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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Elton Van Welton, Crossroads Baptist Church, Leesburg, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Lord, Almighty God, we thank You this morning for Your divine blessings upon our country and upon our lives individually. With heartfelt concern, we remember those Americans serving our country in uniform today and pray for Your protective hand over them. Bless and love their families in their absence.

I ask, Lord, as our source of life and strength, that You will encourage and edify us all that we might remain faithful in the task that You have called us to. Lead today this Chamber and its Members in the pathway of humility. By Your spirit, guide them to take up the towel of leadership to meet the needs of our country by lifting up others more than themselves. Allow their lives as servant leaders to empower all Americans to live in like manner. This we pray in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SALAZAR 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.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND ELTON VAN WELTON

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend a warm welcome to our guest chaplain, the Reverend Elton Van Welton of Leesburg, Virginia.

Reverend Van Welton is the senior pastor of Crossroads Baptist Church. In the two short years he has been at Crossroads, the church membership has grown dramatically, and its rate of financial giving to world missions to the poor and to the hungry has increased by over 500 percent. He has also worked to establish many local ministries, such as Saving Addicts for Eternity, which partners with local Narcotics Anonymous groups to provide spiritual guidance to those struggling with addiction.

Pastor Van Welton first joined the ministry in 1999 after receiving a master's in divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Before his career as a pastor, Reverend Van Welton received his juris doctorate from Regent University and was a practicing attorney in the Commonwealth of Virginia before he received his call to the ministry.

I commend Rev. Van Welton for his dedication to spreading the word of the gospel and for his faithful service to our community in northern Virginia. It is a blessing to have him here today to serve as our guest chaplain.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to a joint resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S.J. Res. 13. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

PRESIDENT BUSH'S PROPOSED VETO

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, after running up more debt than the 42 Presidents who preceded him, \$3.2 trillion borrowed and spent, \$9 trillion total debt on the backs of the American people, presiding over a doubling of our international debt to more than \$2.2 trillion, last week he proposed that we should borrow and spend another \$190 billion on the war in Iraq, nearly 600 since he launched this unnecessary war.

Subsidies to Big Oil, scandals about no-bid contracts, the President has rediscovered his long-lost, inner-fiscally conservative self. He's going to cast the first veto of his Presidency on a bill that would spend money, after an orgy of borrowing, spending and misspending on many dubious things. His target, 10 million low-income kids.

The President stands on principle. Or is it he's standing on a pile of campaign cash contributed by the insurance industry to the Republicans?

EARMARK REFORM

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, it's no secret that earmarks are not fairly distributed. But with the new disclosure rules in place this year, for the first time it's been documented. In an analysis of House-passed appropriation bills, CQ Weekly and Taxpayers for

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

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