STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF DARLINGTON)

RESOLUTION NO. 812

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING KINGSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 176TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, in 1850, Kingsville Episcopal Church was established when Mr. F.A. King generously donated three acres of land were for the construction of a church, laying the foundation for what would become the oldest African American church in Hartsville; and

WHEREAS, the church would later become known as Kingsville United Methodist Church following the 1968 merger of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, forming the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, the congregation's history is enriched by the dedicated service of many faithful members and leaders, including Maxie Roberts, Willie Bradford, Ellen Leevy, Inez Wilson, Julia Robinson, W.L. Leevy, George Wilson, and numerous other devoted members whose contributions strengthened the church and community; and

WHEREAS, Kingsville United Methodist Church has been shepherded by many pastors throughout its history including Reverend Funches, Reverend Quick, Reverend Dangerfield, Reverend Sparks, Reverend Stokes, Reverend Fisher, Reverend Franklin, Reverend Pringle, Reverend Isaiah Boone, Reverend Jenkins, Reverend Debois, Reverend James T. Richardson, Reverend Franklin Johnson, Reverend Harold Johnson, Reverend James E. Stevenson, Reverend Janice Frederick-Watts (the church's first female pastor), Reverend Kenneth L. Nelson, Reverend James E. Moore, Reverend James Cannon, Reverend Lisa C. Hawkins, Reverend Anthony Caldwell, and its current pastor, Reverend Rickey Stuckey; and

WHEREAS, the original church structure tragically burned in 1959, but through perseverance and faith, the congregation continued worshiping at Mt. Olive Word of Life Church until the church was rebuilt in 1961 under the leadership of Reverend R.O. Frierson; and

WHEREAS, through the decades, Kingsville United Methodist Church has continued to grow and strengthen its mission through renovations and continued improvements to the sanctuary and facilities, reflecting the congregation's commitment to ministry and fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Kingsville has served as a spiritual cornerstone of the community, nurturing faith, fellowship, education, and service while inspiring generations of believers and remains steadfast in its mission to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of Darlington County, South Carolina, the Darlington County Council, to hereby recognize and congratulate **Kingsville United Methodist Church on its 176th Anniversary,** honoring its historic legacy, spiritual leadership, and enduring contributions to the citizens of Hartsville and Darlington County.

ADOPTED by the Darlington County Council on April 6, 2026.

DARLINGTON COUNTY 1785

Bobby Hudson, Chairman
Darlington County Council

ATTEST:
J. Janet Bishop, Clerk to Council