

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Church of God of East New York for its dedication to the community, and celebrating the opening of its new edifice

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commending the Church of God of East New York for its dedication to the community, and celebrating the opening of its new edifice on Sunday, April 13, 2014, and Sunday, April 20, 2014, in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Church of God of East New York began as a prayer meeting more than 80 years ago; in addition to its primary mission of teaching and reaching out to the community, the church has provided educational workshops in the community on issues such as personal finances, insurance, estate planning, family and marriage issues, funeral arrangements, college and careers, and manhood training for boys, as well as health fairs, back to school block parties and community carnivals; and

WHEREAS, Committed to sharing the love of God with the community and the city, The Church of God of East New York will open its new edifice, located at 905 Sutter Avenue in Brooklyn, New York, as a source of hope for East New York; and

WHEREAS, In November of 2006, excavation began for the construction of the new facility; the 10 foot lighthouse cupola has been placed on top of the tower of the new building as a symbolic picture of the light The Church of God of East New York will bring to its community; and

WHEREAS, Spiritual guidance and nurturing are of great import to the vitality and well-being of all people and every community of this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Instrumental in that deliverance are those men and women of religious commitment who accept the responsibility of moral leadership and render the wisdom of human understanding; and

WHEREAS, April of 2014 will mark the 33rd year Reverend Clifton McDowell, Sr. and Lady Deborah McDowell have served as Senior Pastor and First Lady of the congregation; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Church of God of East New York and the promise of future growth is a testimony of a Church that started from a storefront with approximately 12 members, and has grown into a congregation of over 250 men, women and children, who now call this church their home; and

WHEREAS, The Church of God of East New York stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Church of God of East New York for its dedication to the community, and to celebrate the opening of its new edifice, fully confident that this commendation reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Church of God of East New York, Brooklyn, New York.