

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *Central Baptist Church is celebrating its 123rd anniversary this year and, in honor of this milestone, will hold a special service for the congregation on Sunday, July 20, 2014; and*

WHEREAS, *founded in 1891, Central Baptist Church has been led by nine different pastors throughout its 123 years; founding pastor, Reverend John H. Pryor, had previously pastored Ebenezer Baptist Church and began Central Baptist Church with approximately 150 members; the church met at the Old Incline Hall before purchasing a lot on Lawson Street; and*

WHEREAS, *Reverend Pryor's leadership was subsequently followed by Reverend E.P. Jackson, and Reverend John H. Boone; in 1912, Reverend George B. Howard took the helm and under his direction, the congregation increased so rapidly that it outgrew the church building; at this time, the church purchased the Centennial Methodist Church building, which today is the present site of Central Baptist Church; and*

WHEREAS, *Reverend W. Augustus Jones served as the fifth pastor of the church, followed by Reverend Dr. Cassius A. Ward; at the age of 28, Reverend Cornell E. Talley became the church's seventh pastor and initiated plans for rebuilding the church after a fire damaged the structure; and*

WHEREAS, *Reverend Isaac Green led the congregation as its eighth pastor and served in this role for 31 years, during which time he organized many new ministry outreaches; today, Central Baptist Church is directed by Reverend Victor J. Grigsby and has truly benefited from his scholarly teaching and service.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED *that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby congratulate Central Baptist Church, its pastoral staff, and congregation on its 123rd anniversary!*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 20th day of July, 2014.*

Rich Fitzgerald

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