**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE THE JOYOUS OCCASION OF THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOCASTEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MYRTLE BEACH AND TO CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND THE CHURCH’S PASTOR, DR. KURT MCPHERSON, AND THE CONGREGATION FOR THEIR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that Socastee United Methodist Church of Myrtle Beach will celebrate its two hundredth anniversary in 2018; and

Whereas, on April 30, 1818, one‑half acre of land was deeded to the Socastee Methodist Church by Philip Elkes. Soon thereafter, a log‑cabin sanctuary was raised on what is now the southwest corner of the church cemetery and the first congregation of Socastee Methodist Church began to meet and worship together; and

Whereas, in 1875, a new sanctuary was built and is today referred to as the Old Sanctuary. It was at this time that the old log‑cabin sanctuary was torn down; and

Whereas, 1890 marked the milestone purchase of the church’s first organ and 1925 brought electricity. A fellowship hall was built in 1978. This was followed by a parsonage built in 1980. Ground broke in 1987 for a new, larger sanctuary. This is where worship is still held today; and

Whereas, tragedy hit in March of 2002, when the Fellowship Hall was lost to a fire, leaving only the parsonage as a meeting space for Sunday School classes and the Learning Center. A new parsonage was quickly built, and in December 2003, it was first occupied by Pastor Ray and Sarah Smith. In October 2004, construction began once again on a new Fellowship Hall; and

Whereas, today the Fellowship Hall is a gathering space for church groups, luncheons, the nursery, and the Learning Center, allowing for inclusivity within the community; and

Whereas, the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina are grateful for the legacy of kindness, kinship, and community outreach the Socastee United Methodist Church has exhibited for the past two hundred years and wish the church many more years of peaceful worship. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives of South Carolina, by this resolution, celebrate the joyous occasion of the two hundredth anniversary of the Socastee United Methodist Church of Myrtle Beach and congratulate and commend the church’s Pastor, Dr. Kurt McPherson, and the congregation for their years of dedicated service to their community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Socastee United Methodist Church.

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