

SHELBY COUNTY GOVERNMENT



PROCLAMATION

By The Mayor

- WHEREAS:** Rev. Dr. Autura Eason-Williams passed away on July 18, 2022, leaving to cherish her memory family and friends who loved her and a faith community that treasured her. She transitions after a life of service to God and her beloved United Methodist Church; and
- WHEREAS:** Rev. Dr. Eason-Williams was born on June 27, 1970, to the late Robert Luther Eason and Tommie Dale Reed. She graduated from Kirby High School, earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Memphis, a master's degree from Memphis Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.; and
- WHEREAS:** Rev. Dr. Eason-Williams accepted her call to full-time ministry in 1997 and served under appointment in the United Methodist Church. An early assignment as youth pastor at Centenary United Methodist Church in Memphis sent her back to minister at her home church. Rev. Dr. Eason Williams was senior pastor of Calvary Longview United Methodist Church and Capleville United Methodist Church; and
- WHEREAS:** Rev. Dr. Eason-Williams was the district superintendent for the Metro District of the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church. She was an active voice against racism and injustice and immersed herself in that work. Rev. Dr. Eason-Williams was a founding board member of the Center for Transforming Communities and US Making it Happen Shalom Zone. She generously shared her expertise while on the boards of Lakeshore, Hannah's Hope, and Wesley Senior Ministries; and
- WHEREAS:** Rev. Dr. Eason-Williams is survived by her husband, Darrell Eason-Williams, her children, Ayanna Hampton, John Hampton, Terence Hampton, Jr., Gwendolyn Hampton, bonus daughters Yakira Williams, and India Williams, and her mother, Tommie Dale Reed. Among the other survivors are her siblings, Gwendolyn Graham, Latricia Eason Brock, and Thomas Stone; and
- WHEREAS:** Shelby County joins the loved ones of Rev. Dr. Eason-Williams in the remembrance of this servant of God, who worked to build relationships across our diverse communities, enhance the lives of the underprivileged, and transform our county.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lee Harris, Mayor of Shelby County, Tennessee, do hereby proclaim this 3rd day of August of 2022 in honor of

Rev. Dr. Autura Eason-Williams

in Shelby County and call upon all its residents to recognize the devotion she showed to God through the work she did for others and her enduring influence on our community.



In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Shelby County to be affixed this 3rd day of August of 2022.

Lee Harris
Mayor of Shelby County