

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 286569

ADOPTED ON NOV 20 1995

WHEREAS, in 1887, Mr. and Mrs. Soloman Johnson, a Negro couple, opened their home and hearts for the formation of the first Negro Church in San Diego, California, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, established by the authority and under the direction of the A.M.E. presiding Elder John Handy; and

WHEREAS, during its 62nd year as a church, incorporated by the State of California as Bethel Memorial A.M.E. Church, under the administration of Rev. L.T. Thornhill; and

WHEREAS, the Bethel A.M.E. Congregation has completely remodeled the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, the Bethel A.M.E. Family has rebuilt more than the bricks and mortar, it has strengthened its faith and has awakened spirits, and has a renewed sense of direction toward the Higher Calling; and

WHEREAS, Rev. William F. Dancy became Bethel A.M.E. Senior Pastor in 1994, broadening the focus of our energies and challenging us to begin a Social Action outreach ministry to our community; and

WHEREAS, this 108th year finds Bethel A.M.E. Church still committed to serving the spiritual needs of the people of San Diego, and Bethel A.M.E. stands as a living testament of our Faith; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego,

hereby commends "BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH" for the 108 years of dedicated and unequalled service to not only the community but the entire City of San Diego.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that November 10, 1995 be and is hereby proclaimed to be "BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 108TH ANNIVERSARY DAY" in The City of San Diego.

APPROVED: JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By Stuart H. Swett  
Stuart H. Swett  
Senior Chief Deputy

SHS:smf  
11/03/95  
Or.Dept:Council-Stevens  
R-96-542  
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