



State Senator Velmanette Montgomery

25th New York Senatorial District

Ranking Member, Children & Families

February 28, 2016

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Reverend David B. Cousin, First Lady Reverend Valerie E. Cousin and the Bridge Street African Wesleyan Methodist Episcopal Church family upon the occasion of the Church's 250th Anniversary Celebration.

Bridge Street A.W.M.E. Church was founded in 1766 and is the oldest black congregation in the Brooklyn-Long Island area. Throughout its distinguished history, Bridge Street A.W.M.E. Church has played a vital role in the development of the spiritual, social, educational and moral fabric of our great borough and country.

For more than two centuries, Bridge Street has led the way in providing spiritual leadership in teaching and sharing the love of Christ with its parishioners and extending its Christian fellowship to the community-at-large.

From its founding days to its critical role in the Abolitionist movement, the Bridge Street family continues to build on its groundbreaking work through the development of social justice initiatives, community development programs and affordable and senior housing projects.

I would also like to take a moment to extend my appreciation to First Family of Bridge Street A.W.M.E. Church, Rev. and Mrs. Cousin for their leadership and vision. We are truly blessed by your love and service to the Bridge Street family and our community.

Congratulations again to the entire Bridge Street family on this historic milestone. Best wishes for a wonderful Anniversary Celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Velmanette Montgomery". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Senator Velmanette Montgomery
25th Senate District