



**Proclamation**  
**First Bethel Baptist Church**  
**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Day**  
**June 28, 2015**

**WHEREAS**, First Bethel Baptist Church is commemorating it's 150<sup>th</sup> church anniversary on June 28, 2015, communities and congregations from all over are coming together to help celebrate this marvelous "*Touching Lives for Christ*"; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1865, God gave a group of dynamic trailblazers, under the leadership of the church's first pastor of record, Rev. Dave Hunt, a vision to help establish a permanent place of worship; being First Bethel Baptist Church. Ultimately, the land was purchased and the first structure was built; and

**WHEREAS**, in later years, with every new pastor that came through First Bethel Baptist Church, it appeared that God gave each a vision to do something that would improve and enrich the church family; and

**WHEREAS**, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, the church's current leader, Rev. Marshall D. Erwin, Sr. was installed as pastor in 1985. Since then, many improvements and purchases by the church have occurred and new members added. Currently, First Bethel Baptist Church has members from all over Transylvania County and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, First Bethel has continued to advance and grow over the years, it's members were blessed to move into a new church home in 1974, at which time we were also called First Bethel Baptist Church to distinguished us from other Baptist churches in the vicinity; and

**WHEREAS**, First Bethel Baptist Church has undergone many transformations over the past 150 years, the original God – given vision remains; "*Touching Lives for Christ*".

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jimmy Harris, Mayor of the City of Brevard, hereby honor the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of First Bethel Baptist Church and proclaim, Sunday, June 28, 2015, as First Bethel Baptist Church Day within the City and urge all the citizens of Brevard to pay special tribute to this church on the occasion of their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Brevard, North Carolina, to be affixed this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

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Jimmy Harris  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Desiree D. Perry, CMC, NCCMC  
City Clerk