

GUIDELINES FOR INVOCATIONS

Purpose

To invoke divine guidance for the members of the Board of Supervisors as they conduct public business.

In order to further this purpose, the invocation should be directed to the Board of Supervisors, not to the audience.

Goals

In order to recognize and respect the diversity of religious beliefs and denominations among all the citizens of Henrico County, religious leaders from all denominations and from all areas of the County are invited to deliver the invocation.

In order to avoid any appearance or perception of favoritism toward any single religion, invocations:

- ❖ Should be directed to the Board of Supervisors.
- ❖ Should be brief, solemn and respectful.
- ❖ Should invite the Board to reflect upon the gravity of the occasion and unite them in their common effort of governing.

- ❖ Should be based on universal values in order to send a message of welcome and unity.
- ❖ Should not proselytize or advance, or denigrate or disparage, any particular faith or belief.
- ❖ Should not denigrate nonbelievers or religious minorities, threaten damnation, or preach conversion.