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S.C. SUPREME COURT

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June 4, 2025

VIA HAND DELIVERY AND EMAIL

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk of the South Carolina Supreme Court
1231 Gervais Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
supctfilings@sccourts.org

RE: *The Methodist Church of Simpsonville et al., Petitioners v. The South Carolina
Conference of The United Methodist Church et al., Respondents*
Appellate Case No. 2025-000712

Dear Ms. Howard:

This firm represents Respondents The South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, Bishop Leonard E. Fairley, Rev. Cathy Mitchell, Rev. Fran Elrod, Rev. Steve Brown, Rev. Terry Fleming, Rev. Telley Gadson, Rev. Anthony Hodge, Rev. Chris Lossi, Rev. Ken Nelson, Rev. Steve Patterson, Jr., and Rev. Jeffrey Salley in the above referenced matter. Please find herein for filing the original and one copy of Respondents' Return in Opposition to Petition for Original Jurisdiction, with Exhibits A-C and Proof of Service regarding same.

Please return a file-stamped copy to me with my courier.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this regard.

Sincerely yours,



Elizabeth H. Black
Enclosures

cc: Miles Coleman, Esq.
James W. Bannister, Esq.
David C. Gibbs, III, Esq.

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The Honorable Patricia A. Howard

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