



Office of the City Clerk



R2012-822

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	9/12/2012
Sponsor(s):	Beale, Anthony (9)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to late Reverend Ezell Rodgers
Committee(s) Assignment:	

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE REV. EZELL RODGERS

WHEREAS, Reverend Ezell Rodgers a most beloved citizen, spiritual leader, and towering figure in Chicago's great ninth ward community, has been called to Eternal Life by the Wisdom of God, Monday, June 25, 2012; and

WHEREAS, In a lifetime filled with inspiration and strengthened by a solid religious foundation, the Reverend Ezell Rodgers reached out and touched many lives; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Ezell Rodgers lived a long and productive life. He was born May 13, 1933 to the late Deacon Arthur and Mary Rodgers, in Woodstock, Tennessee. He migrated to Chicago in 1957 and continued his education. He became a member and soon a Deacon of New Bethlehem Baptist Church. He joined his sister and brother at Christian Fellowship Baptist Church and was part of a singing group and taught Sunday school; and

WHEREAS, In 1982 Rev. Rodgers became Associate Pastor at Mount Elam; in 1985 he became Associate Pastor at Solid Rock Temple and served in that office until the pastor, Rev. Cox retired in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Rodgers and Blanche were united in holy matrimony in 1986 and worked as a team to build Solid Rock Temple. In 1987 Rev. Rodgers was installed as Pastor, where he served until 1993; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Ezell Rodgers retired from his job with the City of Chicago Department of Transportation in 2000. In 2006, Rev. Rodgers met and joined Rev. Davis C. James, Pastor of Salem Gospel Center where he began to work and it is now one of the greatest churches on the South Side of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Ezell Rodgers was a strong community advocate and believed that with prayer all things were possible. He was an activist and his work as an advocate in the political arena and for the freedom fight will always be remembered. Reverend Rodgers served as a Chaplin for UAPA, Woodlawn Patient Advisory Board and Men Pushing – a subsidiary of Operation PUSH, the ministries of Rev. Rodgers were far-reaching and effective; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Rodgers was a wonderfully devoted husband of Blanche; loving father of two children, Pastor Joseph (Pam) and Jennifer; loving grandfather of three grandchildren, Joseph Jr., Johanna, and Jonovan; beloved brother of Mary Long and Roosevelt Rodgers; uncle to numerous nieces and nephews and a dearly loved friend of many. His parents, sister Louise Milan and six brothers, Frank, Clarence, Arthur, Napoleon, Roy, and twin brother Arzell preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, His strong guidance, gentle kindness and endless generosity will serve as an inspiration and comfort to all who knew and loved him; now, therefore,

2012 AUG 28 AM 10:07

RECEIVED
CITY OF CHICAGO

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this twelfth day of September, 2012 A.D., do hereby extend our sincere condolences to the family and many friends of Rev. Ezell Rodgers and express our deepest sympathy upon his passing.

Be It Further Resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Reverend Ezell Rodgers.

ANTHONY BEALE
Alderman – 9th Ward