is at stake. Quoting statistics by Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children’s Defense Fund, he shares the following about Black children living in the U.S:

- Every five seconds during the school day, a Black public school student is suspended;
- Every forty-six seconds during the school day, a Black high school student drops out;
- Every minute, a Black child is arrested and a Black baby is born to an unmarried mother;
- Every three minutes, a Black child is born into poverty;
- Every hour, a Black baby dies;
- Every four hours, a Black child or youth under twenty dies from an accident;
- Every five hours, one is a homicide victim;
- Every day, a young Black person under twenty-five dies from HIV infection; and
- A Black child or youth under twenty commits suicide.

Unfortunately, Marian Wright Edelman’s timeline portrait of what’s happening with Black children is a vivid reality in our communities. Too many of our young people are dying early and the prospects for their future are bleak. So what must we do to address the problem?

Dr. Franklin says that we must work to reverse the decline of core anchor institutions in the African American community. These institutions are the family, the church and the school. He points out that if these organizations were aligned, healthy and working together, our young people would flourish no matter what the state of the economy or who is in the Mayor’s office or the White House. He also points out that the Black Church must take the lead in restoring our core institutions, and PNBC is poised to do so.





Not only is there a crisis of commitment but Black churches face a Crisis of Mission. Dr. Franklin says the biggest threat is the "Prosperity Gospel movement." This is a focus of the church on personal greed, obsessive materialism and unchecked narcissism. This stands counter to the social gospel tradition where the church is concerned about social justice and feeding hungry, and helping the prisoners, the sick and the poor. Franklin says that too many churches today are suffering from an "edifice" complex. They are spending more time building their buildings and local kingdoms when they should spend more time helping the downtrodden and working to ensure the future of our children.

Then finally our schools, according to Franklin, are suffering from a crisis of moral purpose. Franklin says that our schools are failing and that on a regular basis we are "reminded of the culture of violence, drug use, sexual experimentation and moral relativism plaguing many of our schools." One of the answers to the problem is to foster collaborations with local schools and churches. To ask churches to incorporate educational excellence into their ministries and become centers of educational support. These centers would offer after-school programs, mentoring, tutoring, computer resources, and assistance with standardized tests and college preparation.

God is calling for us to restore hope in the African American community by making our families, churches and schools stronger. Let each of us do what we can in our own realms of influence to heed the call!

Peace, Power, and Progress,
Pastor Kip Banks, Sr. 

Lunch Break

The Women's Department has plans for a grand luncheon experience at the 2015 Midwinter Board Meeting. Our theme is "In Honor of ...". At this time we wish to express appreciation to all who have been supportive of the luncheon efforts throughout the years. In addition, we will also honor the courageous women who have been vital to the ongoing of the Worker Magazine.

We will hear from Dr. Ira Carruthers, having been invited to lead a session on

Women in Ministry just prior to the luncheon.

The luncheon is planned for Wednesday, January 21, 2015, at 1:15 p.m.

Please reserve your tickets at the bargain price of \$40.00. Make check payable to PNBC, memo Women's Luncheon. Please get the check or credit card information to the PNBC Headquarters by January 11, 2015. We look forward to having you join us!

Alice P. Jeffery 

Missions On The Move

As the Missions Ministry of the convention grows, we are blessed to have the support of our constituent churches, the convention leadership, and mission partners from across the globe. I am pleased to report that our presence as a convention is being felt in both this country and the world.

Domestically, Missions initiated a pilot program in the East, Mid-West, and Southern regions to help with food insecurity by distributing food cards connected to regional grocery stores. With the gracious help of our Regional Vice-Presidents, PNBC, over a six-week period, was able to help nearly two hundred individuals who desperately needed food. The Food Card Distribution Program also aided social agencies committed to food donations and providing hot meals to hungry persons. Internationally, PNBC is sponsoring children in Haiti to attend elementary school. Our support enables these children to attend school with no worries about their tuition, uniform, fees, and school supplies.

On the horizons, we are planning to partner with the Haiti Baptist Convention to establish a chicken farm which will ease the food crisis in Haiti through egg production. As an added benefit, the chicken farm will teach entrepreneurial skills to the Youth Division of the Haiti convention.

With the genial help of the Women's Department, we hope to have the necessary funds in hand to begin early next year. The hope is to replicate the success of the Food Card Distribution Program in the Southwest Region during the winter months when food shortages are the most acute.

Additionally, President Perkins has charged Missions with the task of partnering with the African American Baptist Mission Collaboration begun in 2010 in response to the devastating earthquake in Haiti. The partnership between PNBC, The National Baptist Convention, USA, The National Baptist Convention of America, The National Missionary Baptist Convention, and The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention is currently working toward a unified response to the Ebola virus outbreak in West Africa in order to intensify our impact in the region. You will hear more about our collective plan in the very near future. At our Midwinter Board Meeting, we will also be seeking mission partners from within PNBC who are already doing tremendous work internationally. As you can see PNBC Missions is on the Move!

Please continue your support with plenty of prayers and a deluge of dollars.

Rev. James E. Victor, Jr. 
Director of Missions



Rev. James E. Victor, Jr.
Director of Missions



THE TRAGEDY OF NOT BEING CONNECTED



GREATER WORKS FROM THE PNBC POWER COMPANY

NOVEMBER 28-30TH 2014

JOHN 14:12-14(KJV)

¹² VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, HE THAT BELIEVETH ON ME, THE WORKS THAT I DO SHALL HE DO ALSO; AND GREATER WORKS THAN THESE SHALL HE DO; BECAUSE I GO UNTO MY FATHER.

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REV. ELMER LESURE, V. P. MIDWEST REGION, PNBC



TO REGISTER GO TO
WWW.PNBC.ORG



The 2015 Midwinter Board Meeting Virginia Beach, Va

Week At A Glance

Sunday, January 18, 2015

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

“Measuring Our Convention’s Performance & Preparing for a Preferable Future”

Monday, January 19, 2015

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM

Executive Committee/Board in Prayer

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM

President’s Breakfast with the Executive Committee

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

“2015 . . . Revisiting the 2015-2020 Vision” – Session I

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING BREAK-OUT SESSIONS:

“Fleshing-Out the 2015 Strategic Objectives” – Session II

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

OPENING SESSION: “Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service”

- Honoring Dr. Wyatt T. Walker

Guest Preacher: Reverend Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr., D.Min.

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Executive Committee/Board in Prayer

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM

Praise and Worship

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

MORNING SESSION:

“2015-2020 Strategic Initiatives & Priorities”

President James C. Perkins

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

THEOLOGICAL DISCOURSE: “Social Justice – Our Duty & Distinction”

Rev. Marvin A. McMickle, Ph.D., President, Colgate Rochester Divinity School

12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS: “Making Social Justice Actionable”

Facilitators: Rev. Raphael G. Warnock, Ph.D. and Rev. John Mendez, D.Min.

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

AFTERNOON SESSION I – Strategic Initiative: “Christian Education That Makes A Difference”

Rev. James Evans, Ph.D., Chair, Board of Christian Education & Publication

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

AFTERNOON SESSION II – Strategic Initiative:

“Creating Relevant Youth Ministry”

Dr. Paul Dunn, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Charleston, WV

Rev. Shawn McBride, Truth for Youth America

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

EVENING WORD & WORSHIP

Rev. Raphael G. Warnock, Ph.D.

Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Executive Committee/Board in Prayer

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM

Praise and Worship

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

MORNING SESSION:

“2015-2020 Strategic Initiatives – Women’s Division”

President James C. Perkins

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

THEOLOGICAL DISCOURSE:

“Women in Ministry – Leadership & Partnership”

Dr. Jacqueline Thompson, Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, CA

12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS: “Meaningful Women’s Ministry”

1:15 PM – 3:15 PM

LUNCHEON: “Honoring...”

Guest Preacher: Dr. Ira Carruthers, Chicago, IL

Thursday, January 22, 2015

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Executive Committee/Board in Prayer

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM

Praise and Worship

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

MORNING SESSION:

“2015-2020 Strategic Initiatives – Pastor’s Division”

President James C. Perkins

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

THEOLOGICAL DISCOURSE:

“Shepherds the Lord Needs in Times Like These”

Rev. Marvin A. McMickle, Ph.D., President, Colgate Rochester Divinity School

12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS:

“Pastoral Ministry That Matters”

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

AFTERNOON SESSION 2

Leadership Development: Leadership and Management in the Church”

Rev. Guy A. Williams, Sr., D.Min. | Principal, The Petros Group, LLC

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

REGIONAL MEETINGS: “Owning & Running With the 2015-2020 Vision”

Facilitated by Regional Vice-Presidents:

Dr. Louis B. Jones, II, Rev. Elmer Lesure, Rev. Reginald Porter,

Rev. Phillip Kent and Dr. Ivan Butler

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

EVENING WORD & WORSHIP:

Rev. Charles E. Booth, D.Min., Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Columbus, OH

THE CHARGE, President James C. Perkins

Friday, January 23, 2015

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Breakfast Meeting of Executive Committee

COMMISSIONING SESSION:

“Assessments, Assignments, and Action: 2015”

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Executive Committee/Board Closing Prayer





The Worker

1934 – 2014

A JOURNEY OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

The WORKER began its journey 80 years ago on what is known as the Holy Hill in the northeast section of the nation's capital city at the National Training School for Women and Girls (now the Nannie Helen Burroughs School). The site is now the property and headquarters of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. The founder of the school and The WORKER, the late Dr. Nannie Helen Burroughs introduced the first issue after recognizing the need for Christian workers to become more effective and better equipped in the Church and the community, particularly in missions, leading all into soul winning with a greater knowledge of a lost world. Through the years changes have occurred, but its mission remains the same.

The WORKER, A Devotional and Educational Quarterly, is one of a very few quarterly magazines published by African-American Baptists. This award winning and internationally known magazine has been a continuing voice of information, inspiration and motivation for Christian living and action offering hope to those who yearn for the message

of God's love, grace and mercy. This powerful little magazine addresses needs of all ages and all members of the congregation including leaders and lay persons: Senior and Young Adults and Youth (Bible Study, Children's Corner, Junior Jaunts, Teenage Travelogue); Poetry Corner; African-American History

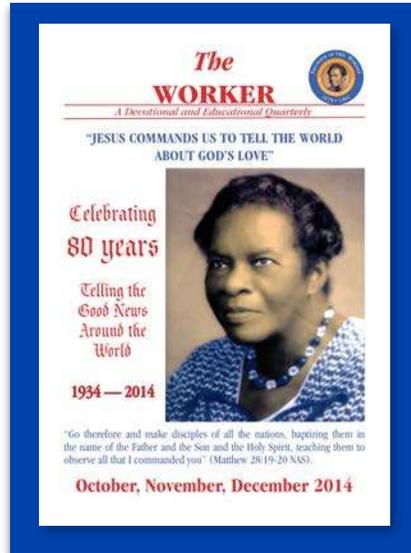
and other informative materials.

Writers for The WORKER and other contributors are "second to none" and share their exceptional skills, talents, knowledge and spiritual blessings with the world. Many are pastor and/or members of the clergy and are published authors of books. Theirs is a labor of love.

The WORKER has been a financial resource to the NHBS. It continues to be a spiritual and financial resource to the Convention. It could be so much more with your support. PNBC, as we begin the 81st year of publication, let each of us support our own, The WORKER, through individual and/or congregation subscriptions. Contact headquarters for further information, Ms. Linda James (202) 396-0558.

The current Editor is Ms. Evelyn P. Andrews and Mrs. Elnora McLean prepares the Cover and Layout. Please take a subscription today. Thanks so much.

Mrs. Elnora McLean 



PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, INC.
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Washington, DC 20019

