

6. Report of the Delegates to the National Council of Churches of Christ

The National Council of Churches in the USA (NCC) held its annual Christian Unity Gathering Oct. 12-13. The theme of the virtual gathering was “Breathing New Life into our Nation: Repentance, Re-formation, Reparation.”

Over three sessions—Repentance, Re-formation, and Reparation—participants explored what churches must do to address racial injustices, the pandemic, and an economic crisis that plunges millions into poverty, and to embrace the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s vision of the Beloved Community.

In 2020, the NCC also introduced “Faith and Fire Conversations,” a series of conversations among prominent clergy, academics, and activists/organizers about the “twin pandemics” of racism and COVID-19, and the political landscape of the United States.

The NCC has released policy priorities for 2021, which include ending racism through its A.C.T. Now! Project, ending mass incarceration, and engaging in interreligious relations with a focus on peace. During the historic health and economic crisis brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, which is particularly devastating to communities of color, the NCC has been working to advocate for relief and safety.

This year marks 70 years of the NCC serving as a leading voice of witness to the living Christ. The Church of the Brethren is a founding member of the council, a diverse covenant community of 38 member communions from Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox, Evangelical, Historic African American, and Living Peace traditions.

David Steele, general secretary

Nathan Hosler

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