

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 92**  
**Deacon Richard Sanders, Jr.**

**WHEREAS**, Deacon Richard Sanders, Jr. was born on Tuesday, July 20, 1911 in Vaughn, Mississippi to Richard, Sr. and Missionary Joanna Sanders, Assistant State Mother of Northern Mississippi, Church Of God In Christ, under the late State Bishop B.S. Lyles. Richard was the first son born to this union, thereby acquiring the name, Richard (Son) Sanders, Jr.; the second child of 5 sons and 2 daughters born to this household. Preceding him in death were all 4 brothers, Alonzo, Timothy, Mavis (Bill), and Wellington (Bay), and one sister, Olivia Sanders Ingram. He accepted Christ in 1927 at the age of 16; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Sanders, Jr. was united in holy matrimony to Inez Miller on December 28, 1932. To this union were born ten children, eight sons and two daughters. Preceding him in death were his beloved wife of 73 years, one son, the former Prelate of Eastern Missouri & Western Illinois, Church Of God In Christ, Bishop W. Wesley Sanders, who pastored Shiloh Church Of God In Christ for 31 years, where Dad Sanders was the first recorded Deacon and Trustee. Also preceding him in death were one daughter, First Lady Vernetta Jefferson, and three grandchildren, one of whom preceded him just hours before; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Sanders, Jr. was born into the second generation of holiness of the Church Of God In Christ. He and his family relocated from Vaughn to Lexington, Mississippi and united with St. Paul Church Of God In Christ, Bishop Charles H. Mason's first church, under the leadership of Elder W.A. Patterson. In 1943, Dad Sanders, along with his family moved to St. Louis, Missouri and united with Williams Temple Church Of God In Christ, under the late Bishop Columbus Williams. He was a dedicated worker in the Sunday School, Young People's Willing Workers (YPWW), on the Usher Board and Deacon's Board. In 1969, Dad Sanders moved his membership to Shiloh Church Of God In Christ, the new work started by his son, the late Bishop W. Wesley Sanders. Dad not only served in the administration of the work, but also in the ministry of the work. He wholeheartedly promoted and attended the training of Sunday School, YPWW and the weekly bands. Dad has always been very adamant in his faithfulness in serving the church; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Sanders, Jr. carried a flaming torch of the gospel from generation to generation. He now rests with the legacy from the Word of God, "Train up a child in the way he should go,..." He trained up all of his children in the way they should go. The fruits of his labor yielded ten saved and sanctified children; one Jurisdictional Bishop (now deceased), four Pastors, three of which serve as Administrative Assistants to the Jurisdictional Bishop and District Superintendents, three Deacons, two Evangelist Missionaries (one now deceased). Dad's legacy lit the way for 31 grandchildren (three now deceased) and more than 50 great-grandchildren, a host of preachers, teachers, singers, musicians, and leaders serving in the church. Dad also left a legacy of strength, endurance, unconditional love and insight, which has been passed on from generation to generation; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2010, Richard Sanders, Jr. was blessed to celebrate his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was then that he said light-heartedly, "I believe I'll go on to 100 years; they tell me 99 ½ won't do". In July 2011, God favored him with 100 years of life. On Tuesday, July 17, 2012, just days before his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday, Mr. Sanders moved from his old house into a brand new life; and

**WHEREAS**, Richard Sanders, Jr. leaves to cherish his memory, his children, Administrative Assistant Theodas, Sr. (Mother Gloria D.), Deacon James H. (Sister Dorothy V.), Deacon Wendell (Sister Shirley T.), Administrative Assistant Courtney, Richard E. (Sister Shirley A.), Evangelist Marilyn Elois, Administrative Assistant Marvin (Evangelist Angela), Assistant Superintendent Darnell (Evangelist Beverly); 1 son-in-law, Pastor Emeritus James T. Jefferson, Sr. (Evangelist Vernetta, deceased), 1 sister, Evangelist Natalie Smith of Chicago, Illinois; his 28 grandchildren, his more than 50 great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, the church families of Shiloh, Bethany, Faith Temple, Grace and Gibeon, and a host of Saints and friends.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember the many contributions of Deacon Richard Sanders, Jr. to the citizens of the City of St. Louis and we join with his many friends in expressing our sorrow at his passing, 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 memorial copy for presentation to the Sanders family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012 by:

**Honorable Samuel L. Moore Alderman 4th Ward**

Adopted this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 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