UPPER NEW YORK ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTION FOR THE CLOSURE OF A LOCAL CHURCH

WHEREAS, Lounsberry United Methodist Church was organized in 1873, and faithfully served its community in ministry for over 150 years;

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2023, Resident Bishop Héctor A. Burgos Núñez and the District Superintendents of the Upper New York Annual Conference Cabinet met and, upon full and deliberate consideration, declared Lounsberry United Methodist Church was no longer used, kept, or maintained by its membership as a place of divine worship and no longer served the purpose for which it was organized and/or incorporated; and

WHEREAS, the Cabinet further determined and declared that exigent circumstances existed requiring the immediate protection of the local church's property for the benefit of the denomination; and

WHEREAS, immediately upon the Cabinet's declaration of exigent circumstances, all real and personal, tangible and intangible, property of the Lounsberry United Methodist Church vested in the Annual Conference's Board of Trustees, with denominational authority to hold and dispose of the property in its sole discretion subject to the standing rules of the Annual Conference; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees faithfully and diligently administered the real and personal property of the Lounsberry United Methodist Church from May 19, 2023, until this session of the Upper New York Annual Conference; it hereby

RESOLVED, that Lounsberry United Methodist Church is closed, pursuant to the provisions of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*; and it is further

RESOLVED, that all actions taken by the Annual Conference Trustees following the Cabinet's declaration of May 9, 2023, are affirmed; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the balance of the assets formerly of the Lounsberry United Methodist Church, including the net sale proceeds, after administration by the Upper New York Conference Board of Trustees, be allocated and transferred in accordance with the standing resolutions and polices of the Upper New York Conference Board of Trustees with respect to closed churches; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the membership of the Lounsberry United Methodist Church be transferred to Nichols UMC or to other United Methodist churches as the individual members select.