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A resolution honoring the life of Carolyn Ruth Oehler.

WHEREAS, Carolyn Ruth Oehler passed away on June 13, 2021 at the age of 80 and was remembered as a life-long leader on various levels of the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Oehler was born into a pastor's family and was a graduate of North Central College; and

WHEREAS, she earned a master's degree from Garrett Evangelical Seminary, and a PhD from Northwestern University, completing her dissertation on *Feminism and Religious Anxiety: Gender Trouble in the United Methodist Church*; and

WHEREAS, throughout her ministry, Ms. Oehler was a passionate advocate for the empowerment of women and equality between races; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Oehler authored a church-wide study on inclusive language titled "Words that Hurt, Words that Heal, Language about God and People", as well as a history of the United Methodist Commission on the Status and Role of Women; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Oehler served as Council Director of the Illinois Conference of the UMC before serving as Executive Director of Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, Tennessee where she served for 10 years; and

WHEREAS, during her time as Executive Director, Ms. Oehler initiated a city-wide "Celebration of Cultures" and helped improve race relations in Nashville by establishing the "Diversity in Dialogue" program; and

WHEREAS, over the next decade, this program became the leading diversity training program in the region, and was used to conduct racial diversity training for Metro's police and firemen; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Oehler went on to serve at The Heritage in Brentwood, Tennessee where she held several leadership roles; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Oehler was also a beloved and long-term member of the Nashville Women's Breakfast Club; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Oehler is fondly remembered as a positive person who was always thinking of others, and for her quiet but welcoming and warm-hearted demeanor; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Metropolitan Council go on record as honoring the life of Carolyn Ruth Oehler and recognizes her many years of faithful service with the United Methodist Church.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as honoring the life of Carolyn Ruth Oehler.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.