Senate Resolution No. 1011

**BY:** Senator MYRIE

**COMMEMORATING** the 70th Anniversary of the First Baptist Church of Crown Heights, New York

**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 70th Anniversary of the First Baptist Church of Crown Heights, New York to be celebrated on Friday, June 23, 2023; and

**WHEREAS,** In March of 1953, twenty men and women birthed the First Baptist Mission of Williamsburg; the following month, the New Hope Baptist Association voted to recognize the First Baptist Mission of Williamsburg as a Missionary Baptist Church; that day, the First Baptist Mission became the First Baptist Church of Williamsburg; and

**WHEREAS,** The First Baptist Church was founded on April 30, 1953, for the purpose of proclaiming a gospel message relevant to man's needs in a changing society; and

**WHEREAS,** On July 1, 1967, The First Baptist Church of Williamsburg moved into its new and current location at 450 Eastern Parkway and changed its name officially to The First Baptist Church of Crown Heights; and

**WHEREAS,** The First Baptist Church of Crown Heights 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,** Understanding its call to do both ministry and justice, the First Baptist Church of Crown Heights has addressed community issues such as job training, housing development, as well as services for the homeless and the elderly since its inception; 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 70th Anniversary of the to be celebrated on June 23,

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 First Baptist Church of Crown Heights, New York.