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MICHAEL J. MURPHY
ALDERMAN, 10TH DISTRICT

The Passing of Pastor Jerome Smith

Statement of Alderman Michael J. Murphy

May 5, 2021

Last Tuesday, April 17th, the City of Milwaukee lost a true hero, Jerome Smith. This is a loss that is felt by so many around our community, but I know that his memory and what he stood for will live on through all of the lives that he touched.

Some of Pastor Smith's projects – such as the Joseph Project – and others were still on the horizon at the time of his passing, and I know that his legacy will live on through these programs. The Joseph Project shuttled Milwaukee residents around the state to give them transportation to jobs that they would otherwise not have access to. It was his hope that he would develop housing for the members of the Joseph Project, and eventually provide the means for them to have access to higher education and stable living conditions. I hope that the community will continue to work on these projects to honor and advance the vision of Pastor Smith.

I offer my sincerest condolences to his wife, Markeitha Smith, and his family as they process and grieve over their loss. I encourage community members to take this opportunity to find a way to advance the mission of Pastor Jerome Smith, and to try and find a way to live in his likeness.

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