

Proclamation

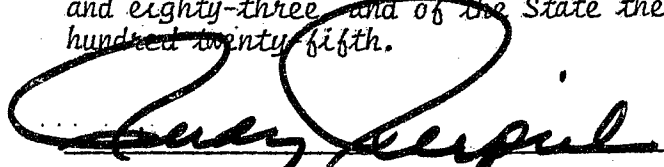
- WHEREAS: The Reverend Boston Smith, supervisor of Baptist Missionaries in Minnesota during the 1890's, had an inspired dream of creating a church on rails to minister to the spiritual needs of those people living in the rural and remote areas of America; and
- WHEREAS: Through a unique partnership among churches, individuals and businesses, seven chapel cars were built during the late 19th and early 20th centuries: Evangel, Emmanuel, Glad Tidings, Good Will, Messenger of Peace, Herald of Hope and Grace; and
- WHEREAS: Each chapel car was replete with living quarters for the missionary (or "colporter") and chapel area furnished with hardwood pews, a lecturn and an organ; and
- WHEREAS: As they traveled the length and breadth of our country representing the American Baptist Church and engendering a truly ecumenical enthusiasm, the chapel cars heralded one of the most colorful and effective methods of evangelism in the history of American religious growth; and
- WHEREAS: Emmanuel, which is now displayed at a permanent site in the Prairie Village Museum town near Madison, South Dakota, is the oldest remaining 19th Century American Baptist chapel car; and
- WHEREAS: Chapel Car Emmanuel's exterior has now been completely restored as a result of generous support by churches and individuals of all denominations; and
- WHEREAS: May 22, 1983, marks the 90th anniversary of the creation of Chapel Car Emmanuel, and it also begins the fundraising drive for the faithful restoration of the interior of this National Historic Site;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 1983, as

CHAPEL CAR EMMANUEL DAY

in Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-three and of the State the one hundred twenty-fifth.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
MAR 2 1983


Secretary of State

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