

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 166

Commending Third Baptist Church.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 27, 2014
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 3, 2014

WHEREAS, Third Baptist Church, located in Alexandria, proudly celebrated its rich legacy of worship and service to the community on October 13, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Third Baptist Church began when a small group of former slaves who had settled near the Potomac River waterfront gathered together for prayer in their newly built cabins; and

WHEREAS, as their numbers grew, the group realized that they needed a larger location and moved to Third Baptist Church's first site at Pitt and Oronoco Streets while under the leadership of the Reverend George W. Parker; and

WHEREAS, Third Baptist Church then bought an old frame structure at the corner of Princess and North Patrick Streets for \$50; the existing structure was demolished and a brick structure erected by the congregation in 1865 that serves as the underpinning of the current building in use today; and

WHEREAS, in 1881, several members of Third Baptist Church began to meet at the Odd Fellows Hall, eventually forming "The Little Red Church," which today is known as Ebenezer Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Third Baptist Church received wise counsel under the leadership of the Reverends Fields Cook, R. H. Porter, Wesley F. Graham, D. H. Henderson, Samuel B. Ross, James D. Peters, Harold C. Hunter, Joseph E. Penn, Thomas F. Spears, Charles E. Gee, Dr. Daniel L. Brown, and James V. Jordan; and

WHEREAS, today, Third Baptist Church offers a variety of ministries, including a soup kitchen, Visitation Ministry, Jail Ministry, Senior Citizens Ministry at the Ladrey Senior High Rise Building, Second Genesis Drug Rehabilitation Center Ministry, Singles Ministry, Men's Ministry, Together Ministry, Caregiver's Ministry, and Hospitality Ministry; and

WHEREAS, for the past 150 years, the congregation of Third Baptist Church has persevered and thrived, growing in faith and numbers while the church expanded its ministries and outreach activities to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Third Baptist Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Third Baptist Church as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the church's long history and dedication to serving its members and the community.