

South Portland area are truly remarkable, the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ concentrates its energies and attention on its current and future role within the greater community—to serve members of its congregation and people whose lives are enriched by the interaction of the ministry, the congregants, and the faith that binds them to a benevolence of purpose that is an inspiration to all.

Through such practical programs as the Discovery Center preschool, the Community Crisis Ministries Program, the Mission and Outreach Team—which offer soup kitchen and food pantry assistance—and the Social Witness Ministries that address current socio-cultural and environmental challenges, this church truly extends its reach beyond its walls in the selfless quest to contribute to others.

As 2009 represents a monumental moment of celebration in the life of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, I wish to offer my heartfelt congratulations and profound gratitude to all who have sustained the dynamic work of this church in centuries past and who will do so for many more years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:46 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1327. An act to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1700. An act to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in the District of Columbia to provide for the establishment of a National Women's History Museum.

H.R. 2651. An act to amend title 46, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a maritime career training loan program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3371. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve airline safety and pilot training, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following con-

current resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 138. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston, Texas.

At 1:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2892) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) announced that on today, October 15, 2009, he had signed the following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 1717. A bill to authorize major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1016. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide advance appropriations authority for certain accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2997. An act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

At 3:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2423. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 955(b), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the National Council on the Arts: Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota and Mr. CARNAHAN of Missouri.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Mr. LEWIS of California and Mr. SHIMKUS of Illinois.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 22. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to reduce the amount that the United States Postal Service is required to pay into the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund by the end of fiscal year 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1327. An act to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1700. An act to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in the District of Columbia to provide for the establishment of a National Women's History Museum; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 2423. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; and to designate the jury room in that Federal building and United States courthouse as the "Marcel C. Notzon II Jury Room"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 2651. An act to amend title 46, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a maritime career training loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3371. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve airline safety and pilot training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 138. Concurrent resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston, Texas; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Foreign Relations pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2159, and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 18. Joint resolution relating to the approval of the proposed agreement for nuclear cooperation between the United States and the United Arab Emirates.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, October 15, 2009, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1717. An act to authorize major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3371. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Department of Defense Inspector General Address" ((RIN0750-AG34)(DFARS Case 2009-D001)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 13, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.