

2019 Upper New York Annual Conference  
Petition/Resolution Submission Form

1 **Title: A Call for Structural Change**

2 Financial Implications: none

3

4 **Rationale:** In light of the 2019 General Conference, it is time to restructure the  
5 UMC.

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7 **Whereas** Enormous cultural and theological gaps remain in our global church,

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9 **Whereas** The Council of Bishops, The Commission on a Way Forward, and the  
10 2019 General Conference were unable to find a satisfactory resolution to the  
11 impasse in the United Methodist Church around LGBTQ clergy and same-gender  
12 weddings in our churches,

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14 **Whereas** The Traditional Plan passed at the 2019 General Conference serves  
15 as a rejection of compromise and a theologically diverse denomination,

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17 **Whereas** Only structural separation will allow all Annual Conferences and Local  
18 Churches to effectively Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of  
19 the World,

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21 **Therefore Be It Resolved** That the Upper New York Annual Conference notify  
22 the Council of Bishops that the stipulations of the Traditional Plan are not  
23 acceptable for our Conference.

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25 **Be It Further Resolved** That the Upper New York Annual Conference call on the  
26 2020 General Conference to adopt a structural realignment of the United  
27 Methodist Church that creates an expression of Wesleyan Methodism that allows  
28 for both traditional and progressive understandings of LGBTQ Clergy and same-  
29 gender weddings to co-exist within the Church.

30

31 **Be It Further Resolved** That given the forthcoming structural change, we  
32 encourage Bishop Webb, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and other members of  
33 the conference leadership team to, as an act of grace, impose an immediate  
34 moratorium on any punitive action related to LGBTQ Clergy and same-gender  
35 weddings.

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37 **Implemented By: Secretary of the Annual Conference**

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39 **Date:** March 27, 2019

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41 **Signature:** **Stephen Cady**

42

43 **Submitted By:**

44 Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady

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