

2013-J3391

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Elissa Zahn upon the occasion of celebrating her 50th Anniversary as a professional church musician

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and recognize those talented individuals, who have had a significant impact on the arts and culture of our communities by providing the public with brilliant entertainment and students with outstanding instruction in the field of music; one such individual is Elissa Zahn; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Elissa Zahn, Minister of Music at Grace United Methodist Church in Newburgh, New York, upon the occasion of celebrating her 50th Anniversary as a professional church musician; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious milestone was celebrated with a special concert entitled "50 Years--A Musical Memoir" on Sunday, November 3, 2013, at Grace United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Along with playing a variety of pieces on the church's magnificent Gress Miles pipe organ, Elissa Zahn conducted the Chancel Choir and played organ/piano duets with her sister and a colleague; and

WHEREAS, The program included a special piece written for the occasion as well as featured some of Elissa Zahn's own arrangements in celebration of her five decades as a church musician; and

WHEREAS, A retired music and theater arts teacher from the Newburgh School District, Elissa Zahn started playing professionally at the age of 16 when she served as the organist for the Canterbury Presbyterian Church in Cornwall, New York, from 1963 until 1965; and

WHEREAS, After majoring in organ and piano at Ithaca College and SUNY New Paltz, Elissa Zahn served as choir director and organist at four other churches in Cornwall and Newburgh; for the past 10 years, she has

been at Grace United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when talented individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Elissa Zahn upon the occasion of celebrating her 50th Anniversary as a professional church musician; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Elissa Zahn.