

House Resolution No. 1690

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives take great pride in acknowledging a significant milestone in the history of a blessed religious institution that has come to play an important role in the lives of many O'Fallon, Missouri, area residents; and

Whereas, for fifty years, the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon has celebrated life and religion, during which time it has grown and extended its collective hand of ministry and service to the community; and

Whereas, during the weekend of March 2, 2007, members of the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of their church with a series of events with the theme "Remembering Our Past, Celebrating Our Future"; and

Whereas, in early 1957, the Reverend George Hoech of the First Baptist Church in Winfield found that O'Fallon had the potential for a Southern Baptist church and on March 3, he held the first service in the home of an O'Fallon resident with thirty-two people in attendance; and

Whereas, in less than a month the small congregation had its own pastor and purchased a building at the corner of Old Woodlawn Avenue and what is now Veterans Memorial Parkway; and

Whereas, in 1962, the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon moved to its existing location at 8750 Veterans Memorial Parkway, just down the street from the original building; and

Whereas, today, the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon has a membership of more than 2,000, and a sprawling eighteen-acre campus with two additional buildings; and

Whereas, during its fifty-year history, the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon has only had four pastors, including the late Reverend Ward Lawrence, the Reverend Cecil King, the Reverend Bill Betts, and the Reverend Gary Taylor; and

Whereas, the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon is known, admired, and respected as a divine proclaimer of faith and friend to those in need, and continues a fine tradition through commitment to meeting the spiritual needs of its members, changing with the times, and looking ahead to a wonderful future with God:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously in extending our most hearty congratulations to the entire congregation of the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon upon this very special anniversary event; 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 the First Baptist Church of O'Fallon.

Offered by _____
Representative Bob Onder
District No. 13

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 1690, adopted April 2, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker