

## 2017 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 550

*Commending Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 13, 2017

Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 2017

WHEREAS, for 119 years, Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church has provided spiritual guidance, generous outreach, and opportunities for joyful worship in the Baptist tradition to the members of the Jarratt community; and

WHEREAS, established in 1898, Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church was built on land donated by George Oliver Parham, a prominent local farmer, and although the church has grown and expanded much over the years, it remains at the same location; and

WHEREAS, the founding pastor of Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, the Reverend Theodore Smith, preceded many able leaders, including the Reverend Luther Daughtry, the Reverend Alexander Truell, the Reverend Frank Winston, the Reverend Chester Frazier, the Reverend Otis Pigford, the Reverend Dennis Hampton, the Reverend Mack Parham, and the Reverend Linda Skipper; and

WHEREAS, Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church has also benefited from the devoted service of many deacons over the years, including female deacons who provide valuable spiritual counseling to women of the congregation; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that the congregation continues to grow, Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church cultivates a strong relationship with local young people by hosting a Youth Day on the first Sunday of each month and a Youth Revival Week each year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of its 119th 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 Dr. Dorth P. Edwards, pastor of Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the church's contributions to the Jarratt community.

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