

# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR THE MAINE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Revised November 2021

The Name of the Corporation is the Maine Council of Churches.

The Maine Council of Churches is an educational and religious society organized for the purposes permitted under Title 13-B MRSA.

The Registered Agent of the Maine Council of Churches shall be the Executive Director. Offices of the Corporation are at 202 Woodford Street, Portland, Maine 04103.

Incorporating members of the Maine Council of Churches (originally organized as the Maine Sunday School Association) were Horace Purington, President; L.M. Binford, Clerk and Treasurer, B.C. Jordan, L.R. Cook, L.M. Webb, J.R. Libby, W.A. Danforth, A.W. Gregory; and S.J. Bassford. Council incorporation was on March 6, 1911. Offices were at the residence of the Clerk in Saco, Maine.

Membership in the Maine Council of Churches shall be as follows:

Members: Those denominations within the State which accept the purpose of the Council. Such denominations shall become members of the Council when their written request has been approved by a majority vote of the Annual Assembly. Continued membership in the Council shall be contingent on assisting in furthering the purpose and work of the Council and contributing a proportionate share to its financial support.

Associate Members: Those religious organizations within the State which are not denominations and local churches whose denomination is not a member of the Council which accept the purpose of the Council. Such entities shall become members of the Council when their written request has been approved by a majority vote of the Annual Assembly. Continued associate membership in the Council shall be contingent on assisting in furthering the purpose and work of the Council and contributing to its financial support.

Cooperating Bodies: Denominations, local and regional councils of churches, interfaith councils, clergy associations, or ministeria who choose not to become formal members are encouraged to cooperate with the Maine Council of Churches. Cooperation implies a relationship with the Council, enjoying some benefits of mutual support, while not fully participating as formal members. Cooperating bodies shall be admitted to the Council by consent of the Board of Directors.

The membership of the Council shall meet annually to vote on requests for membership and associate membership in the Council, to elect members to the Board of Directors, and for any such other business as may properly be brought before it.

Voting representation in the Assembly shall be as follows:

- a. Each denomination which has membership in the Council may designate three representatives plus one additional representative for each 5,000 members or major fraction thereof over the first 5,000, up to a maximum of ten (10) representatives in addition to ex-officio representatives (members of the Board of Directors).
- b. Each associate member shall be entitled to one (1) representative.