The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) was formed in 1983 through the merger of the United Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Modern conversations between Episcopalians and Presbyterians began in 1887 and continued until 1896. It again resumed in the 1930s, culminating in an unsuccessful concordat proposal in the 1940s. The current bilateral dialogue was established in 2000 and began meeting in 2002.

Agreement between The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA)

General Convention in 2009 approved an agreement with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). While this relationship is not full communion or Eucharistic sharing, the agreement encourages cooperation and joint ministry. General Convention also authorized a second round of ongoing dialogue. Learn more at *iam.ec/presagreement*.

Current Work of the Episcopal - Presbyterian Dialogue Committee

Leading up to the most recent triennium, the dialogue committee has worked on understanding the differences and convergences in the concept of episkopé, polity, theology, membership, social justice work, and more between the two ecclesial bodies. This triennium, the dialogue committee realized that there are already a number of joint ministries and some joint churches, and that there is a pragmatic need of a limited sharing of ministers with oversight—especially in rural or in urban or ethnic ministry situations where there are often no other ecclesial partners who embrace the work of the Church with a similar ethos. With that in mind, the dialogue committee has submitted to the next General Assembly and General Convention a resolution asking for bishops and deputies to study the report and then at the subsequent gatherings, consider passing the resolution to allow a limited and local sharing of ministries under the direction of the Bishop Diocesan or the Presbytery, as appropriate.

General Convention 2022: Receive and Study Proposal of Ecumenical Dialogue with Presbyterians (PCUSA)

Resolved, that this 80th General Convention receives with gratitude the proposal "Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries," which was prepared and distributed by The Episcopal Church-Presbyterian dialogue; and be it further Resolved, that this Convention encourages all Episcopalians to utilize the many resources available to understand the work of the dialogue and this proposed Agreement to assist dioceses and local congregations in the interim sharing of ministers. It further Resolved that this Convention encourages and supports prayerful consideration by all Episcopalians during the coming triennium of this significant step forward in response to our Lord's fervent wish "that all may be one" (John 17:21).

Find an explanation at *iam.ec/epalsm*.

Episcopal Church Dioceses and Presbyterian Synods

The Episcopal Church consists of nine provinces, subdivided into 119 dioceses in 16 countries. Ninety-nine of the dioceses are domestic. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is organized as 16 synods and 172 presbyteries in the United States.

For more information to see the dioceses of the Episcopal Church and Presbyterian synods, visit *iam.ec/diosynod*.

✠ ECUMENICAL INTERRELIGIOUS

More Resources

Contact the Rev. Margaret Rose, Deputy for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, at *mrose@episcopalchurch.org*.

Visit the homepage of the Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers at *edeio.org* and of the General Assembly Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations at *iam.ec/gaceir*.

Meet our committee co-chairs: The Right Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, Episcopal Bishop of Maryland, and Ms. Anne Bond, Ruling Elder, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A); and our co-vice chairs: The Rev. Canon Elise Johnstone, Canon to the Ordinary, the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington, and the Rev. Dr. Neal Presa, Associate Pastor at Village Community Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).