



## Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church

2334 Herman Street | Nashville, TN 37208 | 615-329-2779

Email: Office@gordonmemorialumc.org

Reverend Dr. Paula B. Smith, Senior Pastor

### ***Resolution in Loving Memory of The Reverend Doctor Autura Eason-Williams***

*"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race,  
I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness,  
which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—  
and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing."  
II Timothy 4:7-8*

On behalf of the Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church family, this resolution comes to express our heartfelt sympathy and deepest condolences to the family of the Rev. Dr. Autura Eason-Williams: her husband, Darrell D. Eason-Williams of Memphis; four children Ayanna, John, Terence Jr. and Gwendolyn; bonus daughters Yakira and India; mother Tommie Dale Reed; three siblings Gwendolyn, Latricia and Thomas; six nieces and nephews Kristin, Eliza, Elena, DeAngelo, Malcolm and Byron Jr.; four great nieces and nephews Torian, Teri-Tess, Kai, and Elliott; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and colleagues whose lives were touched by Rev. Dr. Autura - Eason Williams.

Whereas, Rev. Dr. Autura was a life long Methodist and was "trained up in the way that she should go, she responded to her call to ministry in 1997 and began her career at her home church Centenary United Methodist Church as a youth minister. She was appointed Senior Pastor at Calvary Longview United Methodist Church and Capleville United Methodist Church before becoming the District Superintendent of the Metro District of the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Whereas, Rev. Dr. Autura not only heard but but also lived out the Biblical mandate of Micah 6:8, "to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God," she loaned her voice, her energy, and her hands to work of eradicating racism and injustice both locally and nationally. Her influence was felt in the numerous community, civic, and religious groups and organizations in which she was affiliated.

Therefore, be it Resolved, that the Gordon family wants you to know that we are here with you and for you. We praise God that Rev. Dr. Autura followed God's call to proclaim the Gospel and bring good news to all people. We know God's love and grace will uphold you in this loss in the days ahead. While we mourn the loss of one of God's servant, we know that she was a true disciple for Jesus Christ. In the words of Norman Shawchuck: "We have heard it said, "We can never wear the crown until we bear the cross, "but for those who willingly enter into the sufferings of Jesus, the cross is their crown and they wear it with dignity and submission."

A copy of this Resolution will be given to the family and a copy has been recorded in our church archives.

Prayerfully Submitted,

Rev. Dr. Paula B. Smith, Senior Pastor

Mr. Rogers Martin, Lay Leader

*Compassionate, Christ-Centered, diverse Community*