

City celebrates 180 years of Methodist presence

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

its founding on Cape Island 180 years ago.

Mayor Zack Mullock read a proclamation Oct. 4 celebrating 180 years of the

presence of Methodists on Cape Island. Beginning in 1810, Methodists met in private homes due to the lack of a church building.

During a conference of the Cape May Circuit held on Oct. 15, 1842, a decision was made to build a church. The first building was con-

structed in 1843 at the site of the city's current Fire Museum on Franklin Street but was quickly outgrown by the congregation.

"The Methodists purchased the structure currently being utilized by the church on Washington Street from the Presbyterians, which was then used for the summer visitors and is still known as the 'Visitors Church' today," Mullock said.

In 2003, the African-American Franklin Street United Methodist Church merged with the First United Methodist Church of Cape May creating the United Methodist Church.

Mullock said the city recognized the longstanding

presence of Methodists on Cape Island and joined them in celebrating 180 years of service to Cape May.

Pastor HeyYoung Horton said she arrived in Cape May last year and found books and photos of the history of the congregation.

"I found out that we are the oldest church congregation in Cape Island," she said.

Cold Spring Presbyterian Church in Lower Township sold the church building on Washington Street to the Methodist Church in 1854, she said.

Horton invited the public to attend an anniversary celebration at the church at 10:30 a.m. Oct. 16.

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RESPONSIBLE, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP

As a leader in Cape May for over 40 years, I have worked hard to make city government responsive, open, and inclusive. What I bring to the office highlights what is needed most; an experienced leader, with the background and knowledge to have safety at the forefront and keep transparency in all dealings. My continued commitment is to work side by side with community members and allow open ideas to be transformed into positive action for the community.

ADDRESSING SAFETY CONCERNS

From the surf to the streets to our homes - attracting and retaining the best public service teams to address the concerns of our community has always been my JOB 1!. From researching and implementing policies that not only attract but also retain the best police officers and firefighters to looking at departments, and finding efficiencies in scheduling and expenses - to not only address current needs, but that can meet the demands of the future.

IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR COMMUNITY

It is my belief that coordinated (and communicated) plans for projects, infrastructure, or unforeseen events is critical to the future of Cape May. Training and planning (OEM and general public), so that as a community we have a clear plan for any emergency or event. By researching strategic improvements for the City - whether on our beach front (such as public facilities needs, or potential for yearly operation), business areas, or common areas (such as Lafayette St Park) is crucial to the overall preservation of our city's charm and viability

CAPE MAY NEEDS EXPERIENCED INDEPENDENT LEADERSHIP
CAPE MAY NEEDS CHUCK LEAR ON CITY COUNCIL

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