

Congratulations Earl Hawthorne

COMMENDATION AS ELDER EMERITUS

WHEREAS, Earl Hawthorne, devoted servant of God, has faithfully served as an ordained Elder to Trinity Presbyterian Church – Pensacola FL for over forty-two years. During that time he has served as teacher, Chair of multiple Sessional Committees, and Chaired multiple times the Personnel Committee, Chaired the Nominating Committee to secure and propose the slate of Elders for election by the congregation, Chair of the 1982 Associate Pastoral Nominating Committee; and

Whereas, Earl Hawthorne has been a gifted servant to Christian Education, Youth Ministry, Lighthouse Choir, Christ Care Small Group ministry, Men’s Ministry, and service to congregation and community; and is famous for his sumptuous fried fish and hush puppies dinners served at Session Retreats, Church Cookouts, Christ Care gatherings, “Men’s Room” fellowship gatherings, and Trinity Men’s Retreats at Dogwood Acres Retreat Center; and

Whereas, during this period, God has drawn the congregation together through Earl Hawthorne’s wisdom and ministry, to glorify Him and serve Him in love, and has used Earl Hawthorne’s life’s testimony to grow, nurture, and impact a whole generation of Trinity Presbyterian Church members and friends; and

Whereas, he has earned our complete trust by faithfully and conscientiously participating in worship, leadership, enrichment and service to the congregation and staff of Trinity Presbyterian Church; and

Whereas, Earl Hawthorne has maintained a long lasting relationship with the Trinity Session and congregation as an Elder faithfully serving and tending his sheep, serving out of a love for Christ which sustains his unflinching commitment; and

Whereas, we are a flock of unruly sheep, quick to wander and often entangled in the world's thorns, but Elder Hawthorne, a faithful servant of Christ and man of godly wisdom and integrity, has lovingly and faithfully been shepherd, listener, comforter, counselor, administrator and dear friend to all. Even as Christ laid down His life for the Church, Earl Hawthorne has given himself in devoted service to this flock; and

Whereas God has used Earl Hawthorne to bring goodness and hope into the lives of countless youth and citizens in our area through his nineteen years as a school administrator, principal, and coach, and 14 years as a teacher of geography, US history, civics,, sociology, psychology, and coach of track, football, and basketball; and then after retirement an additional nineteen years as a Juvenile Parole Officer;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church of Pensacola, Florida, expresses its heartfelt appreciation, gratitude, and high acclamation to James Earl Hawthorne, Sr., and in recognition of his exemplary and faithful service to the Lord and to our church, commends him as ELDER EMERITUS; and that it be

Further resolved, that we give all honor and praise to our Sovereign God for Earl Hawthorne’s humble, dedicated, and unwavering service to the church and our Lord Jesus Christ.

To God Be Thanks and Glory!

Adopted by the Session on May 11, 2017.

