



TOGETHER, AS ONE

The Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island Conferences of the United Church of Christ

Unified Conference Planning Team

ctucc.org/ta1updates

macucc.org/ta1updates

ricucc.org/ta1updates

Nov. 10, 2017

Colleagues,

As you know in June of this year in Hartford, we held a joint Annual Meeting of the Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island Conferences. It was a powerful engagement of our three Conferences coming “together, as one.” At that gathering all three Conferences supported a resolution to bring to the 2018 Annual Meeting a proposal to form a new Conference of the United Church of Christ.

An expanded planning team made up of the Conference Ministers and members of the three Conference Board of Directors was formed. We have been meeting regularly since June. We determined that our first task was to compose a vision/mission/purpose statement to answer the “why” question of the proposal to form a new Conference. The results of our discernment and work is a part of this mailing to you.

We would like for every congregation to find a way to engage in conversation around this statement. We have included a conversation guide that could be useful in your congregation. Your leadership team, your youth group, your regular gatherings of members and friends could be among some of the places where you could have a conversation about this statement. If you would like to offer comments about the statement you can email us at: togetherucc@gmail.com or send a letter to any of the Conference office addresses listed below.

We continue to invite your prayers as we work towards a formalized proposal for the new Conference that you can anticipate receiving in February of 2018. Thank you for your ministry and for the covenant ties that bind us to one another.

Faithfully,

Jim Antal, Massachusetts Conference Minister and President

Bridget Fidler, Connecticut Conference Board of Directors Chair

Barbara Libby, Interim Rhode Island Conference Minister

Frances Munro, Rhode Island Conference President

Corey Sanderson, Massachusetts Conference Board of Directors Chair

Kent Siladi, Connecticut Conference Minister