

**A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove**

WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Clinton, Mississippi was founded in 1852 and worshiped with the Presbyterians for the first eight years; and

WHEREAS, in 1860 the church moved to an antebellum building on the Mississippi College campus where they worshiped until 1923 when they built their first sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, for the first century, the First Baptist Church of Clinton served as the primary church for countless students at Mississippi College and continues to provide guidance and spiritual support to the students and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, during the last half of the 20th Century, the church built an education building and an activities building and later constructed a 1300 seat auditorium; and

WHEREAS, the first sanctuary was renovated in 1998 and currently houses the early service that has become a necessity due to the outstanding growth of the church; and

WHEREAS, the church is strongly committed to missions and was listed in the top 100 of Southern Baptist Churches south-wide in 2001 for mission funding; and

WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Clinton currently has three ongoing missions: the first is Burch Hill Baptist Church, the second is a partnership with Bethany Baptist Church in Delaware and the third is sending mission groups locally and nationally to assist other churches; and

WHEREAS, the church participates in the Mississippi Disaster Relief Program and several members assisted in New York after the September 11, 2001 tragedies; and

WHEREAS, the First Baptist Church of Clinton, Mississippi is celebrating 150 years of sharing God's love and mercy with their community and beyond:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim February 15, 2002 in honor of

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLINTON, 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**