

Assembly Resolution No. 2258

BY: M. of A. Bronson

HONORING the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II upon the occasion of 12 years of distinguished service to the Asbury First United Methodist Church

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body seeks to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II upon the occasion of his 12 years of distinguished service to Asbury First United Methodist Church, to be celebrated on Saturday, June 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, For the past 12 years, the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II rendered faithful, conscientious, and valuable service to the greater Rochester, New York community through his leadership at the Asbury First United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Stephen M. Cady II received a Bachelor of Arts degree at Ohio Wesleyan University, a Master of Divinity degree at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and received a Doctor of Philosophy degree at Princeton Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II joined Asbury First United Methodist Church in 2012; the church is a Reconciling Congregation consisting of more than 2,200 members dedicated to outreach and social justice in Rochester, New York, and is well known as a leader for its anti-poverty and LGBTQ+ advocacy efforts; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as Senior Minister, a position he has held since 2015, the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II served with loyalty, honor, distinction, kindness, and grace; and

WHEREAS, In his official acts at the Asbury First United Methodist Church, the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II was governed by a keen sense of duty to do more good and always exemplified a unique grasp of human challenges while upholding a sense of duty and mission to serve the poor and disadvantaged in the Rochester community; and

WHEREAS, Providing an enduring positive impact on his Rochester community, the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II successfully led a capital campaign to convert an historic building on campus into a fully accessible Community Outreach Center that offers complimentary hot meals, showers, laundry, healthcare, clothing, hair care, and bicycle repairs to anyone in need of such assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II has been appointed to extension ministry as the new President of Brite Divinity School, a highly esteemed position at a progressive theological institution on the

Texas Christian University campus in Fort Worth, Texas; and

WHEREAS, Regularly preaching and speaking around the country, the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II has served as keynote speaker for the Rochester Citywide Martin Luther King Jr. celebration and has received the Henry Denman Award for Evangelism from the Upper New York Annual Conference; and

WHEREAS, He has proudly served as Board President of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Rochester, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II has served churches in Illinois, New Jersey, and New York, and teaches in the areas of practical theology and UMC polity at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and serves on the advisory board of MainStream UMC; and

WHEREAS, For his profound and lasting impact in religious and community leadership, the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II was inducted into the 38th Martin Luther King Jr. Collegium of Scholars at Morehouse College, a special recognition of highest honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure with at Asbury First United Methodist Church, the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II earned the admiration, respect, and affection of his colleagues, fellow community members, family, friends, neighbors, religious leaders of other faiths, and parishioners; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II upon the occasion of 12 years of distinguished service to the Asbury First United Methodist Church, and to wish him luck in all his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Cady II.