

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 50th Anniversary of the Evangel
Community Church

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 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 commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Evangel Community Church of Chittenango, New York, to be celebrated on Saturday, April 22, 2023, with a memorial banquet in Canastota, New York, and a special worship service the day following; and

WHEREAS, The Sunday service that will honor the anniversary will include special music and former pastors telling stories of their days at Evangel Community Church; there will also be performances of period songs from the 1970s through the 2020s, with former pastor Reverend Doug Moore being the keynote speaker; and

WHEREAS, Following the special Sunday service will be a luncheon at the Evangel Cafe, where a variety of dishes will be enjoyed and shared over the fond recollection of the auspicious accomplishments and cherished memories which community members share of the Church; and

WHEREAS, Evangel Assembly began as a home Bible study in 1972, and became an official church in 1973; after moving from six locations around Chittenango, the Church broke ground on its current site on May 11, 1975, Mother's Day that year; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the 1980s, the Evangel Church had a congregation that numbered approximately 325 parishioners; during that time, the Church hosted children's programs, including Royal Rangers for boys, and Missionettes for girls, as well as a number of adult Bible study programs; the Church's hard work continues today; and

WHEREAS, The Evangel Community Church 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, The walls of the Church have never been exclusionary, always inviting in and standing up for marginalized communities and those experiencing hardships; 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 commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Evangel Community Church, to be celebrated on Saturday, April 22, 2023, fully confident that this commemoration 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 Evangel Community Church.