



Office of the City Clerk



R2012-707

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	7/25/2012
Sponsor(s):	Fioretti, Bob (2)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Congratulations extended to Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church
Committee(s) Assignment:	

**COMMEMORATING THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF
HARTZELL MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

WHEREAS, The historic Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church located on South Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive is celebrating its centennial anniversary; and

WHEREAS, In 1912, Reverend John Robinson established a storefront mission church on East 35th Street. It was first named St. Luke Methodist Episcopal Church and its first pastor was Reverend E. W. Lewis; and

WHEREAS, In 1918, the Mission Church expanded and was moved from 35th Street to 33rd street. In 1923, the policy of "urban renewal" led to the church being torn down and moving to what the congregation at that time called the "Millionaires Church" on South Prairie. After many years of worship there, again due to "urban renewal", that church was demolished. In February 1963, the congregation worshipped in the Douglas School at 32nd Street and Calumet Avenue while searching for a new building, finally settling at a new church home on 3300 S. King Drive in June of 1964; and

WHEREAS, Joseph C. Hartzell was a missionary bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Bishop Hartzell was a devoted activist who was noteworthy for his support of African American issues, focusing on the betterment of their lives. As a result, the congregants renamed the church Hartzell Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church as a monument to his work and dedication as a disciple of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, Throughout a century of devotion and hard work, the church underwent many changes including two mergers with St. Luke United Methodist Church located on 50th Street and South Wabash Avenue in 1990 and most recently with St. James United Methodist Church on 46th and South Ellis in 2011. Now known as Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church, these merged congregations prosper under pastoral care of Reverend Dr. Michelle Taylor-Sanders as well as the episcopal leadership of Bishop Hee-Soo Jung and the guidance of the Superintendent of the Southern District of the Northern Illinois Conference, Dr. Tracey Smith Malone who grew up as part of the Hartzell spiritual family; and

WHEREAS: The Honorable Robert W. Fioretti, Alderman of the 2nd Ward, wherein the Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church is located, has apprised this august body of the memorable and significant centennial milestone it has reached; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council gathered together on the 25th Day of July, 2012 AD, do hereby salute the Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church upon the occasion of its 100th Anniversary and extend our very best wishes for success in continuing its missions for centuries to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and given to Reverend Dr. Michelle Taylor-Sanders, pastor of the Hartzell Memorial United Methodist Church.

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Sincerely,
Robert W. Fioratti
Alderman, 2nd Ward