

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and its citizens; **Reverend Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr.**, beloved Pastor, Public Servant, and Spiritual and Community Leader is one such person; and

WHEREAS, born in Pensacola, Florida, Reverend Banks received an Associate of Arts Degree from Pensacola Junior College, his Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of South Florida, Master of Arts in Biblical Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary, and an Honorary Doctorate Degree each from Belford University of Savannah, Georgia and Florida Beacon College and Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Banks served the citizens of Tampa, Florida as Director of Aging Services for Hillsborough County, providing quality of life services to vulnerable seniors, and during his four decades of leadership, he brought about numerous initiatives that elevated the standards our aging population, and his wisdom allowed for optimum services and enhanced programs, sometimes within budgetary constraints; and

WHEREAS, while in college, Reverend Banks began attending St. John Progressive Missionary Baptist Church where his musical talents allowed him to serve as the church organist, and over the years, his strong faith and commitment to serving led to advancements including as Budget Director, Assistant Superintendent, Deacon, Assistant Pastor, and more, and in 1992, he was named Pastor of this century old church where he preaches the teachings of Christ, and he has led with vision, humility, and a passion for helping others, and he is an inspiration to his congregation, other public and religious leaders, and to the community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Bank's commitment to service includes being elected twice as President of Progressive Missionary and Education Baptist State Convention of Florida, Inc. where he also served as its Financial Secretary, was Pastor of St. Matthew Missionary Baptist Church of Tampa, continues to work with the Hillsborough County Division of Children and Youth Services, serves on the Board of Trustees of Florida Memorial University, is the Vice-President at Large for the National Baptist Convention of America International, Inc. where he is a member of its Board of Directors, and he is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, well-known as a man led by God, Reverend Bank's three decades of dedication in the ministry will be celebrated by the members of St. John Progressive Missionary Church, his beloved family, friends and guests on Sunday, November 14, 2021 with a special **30th Pastoral Anniversary Parade** that will allow all in attendance an opportunity to acknowledge his many accomplishments and contributions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Sunday, November 14, 2021 as

"REVEREND DR. BARTHOLOMEW BANKS, SR. DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating him on this milestone 30th Anniversary and thanking him for all he has contributed to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 14th day of November 2021.



Jane Castor

Mayor