

**PROCLAMATION
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS
CENTRAL WOODWARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

WHEREAS, Central Woodward Christian Church has met the religious needs of Troy residents and beyond since first worshipping in their current home on July 16, 1979; and

WHEREAS, The roots of **Central Woodward Christian Church** began in the late 1920s when two Detroit Disciples of Christ Churches, Central Christian Church and Woodward Avenue Christian Church came together as one congregation under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones. A new building was erected on Woodward Avenue – the current home of Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church and held a service of dedication on October 7, 1979; and

WHEREAS, Central Woodward Christian Church took up temporary residence at the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Crooks Road in 1978. One year later, after the new facility was completed, the congregation took up residence at the corner of Big Beaver and Adams; and

WHEREAS, Central Woodward Christian Church continues its ministry that has long been known for its fine music ministry, its preaching ministry, and its educational ministries; and

WHEREAS, The changes that **Central Woodward Christian Church** has seen in the last 40 years are remarkable as they have continuously grown. Throughout the Church's 40-year history the congregation has had outstanding leadership with four pastors, Rev. Robert H. Boyte, 1979-1988; Rev. Dr. Daniel Kuhn, 1988-1999; Rev. Dr. Rebecca Brown, 1999-2008; and Rev. Dr. Robert Cornwall, 2008-present; and

WHEREAS, Central Woodward Christian Church is an open and affirming congregation, striving to reflect God's unconditional love for all God's good creation. Acknowledging that Christianity has been used historically and presently to justify oppression, they covenant with God and one another to provide a loving invitation to all who seek to follow Jesus, welcoming them into the full life and service of the Church; and

WHEREAS, Central Woodward Christian Church celebrates diversities of race, ages, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical and mental abilities, family configuration, political affiliation, economic circumstance or theological perspective. They offer hospitality, healing and hope to all who have been traditionally marginalized, ignored or excluded from the body of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Central Woodward Christian Church has an active ministry in the community, which includes participation in the Troy Interfaith Group, the Troy Clergy Group, South Oakland Shelters, and Rippling Hope Ministries in Detroit, and more. **Rev. Dr. Cornwall** is also a Chaplain for the Troy Police Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Troy City Council does hereby congratulate **Central Woodward Christian Church on its 40th Anniversary** and recognizes its impact upon not only its membership, but on the entire community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council joins the citizens of this community in appreciation and celebration of **Central Woodward Christian Church's 40th anniversary** as they enter into their future with dedication to both their faith and expanding their ministry in our community and beyond.

Presented this 3rd day of June 2019.