

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, on May 16, 1852, the Chamberlin and Gatewood families deeded two acres of land to seven trustees to establish a Methodist Church, South, and a community school, then known as California Church and California School in this rural DeSoto County community; and

WHEREAS, one building served as church and school until 1857 when a white clapboard church building was erected and named the Baker's Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church South, along with the Baker's Chapel Cemetery, in honor of trustee and early preacher, German Baker; and

WHEREAS, in 1870, when the North Mississippi Conference was formed, Baker's Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church was placed on a circuit with as many as four other churches in the area; and

WHEREAS, in 1900, records show Baker's Chapel Church hosting a county-wide interdenominational Sunday School Convention; and

WHEREAS, in 1939, a tornado demolished the original church building—Depression Era money and World War II restrictions hampered rebuilding, but a faithful remnant kept the church alive; and

WHEREAS, the congregation rebuilt and dedicated a new sanctuary in 1952 and due to growth in the church, extensive additions and refurbishing have resulted in the Baker's Chapel United Methodist Church today; and

WHEREAS, this year, Baker's Chapel United Methodist Church is celebrating a new parsonage being built and dedicated and becoming a station church with a greater field of service; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Baker's Chapel United Methodist Church celebrates 150 years of service dedicated to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim May 16, 2002, in honor of

BAKER'S CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of
HERNANDO, MISSISSIPPI

and their love and dedication to an awesome God, their community and the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, February 6, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR