

September 18, 2023

To the Honorable Constance Butler, Mayor of Green Cove Springs,
Vice Mayor, Steven Kelley and City Council members Ed Gaw, Matthew Johnson and Thomas Smith

The members of Sunshine Holiness Church of Green cove springs, Florida are happy to acknowledge the services of Bishop John Newman. Bishop Newman has served the church and the Green Cove Springs community for 56 years. He is a tireless church leader and community Organizer. The church is located at 1216 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. We would like for the City of Green Cove Springs to help celebrate the dedicated services of Bishop Newman as a man of God, who has dedicated his life in serving his church and the Green Cove Springs Community. Bishop Newman made Clay County his home in 1956.

Bishop Newman attended Florida State College, Lake City Community College and the University of Florida, in his pursuit of a career in the Medical Technology and Phlebotomy field. He was ordained deacon in 1963 and was ordained as pastor of Sunshine Holiness Church in 1965. Bishop Newman also served faithfully with the Clay County Ministerial Alliance. He has served as a mentor to the youth of Green Cove Springs and the Orange Park areas.

His life, his hopes and his works have always been dedicated to service to his church, to his family and to his community! We, the members of the Sunshine Holiness Church of Green Cove Springs, Florida, seek your help! We are humbly requesting that you recognize October 7, 2023, as Bishop John Newman Day! We also ask, if it is possible, that Olive Street, which is adjacent to MLK, Jr. Blvd., either be renamed or be made, Bishop John Newman's Way.

Bishop Newman will also be recognized at the 22nd Annual Soul Food Festival by Former Mayor and Councilmember, Felecia Hampshire on Saturday, October 7, 2023 as the longest serving pastor in our city.

Thank you for your help and consideration regarding this request.

Please contact Deacon Anthony Cotton at CottonA24@Yahoo.com for questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Deacon Anthony Cotton
Evangelist Rosalind Johnson