**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE PROVIDENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH UPON THE OCCASION OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS PRESENT CHURCH BUILDING, TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CHURCH FOR ITS DEEP HERITAGE IN THE PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY, AND TO COMMEND ITS LEADERSHIP AND CONGREGATION FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to recognize Providence United Methodist Church as it celebrates this important milestone on April 28, 2019; and

Whereas, as early as 1804, Circuit Riders affiliated with the Methodist church provided religious teaching throughout the Lowcountry of South Carolina. A log building for worship services was built near Providence Crossroads, where Providence United Methodist Church is located today; and

Whereas, sometime in the mid 1800s, a second church was erected at the present location. Lumber for this building was cut by a saw mill that used horses to provide power; and

Whereas, in 1919, the cornerstone for the present-day Providence United Methodist Church was put in place, and the current brick church was built. A railroad spur was constructed especially to bring bricks and other materials to the property; and

Whereas, in the first part of the twentieth century, five young men from Providence United Methodist Church entered the ministry, and two women have also entered the mission field; and

Whereas, over the past one hundred years, Providence United Methodist Church has been blessed with twenty-three dedicated pastors who have fostered the church’s growth; and

Whereas, the church has always provided a space for its community’s needs. At one point, it was used by a traveling doctor who set up a clinic to remove children’s tonsils and by a dentist who used the facilities to take care of the community’s dental needs. In the early 1950s when the community’s school burned down, the church building also served as a school; and

Whereas, many church members have received recognition for special achievements, while others have faithfully worked behind the scenes to make Providence United Methodist Church the true heart of its community; and

Whereas, in celebrating its heritage and history, the church still cherishes many of its original traditions and features, including its beautiful stained glass windows and the baby grand piano in the sanctuary; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the ministry of Providence United Methodist Church and its service to the community and the State of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Providence United Methodist Church upon the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of its present church building, recognize and honor the church for its deep heritage in the Providence community, and commend its leadership and congregation for their many years of service to the community.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Providence United Methodist Church.

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