

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2025-78**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE 145TH ANNIVERSARY OF
6 THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND, RECOGNIZING
7 ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY;
8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the First Baptist Church of Oakland, originally known
11 as the Friendship Baptist Church was established in 1880 and has
12 served as a pillar of faith and community for 145 years in
13 Jacksonville, Florida; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Church has played a significant role in the
15 spiritual, cultural, and social growth of the community, promoting
16 unity and service among its members and the broader Jacksonville
17 community; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the First Baptist Church of Oakland had been a home of
19 faith and leadership under the guidance of many distinguished pastors,
20 including former Pastor C.B. Dailey, who served as an advisor to
21 several Jacksonville Mayors and exemplified a commitment to civic
22 engagement and service; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Church has continually demonstrated its dedication
24 to the betterment of Jacksonville by remaining an active and integral
25 part of the community for over a century; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the current Pastor Rev. Dr. Christopher McKee, Jr. who
27 has been the leading the congregation since 2017 with his wife First
28 Lady Éris Brown McKee and their two lovely daughters Karis Iman and
29 Koryn Ivana have been committed to the City of Jacksonville in
30 totality by doing outreach beyond the walls of the church and the
31 "Outeast" community; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the 145th Anniversary of the First Baptist Church of
2 Oakland represents a milestone in its history of worship, outreach,
3 and unwavering commitment to the spiritual and civic well-being of
4 Jacksonville; now therefore

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

6 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and recognizes
7 the First Baptist Church of Oakland for its 145 years of service,
8 faith, and leadership in the Jacksonville community. The City extends
9 its congratulations on this historic milestone and its gratitude for
10 the Church's enduring contributions.

11 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
12 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
13 without the Mayor's signature.

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15 Form Approved:

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17 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

18 Office of General Counsel

19 Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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