

A TRIBUTE TO THE CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF STONY BROOK, LONG ISLAND

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Christ Community Church of Stony Brook, Long Island, as the church's members and friends celebrate its 30th anniversary year.

For more than three decades, before Christ Community Church was built, the Reformed Church of America has served the spiritual needs of this bucolic North Shore community. Since the founding of the Christ Community Church in 1967, a myriad of forces have changed the cultural, commercial, and political face of America and Long Island. But the steadfast devotion of the Christ Community Church and its members has neither wavered nor waned.

The origin of the Christ Community Church followed the 1962 birth of the State University of New York at Stony Brook. The new college and research hospital brought new jobs, thousands of new residents, and a demand for new houses of worship in this sleepy hamlet. So on land donated by businessman and legendary Long Island philanthropist Ward Melville, the Reformed Church of America began plans for its newest congregation.

So hungry for Christ's words were the first congregants that during construction the first pastor, Rev. Howard Newton, would lead the 50 charter members in worship in the garage of a home on Stockton Lane, in Stony Brook. Though the building was not fully complete and congregants had to use wooden planks to navigate across a sea of mud and puddles, the first formal worship service was held there on Palm Sunday, 1967.

Since its inception, congregants of Christ Community Church has sought to discover and apply Christ's word by serving God and community. Whether hosting the first organizational meetings of the Three Village School District, donating food, clothes, and money to the ministries at Coram or opening their doors to the Beth Emeth Reformed Congregation so that they could hold Sabbath services while their synagogue in Mt. Sinai was being built, the members of Christ Community Church have worked to serve their neighbors.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in this hallowed Chamber to join me in congratulating the members of the Christ Community Church, and all of its friends and neighbors, on this historic 30th anniversary year. I pray that the Stony Brook community and all Long Island will forever enjoy the spirit of the Christ Community Church and the good work of its members.

HONORING NANCY L. SCHUCKMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and achievements of Nancy L. Schuckman. Ms. Schuckman was born in the

east New York section of Brooklyn and has dedicated her professional life to educating the children in that area.

Soon after Nancy graduated from Brooklyn College in 1961, she began her career teaching at P.S. 202. For over 30 years Nancy has managed to provide invaluable services to everyone at P.S. 202. While working at the school, Ms. Schuckman has served as, an innovative and dedicated classroom teacher, a coordinator of social studies, reading, and physical education, a teacher trainer, a UFT chapter chairperson, an acting assistant principal, and a principal. Rarely, do we see the type of commitment, to an area and school, like that shown by Nancy Schuckman to P.S. 202.

There is no doubt that she has left an indelible mark on all the teachers and students that she has come in contact with. Her professionalism and her dedication to education, and the style in which it is administered to students, is the benchmark for others who follow in her footsteps.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Schuckman and all her contributions in the field of education.

HONORING SEYMOUR AND LOTTE MEYERSON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend two of northwest Indiana's outstanding citizens, Seymour and Lotte Meyerson. The Meyersons, who have lived in the Miller section of Gary for the last 45 years of their 54-year marriage, will be moving from northwest Indiana later this month. As they leave the region, the many accomplishments they have made in advocating individual human rights and liberties will be fondly remembered.

The Meyersons' long-time commitment to the ideals of dignity and rights for all human beings has brought positive change to the communities of northwest Indiana. Lotte Meyerson, a dedicated citizen activist, has made a campaign out of her devotion to human rights. Perhaps her most noteworthy contribution to the community was her leadership in forming the northwest Indiana Open Housing Center, of which she was president for 10 years. During her tenure with this organization, great strides were made in eliminating the institutional discrimination that prevents minorities from integrating into predominantly white neighborhoods. Lotte has further served her community by participating in activities with the Calumet Chapter of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, the Gary League of Women Voters, and the Northwest Indiana Welfare Reform Coalition. Currently, she is serving as coordinator of the Northwest Indiana Coalition to Abolish Control Unit Prisons. This year, the coalition was successful in convincing the Indiana General Assembly to agree to study the advisability of limiting solitary confinement to 2 months or less and banning the practice for mentally ill prisoners.

A chemist specializing in mass spectrometry, Seymour Meyerson has made numerous professional contributions while maintaining

his respect for nature and all of humanity. An Amoco employee for 37 years, Seymour advanced to the top of his field and, throughout his career, shared his technical findings in international science circles. Just recently, Seymour unselfishly donated his collection of mass spectrometry journals, which are worth \$26,000, to Valparaiso University's chemistry department. Seymour shares his wife's deep-rooted convictions regarding the need to protect civil liberties.

The Meyersons will be moving to Asheville, N.C., where they will be living in a co-housing development community, which was founded on principles in keeping with their own. This unique living situation combines private homes with community living, and is modeled after a housing concept common in Denmark. Residents of the development, who are diverse in every respect, share a common house, where they can dine and share hobbies together, and common gardens, which are designed to foster a sense of community and belonging. Lotte and Seymour will be joining the family of their younger daughter, Elana Kohnle, as well as 24 other families in this community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Seymour and Lotte Meyerson on the hard work and dedication they have put forth in achieving a better life for everyone in northwest Indiana. May their new life bring them much happiness and fulfillment.

CAPITAL GAINS TAX SIMPLIFICATION

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 1997

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that removes the short-, mid-, and long-term distinctions on capital gains tax which were part of previous law and included in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. This change simplifies capital gains tax assessments by removing arbitrary time constraints and applying the rates now, instead of in 2006. Without this change, gains made within the short- and mid-term rates will receive no tax break at all unless they are held for excessive periods of time.

The very idea of the Federal Government dictating time constraints on the holding of investments runs counter to the fundamental concept of our market-driven economy. With present holding periods, how can we conclude that an 18-month investment is better than a 17.9-month investment? For example, if an investor reaped \$1,000 in capital gains, they would receive a return of \$602 after taxes if they held it for 17 months and 30 days. But, after holding it for 1 day more, their after-tax return would jump to \$720. That is a ridiculous 20 percent difference in 1 day. This legislation removes these conditions.

As we discuss the modification and simplification of the present Tax Code, this bill demonstrates Congress' desire to bring about an immediate beneficial change. It is becoming more and more evident that the Tax Code is a growing impediment to families, small business, and investors. While we conduct hearings and debate on what changes are to be made, streamlining the capital gains tax