



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Unity Baptist Church, founded on September 23, 1944 commemorated its **75th Church Anniversary** on September 21 and 22, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a group of people from the Myrtle School District who wanted to organize a new church gathered on a Saturday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Meek H. Cobb and formed "The West Gastonia Prayer Band" - "A Church To Be - If It Be God's Will"; and

WHEREAS, Loray Mill Baptist Church sponsored the church by giving a loan of \$2,500 interest free for one year and donated chairs, song books and organized the first Training Union; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, January 7, 1945 Sunday School was organized with 63 enrolled members and voted to name the organization **Unity Baptist Church**; and

WHEREAS, Unity Baptist Church membership has grown since 1944 under the leadership of pastors Reverend Willard Jenkins, Reverend L.E. Bookout, Reverend L.M. Mobley, Reverend Jimmie H. Farmer, Reverend John Weaver, Reverend Larry Bostian, and its current pastor Reverend Roger Mathis to 763 members.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, congratulate the ministry and congregation of

UNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
on their
75th Anniversary

and wish them the best as they continue to grow and prosper in service to God.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 15th day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Candice G. Owenby, Deputy City Clerk