



THE NBPC as AN INVESTMENT

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" -Psalm 133:1

"All the believers were together and had everything in common." -Acts 2:44

INTRODUCTION:

As we move closer to the 47th Biennial Conference on June 15-17, 2023, I want to reflect on the question often asked of Board Members and me by those not recently and/or currently involved in the National Black Presbyterian Caucus' (Caucus) mission and services to our Congregations, and the larger constituency of some 40,000 African Americans. The question? ***"What's in it for me?"*** This is a fair question and deserves an answer of substance. In some ways, the spirit of the question is asked making the Caucus' purpose an expense. The truth is, the Caucus' purpose should encourage and be seen as "an investment." The Caucus' central focus is **to assist and promote "Congregational Enhancement and Church Growth."** That is: to make the current ministry of every particular congregation better, more efficient, and more effective; while increasing: spiritually, programmatically and numerically. I have organized the answer for this conversation around three thoughts: Personally, Organizationally and Congregationally. What's in it for you? Your membership in the NBPC provides for you:

I. Personally:

- Spiritual Growth: according to the Scriptures:
 - Psalm 133:1: *"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"*
 - Acts 2:44: *"All the believers were together and had everything in common."*
- Fulfillment of the Great Ends of the Church:
 - "...the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;"
- Expanding relationships and community: locally, regionally and nationally.
- Preserving the historical and contemporary contributions of African American Presbyterianism.
- Opportunities to bring your leadership skill sets to the table nationally.

II. Organizationally:

- The Right to Have Voice and Vote.
- The Right to Hold Office.
- The Right to Participate in the: Worship, Mission, Governing and Decision-making.
- The Right to Represent the Caucus' Interest Ecclesiastically and Ecumenically.
- The Right to Advocacy Support in All Councils of the Church When Appropriate.
- The Right of Access to the All the Worship, Programming, Training, Events, Etc.

Mark- thanks again for the convo. I just reached out to D and he's with the family now as today is his wife's birthday. He'll call back later and I'll let you know if anything comes up from our dialogue. Enjoy your Saturday. - Hyrams

III. Congregationally:

- Session's Leadership.
- An Organization within the Congregation.
- Participation of All Members of the Congregation.
- Semi-Monthly Communications with all Members.
- Access to All Online Worship, Workshops, Trainings, Events, Etc.
- National Announcements of Your Congregation's Programs, Events, Activities, Etc.
- Consultation on Corporate and Ecclesiastical Matters.
- Access to All Activities Created for: "Congregational Enhancement and Church Growth."

IV. The 47th Biennial Conference of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus

A. Plenary Sessions:

1. Youth and Young Adults Congregation Involvement and Leadership (Right Now Leaders).
2. Eight Essentials of Growing an African American Congregation. (Without Exception).
3. Evaluating Changes in Congregational Life. (Future Applications).

B. Regions and Chapters Attendance Goals

Rev, Dr. Charles C. Heyward, Sr.

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President, National Black Presbyterian Caucus (NBPC)

