



WHEREAS, South Gastonia Church of God was established in 1933 as a local Place of Worship in the City of Gastonia, North Carolina. Those early days saw amazing church growth with many people being saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Spirit, with many added to the church membership. Today the South Gastonia Church of God is still one of the largest congregations in the state denomination in North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, the following Pastors labored to provide strong leadership and community support during its 90 year history:

- |                                  |                                |                                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Rev. B.F. Darnell: 1934-1939     | Rev. Ray Collins: 1945-1955    | Rev. Ray E. Loftis: 1974-1993      |
| Rev. H.R. Corley: 1939-1941      | Rev. C.R. Callahan: 1955-1956  | Rev. Bobby Gilley: 1993-2022       |
| Rev. W.M. Stallings: 1941-1944   | Rev. C.F. Koshewitz: 1956-1957 | Rev. Adrian Franklin: 2022-Present |
| Rev. George D. Lemmon: 1944-1945 | Rev. A.V. Childers: 1957-1974  |                                    |

The Church's long history bore witness to tumultuous times including the post recovery of World War I, the Great Depression, Prohibition, World War II, and many other critical times in the community's history; and,

WHEREAS, in 1982, Victory Christian Academy (VCA) was established by Reverend Ray E. Loftis to provide a Bible based Christian education for K-12 grades. Since its beginning, VCA has impacted thousands of students and many other lives in the community through its mission of "Educating One Child at a Time" and has many Alumni who are leaders in their communities across the State; and,

WHEREAS, in 2021, Reverend Bobby Gilley was recognized as the "Best Clergy" in the People & Places category through the 2021 "Best of the Best Gaston" community feedback by the Gaston Gazette. Reverend Gilley is also the longest serving Pastor with twenty-nine years of ministry and faithful service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners extends their sincere appreciation and congratulations to all the Pastors and Leaders, past and present, and to all who have contributed to the success of the

### **South Gastonia Church of God**

in recognition of their 90 years of service to the South Gastonia community. Gaston County is extremely grateful for the church's investment in providing spiritual and community support across all socio-economic and cultural lines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chad Brown, Chairman

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Cathy Cloninger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allen R. Fraley

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Keigher

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald E. Worley



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## Board of Commissioners Board Action

File #: 23-363

Commissioner Brown - BOC - Commendation - To Recognize the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of South Gastonia Church of God

### STAFF CONTACT

Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board

### BACKGROUND

### ATTACHMENTS

Commendation

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	CCloninger	AFrale	BHovis	KJohnson	TKeigher	RWorley	Vote
2023-222	07/27/2023	BH	AF	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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