

## NC Council of Churches Eco-Justice Connection Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

Eco-Justice Connection (EJC) is actively working to become an anti-racist program of the NC Council of Churches. We believe that relationships must be centered in justice and equity within the human family, as well as with all of the natural world. We strive together toward this sacred goal.

We bear this responsibility with integrity, insisting across our network that we do what is just, even when the path is not obvious or easy. As advocates for climate justice, we commit to self transformation by actively working against systemic racism and anti-Blackness; ending both the historic disenfranchisement of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, and racially-rooted economic and health disparities; and dismantling structures of racial and economic marginalization and colonialism. We also will uphold tribal sovereignty, and counteract dynamics of erasure of tribal nations in our government decision-making processes.

Our diverse religious and spiritual traditions call us to work for systemic change and a more just society that embraces differences based on religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, and physical ability. EJC will address this with specific, often-updated commitments regarding internal processes, policy positions, diversity efforts, training, funding mechanisms, and more.

EJC works to reverse paradigms of oppression of humans and the natural world as we build a thriving, inclusive, and equitable future on behalf of all who inhabit this good Earth.

We commit to providing practical resources that can be shared across faiths. Directly relating how faith can, and should, affect climate and environmental justice action; and how to build a culture that is both spiritually and physically resilient, so that even as the Earth changes, communities of faith are able to thrive and help others.