



# Proclamation

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

*WHEREAS*, Bethlehem Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was founded as a mission to do God's work in Autauga County over 100 years ago. In 1904, a handful of Christians moved to Autauga County from Lowndesboro in search of a way of life; and,

*WHEREAS*, as these Christians became permanent residents, the decision was made to establish the first Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in Autauga County. Before a building could be constructed, these strong believers worshiped together under a brush arbor near Fay's Station; and,

*WHEREAS*, under the pastorage of C. F. Hall, the place of worship was moved from Fay's Station to East Sixth Street, known then as Happy Hollow, and was named Hall's Chapel CME Church. It was Rev. W. J. Martin, successor to Rev. Hall, that rebuilt the church and renamed it Bethlehem CME Church. As years passed, the Lord placed on Rev. Maxie C. Jackson's heart to move Bethlehem from its previous location at Happy Hollow, to its current location on the corner of Sixth Street and Chestnut Street; and

*WHEREAS*, for their abiding love for God, and for their commitment to serve others, the church is led by Pastor Lloyd A. Hicks, Sr., along with Bishop Lawrence Reddick, III, and Presiding Elder Leo Douglas.

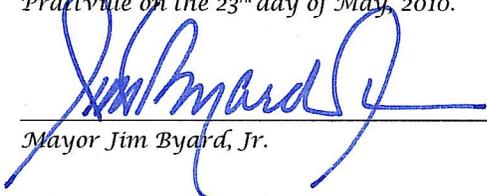
*NOW, THEREFORE*, on the occasion of the church's 106<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, I, Jim Byard, Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville, Alabama, do hereby **PROCLAIM**, Sunday, May 23, 2010, as

## **BETHLEHEM CME CHURCH DAY**

in Prattville, for its mission and its work among the people, and wish for this ministry continued success and service to mankind as it continues to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.



Given Under My Hand and the Seal of the City of  
Prattville on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2010.

  
Mayor Jim Byard, Jr.