

Lowering the pool level would negatively destroy jobs, recreation, and economic development up and down the river undermining hundreds of millions of dollars of investment. The Corps has chosen to ignore the will of the American people and the intent of Congress and move forward in complete disregard of the law. I am grateful to work with North Augusta Mayor Bob Pettit, Representative Bill Hixon, Senator Tom Young, South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson, and many other local leaders on this issue from South Carolina and Georgia.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism. Just as next week we cherish the thirtieth anniversary of Ronald Reagan's liberation of Europe from Communist socialism.

#### HONORING ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize a beloved place of worship in my district that is celebrating its remarkable 150th Anniversary this year, St. Luke's Lutheran Church in New Rochelle.

The mission of St. Luke's Lutheran Church is one of hope and service to the community. St. Luke's exists in order to communicate the Lutheran understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone through a community that seeks warmth and meaning in everyday life. St. Luke's mission is to address the community with respect through teaching, hospitality, Word and Sacrament in a fellowship faithful to Jesus Christ and committed to growth in response to our Lord's Great Commission: "Go therefore and make disciples."

In the words of church Reverend Dr. William J. Damrow, "We have been marked as a people called to reach out and welcome all. We are a people who enjoy diverse backgrounds, yet, in common we share our struggles while affirming the gifts of faith, hope, love, and forgiveness. Come visit, worship, and grow with us."

It is in this spirit of inclusivity that St. Luke's Lutheran Church has blossomed, with a loving and dedicated congregation.

As Representative for New York's 16th Congressional District, I want to congratulate Reverend Damrow, the staff, leadership, and congregation of St. Luke's Lutheran Church on reaching this blessed milestone. Here is to 150 more years of serving the people of New Rochelle and the surrounding community in Westchester.

#### CELEBRATING ANTHONY AND KAREN REED OF THE PURPLE CHURCH

**HON. DONNA E. SHALALA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in celebration of pastors Rev. Dr. Anthony Reed

and Rev. Karen Reed of South Miami-Dade's Martin Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church, commonly known as the Purple Church.

The Reeds have been with the Purple Church for 14 years, providing constant support and inspiration for the Richmond Heights community. The Purple Church maintains active community outreach initiatives, including a food program, support for the homeless and juvenile offenders, and toy giveaways. The Reeds' leadership has brought their community together to participate in and benefit from these community service activities.

The Reeds are committed to helping anyone who comes to them looking for support, regardless of culture or background. This spirit of acceptance led them to found the Unity Gathering, through which members of multiple churches come together in worship. The Unity Gathering also serves to raise scholarship funds to help attend college.

I'm deeply grateful to Anthony and Karen Reed and for their dedication to the South Dade community.

#### NEW DEAL FOR NEW AMERICANS ACT

**HON. GRACE MENG**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, the United States is the nation that it is today, because of immigrant contributions. In fact, I am proud to represent one of the most diverse congressional districts in the country—Queens, New York; it is a place where immigrant communities thrive.

I also know our nation can only get stronger if we assist new Americans in their efforts to contribute to the growth of our economy and be civically engaged.

Madam Speaker, I am a daughter of immigrants. I saw firsthand the difficulties my parents and grandparents encountered when they immigrated to the United States for a better life for their children. This is not an uncommon story. While the levels of hardships of new immigrants vary, there are common challenges—from language barriers to finding work.

That is why, I am so proud to introduce the "New Deal for New Americans Act," legislation which would ensure a more inclusive and welcoming system for all those who arrive on our shores.

Specifically, the "New Deal for New Americans Act" would:

Establish a National Office of New Americans in the Executive Office of the White House to promote and support immigrant and refugee integration and inclusion and coordinate efforts of federal, state, and local governments to support social, economic, and civic integration of immigrants and refugees.

Establish a Federal Initiative on New Americans to coordinate federal response to address issues that affect the lives of new immigrants and refugees and communities with growing immigrant and refugee populations.

Create a Legal Services and Immigration Assistance Grant Program to support organizations that provide direct immigration assistance to those in need of immigration screening; know-your-rights education; assistance in

applying for citizenship, lawful permanent resident status or other immigration status; or seeking relief from a removal order.

Create an English as a Gateway to Integration Program for organizations that teach English or help individuals prepare for naturalization or earn a GED.

Create a Workforce Development Grant Program to ensure that immigrant and refugee adults have equitable access to education and workforce programs that help equip them with occupational skills needed to secure or advance in employment.

Reduce barriers for individuals to naturalize by establishing a flat application fee for naturalization, amending the English and civics exam requirements for older individuals, and exempting eligible U.S. high school graduates from taking the naturalization exams.

Limit USCIS's ability to raise fees without Congress' approval, plus require authorization of appropriations to cover USCIS' need to operate and adjudicate cases.

Promote civic engagement through automatic voter registration of newly naturalized individuals.

Expand family integration by reducing the age of citizens who are able to petition eligible family members from 21 years old to 18 years old.

Increase Refugee Admissions level to 110,000 per fiscal year.

Provide social, economic, and civic support to refugees and rebuild the capacity and infrastructure of local communities to welcome refugees.

Amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to no longer allow deportation of an individual deemed to have become a public charge.

Madam Speaker, the United States is a nation of immigrants. The rich tapestry of our nation that is comprised of diverse cultures, languages, and lives experiences have always been America's strength. Immigrants and refugees have always been America's strength—which is why improving our system to welcome new Americans will ensure our nation continues to thrive. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and join me in moving our diverse nation forward by helping immigrants and refugees.

#### RECOGNIZING EDWARD MORRISSETTE, WWII VET AND LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL RECIPIENT FROM FRANCE

**HON. DON BACON**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize World War II Veteran Edward H. Morrisette of Omaha who will be awarded with France's highest distinction—the Legion of Honor—on October 30, 2019 for his heroism and courage in the liberation of France.

Mr. Morrisette enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1940, at the age of 17. He served with the 16th Regiment, First Infantry Division, also known as "The Big Red One," as a machine gun squad leader and military policeman. From August 1942 until September 1945, he participated in the campaigns of North Africa, Sicily, Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes and Central Europe.