

unflinchingly of their energy, time and finances to enrich and improve their community.

The congregation of Agudath Achim is an extended family who shares in the celebrations, joys and sorrows life brings. The Agudath Achim membership is proud of their heritage and with God's help will grow in strength and continue to be an inspiring factor in the lives of its membership and to the larger community of Blair County and the city of Altoona.

Over the past 125 years, the members of Agudath Achim and Jews throughout the world have born witness to immense transformations of their people. They have endured the horrors of intolerance and inhumanity brought on by the Holocaust. They have been uplifted by the formation of the State of Israel and they have seen their community flourish through Jewish immigration from post-war Europe. Through it all, the congregation of Agudath Achim endured and provided a stable foundation on which to grow.

The fact that we are able to commemorate Agudath Achim's 125th anniversary is a testament to the character of its members and the congregation's success is a testament to all of the men, women, and children who have made the Agudath Achim Synagogue the paramount focus of their lives. I would like to congratulate Hazzan G. Michael Horwitz, Dr. Elliott Bilofsky, Joel H. Hollander and the synagogue's past presidents of both the Synagogue Boards and the Sisterhood and all of their past and present members who have guided Agudath Achim's destiny over the past 125 years. I have no doubt that the members of Agudath Achim will continue their path of excellence as they begin to write their next chapter of their history.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK
STATEMENT

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, it was my great pleasure to serve this year as the Congressional Co-chair for the House of Representatives for National Bible Week, November 23 through November 30, 2008.

The Bible was foundational to the development of our country. The English Puritans came to the New World to follow the Bible according to the convictions of their own consciences. Of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 24 had what today would be considered Bible college or seminary educations. Only a few years later, in 1782, Congress itself authorized the printing of the Bible.

The Bible has found its way into everything from casual conversation—expressions like “by the sweat of your brow” and “the salt of the earth” and myriad others all come from Scripture—to the landscape of America. From Corinth, Maine to Bethel, Alaska, the Bible has marked our national map.

More than any map, however, the Bible has marked who we are as a people. Earlier generations of Americans almost inhaled the words of Scripture as they inhaled the air. To read the inaugural addresses of our Presidents, from George Washington to George W. Bush, is to read repeated allusions to or quotations of biblical texts.

The Bible speaks to the uniqueness of man—that we are all made in the image and likeness of God. It speaks of the greatness of God—that He is the object of true worship, the fount of all blessings, and the Redeemer, Law-giver, Friend, Savior and Judge.

Historically, we have been a people of the Book. We lose our allegiance to and our reliance on the Bible to our grave peril.

The Bible can be hard to understand. Yet as the theologian R.C. Sproul has written, “We fail in our duty to study God's Word not so much because it is difficult to understand, not so much because it is dull and boring, but because it is work.”

And it is worthwhile work. There can be nothing nobler than seeking not only to know the Bible's teachings but also to know the Bible's God.

It was President Lincoln who said, “I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book.” Or, as Jesus Himself remarked, “Search the Scriptures . . . for they testify of Me.”

Today, Madam Speaker, I echo Abraham Lincoln's comments and urge my colleagues and all Americans to reacquire themselves with the Bible. As literature, it is unmatched. As philosophy, it is unparalleled. And as truth, it will make you free.

I commend the National Bible Association for its outstanding work to bring the Bible to the attention of all Americans of every faith and creed. And I am humbled by the opportunity to serve in such a way as to draw attention to this most precious of books.

HONORING JEANNE ANN
WHITMIRE FOR HER ADVOCACY
OF ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE
ISSUES

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Jeanne Ann Whitmire for her commitment and dedication to Arkansas children. Jeanne Ann, an attorney in the Office of Chief Counsel for the Arkansas Department of Human Services in Van Buren, has placed hundreds of children in both foster care and adoptive homes throughout the Third District of Arkansas.

She has an outstanding record of fighting for adoption and foster care issues. Not only is she proactive in placing children in loving homes, but she practices what she advocates, sharing her love with an adopted daughter.

Jeanne Ann's efforts were nationally recognized by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute through its program Angels in Adoption, which honors the good work of the American people who have enriched the lives of foster children and orphans in the United States and abroad.

I thank Jeanne Ann for the unselfish work she does on behalf of children. Jeanne Ann is a true hero and a champion for Arkansas children, showing them there are people who care and finding them a place they can call home.

HONORING DR. SURESH ANNÉ

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Suresh Anné. Dr. Anné is the President of the Genesee County Medical Society. He will be honored at the Genesee County Medical Society and Genesee County Medical Society Alliances Presidents' Ball on November 1st in Flint, MI.

After graduating from the Andhra Medical College in Andhra Pradesh, India, Dr. Anné practiced medicine in India. He was the Resident Medical Officer for a construction company in Amman, Jordan before coming to the United States. After completing a residency in Internal Medicine at Hurley Medical Center and a fellowship in Allergy/Immunology at the State University of New York, Dr. Anné returned to Flint and established a practice in the Flint area. He belongs to numerous professional associations and has received many awards for clinical research. Dr. Anné is currently involved in a treatment study for hereditary angioedema.

In addition to his practice, Dr. Anné is an open consultant at the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic, sees patients at the five hospitals in the Flint and surrounding areas, and teaches at the NRI Academy of Sciences Medical School and Hospital in Andhra Pradesh. He also cofounder of “Medical Office Management Systems, Inc.” a company dedicated to helping physicians manage the business and patient sides of their practices. Dr. Anné is also enthusiastic about cricket, and during 2006 helped to create the first cricket grounds in the Flint area. Married 25 years to Dr. Aruna Anné, the couple have a daughter, Lajari.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the work and life of Dr. Suresh Anné. His dedication to the field of medicine is to be commended, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

HONORING ZAKA SEARCH AND
RESCUE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an Israeli organization that has dedicated itself to assisting the victims of terrorist attacks and other life-threatening situations, and making sure that those who pay the ultimate price receive a proper Jewish burial. ZAKA Search and Rescue is an organization

of 1,500 volunteers who live and work throughout the State of Israel. At a moment's notice, they are prepared to drop everything and rush to the scene of a traffic accident or terrorist incident. Wearing their trademark yellow vests and weaving through traffic jams on motor scooters, ZAKA volunteers are often the first to arrive on the scene. They provide first aid to victims until emergency medical personnel arrive on the scene. When an incident results in fatalities, ZAKA volunteers perform the grim but necessary work of collecting and