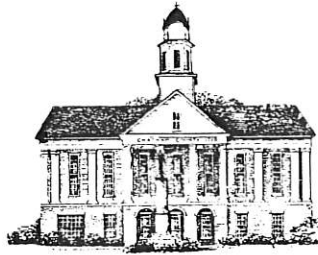


COUNTY OF CHATHAM



COMMISSIONERS
UVA HOLLAND, Chair
BETTY WILSON, Vice Chair
HENRY DUNLAP
JOHN GRIMES
MARGARET BRYANT POLLARD

CHARLIE HORNE
County Manager

ROBERT L. GUNN
County Attorney

Phone (919) 542-8200

P. O. BOX 87

PITTSBORO, N. C. 27312

ORGANIZED 1770

707 SQUARE MILES

A RESOLUTION TO CONDEMN THE BURNING AND DESTRUCTION OF CHURCHES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County recognizes that religious liberty and religious expression are among the most fundamental rights granted to citizens of the democratic governments of the United States of America and the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, organized religion and spiritual enlightenment contribute greatly to the strength of the fabric of our society, and represent the best of the United States, the State of North Carolina, and every County in this Great State; and

WHEREAS, respect for the sanctity of all places of worship is essential to ensure that congregations have a place to meet and to invite others so that they might grow in faith and fellowship, and a location from which to work on the wonderful community service projects for which religious groups are so noted; and

WHEREAS, the current rash of arsons and denigration of places of worship, primarily of black churches, has destroyed more than thirty churches in the southern United States and at least six churches in the State of North Carolina, has directly threatened one of the most enlightening and uplifting aspects of American Life, that of participating in the exercise of religion, has further increased tensions between black and white citizens at a time when the United States and the State of North Carolina are struggling to maintain positive relationships, and has made citizens of the United States and the State of North Carolina fearful in the most sacred part of their lives.

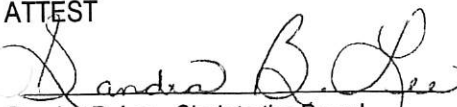
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners thoroughly condemns the party or parties involved in the burning and destruction of places of worship in these United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners shall cooperate with investigating authorities and assist them to whatever extent is necessary to ensure that the perpetrators of these crimes are caught and that these crimes do not continue to occur, and shall lend full support to Governor Hunt as he works with President Clinton and the governors of other states affected by these arsons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution, adopted this 19th day of August, 1996, shall be transmitted to William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor of the State of North Carolina, to members of the General Assembly representing Chatham County, Chatham County Ministerial Alliance, and to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

Adopted this, the 19th day of August, 1996.

ATTEST


Sandra B. Lee, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners


Uva R. Holland, Chairman