

Memorial Resolution
James MacDonald (Donald) Bell
January 1939 - February 10, 2008

Whereas, James MacDonald (Donald) Bell was born in Auckland, New Zealand in January 1939, and

Whereas, Donald traveled to Scotland in 1947 where he was converted and embraced the Lord Jesus Christ at the age of eighteen, and

Whereas, he worked his father's farm for several years before attending Auckland University as a mature age student where he was drawn to the Gospel ministry, and

Whereas, Donald married Margaret Shaw in 1964 with whom served his Lord and was blessed with three covenant children: Jenny (b. 1967), Debbie (b. 1970) and James (b. 1972), and

Whereas, Donald became a pre-theological student at New Zealand Presbyterian, but withdrew in 1966 because of the liberal teaching of the seminary, and

Whereas, Donald transferred to Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, and later graduated in 1970 with his Master of Divinity degree, and

Whereas, the Lord confirmed Donald's call into the gospel ministry with a call to served the Laurelhurst Community Church of Seattle Washington as an assistant pastor, and

Whereas, he was then called to serve in Cambridge, Ontario as a church planter, and

Whereas, Donald transferred into the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley on October 21, 1975 where he served as _____ ? , and

Whereas, Donald took up a new opportunity of serving, becoming a Lecturer at Bible College, New South Wales, Australia, and

Whereas, Donald became a part-time pastor for several years in Melbourne, Australia, where he chose to pastor a small Methodist Church which had withdrawn in 1976 from the newly formed United Church which embraced liberalism, and

Whereas, the Lord dealt graciously with Donald by providing for a heart transplant in 1992, enabling him to continue supply preaching for Presbyterian and other various churches through 2007, and

Whereas, the Lord filled Donald with a great heart for the Gospel and particularly for isolated believers and then enabled him to become the editor for *Evangelical Action* (a magazine which originated 125 years earlier), from 1995 to January 2008, and

Whereas, the Lord used Donald to arrange itineraries for overseas preachers to build up Christ's church, and

Whereas, our Lord took his servant James MacDonald Bell to Himself in death on February 10, 2008,

Be it therefore resolved that The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley give all praise to God for His goodness and faithful love to His church in giving James MacDonald Bell as an under-shepherd of the flock, a teacher and proclaimer of the doctrines of the Lord's glorious grace both here in North America and in Australia, and

Be it therefore resolved that a copy of this memorial be recorded in the minutes of this Stated Meeting held in Macon, Mississippi on May 6, 2008 as a testimony to God's great love, and that copies signed by the moderator and stated clerk be sent to his widow Mrs. Margaret Bell and their children with our gratitude and sympathy.

TE William Smith, Moderator

TE Roger Collins, Stated Clerk