



## Community of Churches for Social Action

210-1 S. Grimes Street, Suite 107

San Antonio, Texas 78203

Phone: 210-227-5800 | Fax: 210-212-5522 | Email: ccsasatx@gmail.com

### CCSA Member Churches

**Antioch Missionary Baptist**

Pastor Kenneth R. Kemp

**Bethany Missionary Baptist**

Pastor Douglas Randle

**Calvary Baptist**

Pastor Kevin L. Nelson

**Dominion COGIC**

Bishop Geoffrey Stirrup, Vice Chairman

**First Baptist Lockhart**

Pastor H. Fritz Williams, Jr.

**First Baptist New Braunfels, NBC**

Pastor A. D. Dillard

**God's Way Christian Fellowship**

Pastor Lonnie Coleman

**Grace First Baptist**

Pastor Allen M. Ford.

**Greater Corinth Baptist**

Pastor Stanley D. Sparrow

**Greater Joy Temple COGIC**

Pastor Dewey C. Johnson

**Harper's Chapel Baptist**

Pastor Charles N. Wingfield

**Living Active Word Church**

Pastor Terrell Byrd

**Macedonia Baptist**

Pastor Jerry W. Dailey, Chairman

**Mt. Zion First Baptist**

Pastor Otis Mitchell, Secretary

**New Covenant Missionary Baptist**

Pastor Paul D. Stevens, Sr.

**New Creation Christian Fellowship**

Bishop David M. Copeland

**New Jerusalem Baptist**

Pastor Jeffrey Garner

**New Life COGIC**

Pastor Kenneth Davison, Sr.

**New Mt. Pleasant Baptist**

Pastor Joel Allen

**Praise Cathedral COGIC**

Bishop Samuel E. Iglehart

**Resurrection Baptist**

Pastor Ray Brown

**St. John Baptist**

Pastor Herman Price, Jr.

**St. Stephens Baptist**

Pastor Charles M. Biggs, Treasurer

**Second Baptist**

Pastor Robert L. Jemerson, Sr.

**The Conqueror's Assembly**

Bishop Jonathan Ellis

**The "Exciting" West End Baptist**

Pastor Michael Jolla

**Westridge Park Baptist**

Pastor Dewayne Thomas

**Wheatley Heights First Baptist**

Pastor L.A. Williams, Jr.

**Zion Star Missionary Baptist**

Pastor Larry Glass

[WWW.CCSASATX.ORG](http://WWW.CCSASATX.ORG)

For immediate release: June 10, 2020

**Community of Churches for Social Action held a press conference today at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church to release the following statement on the killing of George Floyd and acts of violence inflicted upon African Americans by Police Officers.**

**San Antonio, Texas** — The Community of Churches for Social Action deplores the recent killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota and vehemently denounces this act and other acts of violence inflicted by police upon defenseless African American citizens.

Since 1619, acts of violence against African Americans have resulted in perpetual disenfranchisement of the American descendants of slavery. This systemic oppression is made even worse by a blatant disrespect for the lives of African Americans and the repeated killing of some of the most vulnerable of our society by neighborhood vigilantes and racist police. We are deeply grieved and our pain erupts into anger at the thought of the loss of our brothers and sisters—from Trayvon Martin to Michael Brown to Tamir Rice to Philando Castile to Eric Garner to Sandra Bland to Botham Jean to Atatiana Jefferson to Breona Taylor to George Floyd—among many, many others. While we acknowledge that there are far more good police than bad, the wanton disregard for the lives of African Americans by bad police must not be overlooked, excused, or exonerated.

We call upon all citizens of good will, black, white, and brown, to publicly denounce acts of police brutality inflicted upon defenseless African Americans. We implore all citizens to demand that the police discontinue such acts of brutality immediately.

We call upon Police Departments and Sherriff's offices everywhere, particularly in San Antonio and Bexar County, to faithfully incorporate cultural sensitivity training, embrace community policing, reject the militarization of police, abandon racial profiling, and adopt transparent police officer evaluations. In cases of alleged police misconduct, we call upon the Police Department and the Sherriff's Office to appoint citizen-led independent review counsels. In addition, we call upon the San Antonio Police Department and the Sherriff's Office to appoint African Americans to responsible positions at the highest levels of leadership.

We call upon elected officials, the Chief of Police, and the County Sherriff to publicly affirm that Black lives matter, with the acknowledgment that while all lives matter, the lives of black people have been historically, systematically, and categorically demeaned and disrespected over 400 years.

We also call upon white and brown clergy to preach and teach messages that affirm the lives of African Americans and to reject a posture of silence on these critical issues. Furthermore, we call upon African American clergy to preach messages that address the sociopolitical disenfranchisement of the vulnerable and to instill a sense of hope within the community through relevant action.

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We call upon all citizens of our community to public service and civic engagement. Moreover, we implore every citizen to register and vote for candidates that fully embrace positive change for the collective good of our city, county, state, and nation.

Finally, we call upon people of faith and love to pray and to become involved in meaningful dialogue with diverse peoples of the community, knowing that a change of behavior starts with a change of the heart.

We will use the full power of our faith, the constituency of our churches, the goodwill of our supporters, and the righteousness of our cause to ensure that these changes come to fruition. No longer will we tolerate the knee of the powerful upon the necks of the powerless.

The Community of Churches for Social Action is a 501(c)3 organization made up of a coalition of interdenominational churches who have come together to enhance and enrich the condition of our city by bringing a prophetic voice and providing services such as economic development, housing, education, and supportive services to those traditionally under-served and/or live in disadvantaged communities.

### **VISION - CCSA'S "PRO'S" MINISTRY**

**PRO-phetic**... A voice piece for God providing spiritual perspective on issues we face

**PRO-active**... Putting forth vision that will seek to not only respond but head off issues

**PRO-ductive**... God empowering ourselves to make a difference in our community, city, state and nation

**PRO-gressive**... Building upon our positive tradition and moving forward through confrontation, collaboration, and compromise