

Timeline of Considering Reconciling Committee (CRC) Actions and Education

2017

September: EmBaRc committee was formed and later renamed CRC

October: contacted Fairwood UMC about their Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) process, committee meeting, CRC question box made available

November: RMN Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) published (still available in church office), committee meeting, conversation with Rev. Izzy Alvaran at RMN, congregational invitation to join CRC

2018

January: Pastoral Bible studies, resource list published

February: Pastoral Bible studies, committee meeting

June: table talk, committee meeting, strategic restart

July: committee meeting

August: committee meeting

September: CRC related sermons

October: Way Forward discussion event

November: committee meeting, panel discussion

December: homelessness donation collections

2019

January: congregational survey, committee meeting, informal forum with Pastor Laura

February: General Conference prayer vigil

March: committee meeting, voting ballots distributed

April: vote on whether to become part of the RMN or not

What is Reconciling Ministries? What is it not?

It is:

- individuals, churches and groups that are committed to full inclusivity within the United Methodist Church.
- an attempt by those individuals, churches and groups to repair some of the pain that the church has inflicted upon the LGBTQAI+ community. It began as an effort to reconcile with “lesbians and gay men” and has now expanded to include other marginalized populations.
- based on the Wesleyan principles of personal and social holiness and it is committed to seeking justice within the UMC.
- committed to using inclusive language throughout its ministries while respecting the traditions and various congregations within the combined Reconciling Ministries Network.

It is not:

- a fringe, or radical, version of what it means to be a United Methodist. Reconciling Methodists are Methodists. They are people who value the UMC and want to share the love of God with all, including those the church has hurt and turned away.
- a prescribed way to be inclusive. Individual churches have the authority to determine what, if any, outward symbols of inclusivity they display.
- new or a response to General Conference. RMN began in 1982 and now consists of 984 communities and 38,385 individuals.