

RESOLUTION NUMBER 245
Superintendent Courtney Sanders, Sr.

WHEREAS, Administrative Assistant, Superintendent Courtney Sanders, Sr. was born as the 6th child to Deacon Richard Sanders and Mother Inez Sanders on December 29, 1947 in St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Sanders was educated in the St. Louis Public School System. He graduated from Beaumont High School where he excelled in sports including Track and Football. On full athletic scholarship, he continued his education at the University of Missouri and Southern Missouri State University, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education and Automotive Technology. He also earned "Most Valuable Player" and "All Conference Honors ; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Sanders was united in Holy Matrimony to Bernice Andrews on April 8, 1972. To this union were born four children, three sons and one daughter; and

WHEREAS, professionally, Superintendent Sanders served on the Engineering Staff at Carter Carburetor where he invented the "Courtney Pump" for V.W. Fuel Systems. From 1973-1981, he then worked for United Parcel Service (UPS) where he moved up the ranks to Missouri State Safety Supervisor. In 1981, he founded Sanders Construction and Consulting where he constructed and engineered over thirty bridges. He was a member of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), earning achievements including National Minority Contractor of the Year and was the Chief Engineer for the International Church of God In Christ on the Saints Junior College Project in Lexington, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, during the Holy Convocation of Eastern Missouri Western Illinois, Superintendent Sanders received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and that with Power! From 1971 to 1979, he served as the first Minister at Shiloh Temple COGIC under the Leadership of the late Bishop W. Wesley Sanders. During this time, Superintendent Sanders held numerous positions and worked in various departments to include, Sunday School, YPWW, and Youth Leader. ; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Sanders moved his family to Southeast Missouri where he reopened New Haven (formerly Thompson Bend) COGIC in Wilson City, Missouri. Due to the constructional demise of the old church, he later built his first church of many to follow, which included Morning Star M.B.C. in Steele, Missouri, Loving Jesus Ministry, Blytheville, Arkansas, Restoration Temple Life Center, St. Louis, Missouri, LMW Life Center, St. Louis, Missouri, Shiloh Temple Life Center and many more renovations adding to the work of God. During his tenure, Superintendent Sanders served as Pastor for COGIC in Malden, Missouri (1982-1984) and First COGIC in Portageville Missouri (1990-1995), and Homestown COGIC; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Pastor Sanders was appointed District Superintendent of the now John Lofton District. He served as the Chairman of Board of Superintendents under the leadership of the late Bishop W. Wesley Sanders. As the Lord continued to bless, in 1993, Superintendent Sanders accepted the position as Pastor of Faith Temple COGIC in Hayti, Missouri. In March, 2008, Pastor Sanders was chosen to serve as Administrative Assistant to Bishop Lawrence M. Wooten, General Board Member; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Superintendent Sanders, Faith Temple Complex has been truly blessed as Superintendent Sanders has glorified God with the witness and the power of the Full Gospel Ministry. Ministries include tutorial programs, radio broadcast, youth ministries, feeding and clothing the homeless. Faith Temple was completely rebuilt. A new sanctuary was completed in 2000 and a new multi-purpose hall added. Superintendent Sanders had visions that are currently unfolding to include a Family Life Center with nine classrooms, indoor track, kitchen and multi-use area. His vision was for Faith Temple to be a 24/7 Help Center. As an Evangelist, Pastor Courtney Sanders conducted numerous revivals, leading many to Christ while giving instructions on surrendering all and receiving baptism of the Holy Ghost. He cast out demons in Jesus' name, truly being a vessel that was used by God in today's time. Pastor Sanders was known for saying, "*I'm on my way to Heaven and I'm having a good time...and I'm just a sinner saved by grace*"; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Assistant Courtney Sanders, Sr.'s life impacted the lives of many people both near and far. His dynasty will continue through his loving and devoted wife of 42 years, District Missionary Bernice Sanders; children, Elder Courtney, Jr. (Cora), Marcus Elliott "Jake" (Roketia), John Phillip Harrison (Kiana), and Allison Maureen (fiancé Chance); special daughter, Patricia Jackson, godson, William Fuller, goddaughter, Jessica Jackson; brothers, Administrative Assistant Theodas, Sr. (Mother Gloria D.), Deacon James (Sister Dorothy), Deacon Wendell (Sister Shirley T.), Deacon Richard (Sister Shirley A.), Administrative Assistant Marvin (Evangelist Angela), Assistant Superintendent Darnell (Evangelist Beverly), and sister, Evangelist Marilyn Elois; one brother-in-law, Pastor Emeritus James T. Jefferson, Sr., three aunts, Mother Florence Johnson of Evanston, Illinois, Sister Marvell Grace of Chicago, Illinois and Sister Natalie Lee Green of Chicago, Illinois; his nine grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and many spiritual sons and daughters; the Faith Temple Church family as well as the entire Eastern Missouri Western Illinois Jurisdiction and a host of Saints and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard and Inez Sanders, brother, Bishop W. Wesley Sanders and sister, Evangelist Vernetta E. Jefferson.

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 Superintendent Courtney Sanders, Sr. 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 7th day of March, 2014 by:

Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderwoman 4th Ward

Adopted this the 7th day of March, 2014 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen