

## **Recommendation from the Conference Leadership Team – Vital Signs**

**Whereas** ¶201 of the Book of Discipline states, “The local church provides the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs;” and

**Whereas** the annual conference seeks to equip local congregations to become and remain vital places where disciples of Jesus Christ are made for the transformation of the world, and

**Whereas** the Vital Signs Dashboard has been used for more than two years in Upper New York and more than four years across the connection, and

**Whereas** use of the Vital Signs Dashboard has been voluntary to this point, and

**Whereas** data entered on the Vital Signs Dashboard provides a real-time picture of the mission and ministry of a local congregation as opposed to an annual trend view. This allows for patterns to be seen much more quickly, allowing for greater responsiveness to the needs of congregations, and

**Whereas** upon completing a full year of reporting through the Vital Signs Dashboard, the entered data automatically transfers to the EZRA end-of-the-year reports, and

**Whereas** the Conference Leadership Team has been charged with equipping local congregations to be places where disciples of Jesus Christ are made for the transformation of the world. Further the Conference Leadership Team has been charged with equipping local congregations to increase in their vitality. The Vital Signs Dashboard provides data which helps indicate the current reality, impact of resources provided, and indicators of health around the markers of vital congregations.

**Therefore, be it resolved** that every congregation in Upper New York shall be required to use the Vital Signs Dashboard beginning September 1, 2018. This tool will help congregations understand their current reality and provide the Conference Leadership Team with needed information to work with congregations to become or remain vital.

**Be it further resolved** training for local congregations will be made available prior to September 1, 2018.

Submitted by: Conference Leadership Team