

Meeting House opened its doors to a variety of different denominations. Beyond these religious and educational roles, the church offered a meeting place for African Americans to discuss civil rights and other vital issues and hosted literary clubs, youth groups, and numerous other social organizations.

Unfortunately, the original church structure, which was renamed the Meeting Street Baptist Church in 1840, was torn down in the 1860s without the congregation's approval amid tensions with its White neighbors. However, the congregation persevered, and a new structure was built on a nearby plot of land in 1875.

The new church was renamed the Congdon Street Baptist Church and to this day continues to be a pillar of support and advocacy for Rhode Island's African-American community. Its congregants supported Black Brown University students during their 1968 walkout protesting the university's lack of recruitment of and support for students of color. In a testament to Congdon Street Baptist Church's importance to Black Rhode Islanders, the students chose to march from the university to the church and remained there until their demands for change were met. During the mid-20th century, congregants also pressured the State to investigate and end discrimination in employment and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. More recently, the church has, among its numerous activities, increased its outreach to college students, embarked on mission trips to help disadvantaged communities around the world, and tutored local children in reading, math, and writing.

Today, after 200 years of worship and public service, Congdon Street Baptist Church continues to uplift our State while adhering to its vision of being a "radically authentic community." I join community members in Providence and Rhode Islanders across the State in congratulating Pastor Justin R. Lester and the entire Congdon Street Baptist Church congregation on this significant milestone.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate a milestone for Rhode Island's oldest Black church. In August, the Congdon Street Baptist Church on the East Side of Providence celebrated its bicentennial. From its inception at the nearby African Union meetinghouse and schoolhouse in 1819, Congdon Street Baptist Church has been a centerpiece of spiritual and community life for generations of African Americans in Providence.

The Congdon Street Baptist Church has weathered racial injustices to flourish as a place for worship and education. Its founding members left the First Baptist Church in America, where they were made to worship in a segregated space. They formed their own congregation in Providence so that people of color could worship in dignity and secure a fitting education for their children.

Fulfilling that mission did not come without adversity. The original church was demolished in the 1860s at the behest of White neighbors. Unbowed, the congregation rebuilt. The new church, completed in 1875, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In the 1960s, the church served as a sanctuary for Rhode Islanders involved in the civil rights movement. Today, education and empowerment remain hallmarks of the church community.

Rhode Island was founded on the principles of religious freedom and tolerance. I am proud to have Congdon Street Baptist Church as a cornerstone of that tradition, and I wish the congregation centuries of peaceful worship to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING WALTER TURNBOW

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Walter Turnbow, who passed away on September 9 at the age of 95. Walter was a longtime leader in northwest Arkansas and truly represented what it meant to put the needs of others above one's own.

Walter Turnbow served on the Springdale Industrial Commission, Springdale Public Facilities board, Beaver Water District board, and the Springdale Water and Sewer Commission. In addition to these positions, he also served on the Springdale School Board, Northwest Arkansas Community Care Foundation, and the Arkansas State Board of Education.

He dedicated his life to public service and the education system in Springdale. While serving on the water and sewer commission, he oversaw the construction of what was, at that time, the State's largest water tank. This proved to be a forward-thinking decision since the city's continued growth would require greater infrastructure investment. Because of Walter's leadership, Springdale was prepared for the changes and completed the project without having to borrow money.

Walter saw education as the gateway to a better future for his community. In 2006, the Springdale School District honored his contributions to the community and the school board by naming an elementary school after him. He often visited the school to meet with students and read to them. In addition to the elementary school, other sites and meeting spaces in the Springdale community have also been named in his honor, a testament to his very real impact and incredible legacy.

As one of Springdale's most well-known public servants, he touched the lives of everyone in the community. From overseeing economic development to ensuring a quality education for everyone, Walter Turnbow left a mark on the community of Springdale that no one will soon forget. I extend my condolences to his loved ones and

the entire Springdale community and pray that future leaders will follow his remarkable example. ●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:10 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. 806. An act to require compliant flame mitigation devices to be used on portable fuel containers for flammable liquid fuels, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1618. An act to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2134. An act to reauthorize the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind.

H.R. 2211. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety rule for free-standing clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over related death or injury, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2486. An act to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 163. An act to prevent catastrophic failure or shutdown of remote diesel power engines due to emission control devices, and for other purposes.

S. 1689. An act to permit States to transfer certain funds from the clean water revolving fund of a State to the drinking water revolving fund of the State in certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 4003(e) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114-255), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee to fill the existing vacancy thereon: Dr. Jim Jirjis of Nashville, Tennessee.

The message also announced that the House insists upon its amendment to the bill (S. 1790) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and that the following Members be the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Armed Services, for consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Messrs. LANGEVIN, LARSEN of Washington, COOPER, COURTNEY, GARAMENDI, Ms. SPEIER, Messrs. NORCROSS, GALLEGO, MOULTON, CARBAJAL, BROWN of Maryland,