

Proclamation

WHEREAS,



Rev. Dr. Vance Philip Ross is a native of Bluefield, West Virginia, and is the son of JoAun Malithia Craig Ross, and grandson of Truelove J. Ferguson Craig Thompson ("Mama True"); he served as the senior pastor of the historic Central United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS,



Rev. Dr. Ross received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and Youth Services from West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, West Virginia, received a Masters of Divinity degree with honors from the Gammon Theological Seminary (ITC) in Atlanta, Georgia, and received a Doctor of Ministry degree from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio; and

WHEREAS,



Rev. Dr. Ross is a frequently requested preacher and presenter, who co-facilitates a Doctor of Ministry cohort at the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, teaches a Course of Study at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, participates as a Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century Initiative coach for pastors and lay teams, and served as the founder and convenor of the Convocation for Pastors of Black Churches; and

WHEREAS,



Rev. Dr. Ross has received numerous honors and awards, including the Gammon Distinguished Alumni Award, the Copher/Branch Old Testament Award, the twice-won Isaac R. Clark Preaching Award, a two-time recipient of the Vision Awards from the Convocation of Black Churches, the Man of the Year Award at Simpson United Methodist Church, the Servant Leader award at Clark Memorial Church in Nashville, Tennessee, and the Citizen's Award from Hyattsville, Maryland City Council; and

WHEREAS,



Rev. Dr. Ross is married to the Rev. Bridgette D. Young Ross, and he is blessed to have three adult children: Kristina, Alyssa and Bryant, two grandchildren: Christopher and Jaylie, and one great-grandchild, Phoenix Ziraili Madison;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Rev. Dr. Vance P. Ross and his contributions to the ministry of Central United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Church and is grateful for his service to the Atlanta metropolitan community, and does hereby proclaim Sunday, June 30, 2024, as "**REV. DR. VANCE P. ROSS APPRECIATION DAY**" in Fulton County, Georgia.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner

Commissioner

Attest:

Clerk to the Commission

F U L T O N C O U N T Y

