

2022 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX AND REPRESENTATIVE PIERRE

COMMENDATIONS. Recognizes and commends Trinity Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on its 150th anniversary and to celebrate the faith and sacrifices of its founders.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2 To commend Trinity Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on its 150th anniversary and to
3 celebrate the faith and sacrifices of its founders.
4 WHEREAS, Trinity Colored Methodist Episcopal Church began when free blacks
5 found hope and meaning in the gospel preached by former slave owners and began
6 worshiping throughout the town of Vermilion, now Lafayette, Louisiana; and
7 WHEREAS, on May 3, 1872, Governor Alexander Mouton granted a plot of ground
8 known as Lot Number 235 on the old Corporation of Vermilionville to the Colored
9 Methodist Episcopal Church in America for the purposes of "aiding in the promotion and
10 morality among the [Black] population of the parish"; and
11 WHEREAS, a small group of free blacks began to erect a small frame building for
12 worship services and, despite the adversities of the 1880s and 1890s, the church grew and
13 prospered, often being noted for its role providing education and other needed support
14 systems for black citizens in the community; and
15 WHEREAS, through the grace of God and the hard work of the membership, the
16 church was rebuilt in 1954 and located at 604 Lee Avenue, its current location; and
17 WHEREAS, in 1956, the name "Colored" was officially changed to "Christian" and
18 the church became known as the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and continued its

1 special place in the lives of its congregation; and

2 WHEREAS, over the years, the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church has been
3 blessed with the leadership of a number of exceptional bishops, presiding elders, musicians,
4 lay leaders, and faithful members; and

5 WHEREAS, in June 2013, history was made when Bishop Thomas L. Brown Sr.
6 assigned Reverend Maggie C. Banks as the first woman pastor of Trinity Christian
7 Methodist Episcopal Church; and

8 WHEREAS, on June 5, 2019, history was again made when Bishop C. James King
9 Jr. appointed Reverend Maggie C. Banks as Louisiana's first woman presiding elder of the
10 New Orleans district; and

11 WHEREAS, on February 9, 2021, Trinity Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was
12 recognized by the Lafayette Consolidated Government and Cultural Historic Committee as
13 the oldest African-American church in Lafayette, Louisiana; and

14 WHEREAS, Trinity Christian Methodist Episcopal Church continues to develop and
15 support numerous outreach programs throughout the Lafayette community with the focus
16 on becoming an ambassador for Christ and promoting spiritual, educational, economic, and
17 social growth; and

18 WHEREAS, the humble church body that began 150 years ago with little more than
19 the strength and tenacity of its parishioners remains today a beacon of hope and promise
20 with a faithful congregation of disciples who worship their God, rejoice in a living faith in
21 Jesus Christ, and reflect his love, goodness, and teachings.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
23 recognize and commend Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church on its 150th anniversary and
24 celebrate the faith and sacrifices of its founders.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
26 Reverend Maggie C. Banks, Pastor.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Kathy Liberty.

SCR 27 Original	DIGEST 2022 Regular Session	Boudreaux
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Commends Trinity Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on its 150th anniversary and celebrates the faith and sacrifices of its founders.