



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Elder Joann Robinson Barber, born and reared in Gaston County, graduated from Highland High School and attended Gaston College where she was inducted into the Gamma Phi Beta Honor Society and later attended Mid-Atlantic Theological Seminary in Spartanburg, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Elder Barber, a retired entrepreneur, is the former owner and operator of New Image Beauty Salon in Gastonia for 47 years who also served as a North Carolina State Board of Cosmetic Art instructor, examiner and a rater; and

WHEREAS, Elder Barber has faithfully served in Gaston County community affairs and political action for many years including Gaston Memorial Hospital Adjunct Chaplain, Gaston County Democratic Women, Highland Foundation Board of Directors, Gaston County Crime and Drug Task Force, Gastonia Downtown Business and Professional Association, Mayor's Minority Affairs, Gastonia-West Committee, Gaston County Community Action Inc. Board; President of Highland Family Resource Center Incorporated and Board of Directors just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Elder Barber was licensed to preach the gospel by Emmanuel Missionary Church in 1986 and served in many capacities such as Associate Minister, Deaconess, Director of Evangelism, Assistant Minister of Music, and many other roles; and

WHEREAS, as a trailblazer in the Gaston County Missionary Baptist Association, **Elder Barber** was one of the first two women ordained to the ministry in 1992. She has served our community and displayed her faith in many capacities with her credentials including national and international ministry of preaching, teaching, facilitating seminars and workshops. **Elder Barber** served as an Associate Minister at Freedom Temple Ministries in Rock Hill, S.C. where Bishop Herbert C. Crump is Senior Pastor. She formerly served as the Assistant Pastor at Destiny Worship Center, Gastonia, N.C. where Elder Rodney L. Barber, Sr. is Senior Pastor.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby recognize and honor **Elder Joann Robinson Barber** for her many accomplishments and thank her for her long-standing commitment to serving our community and county.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 20th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk