

## **Pentecostal and Charismatic Leaders Gather for Historic Summit**

On September 4-6, 2002, forty-three leaders met in Dallas, Texas, to discuss the future direction and ministry of the Pentecostal/Charismatic Churches of North America (PCCNA). The leaders (also called the PCCNA Board of Administration) represented nearly 40 denominations, churches and parachurch organizations with a constituency of more than 13 million believers across North America.

Over the three day period, co-chairpersons, Bishop James D. Leggett of the International Pentecostal Holiness Church and Bishop George D. McKinney of the Church of God in Christ, led the Board of Administration through a strategic planning process regarding the future of the PCCNA. Adopting a clear and precise mission statement, "Demonstrating Unity in the Power of the Holy Spirit," the representatives reaffirmed their commitment to the fellowship's biblically-based theology, Pentecostal distinctive, united message, redemptive relationships, and cultural relevance that includes racial, gender and generational reconciliation and a stand for righteousness and justice in today's society. These values will be expressed in celebrating the heritage of the Pentecostal experience, seeking to abolish social injustice, cooperating together to transform communities through positive service and the priority of evangelizing the lost.

During the meetings, several specific resolutions and actions were taken. The Board of Administration declared its prayerful support for U. S. President George W. Bush, his cabinet and Congress as the United States responds to the threat of terrorism, not only "at home" but around the world. The church leaders also committed themselves to seek God for a spiritual revival throughout North America, marked by genuine repentance, greater unity in the Body of Christ and cooperative evangelism.

Special prayer was made for those families, friends and fellow-workers whose lives were impacted by the loss of loved ones as a result of the September 11, 2001, tragedy in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. The PCCNA also committed their respective congregations to provide continued spiritual, emotional and personal assistance where needed.

Believing that "righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34), and in keeping with its resolution of October 20, 1998, the PCCNA joins the National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families; and the Religious Alliance Against Pornography in its efforts to dissuade AT&T in its distribution of soft- and hard-core pornography through its broadband cable service. Furthermore, its members stand firmly opposed to the sell of the above service to Comcast Corporation, which would provide such a destructive medium to more than 22 million customers nationwide. A united campaign of involving the members of PCCNA related-churches in expressing their concern is being launched.

Dates for future leadership conferences were set. An extended leadership summit and conference for emerging church leaders is being planned for the week of September 9, 2003, to be held in Toronto, Ontario in Canada.

For further information, please contact the PCCNA office, located c/o International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, P. O. Box 26902, Los Angeles, California 90026-0176, tel. 213-989-4220, fax. 213-989-4544. You may also email: [pccna@foursquare.org](mailto:pccna@foursquare.org).