

RESOLUTION NO. _____ – 2022

RECOGNIZING Pastor Lesley E. Jones during Pride Month 2022 and **EXPRESSING** the appreciation of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati for her tireless efforts to establish safe, positive, and radically inclusive spaces for worship and community.

WHEREAS, Pastor Lesley E. Jones founded the Truth & Destiny Covenant Ministries Fellowship United Church of Christ (“Truth & Destiny”) in Mt. Airy to be a place of hope, healing, and love for all people, regardless of their race, ethnicity, culture, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, education level, religious experience, spiritual practice, physical or mental ability, or past or present condition; and

WHEREAS, through her uncompromising faith, Pastor Jones has shaped Truth & Destiny into a place for all people to journey on their spiritual path without being criticized, ostracized, or manipulated; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jones advocates for members of the LGBTQIA+ community, supporting human rights, fairness, and equality for all people; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jones works tirelessly to reframe religion and show God’s grace and love to people who have historically been marginalized by churches; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jones is an advocate of building democracy at a local level and has actively participated in civic engagement throughout Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jones served as the Faith Organizer for the Citizens to Restore Fairness campaign, which resulted in the successful repeal of Cincinnati’s anti-gay charter amendment in 2004; and

WHEREAS, through her ministry, Pastor Jones achieves her continuous mission of helping others to identify their God-given talents, gifts, and abilities so that they may become their best selves and live life more abundantly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby recognize Pastor Lesley E. Jones as a 2022 Pride Month honoree for her leadership in establishing safe, positive, and radically inclusive spaces for the people of Cincinnati.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council, and that a copy be provided to Pastor Lesley E. Jones through the Office of Councilmember Meeka D. Owens.

Passed _____, 2022

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by: Councilmember Meeka D. Owens
Councilmember Reggie Harris
Councilmember Scotty Johnson