



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church is one of the oldest churches in our city with an extraordinary history. The Church was founded in 1879 as Hickory Hill Baptist Church. The name, 'Hickory Hill', was chosen because the building was located on Greene Street near the site of the old Fifth Street Fire Station. In 1903, the Church was moved to Clark Street where it was completely destroyed by fire in April, 1923. Services of worship were temporarily held in the Knights of Gideon Hall on Fourteenth Street;

**WHEREAS**, on June 4, 1923, the Church purchased a dry-kiln on Thirteenth and Railroad Streets from Pitt Lumber Company, the structure was renovated to become a beautiful sanctuary, and the Church's name was changed to Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church;

**WHEREAS**, in January, 1983, the Church moved to its new building on Stantonsburg Road, and years later the address was changed to 1095 Allen Road;

**WHEREAS**, extensive expansion with construction of additional facilities at the Church was done under the leadership of Reverend Sidney A. Locks, Jr., who has served Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church since December 1, 1989;

**WHEREAS**, Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church offers services that benefit our community tremendously including a Child Care Development Facility, Family Ministry Complex and several legal entities to provide services to the elderly and families who are economically challenged;

**WHEREAS**, Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church has been an invaluable member of the City of Greenville for more than a century with community outreach ministries including Christian Education, Cub Scouts, Communication, ECU Concession, Hospitality Excellence, Juvenile Detention, Nursery, Share Food, Voices of Cornerstone, Young-At-Heart, and many more;

**WHEREAS**, Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church will be celebrating its 132<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary November 4-6, 2011 at 1095 Allen Road, Greenville, North Carolina;

**WHEREAS**, the theme for the 132<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church is "Recalling Past Blessings to Inspire Future Pursuits". The theme scripture is Romans 8:37-39; and

**WHEREAS**, the motto for the 132<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary is SANKOFA which is an Ankan word meaning "We must go back and reclaim our past so we can move forward so we can understand why and how we came to be who we are today". From the country of Ghana, the fabled sankofa bird is always depicted as flying forward while looking backward with an egg in its mouth, thereby depicting the future.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 4-6, 2011 as

## CORNERSTONE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH DAYS

and on behalf of the City of Greenville, do hereby congratulate Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church on its 132 years of ministry and service to the citizens of Greenville.

This 4th day of November, 2011.

  
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Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor