

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 10-0800

In recognition of the 150th anniversary of St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Introduced by Councilmember Madison

WHEREAS, in 1860, Rev. William M. Bradford and the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South constructed the first building erected specifically for church purposes in Denver; it was a small brick church with a belfry on the southeast corner of 14th and Arapahoe; and

WHEREAS, 1872, the growing congregation bought a larger building at 20th and Curtis, which became the Curtis Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and it soon established the Lawrence Street Mission for the Chinese workers who were building the railroads, working in the mines and starting their own businesses; and

WHEREAS, by the 1880s, Denver's downtown was booming, and in 1887, the 140-member congregation laid the cornerstone for a new structure further from the commercial district at 21st and Welton and took the name St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and

WHEREAS, continuing to grow, the church in 1910 purchased four lots at 16th and Ogden and asked noted architect James B. Hyder to design the neoclassical building with the unusual stained glass windows that is still home to the church and an important icon of the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1960s, with the growth of suburbs and a declining membership, St. Paul's seriously considered relocating, but the congregation voted in 1965 to stay in the city, and it further showed its dedication to its mission in the city with many diverse community outreach programs for children, the hungry and homeless, gays and lesbians, and the Blessing of the Animals; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, a founding member of the Capitol Hill United Ministries and the Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods, continues today, committed to compassionate causes, to helping build a strong community, and to embracing diversity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council hereby recognizes the 150th anniversary of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, as well as the 100th anniversary of its building, and its commitment to the community.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL _____ 2010

PRESIDENT