**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF BARNWELL’S MEN’S DAY PROGRAM AND TO CONGRATULATE THE NEARLY CENTURY‑OLD CHURCH ON THE TWENTY‑FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS FINE MEN’S MINISTRY.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Barnwell’s Second Baptist Church (SBC) is celebrating the twenty‑fifth anniversary of its Men’s Day Program in February 2018; and

Whereas, in 1994, the first Men’s Day Program was presented, having been planned and organized by SBC First Lady Fredrena Odom, the pastor’s wife. With a clear goal in mind, that of persuading all men, young and old alike, to take part in church work, Mrs. Odom created this event under the theme Black Men: Let Us Live Together in Peace. All participants were men; and

Whereas, over the years, the SBC Men’s Day Program has enjoyed many dynamic speakers. Its inaugural program was held on February 13, 1994, and featured the Honorable Nelson B. Rivers III of Columbia, executive director of the South Carolina NAACP Conference of Branches. Speakers who have since followed include:

February 12, 1995, Dr. Luna C. Richardson, pastor, Thankful Baptist Church, Bamberg; president, Morris College, Sumter

February 11, 1996, Minister Monnieque Singleton, MD, Union Baptist Church, Bamberg

February 9, 1997, the Honorable Wilbur Cave, member, South Carolina House of Representatives, District #91

February 8, 1998, Reverend Herman L. Wallace, pastor, Tabernacle Baptist Church, Blackville; assistant principal, Barnwell High School, Barnwell

February 14, 1999, Dr. James O. Rich, pastor, St. Paul Baptist Church, Anderson; former president, South Carolina Baptist E&M Convention, Columbia

February 13, 2000, Reverend James Holliday, pastor, Bushy Pond Baptist Church, Norway

February 11, 2001, Reverend N.A. McNeal, pastor, Capernaum Missionary Baptist Church, Denmark, and Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Norway

February 10, 2002, Reverend Harold Shepherd, pastor, Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, Olar

February 9, 2003, the Honorable Lonnie Hosey, deacon, St. Thomas Grove Baptist Church, Barnwell; member, South Carolina House of Representatives, District #91

February 8, 2004, Mr. Jay Jefferies, staff meteorologist, WRDW, Channel 12, Augusta, Georgia

February 13, 2005, Dr. Walter Tobin, retired public school superintendent, Columbia

February 12, 2006, Brother Rudolph Wheeler, counselor and director of Call Me Mister Program, Morris College, Sumter

February 11, 2007, Reverend Albert Middleton, pastor, Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church, Bamberg

February 10, 2008, Brother Robert Eaves, CPA, Second Calvary Baptist Church, Columbia

February 8, 2009, Reverend George Manigo, retired United Methodist pastor and district superintendent; member, Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Bamberg

February 14, 2010, Reverend Glenn Prince, faith and health liaison, South Carolina Office of Minority Health, Columbia

February 13, 2011, Reverend Douglas Simmons, pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Orangeburg

February 12, 2012, Mr. Matthew Priester, educator, Covington, Georgia

February 10, 2013, Dr. Sam Davie, pastor, Beulah Grove Baptist Church, Augusta, Georgia

February 8, 2014, the Honorable James E. Clyburn, United States House of Representatives, 6th District of South Carolina

February 8, 2015, Dr. William B. Blount, pastor, Greater Young Zion Baptist Church, Augusta, Georgia

February 14, 2016, Mr. Willie Jeffries, former athletic director and head football coach, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg

February 12, 2017, Reverend Thurmond Bowens, pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Columbia; and

Whereas, the “Big Seven,” a local community organization of men, assisted with parking and ushering at the inaugural Men’s Day Program event. This worthy organization has been, and still is, a very important part of the SBC Men’s Day Program’s success; and

Whereas, in 1996, the Second Baptist Church Male Chorus was organized at the urging of First Lady Fredrena Odom. The first singing appearance of the ensemble took place at the February 9, 1997, Men’s Day Program. The group’s signature music became “The Train Song”, also known as “I’m Going Home on the Morning Train”; and

Whereas, grateful for the positive influence of the SBC Men’s Day Program, the House extends best wishes for much success in the years to come, beginning with what promises to be a rewarding 2018 meeting on February 11, with C. Allen Moses, pastor of Mt. Zion Church in Lee County, speaking. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and commend the Second Baptist Church of Barnwell’s Men’s Day Program and congratulate the nearly century‑old church on the twenty‑fifth anniversary of this fine men’s ministry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Second Baptist Church.

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