

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

The National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC) continues to be a vital force as it approaches its 75th anniversary in 2023. Celebrations for the landmark will begin in Washington, D.C., in May. The work of the NCC is oriented toward both the larger society and the internal work and discipleship of its member communions.

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie of the African Methodist Episcopal Church began a two-year term as interim general secretary and president in May 2022. She has engaged the governing board and staff in a review and updating of organizational matters and represented the council in many public forums.

As part of the internal work of the churches and leaders, the governing board met in Montgomery, Ala., for joint reflection and learning about the historical and present manifestations of racism. Church of the Brethren representative Nathan Hosler took part in these deliberations, after which he joined the task force on board and race, a group formed by the executive committee.

In the wake of mass shootings, NCC staff traveled to Buffalo, N.Y., and Uvalde, Texas, to serve as a pastoral presence of healing and witness for justice. The NCC made public statements concerning matters of international peace, racism in the United States, voter participation, and access to health care.

The annual Christian Unity Gathering continued these efforts, meeting under the theme “The Challenge of Change: Serving a Never Changing Christ in an Ever-Changing World” (Isaiah 43:19 and 2 Corinthians 5:17). In addition to featuring numerous webinars and educational opportunities, the October event highlighted the NRSVue, the updated edition of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Nathan Hosler, director of the Office of Peacebuilding and Policy, is the Church of the Brethren general secretary’s proxy on the NCC governing board and is a member of the bylaws revision committee.

David Steele, General Secretary

Nathan Hosler, proxy