

# Maine Council of Churches

*MCC is a bridge between people in the church and people of faith who are not part of any church and often suspicious (for good reason!) of organized religion.*

Rev. Jonathan Vogel  
St. Andrew Lutheran Church  
Ellsworth

*Because we are part of MCC, we aren't standing alone. We have the courage to stand up and speak our truth.*

Ann Dodd-Collins  
Portland Friends Meeting

*A brain trust and a heart trust with a lot to offer, MCC is able to navigate spiritual and secular spaces.*

Rev. Kharma Amos  
Unitarian Universalist Church  
Brunswick



# The principles that guide us

Because the value at the center of all we do is **love of neighbor**, we...

**Seek wisdom** from our forebears as it is found in scripture and tradition, from our own spiritual experiences, from those who are marginalized, and from Nature.

**Journey with humility** so we remain open to learning, growth, and change, better able to recognize and repair harm from systemic inequities and flawed theology.

**Derive strength from community** built among our churches, other faith traditions, and those in the secular realm who work for justice, compassion, and peace.

**Build trust** that creates space for vulnerability and sharing hard truths, trust that leads others to consider us reliable allies.

**Demonstrate courage** in our words and actions, inspiring each other to move forward faithfully even when we are afraid.



## LOVE OF NEIGHBOR

The ground from which our principles grow.

Illustration: ARRT!

## Advocacy priorities

Our Moral Agenda guides and shapes our public policy advocacy. This prophetic and inclusive voice of faith counters the version espoused by right-wing fundamentalists and white “Christian” nationalists who too often monopolize the media and culture spotlight.

Our Moral Agenda calls us to advocate for legislation that will:

- Affirm the full civil, political, and economic rights of every person
- Eliminate hunger and poverty
- Make housing affordable and healthcare accessible
- Reduce disparities between rich and poor
- Protect Maine’s natural resources and reverse the effects of climate change



*Photo credit: Dania Bowie*

## Who we are

Our 10-member coalition of seven mainline Protestant denominations, two independent churches, and one cooperating body have over 400 congregations in Maine with more than 50,000 parishioners in their care. Together, we speak with a prophetic voice of faith, connecting people not only within the church, but also those beyond the church who share the core value at the heart of all we do, **love of neighbor**, and who join us in creating a more just, compassionate, and peaceful world.

## Our members

Episcopal Diocese of Maine · Evangelical Lutheran Church in America · Presbyterian Church (USA) · Religious Society of Friends · Unitarian Universalist Association · United Church of Christ · United Methodist Church (New England Conference) · HopeGateWay · Union Church · Swedenborgian Church

## What we do

### Connect people ...

*across denominations, faith and wisdom traditions, organizations, races, ages, classes, national origins, abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities*

### Equip them to take action ...

*So that our collective impact can be more powerful*

### Provide educational opportunities ...

*Where we can teach and learn from one another*

### Advocate...

*For statewide public policies that create a more just, equitable, compassionate, sustainable, and inclusive community in Maine*



# Invest in our future



Just as the sun rising over Mount Katahdin begins a new day, the recent expansion of our capacity marks the dawn of a new era for the Maine Council of Churches. We hope that by describing who we are and what we do, we have inspired you to invest in our future. We need your financial support to sustain this new chapter. Your generosity will ensure that a progressive faith-based witness continues to thrive in Maine.

**To make a secure, tax -deductible, online gift or a recurring donation, go to:**

**[www.maineCouncilofchurches.org/support](http://www.maineCouncilofchurches.org/support)**

**Or mail your gift to:**

**Maine Council of Churches**

**202 Woodford Street, Portland, ME 04103**

**Thank you.**

