

HOUSE RESOLUTION 89

By Shepard

A RESOLUTION to recognize Reverend William Allen Weller, III on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with devotion, strength, and revelation to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Reverend William Allen Weller, III is one such stalwart servant of the Lord, who has served with anointing grace since 1977 as a pastor within the United Methodist Church; this humble man of God has now taken a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, born in Nashville, Tennessee on August 31, 1947, Reverend Weller grew up in Middle Tennessee and eventually accepted the rewarding call to the ministry, a decision that would allow him to touch the lives of countless individuals; and

WHEREAS, he pursued a Master of Divinity from Duke University Divinity School and a Doctorate of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta, GA; and

WHEREAS, before he began his religious studies, Reverend Weller also obtained degrees from Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Weller began his pastoral career in Roxboro, North Carolina and led several other congregations throughout the state of Tennessee before he took his final post in 2007 as pastor of Dickson First United Methodist Church in Dickson, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Weller has led his congregation with love and compassion, teaching them to live life in accordance to the word of God; and

WHEREAS, he was ordained as a Deacon within the United Methodist Church in 1979 and was named an Elder in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Weller is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including the Dickson County Kiwanis Club, and lending his support to the Dickson County Ministerial Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, he has also served on the Board of Directors of numerous organizations including United Way of Sumner County, Hendersonville Community Childcare, Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce, Dickson Community Faith-based Clinic, Dickson County Health Council, Dickson County Family YMCA, and Dickson County United Way; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Weller has been recognized by numerous organizations for his stalwart leadership; some of his most recent accolades include the Denman Evangelism Award given by the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church and the G. Ross Freeman Leadership Award, presented by the United Methodist Men of the Southeast Jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, his many personal and professional achievements aside, Reverend Weller is most grateful for the companionship he shares with his wife Sharon; and together they are the proud parents of Deni, Damon, and Dana; and

WHEREAS, the Wellers are also the doting grandparents of five grandchildren: Luke, Elizabeth, Madison, Evan, and Olivia; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Weller exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, as a humble servant of God, Reverend William Weller, III has demonstrated the utmost compassion, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his friends, his family, and his congregation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Reverend William Allen Weller, III our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.