



## **Governor Parson's Bicentennial Inauguration Committee Announces Inaugural Events**

**JEFFERSON CITY, MO** — Today, Governor Michael L. Parson's Bicentennial Inaugural Committee announced initial plans for an Inaugural Prayer Service and the Inauguration Ceremony events in January of 2021.

"To kick off Missouri's bicentennial, we will celebrate our state's rich heritage with a historic Bicentennial Inauguration," said Teresa Parson, First Lady of Missouri and co-chair of the inaugural committee. "The strong bonds that tie Missourians together have endured for over 200 years and will provide the strength needed to continue moving Missouri forward."

Bicentennial Inaugural events announced by the committee include:

### **Saturday, January 9, 2021**

**What:** Inaugural Prayer Service

**When:** 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Southwest Baptist University, Pike Auditorium, 200 West Andersen Drive, Bolivar, MO 65613

### **Monday, January 11, 2021**

**What:** Inauguration Ceremony

**When:** 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** South Lawn, Missouri Capitol, 201 W Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Inaugural Prayer Service and Ceremony are both free and open to the public. More information, including how to request tickets to the Inaugural Prayer Service and the Inauguration Ceremony, will be announced at a future date on [movingmoforward.com](http://movingmoforward.com).

August 10, 2021, will mark the 200th anniversary of Missouri's entry as the 24th state of the United States. Following the Inauguration Ceremony, the committee will release information about future inaugural events, such as the traditional inaugural ball, in conjunction with Missouri's bicentennial celebrations later in 2021.

The Bicentennial Inaugural Committee has consulted with state and local health officials and will follow their guidance to protect the attendees, participants, and staff. Guests will go through a health and security screening, which includes a questionnaire. Inaugural events will be socially distanced, masks will be available and encouraged to wear, and hand sanitizer will be provided. Guests are highly encouraged to RSVP in advance in order to ensure that event seating can be modified to support social distancing standards.

Moving Missouri Forward is a 501c4 nonprofit that has been established to support Missouri's Bicentennial Inaugural celebrations. The nonprofit is committed to transparency and will disclose benefactors and their contributions at a later date.

Members of the Bicentennial Inauguration Steering Committee can be found at [movingmoforward.com](http://movingmoforward.com).

Further guidance for media on credentials and coverage will be made available in the coming weeks.

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