**PENTECOSTAL/CHARISMATIC KOINONIA : 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 (appointed by PCCNA Executive Committee as of November 1, 2012; further information on David Cole on reverse side of this page)

Current activities and initiatives that merit consideration of further awareness and/or involvement from our Pentecostal-Charismatic family:

**Christian Churches Together in the USA**—last month in Austin, Texas the annual CCT meeting focused on issues related to immigration. While not all churches are in agreement as to the details and strategies needed to address the complexities of these issues, churches from all of the CCT families (Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, Evangelical/Pentecostal, Ethnic) agree on our call to care for the aliens and marginalized in our midst. PCCNA churches have no choice but to join in this process of prayerful discernment and compassionate action. ([www.christianchurchestogether.org](http://www.christianchurchestogether.org)) (Sam Rodriguez hit a home run; only Pentecostal delegate was from IPHC; observer from COG; Sam and myself)

**Society for Pentecostal Studies**—next month in Seattle the annual meeting will be held at Seattle Pacific University. Once every five years (including this year) this is a joint meeting with the Wesleyan Theological Society. This year’s theme is “Holiness,” and among this year’s plenary sessions will be a panel discussion on “The Future of Holiness in Pentecostalism.” Ongoing discussions at SPS include Catholic-Pentecostal dialogue and Trinitarian-Oneness conversation, as well as a variety of sessions on biblical, theological, practical, cross-cultural and ecumenical themes. (www.sps-usa.org)

**Evangelical-Catholic (Canada)**—a significant new conversation in Canada is taking place between representatives of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (including Pentecostals) and the Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops. In 2012 papers were presented by both sides on the theme of salvation, and the evangelical paper “What does it mean for Evangelicals to say they are ‘saved’?” was published in the U.K. journal *One in Christ*.

**International Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue**—every time we have significant exchanges with influential Catholic leaders that allow us to testify to God’s work among us, we have advanced the Kingdom. This Dialogue, which has been active for over forty years now, is currently building bridges of understanding concerning Pentecostal/Charismatic distinctives such as divine healing, discernment of spirits, and spiritual gifts. We’ll be discussing healing together this July in Baltimore.

**United in Christ**—Catholic Charismatic leader Matteo Calisi has facilitated a number of initiatives that have brought Protestants and Catholics together in celebration of the work of the Holy Spirit. Large gatherings in Raleigh, NC and Toronto took place in 2012, and similar events are scheduled in Virginia and Toronto for 2013. The key Canadian partner in these initiatives is Catch the Fire (formerly Toronto Airport Church).

**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary**—in September AGTS hosted and co-sponsored a symposium celebrating the life of the late Bishop J.O. Patterson Sr. of the Church of God in Christ on the occasion of his 100th birthday, in conjunction with the opening of a Patterson collection at Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center.

Significant Intra-Pentecostal/Charismatic Conversations Worth Having/Continuing: **Trinitarian-Oneness**—ongoing reflection on the mystery of Father, Son and Holy Spirit **Anglo-Hispanic**—building bridges across borders, and overcoming barriers of cultural, ethnic, language, economic and historical nature **Catholic Charismatic Renewal/Protestant Charismatic/Pentecostal**—concentric circles **Denominational Pentecostal/Non-denominational**—how do we overcome years of estrangement and misunderstanding that often hinder cooperation and networking between major ministries and leaders? **Roots**—Did the modern Pentecostal movement begin at Topeka, or Azusa Street, or was it actually a polycentric phenomenon with spontaneous moves of the Holy Spirit in many different places? **Church and Academy**—US, Canadian and global initiatives related to the *Empowered 21* movement build on other important attempts to build this bridge, such as those between PCCNA and SPS.

Other North American (Ecumenical) Conversations **Evangelicals/U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops** (includes Pentecostals, since 2003 in St. Paul, MN) **Church of God/Mennonite Church USA** (since 2005)

Other Global Conversations/initiatives involving Pentecostal/Charismatic leaders and churches: **Global Christian Forum** (since 1998, globalchristianforum.org) **World Council of Churches Joint Consultative Group with Pentecostals** (since 2000) **Pentecostal/Lutheran World Federation**—study group 2006-2010, formal dialogue emerging **Pentecostal/Orthodox**—emerging with facilitation from Dr. Harold Hunter of IPHC

David Cole—background and contact information:

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Ordained minister, Open Bible Faith Fellowship, Canada, 2011-present

Licensed/ordained minister, Open Bible Churches, USA, 1984-2011

President, Eugene Bible College (now New Hope Christian College), 1998-2010

Director/VP for Student Development, Eugene Bible College, 1993-98

Liaison, Oral Roberts University Seminary Extension, The Church On The Way, 1990-93

Instructor of Theology, Oral Roberts University, 1987-90

Pastor, Pasadena Open Bible Church, 1984-87

Resident Director, Oral Roberts University, 1980-83

Fuller Theological Seminary PhD in Theology (1998), MDiv (1986)

Oral Roberts University MA in Theological and Historical Studies (1992), BA (1980)

Ecumenical Activities:

Pentecostal Co-Secretary on Steering Committee of the International Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue Sixth Phase, 2011 to present

Presented paper on “Forty Years of Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue” at the Forth International Meeting of the Bishops Interested in the New Communities of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Assisi, Italy, April 2012

Chair of Evangelism Committee and member of Program Committee, Christian Churches Together in the USA, 2008-2010

Chair of Ecumenical Studies Interest Group, Society for Pentecostal Studies, 2006-2008

Participant in Fifth Phase of International Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue, 1998-2006

Participant in Dialogue between Evangelicals and the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, St. Paul, MN, 2003-2006

Participant in National Council of Churches Consultation with Pentecostals, Oakland, CA, 1997

Participant in WCC-sponsored Consultation with Pentecostals in the Americas, San Jose, Costa Rica, 1996