

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, April 6, 2005

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DELAY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 6, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM DELAY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend L.H. Hardwick, Jr., Pastor, Christ Church, Nashville, TN, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, whose law kindles human conscience and sustains human government, we acknowledge our Nation to be yet sustained by those precepts our Founders committed us to keep. Strengthen, we pray, the foundations of this land. Save us from any hardness of heart or from the cynical disregard for Your ways. Deliver us, O Lord, from petty dissension. Increase our civility. Cultivate in us all that is good, beautiful, and true.

Grant to our leaders a tender spirit toward the people whose trust they hold and whose futures they influence. Give them forbearance and grace one toward another, that they may faithfully discern the common good for our country.

We ask You now to hold these, the Members of the United States Congress, in Your holy and mighty hand. May they do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with their God. We confidently ask these things in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COOPER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PASTOR, THE REVEREND L.H. HARDWICK, JR.

(Mr. COOPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to introduce as our guest chaplain my good friend Reverend L.H. Hardwick, Jr., the senior pastor of Christ Church in Nashville, TN.

Reverend Hardwick was born and raised in Nashville, and he attended the Freewill Baptist Bible College before he was called to the ministry at the remarkably young age of 18. Dr. Hardwick has held honorary doctoral degrees from the Moody Theological Seminary and Emmanuel Bible College. Reverend Hardwick is truly remarkable and has dedicated over 54 years of faithful service to his congregation as pastor of Christ Church.

The reverend has tirelessly led Christ Church through three moves due to growth, and now the church has over 3,500 members and is listed as one of the fastest growing congregations in America.

A dedicated community servant as well as pastor, Pastor Hardwick has been appointed by the Governor of Tennessee to serve 8 years on the Board of Trustees of the State Mental Health Association. He is a member of the Metro Pastors Association, 12 of Nashville's most distinguished ministers. He has been a key part of the board of Operation Andrew, which is the outreach board for Pastor Billy Graham and his ministry in uniting the body of Christ in Middle Tennessee. This year, Pastor Hardwick and his wife, Montelle, are celebrating their 55th year of marriage.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is again an honor and privilege to be able to welcome such a distinguished individual to the U.S. House of Representatives. Pastor L.H. Hardwick, Jr., is truly a fine man and did a wonderful job in delivering our opening prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to make an announcement.

After consultation among the Speaker, the majority and minority leaders,

the Chair announces that during the joint meeting to hear an address by His Excellency Viktor Yushchenko, President of Ukraine, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those on his right and left will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House.

Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the Chair feels the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly adhered to.

Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor, and the cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint meeting by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seat by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, April 5, 2005, the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

During the recess, beginning at about 10:45 a.m., the following proceedings were had:

□ 1045

JOINT MEETING OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY VIKTOR YUSHCHENKO, PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DELAY) presided.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms, Bill Sims, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker pro tempore, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair appoints as member of the committee on the part of the House to escort His Excellency Viktor Yushchenko into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT);

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE);

The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON);

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.