

P-1415-14

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF
NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING MONDAY,
OCTOBER 27, 2014, AS THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF
NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, the *First Baptist Church of Christ at Norman* was founded on October 27, 1889, by eleven charter members; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, the church purchased two lots at the corner of Webster and Comanche in 1892, dedicated their first new sanctuary on that corner on January 22, 1893, and dedicated their current sanctuary in 1949; and
- § 3. WHEREAS the church received a Patent from the Territory of Oklahoma on February 11, 1893, as the First Baptist Church of Norman for the purpose of “disseminating the word of God and of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as interpreted by the Missionary Baptist Church and to hold sell and convey real estate”; and
- § 4. WHEREAS the church has been a leading and cooperating church as part of the Southern Baptist Convention, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and Baptist World Alliance; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, the church has been blessed with strong pastoral leadership beginning with Brother Z.M. Wells, E.F. “Preacher” Hallock (1923-1969), Dr. Lavonn Brown (1970-1998), and current pastor, Dr. Wade Smith (2007-present); and
- § 6. WHEREAS, the church has faithfully served the community of Norman, students and faculty at the University of Oklahoma; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, the church has been a training ground for community leaders and future ministers and missionaries through the generations; and
- § 8. WHEREAS, the church has been at the forefront in Baptist life in developing holistic ministry through their Family Life Center and theologically in ordaining women to serve as ministers and deacons; and
- § 9. WHEREAS, the 1,745 members of the church have just completed a significant remodeling project with a vision to continue to serve and minister in Norman and our world for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 10. Do hereby proclaim Monday, October 27, 2014, as the 125th Anniversary Celebration of First Baptist Church of Norman.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 14th day of October, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

