



# Resolution 02-04-18

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**SUBJECT: To Give Thanks and Praise to God for First Lutheran Church & School 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*(Reference Overture 02-03-18 printed on page 157 of the Convention Workbook)*

- WHEREAS,** The First German Evangelical Lutheran Church U.A.C. (now First Lutheran Church & School) of Knoxville, TN was organized on October 12, 1869. The congregation has always been committed to doing the work of the Lord; and
- WHEREAS,** The congregation, being of German heritage, conducted services in the German language into the 1890s when it began services in English to better serve the growing community; and
- WHEREAS,** The church has resided at the corner of Broad and Asylum Streets from 1870-1901 and the corner of Fifth Avenue and Broadway from 1901-1946 and now at Broadway and Wells St. Services were held in a house until the school building was completed in 1947. The current Gothic-style building was dedicated on May 15, 1955; and
- WHEREAS,** Being true to the historic principle of Lutheranism that there can be no real education without religion, a Christian day school was immediately started in 1869. Today it now offers programs that cover preschool age 1 year old through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and includes before and after school care to the community teaching and educating children in the love of Jesus; and
- WHEREAS,** The congregation has produced four daughter congregations, Grace Lutheran Church in 1959, Celebration Lutheran Church in 1964, Christus Victor in 1967, and Christ of the Cumberlands in 1986, all now growing and preaching and teaching God's word to these communities; therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** That the District declare 2019 as the year in which to offer thanks and praise to God for 150 years of First Lutheran Church & School for doing the work of the Lord our Savior Jesus Christ in the Knoxville, TN community; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the District share the story of First Lutheran Church & School with the District and Synod; and be it finally
- RESOLVED,** That the District encourage congregations of the District to celebrate and prayerfully support the mission of First Lutheran Church & School as we continue to serve our God and our neighbors in need.

Rev. Robert Portier, Chair  
Rev. Joshua Willadsen, Secretary