

HOUSE RESOLUTION 122

By Bass

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the members of the Church Street Church of Christ on the occasion of the church's 174th anniversary.

WHEREAS, the churches of Tennessee are crucial elements contributing to the social and spiritual health of our State, and the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize significant milestones in the lives of those communities of faith; and

WHEREAS, the good people of the Church Street Church of Christ comprise one such congregation, and this year they are celebrating the church's 174 years of service to the Lord and their community; and

WHEREAS, this venerable religious institution traces its rich history to 1837, when a group of committed Christians and stalwart servants of the Almighty began worshipping together in a small, one-room building in Lewisburg and calling themselves the Christian Church of God; and

WHEREAS, with the on set of the Civil War, the congregation decided to suspend its services and graciously offered its building as a hospital for the sick and wounded from 1864 until 1866; and

WHEREAS, with congregational input and expectant prayer, the forward-thinking leaders of this small flock purchased a new building from Mr. Samuel Davis in 1885, and the devoted members began assembling as the Church Street Church of Christ in the new house of worship on August 15, 1886; and

WHEREAS, during those early years, the church did not employ a regular minister, but enjoyed the sage direction of their dedicated elders, who took turns conducting the services, delivering sermons, and faithfully guiding the tight-knit family of believers through the trials and tribulations of life; and

WHEREAS, equipped with a deep and abiding faith, these humble servants of the Lord shared their convictions with their fellow members and community alike at their stirring, annual gospel meetings; and

WHEREAS, once a tiny community of faith, the Church Street Church of Christ continued to flourish and increase its membership, and in May of 1959, it began holding two Sunday morning services; and

WHEREAS, throughout its storied history, the thriving congregation continued adding to their facilities, including altering the front portion of the building in 1959, re-decorating the facilities and adding additional parking in 1962, constructing a new house for the minister in 1968, and completing an impressive educational annex in 1985; and

WHEREAS, the congregants of Church Street Church of Christ have been blessed with spiritual leadership from a great many preachers who have faithfully guided the church through the many years of its existence, including C.A. Pullias, Homer H. Adamson, Leslie G. Thomas, D.D. Woody, Oaks Gowen, A.C. Wiggins, Paul Rogers, Jack Parks, Charles Lemons, D. Ellis Walker, William P. Smotherman, Billy R. Helms, Charles Williamson, James Watkins, Kenneth Bass, Jason Moon, Mike Baker, and John Tracy; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the Church Street Church of Christ has generously contributed to numerous benevolent causes and countless missionary efforts, both at home and abroad, including supporting the Tennessee Children's Home and David Lipscomb University; and

WHEREAS, a powerful tool in the service of the Kingdom of God, the Church Street Church of Christ is one of the great religious institutions and catalysts for positive spiritual change in our State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Church Street Church of Christ has stood on the rock-solid foundation of Christian belief, service, and love for almost two centuries, serving as a bastion of faith and outreach to the people of Lewisburg, the surrounding area, and the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we join in

celebrating the 174th anniversary of Church Street Church of Christ, thank the good people of this remarkable congregation and their ministers for their notable service to their Lord and the State of Tennessee, and wish them much continued success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.