**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DARLINGTON ON THE OCCASION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS SANCTUARY AND TO WISH THE MEMBERS OF FIRST BAPTIST WELL AS THEY CONTINUE TO WORSHIP AND SERVE THE LORD.

Whereas, churches in the Palmetto State provide encouragement and support to their members and promote the spiritual growth of their congregations through Bible lessons, songs of praise, and other ministerial work; and

Whereas, it is entirely appropriate to recognize the invaluable work of preachers and members of churches in teaching spiritual principles and advocating for peace among all peoples; and

Whereas, as First Baptist Church of Darlington has accomplished these laudable goals year by year, its sanctuary has served as a respite from the world and a place of spiritual refreshment and regeneration for a century; and

Whereas, established one hundred eighty‑one years ago, First Baptist’s congregation predates its sanctuary. Having proven itself a blessing to the surrounding community and beyond, not just to its own members, it continues to grow and reach out to its own “Jerusalem, and…all Judea and Samaria, and…the ends of the earth”; and

Whereas, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of its sanctuary, First Baptist held a celebration at the church on Sunday, April 22, 2012; and

Whereas, First Baptist Church has been a beacon of light in Darlington for nearly two centuries, and, God willing, will continue its godly heritage in many more years of worship and service. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate First Baptist Church of Darlington on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of its sanctuary and wish the members of First Baptist well as they continue to worship and serve the Lord.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Mark Jones for the church.

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