**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE MACEDONIA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENWOOD ON THE OCCASION OF ITS HISTORIC ONE HUNDRED FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND TO COMMEND THE CHURCH FOR NEARLY A CENTURY AND A HALF OF SERVICE TO GOD AND THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, organized in 1882, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church of Greenwood is celebrating its one hundred fortieth anniversary of gospel ministry in 2022; and

Whereas, Macedonia Baptist Church had its beginning on Mineral Street under a brush harbor made by a group of people who believed in prayer. In the summertime, in the cool of the day, they got together and had prayer and singing to worship God under this harbor. During inclement weather, these faithful believers met from house to house between Mineral Street and Marion Street on the west side of Greenwood; and

Whereas, in 1882, a group of people saw the need for a Baptist church edifice on the west side of town. An organizational meeting was held at the home of William and Rachel Dandy on Mineral Street, and Emma Cook gave the church its name: Macedonia Baptist Church. The first pastor of this fledgling church was the Reverend Charles Franklin. Its first elected deacons were Henry Arnold, Ned Sanders, and Charles Logan. Henry Arnold was elected church clerk; and

Whereas, the church moved from the Dandy home to a double house and then to a small frame building. Under the leadership of the Reverend J.C. Goode, a wooden structure was built, and in 1901 the church moved to its present site. In 1919, a brick structure was built under the leadership of the Reverend T.H. Broadus. At this time, the congregation grew rapidly, and Macedonia was beginning to become a place of refuge for many people. The work of Reverend Broadus will always be remembered as a blueprint for what Macedonia would stand for, for many years to come; and

Whereas, as it grew, Macedonia Baptist was blessed with many fine pastors who faithfully led the congregation under the lordship of Jesus Christ. Over the years, these men of God oversaw the retirement of the church’s mortgage and led in various renovations, such as the adding of restrooms, choir stands, pulpit furniture, new pews, ceiling lights, and carpet. Further, a nursery was built in the basement, and a heating and cooling system and new sound system were installed. Property was bought for future expansion, and in 1977 the doors of Macedonia Center were officially opened. It has since served as a childcare center, a tutorial center, a meeting place for Boy and Girl Scout troops, and for many other purposes to the benefit of the community. The church expanded its budget, its membership, its facilities, and its number of ministries; and

Whereas, on December 16, 2018, Macedonia made history by electing the first woman ever to pastor the church, the Reverend Deloris Henderson. Under her leadership, the church continues to grow in the things of the Lord, in spite of the challenges presented by the COVID‑19 pandemic. Macedonia’s motto continues to be “Standing Tall for Christ!”; and

Whereas, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has been a beacon of light and a community worship center in Greenwood for one hundred forty years, and, God willing, will continue its godly heritage for 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 Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church of Greenwood on the occasion of its historic one hundred fortieth anniversary and commend the church for nearly a century and a half of service to God and the community.

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

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