

**Resolution Number 105**  
**Bishop Vinton Randolph Anderson**

**WHEREAS**, Vinton Randolph Anderson born in Somerset Bermuda, on July 11, 1927, migrated to the United States in 1947 at the age of twenty to further his education at the oldest Historically black private institution of higher learning in the United States Wilberforce University in Ohio, which is affiliated with the AME Church, graduated with honors as he earned a Master's of Divinity; and

**WHEREAS**, Vinton Anderson was ordained an itinerant deacon in 1951, became an itinerate elder in 1952, and married in the Chapel on the campus of Wilberforce University a fellow Bermudian, Vivienne Louise Cholmondeley. His pastoral appointments began in Topeka Kansas, and continued to St. Paul AME Church, St. Louis Missouri in 1964 where he served to 1972, and in this same year at the General Conference of the AME Church he was elected the 92<sup>nd</sup> Bishop of The AME Church which is the oldest and largest formal institution in Black America, it's membership covers 20 Episcopal districts 39 countries and 5 continents. Over the span of the following 32 years he provided leadership as the Presiding Bishop for the 9<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> Episcopal Districts of The AME Church; and.

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Vinton Randolph Anderson A member of the NAACP and was a life member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity received high honors from many organizations, which include a religious award from Ebony Magazine, distinguish alumni honoree of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (1988). He made regular appearances in the media, and his two most memorable moments were on Face the Nation and Tony Brown's Journal; and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Vinton Randolph Anderson A drum major for equal rights and social advancement of African American citizens in the United States vested time, energy and leadership in projects improving the quality of life of the citizens in community he served. He developed an Adult Education Program, created a summer youth program, promoted the first African American owned supermarket in St. Louis, developed 162 units of low income housing in St. Louis County, and chaired Vanguard Bond and Mortgage Company- run by community funds; and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Anderson preached and lectured all over the world sharing the good news of the Gospel. He was the first man of color elected to serve as president of the World Council of Churches which had in 1991 over 560 million members and represented 322 denominations. He was a celebrated global writer and scholar, writing and editing many books, articles and other publications, His most renowned work is "My Soul Shouts": The Spiritual Wisdom of Bishop Anderson. He is further recognized for his contribution and development of the bicentennial edition of the AMEC hymnal and the fist book of worship; and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Anderson completed his assignment here on earth and transitioned peacefully on July 9, 2014. The Council of Bishop's and The African Methodist Episcopal Church, Globally Mourns the transition of one of the greatest Ecumenist, Liturgist and Spiritual Leaders of 20<sup>th</sup> Century. He is survived by his faithful, loving wife of 62 years, Vivienne Louise Anderson, four sons-Vinton Jr., Jeffrey, Carlton and Kenneth, grandchildren, sister and a host of beloveds.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis, that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and honor Bishop Vinton Randolph Anderson and we, the Board Of Aldermen for the City of St. Louis Thank you for all your contributions and Christian values on behalf of the all the residents of the City of St. Louis, and we direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a commemorative copy of this Resolution to the end that it may be presented to our honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 17th day of July, 2014 by:

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

Adopted this the 17th day of July, 2014, as attested:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen