



Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

Rev. Dr. Brian LaMont Monford Sr., was born in Lima, Ohio where he accepted Christ at an early age. He did it, in part, to make sense of a chaotic childhood that saw the devil attack his family with drugs and separation. It was in the aftermath of his mother's brutal murder and his attempt to deal with it, did Dr. Monford learn what it means to be a Christian through troubled times. He, therefore, answered the call to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ at the young age of seventeen. His passion is to share a message that gives strength and hope to those that suffer; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Monford graduated from Perry High School in 1984, and received his Bachelor of Arts from American Baptist College, Nashville TN. He is also a graduate of Winebrenner Theological Seminary, Findlay, Ohio where he received both his Masters of Divinity and Doctorate of Ministry Degrees; and

WHEREAS: In 1991, at the age of 24, Dr. Monford became the pastor of the Philippian Missionary Baptist Church, where he has served as the senior pastor for 30 years. Under his leadership Philippian has experienced unprecedented growth in the Lima Community, and also founded Quest Community School, our community's first charter elementary school; and

WHEREAS: In 1995, Dr. Monford authored a book, "From Valleys to Victories", which shares his convictions and experiences from a single parent household surrounded by drugs and tragedy with the hope to inspire people to rise above their circumstances, encouraging them to become self – sufficient and effective in fulfilling their God given purpose; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Monford is co-founder of the Mary Alice House, a sober living environment for men and women who struggle with addiction and substance abuse. He served for a decade on the Board, including president, of the Allen Metropolitan Housing Authority. He has also worked on the City of Lima's Civil Service Board; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Monford has been inducted into the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. International Board of Preachers at the Morehouse College and has also been the recipient of numerous community service awards for his tireless work and service for the advancement of community and Kingdom; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Monford is a charismatic leader, a passionate and inspiring preacher, a talented and wonderful singer and a loving husband to the former Teresa A. Humphries and father to Brian Jr., Brandon, Brianna and Brandi.

NOW THEREFORE: I, David J. Berger, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio do hereby proclaim Sunday, August 29, 2021 as

Pastor B. LaMont Monford Day

in the City of Lima, Ohio and ask all citizens to join me in honoring Pastor Monford on his many accomplishments and dedication to the Lima Community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021.

Handwritten signature of David J. Berger

DAVID J. BERGER, MAYOR CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

