

**A RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF
THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

- WHEREAS**, *the growth of the Presbyterian community in Charleston, South Carolina, in the early nineteenth century led, in 1809, to a meeting of fifteen men to begin planning for a second Presbyterian Church in Charleston, and to the calling of the Reverend Andrew Flinn to organize the congregation; and*
- WHEREAS**, *“The Second Presbyterian Church of Charleston and Its Suburbs” was erected on property obtained from the Wragg Family and on April 3, 1811, was dedicated to the glory and service of Almighty God; and*
- WHEREAS**, *from its earliest days to this present day, Second Presbyterian Church has been committed to mission and outreach, and continues to support such good works as Young Life, the Lowcountry Pastoral Counseling Center, the Charleston Bible Society, the Lowcountry Consortium – an ecumenical partnership for sharing the faith, hope, and love we find in Jesus Christ --, Charleston Crisis Ministries, mission in Costa Rica, the work of Charleston-Atlantic Presbytery, the programs of the Synod of South Atlantic, and the worldwide ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA); and*
- WHEREAS**, *Second Presbyterian Church is the oldest building of the Presbyterian Church (USA) located in Charleston, and is designated by the Presbyterian Historical Society as “Historical Site Number One,” having weathered the storms of war and of nature; and*
- WHEREAS**, *the Church continues to embody the noblest qualities of the Presbyterian tradition, being truly Reformed, fervently evangelical, and warmly ecumenical, calling its members to live their Christian discipleship in ways that exhibit personal responsibility before God, faithful stewardship of the resources of life and all creation, and a commitment to transforming society in obedience to the Word of God; and*
- WHEREAS**, *Second Presbyterian Church is a joyful community of faith where the laughter and spontaneity of children are valued equally with the wisdom and experience of age; a place where the Word is preached, taught, sung, and lived with courage, with passion, with beauty, and with integrity; and*
- WHEREAS**, *Second Presbyterian Church is served with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love by its gifted pastor, the Reverend Cress Darwin, who stands in a succession of distinguished servants of God who have been faithful shepherds of this flock; and*
- WHEREAS**, *Second Presbyterian Church was the congregation in which William Plumer Jacobs was nurtured in the Christian faith and in the spirit of service, a background that led him into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in 1864 in Clinton, South Carolina, where he served for fifty-three years; and*
- WHEREAS**, *Dr. Jacobs was Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Clinton; then in 1875 founded Thornwell Orphanage (now Thornwell Home for Children) where he served as President until his death in 1917; and also established Presbyterian College in 1880; and*
- WHEREAS**, *in Dr. Jacobs’ history of God’s work at Thornwell, he attributes the beginning of Thornwell’s Sponsorship Program to the initiative and generosity of the Women of Second Presbyterian Church; and*
- WHEREAS**, *in April, 2009, Second Presbyterian Church celebrates the Bicentennial Anniversary of its establishment as a community of faith;*
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, *that Thornwell Home for Children, Clinton, South Carolina, expresses its thanksgiving to Almighty God for the blessings of His Providence that have sustained the faithful life and witness of Second Presbyterian Church, Charleston, South Carolina, for 200 years; and that we rejoice in the holy partnership we have in ministry to children and families in the name of Christ; and be it further*
- RESOLVED**, *that Thornwell Home for Children declares and publishes this day our assurance of continuing love and prayers for Second Presbyterian Church as the congregation embarks upon a third century of service as part of the Body of Jesus Christ in the world. “We give thanks to God always for you because of the grace of God that was given to you in Christ Jesus.”*
- Given this twenty-sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, from Clinton, South Carolina.*

Robert W. Stansell, Jr., President