

## 2016 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 348

Offered February 24, 2016

*Commending Faith Baptist Church.*

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Patron—Ingram

WHEREAS, for 50 years, Faith Baptist Church has served the residents of Hopewell and the Tri-City area by providing opportunities for joyful worship in the Baptist tradition, spiritual leadership, and generous outreach to the community; and

WHEREAS, Faith Baptist Church traces its roots to the Reverend Dwight N. Norville and his wife, Bonnie, who established a new faith community as an offshoot of Friendship Baptist Church; in its early days, the new congregation met in homes in Crewe and Hopewell; and

WHEREAS, Faith Baptist Church was officially organized on February 26, 1966, with Reverend Norville as the first pastor; the church purchased its first building from the Brethren Church and was generously supported by Grace Baptist Church as a mission project; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Faith Baptist Church has benefited from the able leadership of three additional pastors, the Reverend Paul Presley, the Reverend Earl Fowlkes, and the Reverend George P. Dembeck, who has served as pastor for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, when Faith Baptist Church moved to its current location on Middle Road, it expanded its ministries, and the congregation continued to grow; the church is known as a friendly community, where the power of prayer and a close relationship with Jesus Christ are emphasized; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Faith Baptist Church on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend George P. Dembeck, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the church's legacy of service to the Hopewell and Tri-City area communities.

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