**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PASTOR ALONZO JOHNSON AND THE CONGREGATION OF THE UNIVERSAL OUTREACH CHURCH AND THE DEDICATION OF THEIR CAMPUS AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR NEW CHURCH COMPLEX IN IRMO’S FRIARSGATE SUBDIVISION AND CONTINUE THE TRADITION OF MORE THAN FIFTEEN YEARS OF COMMUNITY MINISTRY.

Whereas, members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the Universal Outreach Church dedicated its new church campus complex on April 15, 2018; and

Whereas, Bishop Johnie J. Johnson officiated at the dedication service, and Bishop Eric Davis of the Word of God Church and Ministries in Columbia was the guest preacher on the church’s theme for the event and for the year, ReSet: Your Year of Supernatural Transformation, based on Joel 2:12‑14; and

Whereas, Universal Outreach is a part of the international denomination of the Church of God in Christ headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee, with sixty‑five congregations throughout the State and seven million members in the United States and in eighty‑two nations around the world; and

Whereas, formerly Columbia Church, the Universal Outreach Church’s new campus consists of a worship center and an educational/administrative annex building, with the surrounding six acres; and

Whereas, the acquisition of this property and buildings will enhance the church’s ability to offer ministry and services to people in the community; and

Whereas, in conjunction with the dedication, the church launched Embarking on the Future Day Care and After School programs, housed in the educational/administrative annex building; and

Whereas, the church’s ministry and services to the community have grown as the congregation moved from its first location at Harbison West Elementary School in Irmo in its early days to a location on Broad River Road and then on Bluebird Trail; and

Whereas, the Universal Leadership and Arts Academy (ULAA), opened in 2008, which has served hundreds of local children through tutorial, leadership, enrichment, summer camp, and after‑school programs and has partnered with Lexington-Richland School District Five to offer lunches and enrichment activities to community children; and

Whereas, for three years, the church’s back‑to‑school outreach has served hundreds of children and has provided thousands of dollars for back-to-school supplies and clothing for students, in addition to health screenings, food, and recreation for the entire family; and

Whereas, Universal Outreach has partnered with God Cares Charities; Eau Claire Cooperative Health Centers; Select Health of South Carolina; Agape Health Services, LLC; DHEC; Irmo Fire Department; Christ Central Ministries; and Walters’ Retirement Home; and

Whereas, concerned for neighbors around the world, Universal Outreach provided financial support for disaster relief and ministry for people in Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is grateful that the Universal Outreach Church joyfully accepted God’s call to provide a message of hope and transformation to the community which He has placed in the church’s care. 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 honor Pastor Alonzo Johnson and the congregation of the Universal Outreach Church and the dedication of their campus as they celebrate their new church complex in Irmo’s Friarsgate subdivision and continue the tradition of more than fifteen years of community ministry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Pastor Alonzo Johnson.

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