



HR0436

LRB100 12841 MST 26530 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In 1867, Pastor F. Erdmann of Randolph County brought 12 families from his home congregation and purchased 80 acres of land in Lucas Township as a location for a new congregation; and

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WHEREAS, St. John's Congregation was organized on July 21, 1867 and took the name Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church; and

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WHEREAS, A log cabin church was built on a five acre tract which Martin Hut sold to the congregation for one dollar; the church was dedicated on November 10, 1867; and

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WHEREAS, In 1888, the congregation was accepted into membership of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; and

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WHEREAS, In 1917, the church celebrated its 50th anniversary; there were 292 baptisms, 167 confirmed, 53 marriages, and seven burials; the congregation listed 170 souls at that time and nine pastors had served the congregation; and

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WHEREAS, In 1957, the congregation decided to build a new church; the bell tower was completed in 1979; and

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1           WHEREAS, By the 1990s, the church was in need of repairs  
2 and expansions with an average of 63 children in Sunday school,  
3 55 in adult class, and a worship attendance of 190; in April of  
4 1999, Sunday school rooms were added and a new kitchen was  
5 built, along with expanding the parish hall; and

6           WHEREAS, Thirty pastors have served the congregation with  
7 Reverend Joel Oschwald, the present pastor; and

8           WHEREAS, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church currently  
9 has 318 baptized members and continues to subscribe to the  
10 founding father's confession of the Holy Scriptures as the only  
11 rule and norm of Christian doctrine as set forth in the  
12 Unaltered Augsburg Confession of 1530; therefore, be it

13           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
14 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
15 congratulate St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church on  
16 celebrating its 150th anniversary; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church as an  
19 expression of our esteem and respect.