

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 457

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the pastor and congregation of Trevecca Community Church of the Nazarene on the celebration of their church's seventy-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations that, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such dynamic community of faith is Trevecca Community Church of the Nazarene, the pastor and members of which are celebrating the church's seventy-fifth anniversary of ministry and service to the City of Nashville, the State of Tennessee, the Church of the Nazarene, and Trevecca Nazarene University on September 10, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Trevecca Community Church of the Nazarene was founded in the fall of 1942, with nineteen charter members and Dr. A.K. Bracken, also dean of the School of Religion at Trevecca Nazarene College (now University), serving as the founding pastor; and

WHEREAS, Trevecca Community Church and the Tennessee District, led by its superintendent, The Reverend J.D. Saxon, partnered with Trevecca Nazarene College and its president, Dr. A.B. Mackey, to build this church on the campus of Trevecca to serve the faculty and students who lived there; and

WHEREAS, originally named College Hill Church of the Nazarene, the church occupied a building at the corner of Hart Street and Lester Avenue for nearly three decades; the current church facility was opened in 1980 and sits on a bluff above Murfreesboro Road as a beacon and entrance to the Trevecca campus and a bridge of hope to the Murfreesboro Road community; and

WHEREAS, Trevecca Community Church has played a formative role in the global ministry efforts of the Church of the Nazarene; its pastors, staff, and members have served the denomination in various roles as university presidents, district superintendents, missionaries, evangelists, college professors, denominational officials, and governing board members for the ministries of the Church of the Nazarene in Tennessee and around the world; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Trevecca Community Church of the Nazarene, under the leadership of the Reverend T.E. Jones, sponsored the construction of Trevecca Towers One, a federal housing project that is located adjacent to the church campus; with the addition of Trevecca Towers II in 1974 and Trevecca Towers East in 1979, Trevecca Community Church continued to support the housing needs of the local community; and

WHEREAS, recognized by the Church of the Nazarene as an official Compassionate Ministry Center of the denomination, Trevecca Community Church has implemented various programs for the Napier community in its neighborhood and its schools and today sponsors CrossBridgeInc., a nonprofit organization ministering to over 200 people in addiction recovery; and

WHEREAS, featured by President George W. Bush as a model ministry in his administration's Faith Based Initiatives program in 2008, CrossBridgeInc. partners with several community agencies to assist their clients and also operates KIDPOWER ministries, a service offering tutoring, mentoring, and spiritual services to the children of parents served by the organization and the Napier community; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Dr. Dwight M. Gunter II, its pastor since 2002, Trevecca Community Church of the Nazarene currently serves a ministry of over 1,000 people with worship services and educational, community, and social justice ministries in Nashville and the State of Tennessee, with missionaries and church officials from the congregation serving around the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we join in the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of Trevecca Community Church of the Nazarene, thank the good people of this outstanding congregation for their notable service to their Lord, the City of Nashville, and the State of Tennessee, and wish them much continued success and happiness.

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