

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 31**  
**Geneva Gentry**

**WHEREAS**, we have been apprised that on May 12, 2012, Geneva Gentry celebrated her glorious 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, Geneva Gentry was born in Waynesboro, Mississippi. An only child, she came to St. Louis with her mother at the age of 9. Soon after, she started to attend church with neighbors and found she had a passion to serve God.; and

**WHEREAS**, She graduated from Vashon High School and took business classes at Washington University.; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Gentry married Joshua Gentry in 1942 and raised two children, Joseph W. Gentry, a retired Army Lieutenant of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Marabeth Gentry, a singer and retired teacher with St. Louis Public Schools. She also has two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Her husband died in 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Gentry, is also an Evangelist-Pastor of the Southern Missionary Baptist Church. She is inspirational to a lot of musicians and influential to many young people; and

**WHEREAS**, when she enters the room, everyone seems to gravitate toward her. She is a premier lady in St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1999, Mrs. Gentry has been active in the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses, founded by Dorsey. As consecration coordinator for the group, she made an appearance in the 1982 documentary "Say Amen, Somebody," featuring Ford Smith; and

**WHEREAS**, in the community, Gentry was a charter member and chaplain in the 1960s and 1970s of the Yeatman District Community Corporation and helped organize the Yeatman Parent-Child Care Center. The center served families and unwed mothers.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to congratulate Geneva Gentry on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday and we wish her continued peace, good health and happiness 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 18th day of May, 2012 by:

**Honorable Dionne Flowers, Alderwoman 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward**

Adopted this the 18th day of May, 2012 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen