

Resolution Number 131
PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH (CHURCH OF KOINONIA)

WHEREAS, Pleasant Grove Church was founded in 1914 under the leadership of the late Rev. Dan Davis, however, the church was known at the time as Mt. Moriah. The church relocated several times throughout its colorful history and moved to 19th Street and was renamed Nineteenth Street Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, in 1937, Rev. Daniel C. Davis was called to the pastorate by the faithful group of Mother Alice Edmondson, Sister Viola Blevins McIntyre, Brother Louis McIntyre, Brother Harry McIntyre, Sister Reola McIntyre, Deacon Jeff McMillan, Sister Hattie McMillan, Deacon Ben Sample, Mother Elizabeth Sample, sister Mattie Moore, Deacon Thomas Tate, Deacon Henry Thomas, Sister Laura Wilson, and Sister Anna Houston. The church moved several times, to include the 20th Street location (between O’Fallon and Cass) and onto 23rd Street and finally O’Fallon Avenue; and

WHEREAS, subsequently plans were drawn for remodeling and the name was changed from Nineteenth Street Baptist Church to Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church. On the first Sunday in January, 1954, the church moved to 2407 Belle Glade. The church soon saw the need for a better building and plans began to build a new church. Three houses north of the church building were purchased and demolished. It is on these lots that our first edifice stands at 2411 Belle Glade Avenue (currently known as the Hildred London Multipurpose Room). The pioneer leader Rev. Daniel C. Davis retired after 45 years of Pastoral Leadership and the church elected Rev. Spencer Wilford to serve as pastor from 1983-1987, Rev. Spencer Wilford’s ecclesiastical investment was a bridge that led this congregation through a time of transition and restructuring. In December of 1988, the congregation elected Rev. Courtney A. Jones (now elevated to the office of Bishop) pastor of “the Grove”; and

WHEREAS, since then, the fellowship has enjoyed an abundance of blessings from the Lord. Bishop Jones has helped to successfully navigate this ministry and its congregants to grow by leaps and bounds, spiritually, physically and fiscally. His influence with other pastors and political leaders has addressed many of the issues facing our communities internationally, nationally and locally. Bishop Jones, a visionary of God, became a voice of revitalization in this, the Greater Ville neighborhood, rebuilding its cosmetic face. New housing and renovation began to occur in this historic area, reviving its great legacy; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, the Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church was renamed Pleasant Grove Church (The Church of Koinonia). God led Pastor Jones (at this stage of his ministry work) to the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship with Bishop Paul S. Morton as presiding Bishop. On June 26, 2007, the Pleasant Grove Church celebrated as their Pastor was consecrated Bishop of the State of Missouri at the FGBCF International Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church and we wish continued success, achievement and accomplishment and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 26th day of September, 2014 by:

Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderman 4th Ward

Adopted this 26th day of September, 2014 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen