

House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the histories of Show-Me State churches that have proven down through the years to be exemplary components of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Oak Grove United Methodist Church was founded in 1817 prior to the formation of Lincoln County or even the state of Missouri; and

Whereas, on March 12, 1857, the congregation of Oak Grove United Methodist Church agreed to construct a house of worship, an event that was completed later that same year and that will be celebrated by the current congregation and their pastor, the Reverend Karen Blank-Ewell, on September 30, 2007; and

Whereas, the organizing preacher for Oak Grove United Methodist Church was the Reverend Alexander McCallister, a traveling Methodist missionary who met with people in the home of Nicholas and Nancy Wells, and in 1818 the Reverend John C. Harbison became the church's first pastor; and

Whereas, after the church building was completed, the structure underwent numerous improvements, including the installation of floor furnaces in 1947 to replace the old wood burning stoves and the addition of electricity after rural electrification became more common; and

Whereas, in the mid-1950s Lord's Acre Sales were held to support a building fund, and in 1957 a Sunday School addition was completed for use also as a large dining room for church functions; and

Whereas, in 1967 the sanctuary was remodeled with a new hardwood floor, new pews, paneling on the walls, and a lower ceiling; and

Whereas, during and after the remodeling, numerous items of furniture were donated in memory of church members, family members, and a former pastor:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments associated with Oak Grove United Methodist Church and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they celebrate the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the construction of their current church building; 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 in honor of Oak Grove United Methodist Church of Lincoln County, Missouri.

Offered by _____
 Representative Terry L. Witte
 District No. 10

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. ____, adopted _____, 2007.

 Rod Jetton, Speaker