



City of Chicago



R2013-895

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	10/16/2013
Sponsor(s):	Burns (4)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Congratulations extended to First Baptist Church of Chicago on 180th anniversary
Committee(s) Assignment:	

Resolution in Honor of the 180th Anniversary of the First Baptist Church of Chicago

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that the members of the City Council of the city of Chicago are hereby informed of the 180th anniversary of the First Baptist Church of Chicago, in Chicago's historic Bronzeville community; and

WHEREAS, First Baptist Church of Chicago was organized near the old Fort Dearborn on October 19, 1833; and

WHEREAS, The pastor and members of the church met, including United States Senator Stephan A. Douglas, in May of 1856 to plan a university in the city at the site of 34th Street and Cottage Grove Avenue, which was the "Old University of Chicago," the predecessor to the great research university on the south side of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, In 1857, the men of First Baptist created the Chicago chapter of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA); and

WHEREAS, The Baptist Theological Union, now known as the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, merged with the new University of Chicago, which was established by John D. Rockefeller, on July 1, 1892, with the help of members of First Baptist; and

WHEREAS, In 1881, the women of First Baptist were instrumental in the formation of the Baptist Missionary Training School, a training school for women who wanted to be missionaries; and

WHEREAS, First Baptist opened the first free kindergarten in the city for working mothers in 1912; and

WHEREAS, First Baptist has had seven different buildings in the city of Chicago, but moved to its current location in 1919, building its Christian Education building in 1923; and

WHEREAS, First Baptist was instrumental in establishing more than 20 churches and ministries in the city of Chicago, including the Calvary Baptist Church of South Shore, and

WHEREAS, In 1944, First Baptist opened its doors to Japanese Americans who were being resettled in the city of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, In 1963, members of First Baptist attended the historic March on Washington, and during the 1970's First Baptist served breakfast to the members of Operation Breadbasket now known as Rainbow Push; and

WHEREAS, First Baptist has, for most of its history, been a ministry that instructed and nurtured children and young people, whether it was through Sunday

School, Vacation Bible School, Mission Trips, Christian Camping, Sport Teams, Tutorial Programs, Service Projects and College Scholarships; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor and members of the Chicago City Council assemble this Sixteenth Day of October 2013, do hereby recognize and celebrate the faith community of the First Baptist Church of Chicago, and hereby express our best wishes for this community on its 180th anniversary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the First Baptist Church of Chicago.



William D. Burns
Alderman, 4th Ward
City of Chicago

RECEIVED
CITY COUNCIL DIVISION
2013 OCT -8 PM 2:04
OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK
1:35
P