

## House Resolution No. 3901

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those who are dedicated to improving the quality of life available in local communities and neighborhoods; and

**Whereas**, Harvest Tabernacle of Springfield, Missouri, was established as First United Pentecostal Church in 1955 by the Reverend and Mrs. Eugene McCarthy, who had moved to Springfield from the Saint Louis area and opened their home as a place of worship; and

**Whereas**, prior to the change in name to Harvest Tabernacle in 1981, First United Pentecostal Church enjoyed steady growth which required the congregation's use of a series of ever-larger facilities that included a storefront building, a building made of concrete block, and the former First Methodist Church facility at the corner of Missouri and Madison; and

**Whereas**, First United Pentecostal Church facilities eventually included a baptistery which eliminated the need to conduct baptismal services on the banks of the Sac River or the James River at what is now Lake Springfield, a physical improvement that is greatly appreciated during the winter months when ice would need to be broken for access to the water; and

**Whereas**, the Reverend Eugene McCarthy remained pastor of First United Pentecostal Church until his death in 1975, at which time the Reverend L.D. Fletcher arose as leader and brought with him a musically talented family and dynamic preaching; and

**Whereas**, continued growth necessitated a move to West Mill Street in 1978, and in 1981 the church moved to North Prospect and called to be pastor the Reverend Larry Eddings, who ushered in the name change to Harvest Tabernacle and oversaw additional improvements to the church's facilities; and

**Whereas**, Harvest Tabernacle retired its mortgages in 1997 and is today operating the Harvest Sports Complex on a bluff above North Highway 13, the All About Kids Childcare and Preschool at a church campus in South Springfield, and such programs as Christian Education, Music, Youth, Children's Ministries, Ladies' Ministries, and several Outreach/Evangelism Ministries:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar history of spiritual service so generously contributed by the leaders and members of Harvest Tabernacle to the people of the greater Springfield community and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of their church; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Harvest Tabernacle of Springfield, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Representative Brad Roark  
 District No. 139

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3901, adopted July 5, 2005.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker