

estimonial Resolution

DAVISON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

100th Church Anniversary

WHEREAS

Davison Missionary Baptist Church was founded as a mission on the first Sunday of October 1923. Under the visionary leadership of its first pastor and founder, Reverend Alonzo A. Goodwin, the church was established at 1620 East Davison Avenue in Detroit, Michigan. The founding members, alongside Reverend Goodwin, included Deacon William Everette, Deacon Willie Vaughn, Brother John Milton, Deacon Gennie Goodwin, Sister Rebecca Goodwin, Sister Annie Vaughn, Sister Lillian Everette, Sister Willie Lee Byrd, Brother Howard Everette, and Sister Milton. The congregation promptly initiated their first ministries: the Adult Choir and the Missionary Society; **and**

WHEREAS

Davison Missionary Baptist Church relocated to a storefront edifice at 13905 St. Aubin Street in 1928. The church flourished at this address until 1972, during which time they enhanced their facilities with a renovated sanctuary, an elevated pulpit, a choir stand, comfortable pews, and a lower-level baptismal pool; **and**

WHEREAS

Davison Missionary Baptist Church pastor continued to lead until retirement in 1960. Pastor Goodwin was succeeded by Reverend G. Lewis Randolph, II, who served until 1973. In July 1963, Reverend Herman Yarber, Jr. was elected as pastor, marking the beginning of the longest pastoral tenure in the church's history, which spanned over forty years until October 15, 2006. Under his guidance, the church undertook numerous civic, community, and church initiatives. He also oversaw the purchase of the current church property at 39 East Dakota Avenue, with the congregation moving in on October 22, 1972. The church's name was subsequently updated from Davison Avenue Missionary Baptist Church to Davison Missionary Baptist Church in 1973. By 1999, the church had installed an elevator, expanded its parking facilities, and fully renovated both the sanctuary and the lower auditorium; **and**

WHEREAS

Davison Missionary Baptist Church on December 31, 2006, welcomed a new spiritual leader, Reverend Dr. David M. Yarber, who was officially installed in May 2007. He faithfully shepherded the congregation and broader community towards Christ until September 17, 2022; **and**

WHEREAS

For a century, Davison Missionary Baptist Church has stood as a beacon in the Detroit community, unwavering in its commitment to proclaiming the Word of God; **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

RESOLVED

That the Office of Councilman Scott Benson and the Detroit City Council recognizes Davison Missionary Baptist Church for its 100 years of dedicated service to the community, teaching the Word and embodying the teachings of Jesus Christ. We commend the church for its outreach, community service, and for enhancing the lives of both its congregants and the broader community. May God's blessings continue to be upon all your endeavors.

Mary Sheffield

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

[Signature]

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM

John A. Young II

COUNCIL MEMBER

Mary Waters

COUNCIL MEMBER

Gula Whitfield Callender

COUNCIL MEMBER

[Signature]

COUNCIL MEMBER

Ratasha Johnson

COUNCIL MEMBER

Delvile Santiago-Romero

COUNCIL MEMBER

[Signature]

COUNCIL MEMBER

October 22, 2023

DATE