

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT’S MOTION TO THE FLORIDA ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
FOR FORMAL CLOSURE OF
ST. STEPHENS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of ¶2549.3.b) of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (“*The Book of Discipline*”), the District Board of Church Location and Building of the North East District (“District Board”), the Presiding Bishop of the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church (“Florida Conference”), and a majority of the District Superintendents of the Florida Conference (“District Superintendents”) found, consented and declared that exigent circumstances existed as of November 13, 2017 which required immediate protection of the property and assets of St. Stephens United Methodist Church in Hastings, Florida (“St. Stephens UMC”), however titled, including without limitation, in the name of St. Stephens UMC, the Trustees of St. Stephens UMC or its corporate entity, ST. STEPHEN’S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH INCORPORATED, a dissolved Florida not-for-profit corporation, for the benefit of The United Methodist Church denomination; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of ¶2549.3.b) of *The Book of Discipline*, title to all of the real and personal, tangible and intangible property of St. Stephens UMC, however titled, vested in THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, for the benefit of the Florida Conference, as of November 13, 2017, the date when the last one of the District Board, the Presiding Bishop and a majority of the District Superintendents gave the consent and declaration required by 2549.3.b) (the “Effective Date”).

THEREFORE, the undersigned, Rev. James J. Therrell, Jr., District Superintendent of the North East District of the Florida Conference, moves that St. Stephens UMC be formally closed and discontinued and that the memberships of St. Stephens UMC be transferred to such other United Methodist congregations as the members may select.

Dated June 5, 2018.

Submitted by:

Rev. James J. Therrell, Jr., District Superintendent