

## **Peter M. Cook**

### ***New York State Council of Churches***



**The Reverend Peter Cook** serves as Executive Director of the New York State Council of Churches. Prior to serving the Council, Reverend Cook served as Senior Minister at First Congregational Church in Burlington, Vermont and The Plymouth Church in Framingham, Massachusetts and Pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Waukegan, Illinois. Ordained in the United Church of Christ, Reverend Cook received his BA from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon and MA and MDiv. from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA.

At John's, Reverend Cook worked to establish 22 unit a tax credit financed affordable housing development for Seniors and People with Disabilities---Chapel Garden Senior Apartments. In his pastoral roles, he has been a strong advocate for the development of affordable housing. He currently serves as Vice-President of the Interfaith Affordable Housing Collaborative and is directing the Council's Who is My Neighbor Community Development Initiative to help faith institutions use their property to better serve their town. He has also established schools and water wells in Southern Tanzania as part of the Africa Exchange project begun at Plymouth Church. He is recipient of Lilly Endowment Pastoral Renewal Grant which brought him to study approaches to economic development in post-apartheid South Africa.