

# 2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5202

*Commending Tabernacle United Methodist Church.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, September 18, 2014

Agreed to by the Senate, September 18, 2014

WHEREAS, in 2014, Tabernacle United Methodist Church celebrates 200 years of serving and uplifting the members of the Amelia community through worship services, outreach, and ministry programs; and

WHEREAS, originally known as Tabernacle Methodist Episcopal Church South, Tabernacle United Methodist Church was built in 1814 on land donated by a member of the community; the church was rebuilt in 1906 with the help of many generous donations from local residents; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Tabernacle United Methodist Church continued to grow, adding four classrooms in 1960 and a parsonage in 1979 among many other enhancements; the church began holding services on every Sunday beginning in January 1981; and

WHEREAS, after Tabernacle United Methodist Church was destroyed by a fire in 1996, members of the congregation continued to hold services under tents and instituted Wednesday evening prayer meetings that continue to this day; the congregation hosted bake sales and stew sales to fund the construction of a larger, more modern church, which held its first service on November 24, 1996; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Tabernacle United Methodist Church worked to preserve the history of the area by cleaning and restoring tombstones in the church cemetery, and in 2004 the Amelia Historical Society included Tabernacle United Methodist Church on its tour of historical sites in Amelia County; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2005, Tabernacle United Methodist Church expanded its ministry and outreach programs to better serve communities in the Commonwealth and around the world; the church sponsored a musical program, a seniors group, and mission trips to Alabama, Florida, Missouri, and Nepal and began working with CARITAS and Habitat for Humanity; and

WHEREAS, Tabernacle United Methodist Church also works to inspire and support the youth of the community through its longstanding Sunday school program and youth ministries and by awarding scholarships to college-bound students; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Tabernacle United Methodist Church for its tradition of spiritual leadership on the occasion of its 200th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dan Walker, pastor of Tabernacle United Methodist Church, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the church's storied history and many contributions to the Amelia community.

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