

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 491  
By Garrett

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the pastor and congregation of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville on the celebration of their 200th anniversary.

WHEREAS, once in a great while there comes along a special church with a dedicated congregation who, through their unlimited capacity for love, richness of spirit and faith in God, dedicate their fine church to touching and shaping lives, thereby helping to build a better and brighter world; and

WHEREAS, the future of our state depends upon the positive contributions that religion makes to our society; and

WHEREAS, the good people of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church have worked to improve the quality of life in Tennessee for the past 200 years; and

WHEREAS, this illustrious body is composed of spiritual people, sagaciously led by the Reverend John Wood; and

WHEREAS, the rich history of this church began during George Washington's second term as the first president of the United States in the newly formed state of Tennessee, when a small band of settlers and Cherokee Indians began meeting for worship in the grove of trees that is now the Cedar Springs cemetery on Westland Drive in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, by 1796, a church had been organized with the Reverend Samuel Graham Ramsey as pastor; and

WHEREAS, the first statistical records of the church from 1870 show twenty-five members; in 1995 the church had 3,000 communicant members and 1,200 children; and

WHEREAS, the elders of the church are unique; their cooperation, understanding, trust and respect are what makes the church so successful; and

WHEREAS, the focus of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church is overseas mission work, with 25% of the church's annual income going toward overseas mission work; and

WHEREAS, this year, the church is celebrating its 200th anniversary, and the future looks bright for the next two centuries; and

WHEREAS, the church is recognized, respected, and actively participates in Knox County and East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that this General Assembly recognize the congregation of Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church on the occasion of their bicentennial celebration, as their exemplary ministry continues to inspire individuals in the Knoxville community and the state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and commemorate the Reverend John Wood and the congregation of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church on the celebration of their 200th anniversary as a church, and we wish them much continued success during this bicentennial year and in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the pastor and congregation of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville on the celebration of their 200th anniversary.

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the pastor and congregation of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville on the celebration of their 200th anniversary.

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the pastor and congregation of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville on the celebration of their 200th anniversary.

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the pastor and congregation of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville on the celebration of their 200th anniversary.

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the pastor and congregation of the Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville on the celebration of their 200th anniversary.