

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-223

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

November 7, 2017

To recognize and honor Drs. Dennis and Christine Wiley on the occasion of their retirement from Pastoral Ministry.

WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. Dennis W. Wiley, a native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has served for 30 years as pastor of the Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS, after Dr. Dennis Wiley's 19 years of service as senior pastor, the congregation affirmed the vision of Dr. Wiley and his wife, The Reverend Dr. Christine Y. Wiley, by calling them to serve together as co-equal pastors 11 years ago;

WHEREAS, Dr. Dennis Wiley received the Bachelor of Arts degree magna cum laude from Harvard University, the Master of Divinity degree cum laude from Howard University, and the Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the Union Theological Seminary in New York City;

WHEREAS, Dr. Dennis Wiley has published over 10 articles, essays, and book Chapters, including "Black Church Studies as Practical Theology" in The Black Church Studies Reader, "Gays Are Us," Parts I and II, by the Center for American Progress, and "Howard Thurman, The Church and The Poor" in Creation Spirituality;

WHEREAS, Dr. Christine Wiley has served in pastoral ministry for over 28 years;

WHEREAS, Dr. Christine Wiley received the Doctor of Ministry degree in Pastoral Counseling and Psychotherapy in 1994 from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois;

WHEREAS, publications by Dr. Christine Wiley include "A Ministry of Empowerment: A Holistic Model for Pastoral Counseling in the African American Community" in The Journal of Pastoral Care; "A Womanist Journey" in The Journal of Feminist Thought; and a chapter she co-authored entitled, "Psychotherapy with Members of African American Churches and Spiritual Tradition" in Handbook of Psychotherapy and Religious Traditions;

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WHEREAS, Dr. Christine Wiley also has a sermon published in *Those Preaching Women: A Multicultural Collection*, edited by Ella P. Mitchell;

WHEREAS, Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ is the first traditional Black church in the District of Columbia to perform same-sex unions; and

WHEREAS, Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ is located in Southwest Washington, D.C.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Drs. Dennis and Christine Wiley Recognition Resolution of 2017”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes Drs. Dennis and Christine Wiley on the occasion of their retirement.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.