



## STATE *of* MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: Reverend Gloria Roach Thomas is retiring from serving as Senior Pastor of Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church, located in the historic St. Paul Rondo Neighborhood of St. Paul in June 2018; and

WHEREAS: Reverend Thomas has modeled servant leadership in our state as she has fed the hungry, clothed strangers, and comforted those who are sick or in distress; and

WHEREAS: Reverend Thomas's inspirational, empowering and spirit-filled teachings have touched the hearts of many, using a "holistic" approach that is non-intimidating, non-judgmental, and culturally sensitive; and

WHEREAS: Reverend Thomas transformed Camphor Memorial Methodist Church's through a major construction and renovation project that improved the church's ability to support community programs like financial literacy education, health and wellness, youth success, Alzheimer's and dementia education, grief support groups, community meetings, special educational forums, and neighborhood activities; and

WHEREAS: Reverend Thomas also has served as a non-profit manager, an adjunct professor of Mortuary Science at the University of Minnesota, and a counselor through her work with individuals and groups dealing with death, natural disasters, and accidents; and

WHEREAS: Reverend Thomas was an associate pastor at Brooklyn United Methodist Church in Brooklyn Center, a seminary staff at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church in Minneapolis, and through her involvement with various organizations such as the St. Paul Black Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, June 2, 2018, as:

## REV. GLORIA ROACH THOMAS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 31<sup>th</sup> day of May.



  
GOVERNOR