

THE CITY OF SAVANNAH GEORGIA



Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** In 1908, some fifty residents of what was then known as East Side Savannah met in a little store at 1007 East Park Avenue in the City of Savannah. These men and women began a mission Sunday school and made plans to become an organized church; and
- WHEREAS:** On March 7, 1909, Thirty Eight Charter Members did petition and became Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church and made plans for constructing a church building. Soon thereafter a site was purchased at the corner of Henry Street and Waters Avenue for the building; and
- WHEREAS:** Sufficient lumber and other materials had been solicited from local firms to begin its construction. Members along with nine workman erected a framed, one-room structure in time for Prayer Meeting on July 1, 1909, under the direction of Pastor D. R. McWilliams; and
- WHEREAS:** The church ministered to the neighborhood in its geographical area, and soon out grew its one-room framed structure which resulted in plans to construct a stone building and laid its cornerstone in 1921; and
- WHEREAS:** Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church nearly closed its doors in 1992, but under the leadership of Pastor William G. (Billy) Hester and other church leaders, the congregation reached out to downtown and urban populations by offering a week long summer arts camp and children's community choir; and
- WHEREAS:** The church opened a theatre to attract new members and to bring a new standard of community theater to the City of Savannah; and
- WHEREAS:** Asbury Memorial United Methodist not only draws members and attendees now from Savannah, but South and Central Georgia, South Carolina and North Florida as well as nationwide by means of its internet website; and
- WHEREAS:** On Sunday, May 3, 2009, Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church congregation will be celebrating its one hundredth year of ministry.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Otis S. Johnson, Mayor of the City of Savannah, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 3, 2009 as:

"ASBURY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST 100TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY DAY"

in Savannah, and encourage local citizens to join me in congratulating Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church for its one hundred years of service to this community.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereto set my hand and caused
the Seal of the City of Savannah, Georgia to be affixed.

This 3rd day of May 2009

Otis S. Johnson
MAYOR

ATTEST
Spencer C. Reese
Clerk of Council

