

July 20, 2022

Dr. Charles A. Tillman, Black Ministries Facilitator,

They came from New York to Texas, from Mississippi to Kansas City, from Idaho to California, to attend the 2022 National Black Nazarene Conference (NBNC). Well over 500 persons registered and attended the NBNC at the Downtown Tampa Hilton Hotel. Unsure of what to expect just 2-years after canceling the 2020 conference due to Covid 19 outbreak, this event exceeded the expectations of the Black Strategic Readiness Team (BSRT). To God be the glory!

"Awesome!", "Wonderful!" and "Anointed!" are just a few of the words used by various attendees when asked to describe their experience in Tampa. Another one stated, "It



was like being in four days of revival services!" "I couldn't wait to get back for the next service," said another!

Each day was action packed and the services were anointed. Rev. Gary Houston from Meridian, MS, delivered a stirring message on Thursday as we recognized and celebrated the legacy of the late Dr. Charles Johnson of Mississippi. Dr. Fili Chambo, General Superintendent, Dr. Eric Lee of Atlanta, GA, Rev. Judy Linton and Dr. Richard Griffiths, of Metro NY, all delivered timely, stirring and anointed messages on building community, unity, and identity in Christ.



Several District Superintendents attended; including Dr. J. Phillip Fuller of Virginia, Rev. Olivia Metcalf of Upstate NY, Dr. Sam Vassel of Metro NY, Rev. Dale Schaeffer of Florida, Rev. Bryan Powell of Kentucky and Dr Albert Hung of Northern California. Dr. Jack Connell President of ENC, Rev Michael Johnson of TNU, along with representatives from NBC and PLNU were in attendance and presented opportunities at their respective institutions.

Dr. Roberto Hodgson, our USA/Canada Multicultural Ministries Director, attended and presented Dr. Charles

Tillman, Black Ministries Facilitator, with the Multicultural Ministries Leadership Award.

We made a special effort to attract children and youth, ages 5-19, to this event. It was great to have approximately 100 attend this year! The conference offered them scholarships, great session leaders, and "Meet and Greet" events for youth, young adults, singles and children.

The NBNC theme, "We Belong Together," focused on the need for Blacks from all backgrounds, to work together in the spirit of love and unity and impact the community for Christ, while celebrating their identity in Christ.

We look forward to the work the BSRT and churches serving our black and Caribbean communities will be doing until we meet again in 2024!