

May 11, 2015

Rev. Charles Blake Presiding Bishop Church of God in Christ

Bishop Blake,

I pray God is blessing you richly. Thank you for your approval for Elder Oscar Owens to participate in the LA Regional Network of the Wesleyan Holiness Consortium. It is truly a blessing. I am hopeful that I might get other names of COGIC leaders who may also participate in Regional Networks across the country as well.

Perhaps you recall about 15 years ago we were together in Dallas when I convened a group of large church pastors in Dallas. I was then serving as the President of the National Association of Evangelicals. I had accepted that role after serving as Bishop of the Free Methodist Church – USA. After seeing the great need for unity and the power of the Holiness movement within the church in America and around the world, I began the WHC ten years ago. Early in the formative days it was wonderful to have COGIC involvement through the regular presence and input of Bishop George McKinney from St. Stephens.

Today the WHC has grown to 7 Regional Networks comprised of Regional Leaders; 4 Affinity Groups (Presidents, Chief Academic Officers, Trafficking & Slavery, Women in Ministry); and a Publishing arm. The commitment of the WHC is to focus on unity and power in mission centering on the message of holiness in the 21st Century. This has also been the first initiative in "re-weaving" the Pentecostal and Revivalist streams of the Holiness movement back together again.

I would very much like to encourage more regular and intentional involvement of the Church of God in Christ. All of our current denominational leaders long for that fellowship. I invite you to explore a bit of this volunteer network at <u>www.HolinessAndUnity.org</u>. But I also would be very happy to sit with you personally to talk about the way God may be calling us to a witness of greater unity and mission through relevant and transformational holiness in shaping our communities in coming decades.

I appreciate so much Elder Oscar's presence in the LA Regional Network. Perhaps through him or any other person you designate we may arrange a time to meet and discuss this growing testimony of God's holiness through the many churches that are involved. Please let me know if this would be possible and I will do all I can to accommodate your schedule. I am not far away at Azusa Pacific University and happy to meet.

Blessings,

Rev. Kevin W. Mannoia, Ph.D. Founder & Chair Wesleyan Holiness Consortium

Professor of Ministry & Chaplain Azusa Pacific University

HolinessandUnity.org