

**ENROLLED ORIGINAL**

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-142

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

September 17, 2019

To recognize and honor Fellowship Baptist Church on their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for their impact on the Ward 4 community and their dedication to improving the lives of others.

WHEREAS, on August 19, 1994 Reverend Dr. Carlton W. Veazey founded Fellowship Baptist Church, which was organized under the gracious patronage of New Bethel Baptist Church and their pastor Dr. Walter E. Fauntroy;

WHEREAS, Dr. Carlton W. Veazey sought to establish a church in keeping with the teaching of the New Testament and chose the name *Fellowship* to reflect the Baptist mission to create a fellowship of believers, wherein love is practiced in word and deed;

WHEREAS, Fellowship Baptist Church was issued a D.C. Charter on September 7, 1994 and the church began meeting in the Roosevelt for Seniors facility located on 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW due to the graciousness of the Honorable H.R. Crawford;

WHEREAS, after three years, the Roosevelt for Seniors facility was closed, and Fellowship Baptist Church moved to the Owl School on 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW before briefly moving to the Howard University School of Divinity Chapel;

WHEREAS, in 1999 Sister Carlotta Parks was able to find a building at 5606 Colorado Avenue, NW that Fellowship Baptist Church would move to and remains at today, and the dedication service was held on September 26, 1999;

WHEREAS, Reverend Patricia Hailes Fears joined Fellowship Baptist Church as Assistant to Pastor Veazey;

WHEREAS, following Fellowship Baptist Church's second church retreat, Reverend Veazey appointed several new ministries including, Christian Education and Evangelism and Outreach, the Food Pantry;

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WHEREAS, in July of 2014 Pastor Veazey introduced the *One Congregation, One Family* Program initiative to Fellowship Baptist Church with the hopes of ending homelessness and housing insecurity through promoting life skills and offering the caring environment and encouragement necessary to foster personal and economic growth for families to move away from homelessness and housing instability;

WHEREAS, after 22 years Reverend Dr. Carlton W. Veazey announced he would step down as Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church and on December 11, 2016 Reverend Patricia Fears was installed as the second Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church;

WHEREAS, since her installation, Reverend Fears has furthered Fellowship Baptist Church's engagement with the community through various partnerships such as distributing winter coats for school children with Ward 4 Councilmember Brandon T. Todd, partnering with local barbershops to provide free haircuts for D.C. students, and collecting over 1,200 pounds of non-perishable food for the Capital Area Food Bank in partnership with First Base;

WHEREAS, Fellowship Baptist Church holds conversations and dialogue with their surrounding communities on various issues through their Conversation Parties, which tackle issues such as mass incarceration, global racism and financial literacy; and

WHEREAS, Fellowship Baptist Church continues to impact and better their surrounding community, our Ward 4 community and the District of Columbia through their outreach and dedication to lifting others up for a quarter century.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fellowship Baptist Church Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors Fellowship Baptist recognizes the work that Fellowship Baptist church has done over the past 25 years.

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