



*The City of Minneapolis*  
A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

By Yang, Reich, Gordon, Frey, B. Johnson, Warsame, Goodman, Glidden, Cano, Bender,  
Quincy, A. Johnson; and Palmisano,

**Honoring Reverend Dr. Noah Spencer Smith**

**Whereas**, Reverend Dr. Noah Spencer Smith was a longtime African Methodist Episcopal pastor who served congregations at St. James and Wayman AME churches in Minneapolis; and

**Whereas**, Rev. Smith was the oldest living active minister in the US at the time of his death; and

**Whereas**, Rev. Smith joined the ministry late in life after an already full life and career which featured stints as a drummer in a touring band, a commercial painter, a cartoonist, and as a waiter on the Burlington Northern Railroad; and

**Whereas**, Rev. Smith was called to the ministry at the age of 49 in 1956, and was ordained in 1960; and

**Whereas**, Rev. Smith was an example of a lifetime commitment to learning and growth, receiving his Associates Degree from Minneapolis Community and Technical College at age 74, his Bachelor's Degree from Macalester College at 78, and his Master of Divinity from the United Theological Seminary at 81; and

**Whereas**, Rev. Smith's example reminds us that it is never too late for personal, intellectual, and spiritual growth; and

**Whereas**, Rev. Smith guided the spiritual growth of his parishioners; and

**Whereas**, Rev. Dr. Noah Spencer Smith has made the City of Minneapolis a better place to live through his passion, love, dedication, and tireless hard work for more than a half a century; and

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved By The City Council of The City of Minneapolis** that Rev. Dr. Noah Spencer Smith's legacy of service to the residents and communities of Minneapolis be recognized, including especially his lifetime commitment to the spiritual health of his flock in this city.

Passed, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara A. Johnson, President of the Council

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betsy Hodges, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Casey Joe Carl, City Clerk