Mayoral Proclamation

in harmony with

Christian Heritage Week in West Virginia

November 24-30, 2024

as proclaimed by

Governor Jim Justice

WHEREAS, Thanksgiving week marks the thirty-third consecutive *Christian Heritage Week in West Virginia*; thus continuing a tradition of annual proclamations beginning with Governor Gaston Caperton in 1992 thru 1996 and continued by Governor Cecil Underwood from 1997 thru 2000, Governor Bob Wise from 2001 thru 2004, Governor Joe Manchin from 2005 thru 2010, Governor Earl Ray Tomblin from 2011 thru 2016 and Governor Jim Justice in 2017 thru 2024; and,

WHEREAS, 240 mayors from 142 cities, towns and villages throughout the State of West Virginia have proclaimed *Christian Heritage Week* since 2001; and,

WHEREAS, local churches are encouraged to participate with relevant Sunday School lessons, sermons, patriotic song services, youth programs and prayer meetings; and,

WHEREAS, Psalm 127:1 warns, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

NOW, THEREFORE, Let it be Known that November 24-30, 2024, Thanksgiving week, is hereby proclaimed as:

Christian Heritage Week

in the

and I invite all citizens to join me in this observance each in their own way.

by _____

Mayor

date September 25, 2024

Anno Domini

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, the Preamble to the Constitution of West Virginia declares, "Since through Divine Providence we enjoy the blessings of civil, political and religious liberty, we, the people of West Virginia reaffirm our faith in and constant reliance upon God"; and

Whereas, the Bill of Rights to the Constitution of West Virginia guarantees religious freedom; and the "Sundays excepted" provision of Article 7, Chapter 14 historically recognizes Sunday as a day of rest and worship; and

Whereas, for many West Virginians, public school days once began with a daily Pledge of Allegiance, prayer and Bible reading; and

Whereas, the state songs, *The West Virginia Hills* and *West Virginia My Home Sweet Home*, contain the lyrics, "With their summits bathed in glory, like our Prince Immanuel's land!" and "There I work, and I play, and I worship Sunday,"; and

Whereas, the influence of Christianity in West Virginia is evident by her many churches and Christian charities, ministries, missions and schools; cherished Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving holiday seasons; and a willingness of Mountaineers to love thy neighbor as thyself; and

Whereas, Thanksgiving week is an appropriate time to center attention on our thanks to Almighty God for His great and good Providence and for the Christian faith, which is part of West Virginia's and America's history.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim ***November 24-30, 2024*** as:

Christian Heritage Week

in the Mountain State and invite all citizens to join me in this observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twentieth day of June, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Second year of the State.

Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State