



# the WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

*We pray and work together for the unity and renewal of the church and the healing and reconciliation of the world.*

## MEMBERS

African Methodist Episcopal Church  
American Baptist Churches  
Armenian Oriental Orthodox Church  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
Church of God in Christ  
Church of the Brethren  
Coptic Church  
Episcopal Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Greek Orthodox Church  
Mennonite Church  
Moravian Church  
Orthodox Church in America  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Reformed Church in America  
United Church of Christ  
United Methodist Church

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Benedictine Women of Madison  
Church Women United  
Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee  
Madison-area Urban Ministry  
The Leadership Conference of Women Religious

## OBSERVERS

Catholic Church:  
Archdiocese of Milwaukee  
Diocese of Green Bay  
Diocese of LaCrosse

*Rev. Scott D. Anderson*  
Executive Director

[www.wichurches.org](http://www.wichurches.org)

## We are...

### ...Empowering Public Witness



Representing the collective voice of its member denominations, the Council educates and mobilizes grassroots Christians to witness to their faith in the public square.

### • Faithful Citizenship: Addressing Poverty

Poverty has moved into the public square as a major issue in 2016. The WCC has been co-hosting a series of regional forums on poverty to educate and mobilize local religious leaders. In the late spring, 2016, we will co-sponsor another series of forums to launch a major public education campaign throughout Wisconsin, bringing our voice into the fall elections and newly elected lawmakers at the State Capitol next year.



### • On Behalf of Our Children: Wisconsin's Racial Disparities and the Call of the Gospel

Wisconsin ranks last among the 50 states in the well-being of African American children. On Behalf of our Children is a four-session resource to introduce issues of racial equity to congregations throughout the state in light of the gospel. This important adult study guide will be available in the fall, 2016.



### ...Equipping the Missional Church



The Council works with local congregations, in partnership with its member judicatories, to discern how God is at work in our world, and to discover new ways to participate with God in fulfilling God's mission.

### • Moving Back Into the Neighborhood

Many aging congregations have lost touch with their surrounding neighborhoods. Moving Back into the Neighborhood is a resource for congregational leaders who want to take some initial, exploratory steps into their neighborhoods in order to discern what God is up to and to join the Holy Spirit in making all things new. The resource is available free at: [www.wichurches.org/programs-and-ministries/empowering-the-missional-church/](http://www.wichurches.org/programs-and-ministries/empowering-the-missional-church/)



## ...Forming Leaders

The Council helps train a new generation of leaders for faithful service to Christ through workshops and conferences for pastors and laity.

### • 2016 Washington Island Forum

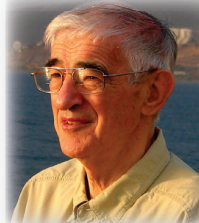
This summer week-long conference for 250 clergy, lay leaders and their families provides an ecumenical opportunity for community building, learning and spiritual renewal on beautiful Washington Island, at the tip of Door County.

The 2016 Forum (June 20—24) welcomes Rev. Carol Howard Merritt, a Presbyterian (USA) minister whose writing, speaking, and teaching is anchored in theological wisdom and fresh sociological insight. She's a sought-after keynote speaker, especially on the topic of ministering with a new generation of Christians. Registration information is available at [www.wichurches.org/events](http://www.wichurches.org/events)



### • 2017 Washington Island Forum

The 2017 Forum (June 26—30) welcomes John Dominic Crossan, world-renowned Biblical scholar, to the 2017 Forum. Crossan is the author of over 20 books and through his scholarship has made new Biblical insights available to a wide audience of clergy and lay leaders. Registration opens for the 2017 Forum on July 1.



### • Loving our Interfaith Neighbors

This fall the WCC will publish an exciting new congregational study guide: Loving our Interfaith Neighbors: A Study-Action Resource for Wisconsin Congregations. This 6-session resource for adult study groups leads participants through the "why" and "how" of building new and deeper relationships with our interfaith neighbors, and invites local churches to join with them in addressing issues of common concern.



### • Healthy Boundaries Training

Led by professional trainers, these one-day workshops focus on developing healthy boundaries and sexual ethics for clergy and other religious leaders in a congregational setting.

**Healthy Boundaries 101** topics include: boundary basics: the nature of power, friendships and dual relationships, touch, transference and intimacy, mandatory reporting in Wisconsin, and self-care.

**Healthy Boundaries 201** topics include: The nature of power, building and maintaining healthy boundaries, self-care, social media, grace in separation and introduction, the congregation's role in boundary vitality, and healthy relationships with children and youth.

Workshop topics, locations and registration information are available at [www.wichurches.org/events](http://www.wichurches.org/events)

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