

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING 150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT MATTHEWS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS, Warnersville Methodist Episcopal Church, North, now known as St. Matthews United Methodist Church, was organized in the Warnersville Community near the corner of what was Ashe and West Lee Streets in 1866, and has the distinction of being the oldest and largest African-American Church in the Western North Carolina Conference;

WHEREAS, in 1902, a brick structure replaced the original wood structure built under the guidance of the Reverend Matthew Alston;

WHEREAS, Bennett College was organized in 1873 in the basement of the church and was where the congregation held its services until moving to its current location in 1971 as a result of a community redevelopment program which demolished the church in 1966;

WHEREAS, Union Cemetery, the historical landmark burial site for freed slaves, was jointly purchased by St. Matthews, St James Presbyterian, and Providence Baptist churches in 1901;

WHEREAS, St. John's Masonic Lodge #2 was one of the first fraternal groups to share the use of the facility; and the first Boy Scout troop for Negroes in Greensboro was organized in the church;

WHEREAS, St. Matthews has been host to many gatherings over the years and the North Carolina Annual Conference has taken place at the church approximately 13 times;

WHEREAS, numerous events and developments have occurred under each administration of the church that has consisted of approximately 41 ministers since 1866;

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to extend its congratulations to St. Matthews United Methodist Church on their 150 year anniversary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That it hereby recognizes St. Matthews United Methodist Church on their 150 year anniversary.