

TOWNSHIP OF UPPER DEERFIELD

RESOLUTION 12-114

HONORING DEERFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON THEIR 275TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the 275th Anniversary of the Deerfield Presbyterian Church “Celebrating God’s Faithfulness” will be held on the weekend of June 2 & 3, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Deerfield Presbyterian Church has been a significant part of the community, providing various programs and events throughout its 275 years of existence as a place of worship; and

WHEREAS, the Deerfield Presbyterian Church is the fourth oldest Presbyterian congregation in South Jersey with their initial meeting taking place in a Log Schoolhouse around 1732, with the congregation constructing a “Log Church in the Forest” in 1737; and

WHEREAS, the locally renowned “Jersey Sandstone” edifice of the Church was added in 1771; and

WHEREAS, the Sabbath School Society of Deerfield Street founded in 1820 was relocated to the Deerfield Presbyterian Church in 1847, and in 1878, a Chapel was built to house the Sabbath School; and

WHEREAS, the sanctuary was enlarged and transformed to reflect “changing tastes and liturgical practices” in 1858; and

WHEREAS, through the philanthropy of C. F. Seabrook, the sanctuary was completely renovated in 1947, to its current appearance with the installation of an Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ; and

WHEREAS, through its rich history the Deerfield Presbyterian Church has opened its doors to provide community services such as a Presbyterian Academy for college-bound young men in the 1770’s, mission work among the Indian Nations in America in the 1700’s, a Women’s Missionary Society in the 1800’s which is now known as Today’s Women’s Guild, a Christian Nursery School began in 1969, a monument dedicated to all Veterans in 2011 and the Church has hosted various musical recitals featuring nationally and internationally acclaimed artists throughout the years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper Deerfield, in the County of Cumberland, that the Deerfield Presbyterian Church be recognized and honored during their 275th anniversary celebration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Committee does on behalf of the community hereby express its gratitude to the congregation of the Deerfield Presbyterian Church for allowing our community to share in the 275 year history of the Church, acknowledging the services provided the community over the years by the Church and for providing our area a place of worship for the past 275 years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be formally and permanently made a part of the minutes of this Body and a copy presented to the Deerfield Presbyterian Church with the Township Committee’s sincerest appreciation and congratulations, with best wishes for continued success in the church’s future endeavors.

James P. Crilley, Chairman

John T. O’Neill, Sr., Vice Chairman

John L. Daddario, Committeeman

Bruce T. Peterson, Committeeman

Scott Smith, Committeeman

Attest:
May 3, 2012

Roy J. Spoltore, Township Clerk