

PRESBYTERY OF ST. AUGUSTINE
RETIREMENT RESOLUTION FOR LOUIS R. LOTHMAN
February 4, 2017

“Ideologies separate us, dreams and anguish bring us together.” Eugene Ionesco

“When inspiration does not come to me, I go halfway to meet it.” Sigmund Freud

“One of the deepest longings of the human soul is to be seen.” John O’Donohue

WHEREAS, God chose to speak to Lou through the burning heart of his father’s early death while Lou was still in high school, directing him into the wilderness of Duke University, and then to pursue youth ministry, and then enrolling in Columbia Theological Seminary to graduate in 1977 with the Master of Divinity; and

WHEREAS, God’s voice spoke again for Lou to give his heart and his hand to Judi Foti in their marriage in 1976 that led to two lovely daughters Laura Grace and Kristin Anne; and

WHEREAS, God called Lou to serve in his first pastorate at Wallace Presbyterian Church in Panama City through preaching and young adult and youth ministry; and

WHEREAS, he was again called to explore the possibility that he was really meant to pursue pastoral counseling, so he enrolled in a Clinical Pastoral Education program at Wesley Woods in Atlanta in 1981 following it up with a Doctor of Theology degree in Pastoral Counseling through the Atlanta Theological Association; and

WHEREAS, while in school Lou was called by Covenant Presbyterian Church in Atlanta to be a Parish Associate from 1982-1985 responsible for the whole range of pastoral duties; and

WHEREAS, he was then called to Jacksonville, Florida to serve as a certified

American Association of Pastoral Counselors pastoral counselor at the Samaritan Center while working on his Doctor of Theology, which was awarded in 1989; and

WHEREAS, he also became a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, then a State Approved Supervisor, which led in 1996 to Lou becoming the Executive Director of Pastoral Counseling Services providing administration, leadership, and *especially* pastoral care for the Jacksonville community for 20 years -- some of whom are in this room, many of whom are in our churches, and ALL of whom have been loved, pastored, and even in God's mysterious way made whole.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Presbytery of St. Augustine does hereby grant to the Reverend Dr. Lou Lothman an exceptionally honorable retirement as of November 30, 2016, giving thanks for the grace and providence of God to mold Lou into an empty vessel, filling that vessel with the incarnate Christ, and setting Lou into the world to glorify God with a ministry of hope, healing and reconciliation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be rung in every place of presbytery presence!

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR LOU LOTHMAN AND HIS MINISTRY IN OUR MIDST!