

## *PROCLAMATION*

*Whereas, St. Paul AME Church and its pastor, the Rev. Ron Rawls, in this third week of February 2008, is hosting the annual Eleventh East District Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, under newly appointed Presiding Elder J. B. Keel, and*

*Whereas, The Eleventh Episcopal District, under Presiding Bishop McKinley Young, includes 18 Presiding Elders, more than 400 Pastors and Ministers and thousands of laypersons and supporters in more than 500 churches across Florida and the Bahamas, with 17 counties in the East Conference including 29 churches in our immediate area, and*

*Whereas, The African Methodist Episcopal Church represents organization by people of African descent, the Methodist doctrine and order of worship, and the Episcopal form of government under which the church operates, and*

*Whereas, This Conference is housed in one of the most distinguished places of worship in our Nation's Oldest City, this year celebrating its 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and*

*Whereas, Our churches are the foundation blocks of our community, and the African Methodist Episcopal Church carries out its mission as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Church in Living Well, Serving Well, Managing and Ending Well, with the assurance that We Have Come This Far by Faith!*

***NOW, THEREFORE,** the City Commission of the City of Saint Augustine, recognizing the vital role of our churches to our community, and importance of District Conferences to their mission, does hereby proclaim Tuesday, February 12, 2008 as African Methodist Episcopal Church 11<sup>th</sup> District Conference Day in the City of St. Augustine, and urges its citizens to reflect at this occasion on the blessings and service of our community's churches.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Saint Augustine to be affixed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eight and the four hundred and forty second year of the founding of Saint Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.*

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*Joe Boles, MAYOR*