



## THE MISSION STATEMENT OF BPU-NCP

As members of Black Presbyterians United, a caucus of the National Capital Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (USA), we find ourselves facing in the world today and particularly in Washington, D.C. and its surrounding communities some of the most exasperating problems and exciting opportunities for Christian worship and witness in modern times. In response to the historic challenges of race and ethnicity that created our national caucus in 1893, as well as the changing demands and character of Christian obedience and urban mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have come together as individuals and congregations, by the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, for the following purposes:

1. To aggressively increase the membership of the Presbyterian congregations to which most of us belong or have considered joining;
2. To give greater attention to the neighborhoods surrounding our church buildings;
3. To increase a variety of services to our young people and to the un-churched youth of the geographic areas in which our several congregations are located;
4. To openly enlist bi-racial and cross-cultural individuals and families regardless of sexual and gender orientation to become members of our congregations.
5. To seek greater opportunities for women clergy who, because of the double jeopardy of racial and gender prejudice, are being marginalized and denied self-supporting pastorates;
6. To welcome the clergy of diverse races and ethnicities who are currently being called or who may be called in the future to minister to us as interim or regularly installed pastors;
7. To continue the historic struggle for social justice against all forms of prejudice, racial separation, cultural subordination and political or economic oppression;
8. To embrace all men, women, and children of whatever racial or ethnic descent who are willing to walk and work with us as we seek to follow Jesus through the highways and byways of this city and suburbs;

We begin this new mission celebrating the multicultural unity of all people regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, socio-economic class or sexual orientation. We believe in the Triune God of Reformed Christianity and specifically in the faith and order of the Presbyterian Church (USA). At the same time we affirm the essential dignity and worth of all Christian churches and systems of theology that respect each other's histories and struggles to be liberated from every earthly power that would disrespect, deny, or oppress our common humanity.

In short, we are presently a chapter of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus (NBPC) conscious of the priority of our historic struggle for racial justice, nevertheless, welcoming all to One Table of Brotherhood and Sisterhood as we each seek to love, learn from, and serve each other as God in Christ loves, teaches, and serves us all.

***Revised March 15, 2012***