

Resolution Number 237
172nd Anniversary of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

WHEREAS, the congregation of St. Paul African Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church is celebrating their 172nd Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul A.M.E. is the second oldest black congregation in St. Louis and thus the oldest African Methodist Episcopal Church west of the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Charles Spencer Smith in his book, “The History of the African Methodist Episcopal Church” has tied the beginnings of the local congregation to the work of Rev. Jordan Winston Early around 1832; and

WHEREAS, many pastors have served the congregation through the 172 year history first at the original location and since 1962 at the present location at 1260 Hamilton; and

WHEREAS, at the Fifth District Planning Meeting at First A.M.E. Church in Oakland, California, the Right Reverend John R. Bryant assigned The Reverend Alvin L. Smith to the “Mother Church” as the new pastor; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Smith known by his loving congregation as “Pastor Al” brought new life to an ailing church, his unique style is spreading throughout the community.

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 praise the tremendous contributions St. Paul A.M. E. has made to the community and congratulate them on their 172nd Anniversary. 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 8th day of February, 2013 by:

Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderman 4th Ward
Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

Adopted this 8th day of February, 2013 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen