upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church 324 University Avenue, 3rd Floor Syracuse, New York 13210

From the Desk of the Conference Secretary

June 22, 2015

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo New York State State Capitol Building New York 12224 Governor of New York Albany,

Re: <u>UNYAC2015.9–Resolution to Support the Turtle Island Trust and the People of Ganienkeh</u>

Dear Governor Cuomo:

Greetings on behalf of Bishop Mark J. Webb and the members of the Upper New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. The Upper New York Conference represents over 900 churches with 168,000 members.

Enclosed is Resolution UNYAC2015.9-Resolution to Support the Turtle Island Trust and the People of Ganienkeh, passed during the Sixth Session of the Upper New York Annual Conference, held in Syracuse NY on May 27-30, 2015.

This resolution asks you and Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman to exercise the leadership required to ensure peace and justice for all by honoring the Turtle Island Trust Agreement. This agreement, which came into being in 1977 through the efforts of then-Secretary of State Mario Cuomo, established the Turtle Island Trust as a tax-exempt charitable land trust through which the people of New York and of Ganienkeh Territory resolved their differences in peace and with dignity for all.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Grace and peace,

Jeffrey J. Hodge Secretary Annual Conference Conference Upper New York