

**CITY COUNCIL**

**The City of Orange Township, New Jersey**

DATE February 6, 2024

NUMBER 59-2024

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE BLACK CHURCHES IN THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP WHO PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, SPECIFICALLY UNION BAPTIST CHURCH – A LITTLE KNOWN BLACK HISTORY MOMENT IN THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP.**

**(Sponsored by Council Member Adrienne Wooten & the Orange Municipal Council)**

**WHEREAS**, our responsibility as citizens is to address the inequalities and injustices that linger, and we must secure our birthright freedoms for all people.

**WHEREAS**, all throughout history, the Black church has served not only as a place of worship, but also as a community support group, bulletin board, place to solve disputes and a center of political activism;

**WHEREAS**, these churches also offered members an opportunity to exercise roles denied to them in society.

**WHEREAS**, we must reflect on the sacrifices and contributions made by generations of African Americans, and let us resolve to continue our march toward a day when every person knows the unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of the City of Orange Township to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we celebrate the Black churches in the City of Orange Township that played a pivotal role during the Civil Rights Movement, specifically Union Baptist Church who held a meeting with the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Adopted: February 6, 2024**

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**Joyce L. Lanier**  
City Clerk

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**Tency A. Eason**  
Council President

  
Adrienne Wooten