

1 **UNYAC2022.5: Creation of a Buffalo 10 Scholarship**

2  
3 **Book of Discipline (¶):** N/A

4  
5 **Book of Resolutions paragraph (¶):** N/A

6  
7 **Conference Committee/Agency that would be affected by/responsible for implementation if passed:**  
8 Conference Finance Staff

9  
10 **Financial Implications:** This petition seeks no funds from the conference budget.

11  
12 **Brief Rationale:** On May 14, 2022, a mass murderer motivated by racial hatred killed ten African  
13 Americans and injured three other individuals. A group of clergy and laity from the Niagara Frontier  
14 District have gathered to discern ways to address the systemic racism that continues to impact residents  
15 of the East Side of Buffalo and elsewhere in our region. This petition represents one of several steps in a  
16 larger plan.

17  
18 **Whereas** ten individuals: Aaron Salter Jr., Celestine Chaney, Roberta A. Drury, Andre Mackniel, Katherine  
19 Massey, Margus D. Morrison, Heyward Patterson, Geraldine Talley, Ruth Whitfield, and Pearl Young were  
20 murdered in Buffalo, New York, on May 14, 2022, by a white supremacist from Conklin, NY. People from  
21 around the nation and the world have taken multiple steps to honor their lives as well as the struggles of  
22 those wounded and traumatized by the shooting. However, no ongoing memorial or action is underway  
23 in the Upper New York Annual Conference.

24  
25 **Whereas** the Jefferson Avenue Tops Supermarket is the only grocery store in the area, reflecting the  
26 legacy of residential and economic segregation by race in the city of Buffalo. This is in part why the shooter  
27 chose the location.

28  
29 **Whereas** initial high-profile efforts to address the emotional, physical, and psychological needs of  
30 residents have either ended or been greatly reduced. The lasting trauma of the event persists as well as  
31 the systemic inequalities that created a neighborhood with these distinct demographics and economic  
32 needs.

33  
34 **Whereas** a disproportionate number of children in the city of Buffalo live beneath the poverty line. All  
35 available people are needed to create and implement meaningful changes that will dismantle remaining  
36 manifestations of racial, economic, health, and educational inequality.

37  
38 **Therefore, be it resolved** the Upper New York Annual Conference establish a scholarship in the name of  
39 the Buffalo 10 for students from the 14208-zip code attending college.

40  
41 **Be it further resolved** that the scholarship funds be housed and distributed by the Upper New York Annual  
42 Conference and that the criteria for eligibility and annual selection be determined by a committee of at  
43 least three of the undersigned people and the UNY Director of Connectional Ministries.

44  
45 **Be it further resolved** that after the committee develops the criteria for eligibility and process for  
46 distribution, the committee will share these with members of the Upper New York Annual Conference

1 through conference communication channels. In addition, the committee will report on the process  
2 and/or winners at the 2023 session of the Upper New York annual conference.

3

4 Date of Submission: September 30, 2022

5

6 Submitted by: Rev. Scott L. Johnson

7 Mailing address: 310 Baynes Street, Buffalo, NY 14213

8 Phone number: (716) 440-7354

9 Email address: scottjphd@gmail.com

10 UNY local church: Pendleton Center and Buffalo: First

11

12 Rev. Angela Stewart

13 Mailing Address: 657 Best St, Buffalo, NY 14211-3001

14 Phone Number: (716) 891-5652

15 Email Address: sangel54@verizon.net

16 UNY local church: Buffalo: Metropolitan

17

18 Rev. George Nicholas

19 Mailing Address: 641 Masten Ave, Buffalo, NY 14209-1507

20 Phone Number: (716) 884-7664

21 Email Address: gfnicholas1@gmail.com

22 UNY local church: Buffalo: Lincoln Memorial

23

24 Rev. Raquel Alston

25 Mailing Address: 65 Main St, N Tonawanda, NY 14120-5903

26 Phone Number: (716) 694-2456

27 Email Address: RaqA1109@gmail.com

28 UNY local church: North Tonawanda: First UMC

29

30 Rev. Tanya Spencer

31 Mailing Address: 3700 N Buffalo St, Orchard Park, NY 14127-2330

32 Phone Number: (716) 662-7912

33 Email Address: tanyaspencer4@gmail.com

34 UNY local church: Orchard Park

35

36 Charles Syms

37 Mailing Address: 145 Cedar Rd. Buffalo, NY 14215

38 Phone Number: (716) 432-3937

39 Email Address: buffalo615@gmail.com

40 UNY local church: Amherst: Asbury

41