

RESOLUTION NUMBER 180
Reverend Donald Hunter

WHEREAS, on Friday September 23, 1977, the Reverend Donald Hunter was called to Pastor the New Sunny Mount Missionary Baptist Church (NSM), located at 6080 West Florissant Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63136. This dynamic spiritual leader was indeed the answer to many prayers. He was not just an ordinary man, for he came with a multiplicity of ideas that also brought "Hope" to replace "Despair;" "Determination" to replace "Doubt;" and most importantly, "Purpose," a charge from God to do what seemed like the impossible; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Hunter brought with him Brother Ronald Metcalf, who formed the Chancel Choir that transformed the quality of music at New Sunny Mount. By December 1979, under Rev. Hunter's leadership, membership had more than tripled. Pastor Hunter ended the "Lease-Purchase Agreement" and found the funds to purchase outright the building located at 6080 West Florissant Avenue; and

WHEREAS, under Rev. Hunter's leadership New Sunny Mount has learned to step out on faith and to take God at His Word "that you shall have life and have it more abundantly." This man of God, this "Visionary Servant of Great Faith," envisioned a Retreat and Ranch facility. That faith became reality on September 3, 1989, with the dedication of the 319 acre New Sunny Mount Ranch and Retreat Site, that was open to all denominations and organizations as a place to fish, camp, fellowship and study and pray; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, also, NSM purchased 4-1/2 acres of land on 2 lots at Shreve and West Florissant Avenues, on which the new church is built. The completion of the New Sunny Mount Missionary Baptist Church facility not only provides space for the spiritual development of the people, but also social and economic development; and

WHEREAS, during February 1998, Rev. Hunter along with Terry Mills, Herbert Boykin, Walter Coleman, Saul King, Umphy Smith and Curtis Triggs, known as the "**Magnificent Seven**," under the supervision of Senior Deacon Arthur Walker, who gave support, prayer and encouragement, transformed the previous bus garage into a beautiful temporary worship facility. NSM worshipped there for 14 months while the new Church was under construction; and

WHEREAS, on the first Sunday in June 1999, New Sunny Mount marched from 6080 West Florissant to the new building designed and built to the specifications of Pastor Hunter and the New Sunny Mount Missionary Baptist Church Family, located at 4700 West Florissant Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63115; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Hunter has declared New Sunny Mount as the "**Church in the Sun of Righteousness for Missions to the World.**" As such, under the leadership of Reverend Hunter, NSM has become more active in community outreach programs, and ministries locally, nationally, and internationally; and

WHEREAS, New Sunny Mount Community Outreach is an avenue that has allowed the church to truly live up to its motto as a "**Church in the Sun of Righteousness for Missions to the World.**" With Reverend Donald Hunter as Pastor at the helm, a great man of Faith, New Sunny Mount has proven that, with a "working faith," you can accomplish great things, produce immeasurable joy, and *with God all things are possible!*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to honor Reverend Donald Hunter for his years of dedication and commitment to the City of St. Louis 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 copy for presentation to the honoree, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 10th day of October, 2008 by:

Honorable Bennice Jones King, Alderman 21st Ward

Adopted this the 10th day of October, 2008 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen