

## 2015-J5730

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 116th Anniversary of Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church on October 17, 2016

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 116th Anniversary of Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church on Monday, October 17, 2016, in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Located on in the East Flatbush community of Brooklyn, Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church stands humbly, prayerfully, meditatively and joyfully after faithfully serving the spiritual needs of its community for many years; and

WHEREAS, With a vibrant congregation of more than 800 members, Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church maintains over 30 ministries including programs to provide wholesome meals to people of Far Rockaway, New York who still experience hardship from Hurricane Sandy; its Welcome Table program also offers a well-balanced meal to anyone on the last Saturday of the month; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed religious community opens its doors to homeless men for food, beds, shelter and showers three nights per week, and has partnered with the New York City Health Department as a host site to offer Diabetes Prevention Classes; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church's Reading Is Essential program gives free books, weekly, to children who need

to strengthen their reading proficiency; its volunteers also work with young people from early childhood to young adulthood as reading mentors; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church's W.A.N.T.E.D. (Worthy, Accountable, Named, Thankful and Determined) Project strives to mentor teenage boys in the East Flatbush, Brooklyn community; and

WHEREAS, Today, Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 116th Anniversary of Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church on October 17, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church, Brooklyn, New York.