Office of the Mayor roclamation

## IN HONOR OF PASTOR KEN JASKO & LOUISE JASKO MONMOUTH WORSHIP CENTER

WHEREAS, Ken Jasko and Louise met in High School, married and have three children, Timothy, Andrew and Christina and are now the proud grandparents of four; and

WHEREAS, after Ken Jasko graduated from Princeton University and after working as a campus minister and assistant pastor there, the young couple moved to Marlboro in 1985 to start a church from the ground up; and

WHEREAS, meeting with a small group, the new congregation gathered in what is now Defino Central Elementary School to begin a ministry that is now a longstanding and valuable member of our community; and

WHEREAS, like many young organizations, financial assistance is needed to start, and Monmouth Worship Center relied on The Assemblies of God until self sufficient and on a successful growth path; and

WHEREAS, through the leadership of Pastor Jasko, Monmouth Worship Center outgrew the limited spaces borrowed and rented, over 30 makeshift location in all, like homes, schools, firehouses, churches and restaurants, establishing a home on Route 79 in 1998; and

WHEREAS, in teaching from bible texts that demonstrate core values like Love, Prayer, Holy Spirit, Diversity, Service, Children, Outreach, and Community, Monmouth Worship Center explores the power of these concepts in faith and in life; and

WHEREAS, over the years, dedicated to being welcoming and affirming for all ages, backgrounds and beliefs for people near and far, the church continued to expand, designing a new facility encompassing 39,000 square feet, including a worship space, meeting rooms and a gym, ringing in 2011 at the current location on Vanderburg Road; and

WHEREAS, set in their church home, Pastor and Mrs. Jasko continued to look outward in charity and mission, running a food bank and partnering with the Marlboro Township Community Garden to provide fresh vegetables to those who are living with food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his extensive work in and for Marlboro Township, Pastor Jasko is also the Chairman of the Princeton Christian Union Alumni Board, helping to guide and nurture all those who are part of a journey in faith at the place of his pastoral origins as well as here at home; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Jasko has always been a community partner, being an integral part of Township events, lending his unique perspective in invocation and benediction at ceremonies in both celebration and in memoriam and known to be with our residents in both joy and hardship; and

WHEREAS, while personally committed to the welfare of our town as a whole, he has also made Monmouth Worship Center an active contributor in our community, inspiring members of the staff and congregation to attend and assist at Township functions; and

WHEREAS, after 38 years of devoted service, Pastor Jasko and Mrs Jasko, having founded this valuable institution together, are now to celebrate their retirement with time to enjoy personal pursuits like travel, mineral collecting, gardening and spending time with family, while always remaining faithful to God.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jonathan L. Hornik, Mayor of the Township of Marlboro, am pleased to recognize Pastor Ken Jasko and Louise Jasko for their vocation as spiritual leaders, dedicating themselves to Monmouth Worship Center and the Township of Marlboro, sharing wisdom at township events and beyond our boundaries, as they are wished all the best on a well-deserved retirement.

> Jonathan L. Hornik, Mayor Township of Marlboro February 18, 2024