

## 2015-J5966

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of John Wesley United Methodist Church on October 22, 2016

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of John Wesley United Methodist Church, to be celebrated at a Luncheon on Saturday, October 22, 2016, at the Glen Terrace, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The people of The United Methodist Church are part of the second largest Protestant denomination in the United States; its worldwide connection is comprised of approximately 12.8 million members; and

WHEREAS, The United Methodist Church was formed when the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged in 1968, however, its heritage can be traced back to the movement begun in 1729, in England by John and Charles Wesley; and

WHEREAS, Today, the United Methodist Church is based upon eight fundamental principles including Global: Methodists speak many languages and live in many countries, with different cultures, ethnic traditions, national histories and understandings of Christian faith and practice; Connectional: every United Methodist congregation is interconnected throughout the denomination via a unique, interlocking chain of conferences; Inclusive: all persons are welcome to attend our churches and receive Holy Communion, and are eligible to be baptized and become members; Grounded in Scripture: United Methodists trust free inquiry in

matters of Christian doctrine and their faith is guided by Scripture, tradition, experience and reason; Wesleyan: the United Methodist Church has a Wesleyan heritage, and as such, places an emphasis on mind and heart (knowledge and vital piety) and putting faith and love into practice (life); Concerned about social justice: for more than 200 years the United Methodist Church and its predecessor bodies have expressed concern for God's children everywhere -- the poor, the orphaned, the aging, the sick, the oppressed and the imprisoned; Mission-oriented: the Church's mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world; and Ecumenical: United Methodists consider dialogue and missional cooperation between United Methodists and other Christians as a valid witness to the unity of the body of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous leadership of Reverend Ebenezer Aduku, the John Wesley United Methodist Church stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the John Wesley United Methodist Church, fully confident this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Reverend Ebenezer Aduku, Pastor, John Wesley United Methodist Church.