

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK, DECEMBER 3, 2015 A.D.

**CONGRATULATING ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH ON
 THE OCCASION OF ITS 88TH ANNIVERSARY**

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that at the regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the Legislative Chambers of Old County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 3rd day of December, 2015 A.D., a proclamation was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, 2015 marks the 88th Anniversary of the founding of the St. John Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, St. John Baptist Church was founded in 1927 by the late Rev. Bernie C. McCarley in a store front on William Street, St. John Baptist then moved from its location on William Street to Monroe Street, Clinton, Sycamore and finally in 1962 into its present location at 184 Goodell Street; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Bernie C. McCarley served as Pastor from 1927 to 1972 and Rev. Dr. Bennett W. Smith served as Pastor from 1972 until his death in 2001; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 the congregation was blessed when Minister Dr. Michael Chapman was installed as Pastor, under Dr. Chapman's leadership, St. John Baptist Church has become a major player in the economic and the community development initiatives in the City of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, St. John's outstanding Pastors have propelled the St. John Baptist Church to unparalleled heights. St. John Baptist Church is one of the leading houses of worship in the City of Buffalo and has achieved national and international status.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to honor and congratulate St. John Baptist Church on the occasion of its 88th anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, that St. John Baptist Church continues to be a beacon on light in the community, a meeting place when needed, and a place where help can be obtained and the word of God continues to be preached to all who want to hear the truth.

Hon. Barbara Miller-Williams
Erie County Legislator, 1st District

Karen M. McCarthy
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature