

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH ON THEIR 103RD ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) was founded by Dr. William Decatur Cook (The Creator), hosting its first service on Sunday, October 3, 1920 in historic Unity Hall in Bronzeville, and celebrates its 103rd Anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Joseph Meakin Evans, known as The Builder, became Senior Pastor in 1930 after Dr. Cook's passing and expanded the Church's mission into recreational, industrial, educational, music, and civic activities, and it became a home for many religious organizations and dignitaries; and

WHEREAS, MCC hosted important organizations and figures such as: the Pullman Porters, the NAACP, Mary McCloud Bethune, Paul Roberson, A. Phillip Randolph, and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt; and

WHEREAS; Reverend Theodore Richardson (The Sustainer) followed Dr. Evans in 1956 and brought expansion to MCC, building Cal-Met Village Apartments at 4101 S. Calumet Ave. to provide much needed senior housing to the community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Leon Perry, III, (The Visionary). The current pastor took over leadership of MCC on July 7, 1996 and focused the congregation on developing a personal "Relationship with God" through expanded ministry, including: the Ministry of Biblical Studies, the practice of Tithing, a Diaconal Ministry, Capital Stewardship Campaigns, and Annual Church Themes; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Perry, III brought the Church further into to the community by creating a Food Pantry, a Share-A-Meal program, Homeless Support, Health Ministry, and the Africa Mission Ministry, which partners with the Where Eagles Soar Ministry to support villages, orphanages, schools, six water wells, and heritage trips to Ghana, West Africa; and

WHEREAS, With MCC's longtime home at 41st and King Drive in disrepair, Reverend Perry, the Trustees and congregation built a new edifice at 4610 S. Prairie Ave. and hosted their first worship service at the new church on December 3, 2006.

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Reverend Perry, the Church's increased tithing and faith in God, the congregation has succeeded in paying off their mortgage and celebrates this accomplishment with a Mortgage Burning Ceremony on Sunday, October 3, 2023; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago gathered here in assembly this 13th Day of September, 2023 A.D. do hereby congratulate Metropolitan Community Church on its 103rd Anniversary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Reverend Perry, III and the Metropolitan Community Church congregation.



Pat Dowell
Alderman, 3rd Ward