

HONORING MT. ZION BAPTIST  
CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF  
ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 13, 2011*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mt. Zion Baptist Church of the City of Madison, Wisconsin, on the historic occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Since 1911, Mt. Zion Baptist Church has been a vital organization in the Madison community. The Madison area is truly fortunate to have such a wonderful church continually working to better the community. Over the past 100 years, Mt. Zion has not only offered spiritual guidance, but also opened its doors to the community, expanding and evolving its services to meet the needs of those it serves.

In its first 100 years, Mt. Zion Baptist Church has provided a legacy of pastoral leadership. Reverend Joseph Washington, pastor from 1927 to 1965 and Reverend Joe Dawson, pastor from 1955 to 1985, did much to shape both the church and the community. That dedication to both congregation and community was further exemplified by the leadership of Reverend James Wright, who served Mt. Zion as associate minister from 1960 to 1984 and as senior pastor from 1990 to 1995. He also served the entire Madison community as Director of the Madison Equal Opportunities Commission. That rich tradition continues today under the leadership of Reverend Richard L. Jones, Sr.

Beyond offering a tradition of strong and inspirational pastoral guidance, Mt. Zion Baptist Church works tirelessly to give back to the community. Today, Reverend Richard Jones ensures that Mt. Zion does all it can to feed the hungry and clothe the poor, and work to better our community through scholarships, tutors, and many other forms of charity work. Mt. Zion is always extending a helping hand to its neighbors and all those in need.

The motto of Mt. Zion Baptist Church is "Building up Reaching out," and this ideal is personified by the congregation at Mt. Zion. Every day since 1911, Madison area residents have enjoyed the service and guidance provided by the Church.

Today, I am humbled to join the congregation of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the residents of the City of Madison, the people of the State of Wisconsin, and all citizens of the United States in recognizing, honoring, and sincerely thanking Mt. Zion Baptist Church and its faithful followers for their selfless works and tireless commitment for the past 100 years.

A TRIBUTE TO IOWA PEACE CORPS  
MEMBERS

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 13, 2011*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 17 Peace Corps Volunteers from Iowa's 4th Congressional District. These Iowans represent more than 50 years of service through their efforts overseas to promote peace while serving their country.

These men and women are promoting peaceful international relations through the Peace Corps, which was established on March 1, 1961, and has since facilitated more than 200,000 volunteers promoting peace in nearly 140 host countries.

I would like to take this moment to formally recognize Jill E. Anderson, Katie J. Angell, Brian G. Baskerville, Brittany N. Bermudez, Anna C. Cowan, Jugeswar A. Dowerah, Anse A. Dykstra, Sean C. Fredericks, Mary Kate L. Hart, Kenneth W. Hood, Jessi M. LeClear Vachta, Tyler J. LeClear Vachta, Kyndra A. Lundquist, Alan T. McDonald, Owen G. McMullen, Sarah L. Smiley, and Marcus T. Walton for their incredible service.

I applaud each and every one of these men and women—the next generation of leaders in Iowa and this nation—for their hard work and accomplishments, and I am proud to represent them and their families in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in congratulating them and wishing them well as they continue to serve those in need at home and abroad.

NORTHERN IRELAND ELECTIONS

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 13, 2011*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, with the recent celebration of Easter and the results of the May 5th Assembly elections in Northern Ireland, there is no better time for those in Northern Ireland and members of the Irish Diaspora around the world to renew their commitment to peace and power-sharing in Northern Ireland.

With some areas gaining new representation, and some choosing to reelect their leaders, we are reminded of the need for constructive political discourse and peaceful debate about the issues that are of greatest concern to the people of Northern Ireland.

The 1998 Good Friday agreement highlighted a commitment to "exclusively peaceful and democratic means" and this example should be continued to be followed every day.

Irish Americans and all Americans can continue to show their support for a peaceful political process and the importance of such an agreement will be highlighted later this month with the President's visit to Ireland.

The two leading parties, the Democratic Unionists and Sinn Fein, have had both of their leaders show public support for continuing peaceful negotiations and represent political parties that have pledged to work together.

They have realized that even though their parties may have differing views on certain issues, it does not immediately preclude them from working together. This is a lesson from which we can all learn.

Recently, Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams released a statement regarding not only the importance of a commitment to peace by the Irish, but also by Irish Americans.

The future of Northern Ireland depends on renewing a commitment to peace and continuing to value the opinions and thoughts of all those that contribute to political and community discussions.

It is critical that the U.S. remain involved in the issues of Northern Ireland. We can work

with the Irish to secure a future where power can continue to be shared amongst parties, where differing points of view are heard and respected, and where differences of opinions are not met with violence and death, but with open minds and hearts.

HONORING ITBD

**HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 13, 2011*

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Central Connecticut State University's Institute for Technology and Business Development (ITBD), which is being inducted into the Connecticut Business Hall of Fame. Since its inception in 1986, ITBD has provided business and aspiring entrepreneurs with various support services to help them start and grow successful companies throughout Connecticut.

For nearly a quarter century, ITBD has been driven by its mission to help Connecticut businesses and their employees meet the demands of the global economy. To that end, the Institute, located in the heart of my district in downtown New Britain, has offered a full array of employee training courses, manufacturing process improvement, government procurement assistance, and small business development and conferencing services. Its business incubation program has provided dozens of start-up companies with a cost-effective means to grow their fledgling businesses. Several of these one-time incubator clients are now thriving companies that employ scores of people across the state.

Throughout its existence, ITBD has partnered with various community organizations to work collaboratively in achieving its goals. From the state's five workforce boards, to several chambers of commerce, to various regional planning agencies and community service organizations, ITBD has actively engaged a litany of organizations in the furtherance of its efforts to assist the business community and Connecticut's workforce.

While the State of Connecticut and the entire nation strive to recover from the Great Recession, ITBD continues to focus on helping Connecticut companies and their employees prosper in the global marketplace. Its commitment to excellence and service to the business community is reflective of the leadership of the President of Central Connecticut State University, Dr. Jack Miller, and Richard C. Mullins, Jr., Executive Assistant to the President.

I want to thank ITBD for all that they have done over the past 25 years, and I am pleased to congratulate them on their induction into the Connecticut Business Hall of Fame.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF ST. MARY'S STAR  
OF THE SEA PARISH

**HON. ALBIO SIRES**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 13, 2011*

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of St.