

### ***Who we are —***

- A community of 35 Anglican, Orthodox, Protestant, historic African-American and Peace churches
- A national expression of Christian unity in the United States
- 45 million diverse ecumenical congregants in over 100,000 churches
- A common witness to the Christian faith, and
- A cooperative effort in ministries of education, advocacy, service and witness

### ***What we believe —***

- The National Council is a community of Christian congregations which, in response to the Gospel revealed in Scripture, confess Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God, as Savior and Lord
- Member Communions covenant with one another to manifest, hopefully, the unity of the church
- We come together in common mission, relying on the transforming power of the Holy Spirit to serve all creation to the glory of the Lord

### ***When differences occur —***

“NCC member communions may differ, but they keep talking.” General Secretary Michael Kinnamon cites the Golden Rule of Ecumenism: “Try to understand others as you hope to be understood by them.’ Truth is rarely discovered in splendid isolation but through dialogue in community. The ecumenical movement is a common spiritual battle for truth, not a quarrel that assumes one is right and one is wrong.”

### ***Working & praying for 100 years —***

In 2008 the National Council celebrates 100 years of ecumenism, which began with the founding of the Federal Council of Churches in 1908, succeeded by the National Council of Churches in 1950, and continues today in its commitment to the visible unity of the church.



### ***How we work together —***

Our 35 member churches, seeking to more fully manifest the unity of the church, come together in common mission, guided by our Constitution and elected General Assembly. Our work is directed by the Governing Board and elected officers, and accomplished through the Office of the General Secretary and five program commissions:

- Faith and Order
- Interfaith Relations
- Education and Leadership Ministries
- Justice and Advocacy, and
- Communications

### ***Our work —***

- We provided for the translations of the Revised Standard and New Revised Standard Versions of the Holy Bible
- We marched with Martin Luther King, Jr., and continue to stand at the forefront of the Civil Rights movement to end racial discrimination in jobs, housing, and education
- We continue to advance the dialogue on issues central to our vision of unity such as unity in mission, & justification and justice
- We provide resources for Christians to explore the opportunities of living among people of other faiths
- We provide leadership development opportunities to strengthen more diverse congregational leadership, young adult ministry leaders, and others
- We are fighting poverty by advocating a living wage for all Americans
- We are promoting adequate health care for all Americans
- We are teaching Christian stewardship of God's creation, and advocating for policies that protect the environment and bring awareness of climate change
- We seek to be a moral and educational force in mass communications, advocating fairness on all issues including religion
- We provide a uniform series of church school curriculum, so the Church may study the same passage of Scripture on any given Sunday
- We publish the authoritative information on all major churches in the Yearbook of American & Canadian Churches

## ***Our member communions —***

African Methodist Episcopal Church  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
Alliance of Baptists  
American Baptist Churches USA  
Diocese of the Armenian Church in America  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
Church of the Brethren  
The Coptic Orthodox Church in North America  
Episcopal Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Friends United Meeting  
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America  
Hungarian Reformed Church in America  
International Council of Community Churches  
Korean Presbyterian Church in America  
Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church  
Mar Thoma Church  
Moravian Church  
(Northern and Southern Province)  
National Baptist Convention of America  
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.  
National Missionary Baptist Convention  
of America  
Orthodox Church in America  
Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox  
Church in the USA  
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious  
Society of Friends  
Polish National Catholic Church of America  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.  
Reformed Church in America  
Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA  
and Canada  
Swedenborgian Church  
Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch  
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America  
United Church of Christ  
United Methodist Church

## ***Our vision for the quadrennium —***

Member communions, as an expression of their commitment to seek visible unity through the National Council of Churches, will aggressively promote a vision of authentic common life as an alternative to that prevalent in contemporary American culture.

### **Leadership 2008-2011**

#### **Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, President**

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

#### **Rev. Peg Chamberlin, President Elect**

Moravian Church in America

#### **Rev. Dr. Cheryl H. Wade, Vice President for Administration & Finance**

American Baptist Churches USA

#### **Rt. Rev. Johncy Itty, Vice President**

Episcopal Church

#### **Stan Noffsinger, Vice President**

Church of the Brethren

#### **Rev. Dr. Raymon Hunt, Vice President**

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

#### **Rev. José Luis Casal, Secretary**

Presbyterian Church (USA)

#### **Rev. Michael E. Livingston, Immediate Past President**

International Council of Community Churches

#### **Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon, General Secretary**

National Council of Churches

### **National Council of Churches**

**475 Riverside Drive**

**New York, NY 10115-0050**

Philip E. Jenks  
Information & Media  
212 870-2228  
pjenks@nccusa.org

Kurt R. Kaboth  
Development & Gifts  
212 870-2333  
kkaboth@nccusa.org

***Learn more at: [www.nccusa.org](http://www.nccusa.org)***



## **National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA**

***“America’s Anglican,  
Orthodox, Protestant,  
historic African-American  
and Peace churches  
joining hands and voices  
to express their  
unity in Christ”***