



Together, As One

TA1



*Creating a New Conference
of the United Church of Christ*

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE 2018-2020

To see the timeline of discernment from 2009 to 2017, click on this link:

<http://www.ricucc.org/newsdetail/ct-ma-ri-timeline-7543397>

As of the date in the header, the following timeline represents the process our three Conferences will be following beginning in 2018. While some of the meeting dates are fixed, other dates and events are flexible. In all cases, look to the Conference websites for the most up to date schedule of events relating to this process. In addition to this timeline, you can find a set of FAQs on the Conference websites.

Late Jan. 2018	12 Focus Groups meet throughout RI, CT and MA
Feb. 3, 2018	Boards of CT + RI + MA met together to review the draft documents that will be brought to the joint Annual Meeting for a vote on June 15-16, 2018. After identifying areas where further work is needed, they voted to affirm the documents.
February 2018	The TA1 Planning Team, guided by the suggestions from the joint Board meeting, continues to revise the draft documents affirmed by Boards; suggestions invited at listening sessions at Super Saturday March 21
Late Feb – mid March 2018	Each of the three Conference Boards votes to approve resolutions and affirm the documents that will be presented to the Joint Annual Meeting in June 2018.
Mid March 2018	The revised documents as voted by the Boards will be made available to churches and delegates.

Late April 2018	Delegates of all 3 Conferences are provided advanced materials for June Annual Meetings. Because all conferences need to vote on identical documents in June of 2018 in order for the process to move forward, these proposed documents will not be amendable by the Annual Meetings. However, recommendations for improvement will be welcome and utilized by the new Board in finalizing the documents as authorized by the Annual Meetings, if the conferences vote to proceed.
March-June 2018	This initiative – coming Together, As One - is discussed at Super Saturday (during lunch), Association meetings and other gatherings convened for that purpose
June 15-16, 2018	Joint Annual Meeting of the RI + MA + CT Conferences in Springfield, MA: delegates vote on whether or not to affirm their intention to Covenant and to affirm and approve documents that authorize the creation of a new TA1 Corporation. They may also vote on minor changes to the bylaws of each of the three existing conferences to align with new entity. NOTE: The new entity does not become operational until 1/1/2020. See below.
July 2018-June 2019	Phase 1: Coordination and cooperation among the 3 Conferences continues and increases, including sharing of some staff. Each Conference continues to have its own Conference Minister and its own Board. The Board of the new entity meets to plan for the operation of a unified conference, while the Boards of each of the 3 Conferences continue to meet and carry out their current duties. We expect that the three Attorneys General of CT, MA and RI will review our application and allow the creation of this new non-profit charitable corporation to go forward. NOTE: this is not the same as approval of an ecclesial "Conference," which requires a vote at General Synod, under "Late June 2019" below.
Fall of 2018	The three Conference Boards each pass the same resolution asking General Synod to change what it regards as the geographic boundaries of the Conferences and affirm the new Conference whose boundary is southern New England.
Late June 2019	General Synod meets and passes the resolution described above. Thus, the new "Conference" is born
July 2019	Phase 2 begins: Southern New England has one Conference (along with three "historic Conferences")
October or November 2019	First Annual Meeting of the new Conference. This will include a brief time for the three historic conferences to have their distinct Annual Meetings, as their continued separate existence for legal reasons needs to be formally recognized. Church delegates are delegates to both the Annual Meeting of the New Conference and to the Annual Meeting of their Historic Conference.
January 1, 2020	Phase 3 begins: The new Conference becomes operational. This is when the Conference Minister(s) begin to report to the Board of the New Conference. From here on, contributions (from churches, individuals, etc.) will be made to the New Conference. All staff members will be paid as staff of the New Conference.