



Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.

Dr. T. DeWitt Smith, Jr., President

Dr. Tyrone S. Pitts, General Secretary

November 6, 2009

My Dear Progressive Baptist Family:

I hope you are as excited as I am that we are meeting again in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina! We have experienced God's blessings in being able to return in January 2010 for our Midwinter Board Meeting. Here are some highlights:

The Executive Committee will meet on Sunday evening at 7:00 PM. Take advantage of those airline ticket prices while you can get a good rate. The Executive Board will meet on Monday morning at 10:00AM. While we are there, you will hear from the Transition Team; they took the work passed on to them at our Leadership Summit held in Los Angeles, California during October 19-22, 2009 by the Planning For Progress Task Force and the Lydia Group's outstanding work. I said in a recent letter to those who attended that monumental spiritual event, God has ordained that change come to the Progressive National Baptist Convention. We are all a part of this joyful process.

We will have a Dinner Fellowship honoring our retiring General Secretary, Dr. Tyrone S. Pitts on Tuesday evening of the week from 5-7PM (details attached). He has served us well for nineteen years. We will also have a ceremony welcoming Dr. Walter L. Parrish, III as our new General Secretary.

Our preachers, pastors, and interested laity will enjoy the Preachers and Pastors Conference that honors the memory of the late Dr. William A. Jones, Jr. and Dr. Nelson H. Smith, Jr., two of our illustrious former presidents and peerless preacher/pastors. You will be equipped for ministry. There will be a general sharing session as well for your uplift and empowerment that the laity can receive as well. We will close on Friday morning with a Communion Service.

Again we are asking each church to bring a special Cheerful Giving love offering to boost our revenue. We are setting this offering at \$1,000.00 to be given on President's Night (Wednesday). These have been trying times economically, but God has prevailed.

I am sure that by now, many of you have paid out the pledges you made during our last Annual Session in Louisville, August 2009. If not then, as the apostle Paul told Timothy, "*Do thy diligence to come before winter*" (1 Timothy 4:21).

This will be my last Midwinter Board as your President. I have enjoyed serving you, and look forward to the completion of my tenure at the end of our 49th Annual Session in August 2010. I hope that you will be present and praying, supporting our Executive Board in all we must do; and look forward to an increase in participation, so that when we conclude we will say, "It seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us" (Acts 15:28) to meet with great joy and Holy Spirit led purpose.

Our theme for this year is based on the last word of our PNBC Motto: Peace (Fellowship, Progress, Service, Peace). "Following Where the Holy Spirit Leads: Enjoying God's Power and Peace". The Scriptures are Zechariah 4:6; Romans 8:14; 15:13; Philippians 4: 4-7. Give it spiritual prominence in your churches. Please know that I am continually praying for you daily in the work God has called you to do in your vineyard, this side of Jesus' Coming. Have a blessed Christmas and a holy New Year; see you in Myrtle Beach, January 17-22, 2010.

In the King's Service,

President T. DeWitt Smith, Jr.

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"FOLLOWING WHERE THE HOLY SPIRIT LEADS"