

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 69**  
**HONORING REVEREND DR. HAYMOND FORTENBERRY**

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis of the retirement of the Reverend Dr. Haymond Fortenberry; and

**WHEREAS**, he was born in “The Hill Country of Mississippi,” (New Hebron) to Mr. Leffie and Mrs. Leffie and Mrs. Tinnie Fortenberry and graduated from Lanier High School and attended Jackson State University; and

**WHEREAS**, he served two years in the United States Army and fourteen months in Korea. Upon his discharge, he moved to Saint Louis Missouri. He received from Muriel School of Business, a Certificate in Accounting and Business Administration. He joined Westside Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent of the Youth Department; and

**WHEREAS**, he later became a Deacon, after that, he accepted the call from God to preach the Word. He became the Pastor of New Tower Grove in Saint Louis, Mo. in 1963, then in 1968 he accepted Pastorship at Greater Fairfax; and

**WHEREAS**, he attended Missouri Baptist College and St. Louis Christian College, where he received a B.A. in Christian Education and a Master’s Degree in Ministry from Christian International University. He was the first African American to graduate from Saint Louis Christian College. He has an honorary Doctor’s degree from Western Baptist Bible College; and

**WHEREAS**, his first Charge was with New Tower Grove Missionary Baptist Church in 1963, where he served for five years. He accepted the call to the Greater Fairfax Missionary Baptist Church, April of 1968. The church had a Radio Ministry with WGNU 920 AM. The program aired at 11:30am till 12 noon; and

**WHEREAS**, he traveled to the Holy Land, in Jerusalem, Hawaii, the Bahamas, Haiti, Belize, Cozumel, Japan, Costa Maya, and all over the United States. He has visited Samaria and preached at Jacob’s Well, where services were conducted; and

**WHEREAS**, he wrote the first “Life Membership of a Church” in the City of St. Louis at The West Side Missionary Baptist Church. He flew in a helicopter and led the Ministers and Politicians in trying to save and reopen Homer G. Phillips Hospital. He was on the committee to make Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday a National Holiday along with others; and

**WHEREAS**, he served as President of the Missionary Baptist Pastors Conference for a period of fifteen years, at which time the City Wide Revival had its beginning. He served on the Executive Board of the NAACP where Mr. Harold Crumpton was the President. He has been the First Vice President of the State Convention under Dr. Sammie Jones and Dr. Dr. Fate White; and

**WHEREAS**, Fortenberry served as Moderator –at-large under the late Rev. George Guys, III. In April of this year, he celebrated Pastoral Jubilee, pastoring and preaching God’s word for fifty years. Five years at New Tower Grove and fifty three years a Greater Fairfax Missionary Baptist Church.

**WHEREAS**, he was married to the late Laura Belle Allen and had two children, Diana and Tobias. In June of 2004 he married the former Ms. Christell Elizabeth Houseworth.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that being informed of the upcoming retirement pause in our deliberations to express our sincere congratulations and thanks to the Reverend Dr. Haymond Fortenberry for his outstanding achievements and his many years of faithful service to our community and wish him all the best on his retirement. 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 this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021 by:  
The Honorable Brandon Bosley, Alderman 3rd Ward**

**Adopted the 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, as attested by:**

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**Terry Kennedy  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen**

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**Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen**