

## ALABAMA FAITH COUNCIL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Alabama Faith Council, a diverse coalition of various faith traditions, exists to consult and work with each other to improve the lives of all within the State of Alabama.

### **Member Congregations:**

#### **African Methodist**

*Episcopal Zion Church,  
Alabama/Florida District*

*Alabama Cooperative  
Baptist Fellowship*

**Catholic:** *Archdiocese of  
Mobile; Diocese of  
Birmingham*

**Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ),  
Alabama & Northwest  
Florida Region**

**Christian Methodist  
Episcopal Church, Fifth  
Episcopal District**

**Episcopal Church (USA):  
Diocese of Alabama;  
Diocese of Central Gulf  
Coast**

**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church of America,  
Southeast Synod**

**Full Gospel Baptist  
Fellowship of Alabama**

**Greek Orthodox: Holy  
Trinity/Holy Cross  
Cathedral**

**Islamic: Al-Masjidullah  
Mosque, Birmingham;  
Birmingham Islamic  
Society; Masjid Qasim  
Bilal Al-Amin,  
Montgomery**

**Judaism: Conservative-  
Congregation Ahavas  
Chesid, Mobile; Temple  
Beth-El, Birmingham;  
Reform: Springhill Avenue  
Temple, Mobile; Temple  
Emanuel-El, Birmingham**

**Presbyterian Church  
(USA): North Alabama  
Presbytery; Presbytery of  
Sheppards and Lapsley**

**Quakers: Birmingham  
Friends Meeting**

**Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Birmingham**

**United Church of Christ:  
Beloved Community  
Church, Birmingham**

**United Methodist Church:  
Alabama/W Florida  
Conference; North  
Alabama Conference**

**Unity Church on the  
Mountain, Huntsville**

### **CONSIDERING FACTS:**

- There is a growing need for leaders and members of communities of faith to consult with each other in order to build relationships among people of faith in God.
- Such consultation may:
  - Broaden the understanding and appreciation of the diversity within our communities.
  - Enable all to express the fullness of their faith.
  - Enhance our knowledge on issues of mutual concern.
  - Promote unity, peace and equality through interfaith cooperation.

### **RECOGNIZING GUIDING PRINCIPLES OUR FAITH TRADITIONS SHARE IN COMMON:**

- All life is sacred to God.
- All people are inherently equal in their humanity, worth, and dignity.
- Working together creates a safer and stronger community for all.
- Dialogue among member groups is essential to build trust.
- Speaking on issues collectively is better than speaking alone.
- Communities of faith are called to make a positive contribution to the common good through compassionate support of and listening to the voices of the poor and vulnerable.

### **IN VIEW OF THESE FACTS AND PRINCIPLES, WE RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

- To apply the principles of our faith traditions to important and timely issues.
- To draw on the faith, wisdom and strength of our membership.
- To seek the best actions where deemed necessary and possible for the people of Alabama, especially those whose needs are the greatest and those whose resources in life are the least.
- To build a beloved community throughout the State of Alabama.

## SIGNATURES TO THE AFC PURPOSE STATEMENT

Below are the names and titles of those who have signed onto this AFC Statement. Names are organized by date first and then by last name. Please note that official signatures are on file for each of the names listed.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title and/or Jurisdiction</b>
3/14/07	The Rev. Father Paul Costopoulos, Dean, Holy Trinity/ Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Birmingham	
3/14/07	Rev. Thomas Evans, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Sheppards & Lapsley, Presbyterian Church USA	
3/14/07	Rev. William Leggett, Pastor, Unitarian Universalist Church, Birmingham	
3/14/07	Rev. Ricki A. Mason for the Right Rev. Julian Gordy, Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Southeastern Synod	
3/14/07	Rev. Brent P. McDougal, State Coordinator, Alabama Cooperative Baptist Fellowship	
3/14/07	Rabbi Jonathan Miller, Temple Emanu-El (Reform Judaism), Birmingham	
3/14/07	The Right Rev. Henry N. Parsley, Bishop, Diocese of Alabama, Episcopal Church USA	
3/14/07	The Right Rev. Lawrence L. Reddick, III, Bishop, Fifth Episcopal District, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church	
3/14/07	Ashfaq Taufique, President, Birmingham Islamic Society	
3/14/07	Dr. Nancy Whitt, Birmingham Friends Meeting (Quaker)	
3/22/07	Rev. Angie Wright, Beloved Community Church of Birmingham (United Church of Christ)	
6/5/07	Imam Raed Awad, Birmingham Islamic Society	
6/6/07	Cantor Daniel Gale, Temple Beth-El (Conservative Judaism), Birmingham	
6/8/07	Rabbi Scott Hausman-Weiss, Temple Emanu-El (Reform Judaism), Birmingham	
6/21/07	Rev. John Mobley, Regional Minister, Alabama and Northwest Florida Region, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	
6/21/07	The Right Rev. Earnest L. Palmer, Bishop, Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship of Alabama	
11/1/07	Imam William Abdullah, Masjid Qasim Bilal Al-Amin, Montgomery	
11/29/07	The Right Rev. Will Willimon, Resident Bishop, United Methodist Church in North Alabama	
12/20/07	Imam Abdul-Hakeem Nabeeh Um'Rani, Masjidul Qur'an, Birmingham	
1/03/08	The Right Rev. Philip Duncan, II, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast	
1/03/08	Rabbi Donald M. Kunstadt, Springhill Avenue Temple (Reform Judaism), Mobile	

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title and/or Jurisdiction</b>
1/04/08	The Right Rev. H. Julian Gordy,	Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Southeastern Synod
1/06/08	Albert Manzella for the Right Rev. Robert Baker,	Bishop, Roman Catholic Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama