



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the York Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church will be hosting the 147th Session of the North Carolina Annual Conference November 16-21, 2010 with sessions at York Memorial and at the Convention Center in Greenville, North Carolina;

WHEREAS, the York Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church is one of the oldest churches in Greenville with an impressive history. The Church was organized in 1865 by three faithful individuals, and the first meetings were held in a schoolhouse under the hill on the South side of the Tar River. In 1882, a white, framed church was built on First Street between Reid and Cotanche Streets by four members and named York's Temple A.M.E. Zion Church, in honor of the first pastor, Reverend York;

WHEREAS, since that time, the Church was relocated to several familiar historical locations in Greenville including "Cotton Place" on the corner of Center and Broad Streets; Albermarle Avenue; West 4th and Hudson Streets; Sadie Saulter School on Fleming Street; Sedgefield Street and finally at its current location of Third and Tyson Streets;

WHEREAS, during transitions, the pastors and congregation of the Church continued to follow their mission, "Fulfilling Our Purpose To Be... A Place of Safety, Vision, Wisdom and Power". The grounds of the York Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church have always been specifically chosen by the congregation to be located where it could better serve the West Greenville Community;

WHEREAS, on October 20, 1988, the Old York Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church on Albermarle Avenue was designated as historic property in Greenville due to artifacts relative to the turn of the century still existing in the upper strata of that property as well as its historic, architectural and/or archaeological significance;

WHEREAS, the old building of York was condemned by the City of Greenville on November 20, 1980 resulting in the building of a facility for the Jesus, Others, and You (JOY) Soup Kitchen in 2001. JOY Soup Kitchen is a nonprofit organization founded in 1990 by members of York which has provided meals, clothing, and other items for the disabled, families, youth, senior citizens, and homeless since 1994; and

WHEREAS, York Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church has been an essential asset to the City of Greenville for more than a century with several other community outreach ministries and programs that benefit our community tremendously. The Young Adult Missionary Society, a missionary group uniting women from ages 22-40, provides mission service in the Church as well as in our community. Camp C.A.R.E (Cultural Awareness Radiate Education) is a summer program of camp, enrichment activities and trips for the youth in West Greenville plus a library is available for their use.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 16-21, 2010 as

YORK MEMORIAL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH DAYS

in Greenville and urge all citizens to join Reverend Lester Andrews Jacobs, Jr. and the York Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church Family in welcoming Bishop Richard K. Thompson, Mrs. Georgia M. Thompson, members, and friends of the 147th Session of the North Carolina Annual Conference.

This 16th day of November, 2010.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor