

## 2012 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 548

*Commending Sterling United Methodist Church.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, April 17, 2012

WHEREAS, Sterling United Methodist Church celebrates 133 years of serving Loudoun County and the families of Sterling in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Sterling United Methodist Church was established in 1875 as the Methodist Church in Guilford, occupying a one-room building that was also used as a public school located at 1101 W. Church Road; and

WHEREAS, in 1879 the building and one acre of land was purchased for \$200 to be used as a church; in 1890 the name of the community was changed from Guilford to Sterling and the name of the church was changed to Sterling Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, seven years later, the church building burned to the ground; a new building was erected on the same site and served as the sanctuary for the congregation until 1983; and

WHEREAS, for 108 years, Sterling Methodist Church remained a part of a circuit that often numbered as many as nine churches; in 1963 the first unit of a projected master plan of six buildings was constructed and Sterling Methodist Church became a station church and was assigned a full-time minister; and

WHEREAS, Sterling Methodist Church continued to grow in faith and members, dedicating a new Sunday School building in 1968; and

WHEREAS, due to restructuring within the entire Methodist Church, the Sterling Methodist Church changed its name to Sterling United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 1983, Sterling United Methodist Church moved into its new building at 304 E. Church Road; today, membership numbers over 1,100 under the leadership of pastor Randy Duncan; and

WHEREAS, Sterling United Methodist Church is home to the largest Boy Scout troop in Loudoun County, Troop 970, which is led by Scoutmaster John Kinan; and

WHEREAS, Troop 970 has earned the Boy Scouts of America National Quality Unit 100 Percent Boys Life Award in 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, and 2003 and earned the Quality Unit Award in 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, and 1994; and

WHEREAS, Sterling United Methodist Church, as part of the Methodist faith, shares a common heritage with other Christians with four main guidelines for belief—scripture, tradition, experience, and reason; and

WHEREAS, Sterling United Methodist Church looks forward to continuing to celebrate and share its faith with others in the future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Sterling United Methodist Church hereby be commended on the occasion of its 133rd anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Sterling United Methodist Church as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and appreciation of the church's commitment to serving its members and the community.

ENROLLED

HR548ER