

NEWS & COLUMNS

Mayor Will Casey and Supervisor Federal D. Glover Welcome New Birth Church to Pittsburg

By New Birth Church



NEW BIRTH CHURCH UNITED WITH CHANGED LIFE CHURCH

(PITTSBURG, August 9) – New Birth Church Concord united with the city of Pittsburg Changed Life Church and its Hispanic ministry Iglesia Vida Cambiada to form New Birth Church and New Birth Latino on July 27, 2008. Unity Service Celebrations saluted Pastor Carl Smith, who now leads the combined multicultural congregation of 1400 parishioners; and, Pastor Scott Brooks, who leaves to answer his calling to travel and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ worldwide. During the services on Sunday, August 3, more than 120 members joined the church.

Local officials have already enthusiastically embraced the combined ministries and resulting synergy with this breakthrough collaboration. Pastor Smith received recognition from Pittsburg Mayor Will Casey and Contra Costa County Chairman Federal D. Glover, (Supervisor, District 5), as he delivered his first sermon from the pulpit on August 3. "I give pause, honor and praise this day for the deep and abiding Christian commitment of those who in faith began to provide valuable human services where the need has been great", declared Mayor Will Casey. "I offer heartfelt congratulations to Pastor Smith, a testament of the high regard in which New Birth will be held in Pittsburg."

Changed Life Church Pastor Scott Brooks was also recognized for his commitment to the community since 2001. "I have been blessed to have offered support and advice to Pastor Brooks and Pastor Smith over the years," stated County of Contra Costa Chairman, Supervisor Federal Glover. "I am excited because during the Unity Service Celebration, we talked about the economy and its negative impact in our County. It is clear to me that in order to transform East County, our faith-based community has to be involved to bring about sustainable change. I congratulate Pastor Smith and Pastor Brooks for their commitment to excellence and their foresight in combining the successful Concord and Pittsburg ministries to further unify our County".

Known for his dynamic teaching, genuine love and zeal for personal Christian growth, Pastor Carl Smith has served as Senior Pastor of New Birth Concord since 1999. Pastor Smith brings to Pittsburg a strong movement. The parishioners travel from throughout the East Bay, San Francisco, and surrounding counties to fellowship on Sunday and Wednesday for mid-week Bible Study. To date, families and people from all nations have joined New Birth Church or confessed Jesus as the Lord and Saviour at every service. "We at New Birth think of our church as a community of believers within a community with a world-wide vision that is aimed at reaching the lost, strengthening families and going beyond the walls of the church", states Pastor Smith. "We are bringing in the bound, the oppressed, and the broken hearted.. We are committed to making disciples, training and raising leaders that will impact our communities, California, the world, and generations to come. We are called to help people live the abundant life in Christ Jesus. New Birth Church is more than just a Church, it's an EXPERIENCE! This move to Pittsburgh is a blessing as we move into revival".

This breakthrough collaboration comes shortly after New Birth Bishop Eddie Long delivered a sermon to New Birth Concord declaring, "In this season, you have God's full attention, your church will break forth and help usher in revival to this area (East County)". Bishop Long, Pastor Smith's Spiritual Father, presides over New Birth MBC in Lithonia, Georgia. "This is truly an answer to our Capital Campaign's vision of purchasing a church," noted Pastor Smith. "We are called as one body, and we stand together to further God's Kingdom. We are experiencing breakthroughs, miracles, and healing in our Church that will spill over into our communities. It is with great joy and thankfulness that New Birth and Changed Life enter into this new season".

Pastor Brooks and Pastor Smith stated that their agreement to unite both churches is a "win-win" proposal for over 800 New Birth Church members and approximately 600 Changed Life members. "I thank God that it is your destiny, Pastor Smith to lead Pittsburgh and the surrounding Bay Area regions into a revival move of God", stated Pastor Brooks. "I am reminded of the many battles that have been valiantly fought before you by members of Changed Life Church. Battles won, time and time again, by being strong and steadfast while we collaborated with our community leaders. As you take up the spiritual mantle over this city and begin the assignment to take the surrounding Bay Area regions, may you always realize the promise of victory and success over adversaries leading to peace and love for all."

Changed Life Church, founded and led by Pastor Scott Brooks since 2001, has been a gateway church in the region that made great strides for the Kingdom of God. The culturally rich congregation came together empowering its distinguished ministries to help the disadvantaged in the community. Now, the unifying of these vibrant churches reinvigorates Pastor Smith's passionate vision of leading a multi-cultural ministry that truly embraces and positively impacts the communities they serve. "I am honored that Pastor Brooks chose my ministry to bring increase to this valiant spiritual work in Pittsburg", Pastor Smith stated. "This community has greatly benefited from Pastor Brooks leadership. I take this mantle with a passion to lead spiritual revival in East County, bringing change, wholeness, and deliverance".

For additional information, please contact Elder Victor Inga at (925) 672-2750 or send an email to vinga@newbirthcal.org.

The New Birth Church Sanctuary seating capacity is 800 with an overflow room seating capacity of 300. Sunday Worship Services takes place at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., and the mid-week Bible Study is on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. The Hispanic ministry, New Birth Latino, formerly Iglesia Vida Cambiada, have Worship Services at 3:00 p.m., and the mid-week Bible Study is on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Directions to New Birth Church from Hwy 4: Take Loveridge Road exit and head south. Left at E. Leland Road, go 2 blocks to 1411 E. Leland Road (Church is on the left). Turn left at Gladstone, and into New Birth Church parking lot on the left.