

RESOLUTION NO. 134
The 25th Pastoral Anniversary
Of Pastor Miki Merritt and Dr. Carol F. Merritt

WHEREAS, Pastor Miki Merritt and Dr. Carol F. Merritt have served for 25 years at New Cote Brilliante Church of God; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Miki Merritt, a native St. Louisan, attended St. Louis Public Schools, graduating from Northwest High School in 1977; he continued his education at Washington University in St. Louis, where he met and married his college sweetheart, Carol E. Flewellen in 1980; he graduated with a degree in Business Administration from the University of Missouri-St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Miki answered God's call to ministry in February 1990 and began pastoring the New Cote Brilliante Church of God in February, 1991; his visionary leadership and his unique gift of declaring God's word incorporating his creativity and sense of humor have contributed to the successful growth of the ministry; Pastor Miki truly has a shepherd's heart and is a man of integrity; his love for people and his gift of giving have been an asset not only to our congregation but to the church at large; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carol F. Merritt is the eldest child born to the Rev. Carl and Mayme L. Flewellen; growing up in a pastor's home, Dr. Carol has been involved in ministry her entire life; born in Columbus, Ohio, she spent her formative years in Bermuda where her parents served as missionaries for over six years prior to moving to Evanston, Illinois; Carol moved to St. Louis to pursue pre-med at Washington University; while attending college, she fell in love and married Miki Merritt in 1980; she graduated from Washington University in 1982 with an A.B. degree in Biology and from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1989 with a Doctor of Optometry degree; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carol is active in the life of the ministry; she serves the church as Minister of Music and Worship, and is a gifted choir director, praise and worship leader and pianist; she has a strong teaching ministry, and uses this spiritual gift to teach Bible Study, Sunday School and multiple discipleship classes; her passion is working with young women, teaching the principles of Titus 2:3; she is an ordained minister in the Church of God and gifted to proclaim the Word, incorporating her gift of teaching to help make the scriptures easy to understand; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carol owns a solo private optometric practice in North St. Louis County; she is active in the community and serves the optometric profession on a national level as president of the National Optometric Foundation and past president of the National Optometric Association; and

WHEREAS, the Merritts are the proud parents of four young adult sons, Miki Maurice (Emily), Sean Christopher, Carl Edward, and Joshua Caleb.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the 25th pastoral anniversary of Pastor Miki Merritt and Dr. Carol F. Merritt and thank them for their years of service to the City of St. Louis. 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 at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 13th day of October, 2016, by:

The Honorable Lyda Krewson, Alderwoman, 28th Ward

Adopted this the 13th day of October, 2016, as attested by:

Timothy O'Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen