



Representatives of the NC Council of Churches take part in the annual HK on J March for social justice in downtown Raleigh.

Partnering with Habitat for Humanity

Encouraging the Protection of God's Earth

Leading the Fight on Behalf of Farmworkers

Supporting Healthier Congregants and  
Health Care for All

Working to End Racism

Speaking Out for Peace

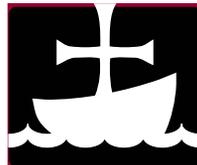
Advocating for Justice in the Legislature

Remembering the Least Among Us

Reaffirming What Unites Us

## Member Communion

African Methodist Episcopal Church  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
Alliance of Baptists  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
Episcopal Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
General Baptist State Convention  
Metropolitan Community Churches  
Moravian Church in America  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Reformed Church in America  
Religious Society of Friends  
Roman Catholic Church  
United Church of Christ  
United Methodist Church  
Eight Congregations



## To Contact Us

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## The North Carolina Council of Churches

## Honoring the Past & Shaping The Future



North Carolina Council of Churches

Your Legacy of  
Ecumenism,  
Social Justice  
and  
Advocacy

**M**ore than ever, the North Carolina Council of Churches relies on the generosity of individual donors to continue and expand our work for Christian unity and social justice. In this, our 75th anniversary year, we look back with gratitude at all of the good work that has been accomplished but we also look forward to what remains to be done.

As we make plans to recognize three-quarters of a century as the faith voice for progressive activism in North Carolina, we are encouraging financial support specific to our anniversary in two ways. We are asking our supporters to make a special anniversary donation of \$75 prior to May 1, 2010. Those who contribute in this way will be recognized on the Council's Web site, in the anniversary program and in other publications this year.

We also invite those who are interested in making a deferred gift or who have already included the Council in their estate planning to become charter members of the North Carolina Council of Churches Covenant Society. We will recognize supporters in this anniversary year who fill out a simple commitment form as charter members of the Society. The form is available by contacting our office or on our Web site.

However you choose to support the Council, know that your gift empowers us to continue our work of advocacy and compassion. Through it and you, we do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God.

Gratefully,



George Reed  
Executive Director

### *Current Giving Opportunities*

**CASH:** If you itemize your tax deductions, gifts of cash may be deducted up to 50% of your adjusted gross income. If you cannot use the entire deduction in the current year, you can carry forward the unused deduction for up to five years.

**APPRECIATED SECURITIES:** A donation of stocks or mutual funds that have increased in value and been held by you for more than one year may entitle you to an income tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the securities at the time of the gift. You also will not have to pay capital gains taxes on the appreciation in value. Gifts are deductible up to 30% of your adjusted gross income, with the same carry forward provision as with cash.

**DEPRECIATED SECURITIES:** Investments that have decreased in value since you owned them can be sold and a deductible gift made of the cash proceeds. This creates a loss which you may be able to deduct, along with your cash contribution.

**REAL ESTATE:** A gift of real estate lets you deduct the fair market value of the property up to 30% of your adjusted gross income, with the same five-year carry forward provision as with cash. Your gift also allows you to avoid capital gains taxes which you might otherwise owe.

### *Deferred Giving Opportunities*

**BEQUESTS:** By including the Council in your will, you can leave a specific gift of cash, securities, or property, or you can leave a specified percentage of your estate. Your estate will receive a charitable deduction for your bequest.

**LIFE ESTATE AGREEMENTS:** A life estate allows you to give real estate to the Council now but retain the use of the property for life. You receive a tax deduction for the gift at the time you make it, and the value of the property is removed from your taxable estate.

**CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS:** You can make a gift of cash, appreciated stocks, or other property to the Council "in trust". You or someone you name receives income from the trust's earnings for life or for a specified period, up to 20 years. At the end of the trust period, the principal that remains (the "charitable remainder") is transferred to the Council. You receive a tax deduction which is based on the payout rate and term of the trust.

These and other arrangements are available to help you plan your giving to the Council and, at the same time, reduce your tax liability or that of your estate.

(This pamphlet is intended to provide accurate information of a general nature. It is not intended to provide legal or tax advice tailored to your specific circumstances. For such advice, please consult a trusted attorney, accountant, or other estate planning professional.)