



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 090491      **Version:** 0      **Name:**

**Type:** Resolution      **Status:** ADOPTED

**File created:** 6/4/2009      **In control:** CITY COUNCIL

**On agenda:**      **Final action:** 6/4/2009

**Title:** Recognizing, Honoring, Celebrating, and Thanking The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia for its invaluable contributions to the City of Philadelphia on the occasion of its 200th Anniversary.

**Sponsors:** Councilmember Rizzo, Council President Verna, Councilmember Green, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Blackwell, Councilmember Goode, Councilmember Greenlee, Councilmember DiCicco, Councilmember Tasco, Councilmember Reynolds Brown, Councilmember Sanchez, Councilmember Krajewski, Councilmember Miller, Councilmember Clarke, Councilmember O'Neill, Councilmember Kelly

**Indexes:**

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 1. Resolution No. 09049100.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result	Tally
6/4/2009	0	CITY COUNCIL	ADOPTED		
6/4/2009	0	CITY COUNCIL	READ		
6/4/2009	0	CITY COUNCIL	Introduced	Pass	

Recognizing, Honoring, Celebrating, and Thanking *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia* for its invaluable contributions to the City of Philadelphia on the occasion of its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**WHEREAS,** *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia* was established in June, 1809 with thirteen members, ten women and three men; and

**WHEREAS,** *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia* is the oldest African American-founded Baptist congregation in the City of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and one of the oldest African American-founded Baptist congregation in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS,** Two freemen, John and Samuel Bivens, sold themselves into slavery so that James Burrows of Northampton County, Virginia could become the third pastor; and

**WHEREAS,** *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia* has been instrumental in the birth of many notable organizations including the Christian Street YMCA and the Downingtown Industrial School; and

**WHEREAS,** *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia* has given birth to many other churches including Tasker Street Missionary Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Germantown, Kaighn Avenue Baptist Church of Camden, New Jersey, Shiloh Baptist Church, and Miller Memorial Baptist Church; and

**WHEREAS,** On the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia*, the esteemed Dr. Booker T. Washington, the keynote speaker, stated “It is not enough for us to succeed as individuals; we must succeed as groups, organizations, as churches, in every aspect standing together and continue to go forward ... in grand eloquent success”; and

**WHEREAS**, On Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009, *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia* will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and two hundred years of African American Baptist works in the City of Philadelphia as well as throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA**, That it recognizes, honors, celebrates and thanks *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia* for its invaluable contributions to the City of Philadelphia on the joyous occasion of its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to *The First African Baptist Church of Philadelphia*, further evidencing the sincere admiration and gratitude of this legislative body.