

## 2011-K1373

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 31 years of devoted service to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in this noble Empire State is nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who would commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those individuals who distinguished themselves and the ministry through their unremitting commitment and preeminence of service; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 31 years of devoted service to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, to be celebrated on Friday, June 8, 2012, at the Sheraton Long Island Hotel in Hauppauge, New York; and

WHEREAS, The oldest of nine children, Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr. was born January 31, 1952, in Rochester, New York, to the late Mack and Beatrice Smith, Sr.; he graduated from East High School in 1970, from Roberts Wesleyan College in 1976, and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr. served his internship at St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church in White Plains, New York, under the tutelage of the Reverend Dr. Frederick Schumacher from 1978-1979; and

WHEREAS, For the past 31 years, he has faithfully served as Pastor of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wyandanch, Long Island, New York; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr. brought to his ministry an overwhelming spirit of charity and compassion, acting from vision and enlightenment in conducting his administrative and spiritual duties, while always displaying the highest standards of personal and professional integrity and dedication; and

WHEREAS, One of Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr.'s greatest joys was the Trinity After School Pride Program (T.A.P.P.); in this ministry he focused on empowering young, at-risk youth to seek personal management skills to achieve their goals; he also prepared many youth both in the congregation and Wyandanch community with practical education skills that would empower them to beat the odds where others failed; and WHEREAS, Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr.'s other involvements included: Project Connect; Campformation; Lutheran Summer Conference-Silver Bay; Pinecrest Lutheran Leadership School; Camp Wilbur Herrlich; Black Pastor's Group of Metro NY Synod; Suffolk County Council Boy Scouts of America; and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church After School Program; and

WHEREAS, A valued member of his community, Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr. was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man of God always gave enlightenment, guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of all; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr. upon the occasion of his retirement after 31 years of devoted service to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, noting his unremitting and compassionate faith and his exemplary service to God, man, and his community, and extending to him the heartfelt best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Reverend Mack H. Smith, Jr.