

Senate Resolution 1105

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th and Harbison of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Central United Methodist Church on the occasion of its 160th
2 anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Central United Methodist Church was organized as a church mission in 1866
4 and recognized by the Annual Methodist Conference as Clark Chapel Methodist Episcopal
5 Church in 1867; and

6 WHEREAS, the church was named for Bishop Davis W. Clark, who became bishop in 1864
7 and was the first President of the Freedmen's Aid Society; and

8 WHEREAS, the first location of the church was on Frasier Street in the Summerhill
9 community of Atlanta, Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1875, Clark Chapel moved and merged with Loyd Street Methodist
11 Episcopal Church located at the corner of Loyd Street (now Central Avenue) and Hunter
12 Street (now Martin Luther King Jr. Drive); and

13 WHEREAS, Clark Chapel served as the birthplace of Clark University (now Clark Atlanta
14 University) and Gammon Theological Seminary when classes for the schools assembled in
15 the church's basement; and

16 WHEREAS, the church changed its name to Central Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church
17 in 1901 and moved in 1928 to its current location at 501 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW
18 (formerly Mitchell Street); and

19 WHEREAS, Central helped mold the civic and religious character of Atlanta as the city
20 evolved into the leader of the Southeast educationally and industrially as well as a hub for
21 civil rights activism; and

22 WHEREAS, some of the most progressive and influential movements for racial equality
23 were engendered by and through Central; and

24 WHEREAS, Central has a storied history and continues its journey of religious, civic, moral,
25 and educational leadership; and

26 WHEREAS, Central, "The Church at the Heart of the City with the City at Heart," is
27 considered the oldest Black Methodist church in the City of Atlanta.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 recognize the rich history of Central United Methodist Church, commend its 160 years of
30 dedicated service to the Lord and community, and extend their warmest best wishes for its
31 continued growth and success.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Central United
34 Methodist Church.