**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND COMMEND THE CONGREGATION OF MAXWELL BAPTIST CHURCH FOR A CENTURY OF DEDICATED SERVICE IN THE FLORENCE COMMUNITY AND TO CELEBRATE THE JOYOUS OCCASION OF THEIR ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the Maxwell Baptist Church celebrates its one hundredth anniversary in 2021; and

Whereas, founded by the late Brad Brown in 1921 on donated land, Maxwell Baptist is located on the corner of Malloy and Royal streets in Florence. For many years they have lived up to one of their beginning mottos, “Making a Difference in the Community;” and

Whereas, throughout Maxwell Baptist Church’s one hundred years of history there have been many pastors who have led the congregation. The first and founder was Reverend Brad Brown, who was then followed by Reverends Thirsty McCullough, Moses Timmons, Dan Robinson, C.B. Black, Sr., Tony James, Eddie Davis, and Daniel K. McCowan. Maxwell Baptist is now blessed to be led by its most recent pastor, Reverend Kippie C. Brown; and

Whereas, with the desire to care for their congregation and community, the Maxwell Baptist Church has undergone many changes and developed many services. This includes a gradual increase over the years in times and dates for general worship, the implementation of a parsonage and second church in Pamplico, the implementation of leadership workshops, the implementation of technology to have virtual meetings and conference calls, classes for new members, and most recently, the restructuring of services to allow for safe worship during the COVID‑19 pandemic, among many others; and

Whereas, remodeled three different times in 1935, 1964, and 1999, the church has continued to serve ably as a location to worship and find guidance. The Maxwell Baptist Sunday School has been overseen by twelve Sunday school superintendents and has had eleven secretaries. Maxwell Baptist also has had five previous Church Mothers, including Orea Robinson, Lillie Carter, Lillie Ross, Mary Dean Smith, Bessie Daniels, as well as Lester Wallace, who currently is serving. There have also been thirty deacons installed over the church’s storied history; and

Whereas, proud of its history of ministry, Maxwell Baptist Church has been blessed with thirty sons and daughters who have wished to carry on the Gospel as ministerial members. They include: Rev. James Brown, Jr.; Rev. Terry Alexander; the late Rev. Bernard Alston; Rev. Pearl Chaney; Rev. George Ashley; Rev. Elijah Harkless; Elaine Harkless, who was the first woman to preach her initial sermon; Rev. Phyllis Harkless Law; Rev. Evelyn Davis; Minister Betty Briggs McCants; Prophetess Mittie Campbell Mumford; Elder Alexis Pipkins, Sr.; Minister Candace McCall Small; Rev. Angelo Alexander; Rev. Chandra Graham; Rev. Lisa Spears; Revs. Johnny and Patricia Jenkins; Minister Thelma Sanders; Minister Tina Simmons; Minister Sally Umstead; Minister Carrie Conner; Minister Jennifer Green; Minister Patricia Holt; Minister Donnielle Jones; Minister Andre Jones; Minister Leroy Williams; Minister Victoria McCowan; Minister Yekeia Askins Trent; Minister Lois Perry; Minister Beatrice Nettles; and Rev. Veronica Davis Brockington; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives appreciates the ten decades of ministry of Maxwell Baptist Church, and the members celebrate with the congregation upon the momentous milestone of the church’s centennial anniversary. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate and commend the congregation of Maxwell Baptist Church for a century of dedicated service in the Florence community and celebrate the joyous occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of Maxwell Baptist Church.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Kippie C. Brown for the Maxwell Baptist Church.

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