

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in April 1974, Progressive Missionary Baptist Church of Columbia, Missouri, which originated from the Log Providence Missionary Baptist Church located in Southern Boone County and was founded and organized under the leadership of Rev. Harold J Butler along with fifty-six dedicated Christian adults and children, held its first worship services in the Rising Sun Lodge Hall at 301 Sexton Road; and

WHEREAS, the Church purchased land at the corner of Banks Avenue and Dean Street in 1975, held ground breaking ceremonies on February 8, 1976 for the construction of the Educational Building at 702 Banks Avenue, which was the first of three phases, and moved worship services to this new location from the Rising Sun Lodge Hall at 301 Sexton Road by marching and singing "We've Come This Far by Faith" on August 1, 1976; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Rev. Lewis B. Williams became the first Associate Minister and plans were made to construct Phase II, the Sanctuary, which was completed and celebrated on April 12, 1981 with a ribbon cutting and dedication service; and

WHEREAS, the Church expanded its services by opening a day care center in the lower level of the Sanctuary in August, 1982, having a full time Pastor, Rev. Harold Butler, by September 1982, and beginning a young adult Bible Sunday School class and a New Members class in 1985; and,

WHEREAS, in the late 1980's the Church purchased an adjacent lot and began discussing Phase III, the Lord's Kitchen, the Fredia Buckner Food Pantry, and a host of other projects; and

WHEREAS, work on Phase III, known as the Christian Life Center, resumed in 2003 with a kick-off campaign and was followed by ground breaking in 2004, which would connect all three Phases and would be used for Sunday School classes, office space, storage, kitchen, and community functions; and

WHEREAS, Progressive Missionary Baptist Church and its many notable members have contributed greatly to the Columbia community over the last 50 years by providing a place for the NAACP Columbia Branch to hold tutoring classes, allowing the Fun City Youth Academy to conduct their Saturday programming at the Church, sponsoring Upward Bound Basketball, and hosting community food pantries; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara Buffaloe, Mayor of the City of Columbia, Missouri do hereby proclaim Sunday, April 7, 2024 as

PROGRESSIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH DAY

in the City of Columbia, Missouri, in celebration of its 50 Year Anniversary.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed hereto the seal of the City of Columbia, this 7th day of April, 2024.



Barbara Buffaloe, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sheela Amin, City Clerk

