



WILLIAM T. McALILLY, RESIDENT BISHOP

A RESOLUTION and TRIBUTE FOR REV. DR. AUTURA EASON-WILLIAMS

August 3, 2022

WHEREAS, a woman's strength comes from a place deep within her that has known trials, tribulations, smallness and greatness, loss and success, and where she is vulnerable and powerful;

WHEREAS, a woman is often called to be resilient when others fade away, bold in the face of insurmountable obstacles, half-truths, distortions, and the pettiness of the powerful;

WHEREAS, a woman of God must teach her children that love is unconditional, unfathomable, unlimited and not what the world claims it to be;

WHEREAS, a woman must know her name when others would deny her identity;

WHEREAS, a woman must live her truth no matter what, even when that truth leads her to new adventures, difficult decisions, uncharted waters, and to a people who may not be ready to receive her;

WHEREAS, a woman may be called upon to be more than she thought was possible, more than she ever dreamed would be asked of her, and more than anyone can hope she would lead us to see.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, we have known such a woman in the person of Rev. Dr. Autura Eason-Williams. By her life, witness, leadership, courage, curiosity, grace, boldness, and strength, we have been blessed. We are a better community of faith, a stronger connection, and a more perfect and growing expression of the Kingdom of God. Because of Autura's life we will have had an example of light, justice, and a depth of understanding that stirs within us a call to action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT we will actively work for the building of the Beloved Community, where social and economic disparities are extinguished. We will no longer tolerate hate in whatever form it presents itself. We will not promote violence by a lack of action, nor will we keep silent when our voices are needed to stand against oppression in its many forms. We will allow God's grace and love to truly change our lives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be extended to the family of Rev. Dr. Autura Eason-Williams as an expression of deepest sympathy and support during your time of loss by the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church. We are grateful for the years of service and leadership offered by your wife, mother, sister, and family member. Our fervent prayer is that you will experience the presence and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ as you journey through these days of change. We are holding you tenderly and respectfully in our hearts.