

## House Resolution 772

By: Representative Dickerson of the 113<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Emmanuel Community Church; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Pastor Eric Suddith was recruited by the Stone Mountain Baptist Association  
3 to "re-plant" the Emmanuel Baptist Mission Church; during the re-plant process it continued  
4 to be housed and sponsored by Highland Park Baptist Church; and
- 5 WHEREAS, in January of 2005, the ministry was re-planted with 13 adult members and  
6 moved into the Lorraine Elementary School with the new name, Emmanuel Community  
7 Church; and
- 8 WHEREAS, while at Lorraine Elementary, the congregation vigorously pursued God's will  
9 and purpose, spreading the Gospel of Christ and erecting the first unit facility for ministry  
10 in the community, and by God's grace, they launched their building and construction process;  
11 and
- 12 WHEREAS, God sent several strategic partners to assist in the development, planning, and  
13 execution of the ministry strategy, including the NAMB mobilization process, the Stone  
14 Mountain Baptist Association, and the owner of Georgia Construction, Clarence Hall; and
- 15 WHEREAS, God sent over 500 mission construction volunteers from 60 churches from 15  
16 states to come to Georgia to assist in constructing Emmanuel Community Church's first  
17 worship center facility; and
- 18 WHEREAS, in 2006, they moved into the new facility and became known as the very first  
19 predominantly African American church in the Georgia Baptist Convention to be built by  
20 volunteer labor in the State of Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, God continued to be gracious and continued to "add to the church such that  
22 should be saved" and the growing ministry broke ground again in March of 2010 in  
23 preparation of the "Build Forward 2010" project; and

24 WHEREAS, the Emmanuel Family was faithful and made pledges of support to build a 1,500  
25 seat sanctuary, a family life center containing Christian education space, a basketball court,  
26 a workout and exercise room, a commercial kitchen, a chapel, a connection café, a student  
27 worship and lounge center, a loading dock for the food pantry ministry, and a child  
28 development center; and

29 WHEREAS, once again, God provided several strategic partners, including NAMB mission  
30 mobilization volunteers, to assist with the new construction project; over 1,500 kingdom  
31 builders from over 30 states answered the call that God put upon their hearts and they again  
32 came to Conyers to assist the growing church; and

33 WHEREAS, Emmanuel Community Church's focus is not just on building facilities, it is also  
34 building people who love the Lord, study His Word, and serve one another and the  
35 community; and

36 WHEREAS, its outreach ministries are impacting the community; some of these include the  
37 Tender Care nursing home ministry, Upward Sports ministry, and most recently Bank  
38 ministry, which feeds over 250 people weekly, and in 2012, its state licensed early child  
39 development learning center was launched; and

40 WHEREAS, God has blessed Emmanuel Community Church over these short years and  
41 many have come to know Christ as their Savior; and

42 WHEREAS, of the 46,000 Southern Baptist churches in 2013, Emmanuel Community  
43 Church ranked 358 nationally and ranked 42nd out of the 3,600 Southern Baptist churches  
44 in Georgia in attendance; and

45 WHEREAS, today, more than 1,300 people worship Christ our Lord in Emmanuel  
46 Community Church's 70,000 square foot facility on its 22 acre campus; and

47 WHEREAS, the ministry strategy of the church is to connect people with God, allow them  
48 to grow in His Word, allow them to serve each other, and then go tell others about the love  
49 of Christ our Savior.

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
51 the members of this body recognize the rich history of Emmanuel Community Church,  
52 commend its dedicated service to the Lord and community, and extend their warmest best  
53 wishes for its continued growth and success.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
55 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to  
56 Emmanuel Community Church.