

Testimonial Resolution

Rev. James C. Perkins, D. Min.

Distinguished Pastor Emeritus of Greater Christ Baptist Church
The Honorable Coleman A. Young II ~ Detroit City Councilman At Large #1
Honors the Devoted Service to The People of Detroit, Michigan for 42 years of Spiritual Visionary Leadership

- WHEREAS:** *Reverend Dr. James C. Perkins* is a native of West Virginia. He is married to Linda Adkins Perkins and the father of two daughters and grandfather of two grandsons. He was ordained to Gospel ministry in 1974 and became the pastor of Greater Christ Baptist Church in Detroit Michigan in 1980. After 42 years of distinguished and dedicated service as pastor, Dr. Perkins officially retired and has been bestowed the distinguished honor of Pastor Emeritus; *and*
- WHEREAS:** *Reverend Dr. James C. Perkins* received his Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio (1990, Samuel Dewitt Proctor Fellow). He also served as the 20th President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention (2014-2018). *Rev. Dr. James Perkins* is the recipient of many awards, some of them are the "Ghandi, King, Ikeda Award" (Morehouse College), "Pastor of the Year Award" (S.C.L.C.), "Benjamin Mays Award" (Howard University), "Charles Andrew Hill Achievement Award" (Michigan Progressive Baptist Convention), "Michigan Chronicle's Pastor Salute Award", "Outstanding Church Leadership Award" (American Baptist Churches of Michigan), and "2018 Rainbow PUSH Church Community Award"; *and*
- WHEREAS:** *Reverend Dr. James C. Perkins*, believing that the church has a responsibility to serve both the temporal, as well as the spiritual needs of the surrounding community, established numerous enterprises that support that vision. In 1992, he founded the **Fellowship Nonprofit Housing Corporation**, as a vehicle for community economic development, creating the \$10 Million **Providence Place** which provides 50 single family homes for low-and middle-income families; *and*
- WHEREAS:** *Reverend Dr. James C. Perkins*, recognizing the educational crisis facing young, urban, African American males, instituted the **Benjamin E. Mays Male Academy** in 1993, a kindergarten through sixth grade Christian school for boys, that has positively impacted the future of hundreds of males; *and*
- WHEREAS:** *Reverend Dr. James C. Perkins* is the author of "Building Up Zion's Walls: Ministry for Empowering the African American Family", "Playbook for Christian Manhood: 12 Key Plays for Black Teen Boys", "Midnight Religion: Messages of Victory in the Midst of Adversity" and "Staking Claim to Your Mountain: Sermons of Empowerment and Endurance". His other writings have been included in both secular and Christian publications such as Black Enterprise, USA Today, Ebony, American Baptist, The African American Pulpit and the bestselling book, "Success Runs in Our Race" by George Fraser; *and*
- WHEREAS:** *Reverend Dr. James C. Perkins* currently serves on the NAACP's National Board of Directors. He has been an adjunct professor at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), Atlanta GA, and a former trustee at Wiley College, Marshall, TX. *Reverend Dr. James C. Perkins* has served as past president of the Michigan Progressive Baptist Convention. He is a member of the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, a member of the Detroit Chapter of the NAACP and is a Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.. In 2022, he was inducted into the "Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers" at Morehouse College. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED:** The Honorable Coleman A. Young II, Council Member At-Large #1, along with ALL the Honorable Members of the Detroit City Council celebrate the retirement of The Rev. Dr. James C. Perkins. Your vision for your congregation and for the young men of Detroit is a blessing from God. WE salute You and thank You for all you do for the citizens of Detroit!


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Friday March 17, 2023

Presented at the Retirement Celebration of The Rev. Dr. James C. Perkins, at the Roostertail