COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Board of Commissioners	Presenter(s):	Chairman Charles W. Oddo
Meeting Date:	Thursday, May 14, 2015	Type of Request:	Proclamation/Recognition

Wording for the Agenda:

Recognition of Hopeful Church's 190th Anniversary.

Background/History/Details:

Hopeful Primitive Baptist Church began in 1825 in Georgia Militia District 1248 during a time when Fayette County was part of America's western frontier. In following with Primitive Baptist practice, the services at the church did not include musical instruments, did include "sacred harp" singing, and was noted for its expository preaching. In addition to being a place for worship, the church stood as a meeting house for community activities.

Today, it stands as the oldest church in the county. Throughout its history in Fayette County, it has seen years of peace and war. The church's cemetery is populated with soldiers who fought in the American Revolutionary War, Civil War, World War I, and World War II.

On May 2, 2015, Hopeful Church was rededicated through the generous help of community volunteers and dozens of businesses that have made contributions in time, money, and supplies in an effort to restore and preserve the church and cemetery for many future generations.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Recognition of Hopeful Church's 190th Anniversary.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

Has this request been considered within the past two years?	No	If so, when?	
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?*	No	Backup Provided with Request?	Yes

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

Approved by Finance	Not Applicable	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval			

Staff Notes:

FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

HOPEFUL CHURCH CELEBRATES 190 YEARS OF SERVICE

A RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, Hopeful Church began in 1825 in Georgia Militia District 1248 of Fayette County which was then the American western frontier; and

WHEREAS, Hopeful Church is the oldest church in the county and was built on a foundation of massive hand hewn beams and the architectural structure, while small, is impressive with its high ceilings, large windows and wood shake roof; and

WHEREAS, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Confederate Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars among others have paid tribute to Hopeful's veterans who have served their country in times of war and peace and whose final resting place is the church cemetery; and

WHEREAS, The Palace of Versailles bestowed to Hopeful Church a special tree from their royal garden commemorating the long bond of friendship between the people of France and the United States whose home county of Fayette is name after their Marquis de LaFayette; and

WHEREAS, Hopeful's first school was a single room log cabin with slab seats that stood on the southwest corner and the second school built in the 1880's was a three room wood building that stood until the 1940's on the northwest corner; and

WHEREAS, By 1958 there were only four full time farmers in the Hopeful community as a multitude of other occupations and opportunities engaged local residents; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of community volunteers and dozens of businesses have made contributions in time, money and supplies to restore and preserve Hopeful Church and Cemetery for future generations; and

NOW THEREFORE, WE THE FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS do hereby recognize historical Hopeful Church for their years of service in Fayette County and commend the efforts of the many volunteers and businesses that were instrumental in the restoration and preservation of Hopeful Church.

So resolved this 14th day of May, 2015,

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CHARLES W. ODDO, Chairman