

RESOLUTION NUMBER 93
Theodas Sanders, Jr.

WHEREAS, Theodas Sanders, Jr. affectionately known as Ted, was born November 28, 1957 in St. Louis, Missouri to Theodas, Sr. and Gloria Dean Sanders. He was the first born to this union of seven children; 5 daughters and 2 sons. He is the first to depart from this union. Theodas, Jr. accepted our Lord as his Savior and was baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost in the month of November, the year of 1971, a fifth generation member of the church; and

WHEREAS, Theodas was educated in the St. Louis Public Schools grades K-4th and Berkeley Public Schools, grades 5th – 12th. He graduated from Berkeley Senior High in 1976. He continued his education at St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley, where he worked towards a degree in Electrical Engineering. Ted then attended the Electrical Industrial Training Center where upon completion he was granted membership into the IBEW Local 1 as an Apprentice and later, a Journeyman Class A Electrician. He was employed for a time with Southwestern Bell and in construction as a Journeyman Electrician. The next 18 years, Ted was employed with the Ford Motor Company, first as a Plant Electrician, Line Maintenance Electrician, then Robotics Engineer. Ted was on track for promotion to Electrical Engineer before the plant closing; and

WHEREAS, Theodas was born and raised in the Williams Temple Church Of God In Christ, under the leadership of the late Bishop Columbus Williams until the age of fifteen. Upon the leading of the Lord, his parents went to worship under the leadership of the late Bishop W. Wesley Sanders, his uncle. He served faithfully until his father, Administrative Assistant Theodas Sanders, Sr. began to pastor in St. Louis. There his membership remained until his demise. Theodas Sanders, Jr. was a member of Williams Temple's Sunshine Band. He and his 2 sisters and brother were named the 'Sunshine Band Special' by our now, Assistant Supervisor, Mother Bertha Daniels. He was also a member of the Purity Class and Junior Choir. He attended all other bible studies, revivals and shut-ins; and

WHEREAS, after his family placed their membership at Shiloh COGIC, Theodas continued serving. At a young age, he often taught Sunday School, as well as YPWW. It was at Shiloh that he began to play the lead guitar. Later, he sang with the choir often leading songs. He was known and sought after for singing the song, "Walk Around Heaven." In the early 1990's, he was blessed in the International Holy Convocation, to sing the sermonic selection preceding Bishop W. Wesley Sanders' official message. It was at Shiloh, that he accepted his call to the ministry to preach the gospel, a charge he enjoyed; and

WHEREAS, he was united in Holy Matrimony to Teri Macon on September 20, 1980. To this union was born 2 daughters, Jennifer Theresa and Rebecca Diane. He loved his 'girls' (as he called them) very, very much; and

WHEREAS, Theodas was an ardent worker in the church. He continued to work in ministry, a member of the Joshua and Esther Building Fund group. He worked to help canvas the neighborhoods for Sunday School, washed cars, helped with church renovations. He was also the lead Electrician at Shiloh Church. He also served as an electrician to other sister churches such as, Faith Temple, Carbondale, IL, New Haven COGIC, Wilson City, MO. He aided his father at Bethany COGIC where he helped structure and teach Sunday School. For a period of time, Theodas served the church assisting his father in the ministry. In the timeframe of 2008 – 2009, the Lord directed Theodas to be a support to Gospel Truth Deliverance COGIC, under the leadership of Pastor Jerome Williams, until early 2011. There he supported the ministry and Pastor during the time of the Pastor's infirmity. He supported Pastor and Mother Williams as a son. Theodas Sanders, Jr. was a bible scholar, gifted in the word of the Lord. He was the Superintendent of Sunday Schools for the Columbus Williams District, a member of the EMWI Jurisdiction Sunday School Department. He enjoyed the privilege of serving as a Sunday School Teacher in the Holy Convocation – 2010; and

WHEREAS, Theodas was a caregiver to his grandfather, Deacon Richard Sanders, Jr., to Pastor Jerome Williams, and his younger sister, Kristy. Finally, he cared for his own father with great love, respect and diligence, something he did it with much joy until his own health began to fail; and

WHEREAS, Theodas departed this life on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at 2:05 AM, at Christian Northeast Hospital. He was surrounded by his entire family. He leaves to cherish his memories, always, his 2 daughters (my girls), Jennifer of St. Louis and Rebecca James (Cory) of Houston, TX, Teri, loving and devoted parents Administrative Assistant Theodas, Sr. and Mother Gloria D. Sanders, Caregiver of Theodas, Jr., 6 siblings, Evangelist Donna Maria (Elder Barry), Sister Lisa C., Assistant Pastor Roderick Mark (Evangelist Debbie), Sister Stephanie Lynn, Missionary Kristy Lynette, and Rosalind LeAnn, 5 nephews and 3 nieces, Brittany LeAnn, Roderick Mark, II, Barry L., Jr., Patrick Allen (a special nephew), Lauren Nicole, Gloria Maria, Randy LaDell, Theodas Preston (shared same birthdates), 1 grandmother, Mother Illaree Triplett, 1 great-grandmother, Mother Ollie Fay Richardson, 10 uncles, 3 aunts, 2 great uncles, 6 great aunts, a host of cousins, friends and the Bethany Church family.

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 Theodas 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 20th day of July, 2012 by:

Honorable Samuel L. Moore Alderman 4th Ward

Adopted this the 20th day of July, 2012 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen