

**SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
ON ITS 375TH ANNIVERSARY**

WHEREAS, The First Congregational Church of Stamford is celebrating its 375th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, The First Congregational Church of Stamford has a rich history, beginning in 1630 with the arrival of forty Puritans from England who united in church covenant in Watertown, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, in 1635, six congregants from Watertown, Massachusetts resettled in the Connecticut River Valley in Wethersfield, founding the third Congregational Church and the first church in Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 1641, a band of 28 families from the Wethersfield congregation moved to Stamford, then known as the territory of Rippowam, and laid the foundations of a church and a city; and

WHEREAS, The First Congregational Church of Stamford has been a leader in Stamford's community and is well-known for its Thanksgiving Feast, which has been held annually since 1971 and serves hundreds of people each Thanksgiving Day; and

WHEREAS, The First Congregational Church started the first homeless shelter in Stamford in its church basement on Christmas Eve in 1981, helped establish the Stamford Counseling Center, sponsored refugee families from many countries, provided meals to Stamford's poor, and every year donates tens of thousands of dollars to diverse local community service organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 28th Stamford Board of Representatives congratulates The First Congregational Church of Stamford on its 375th anniversary.

*Approved: By the 28th Board of Representatives this
6th day of April, 2010*

Randall M. Skigen, President

Annie M. Summerville, Clerk