

the first time I got a glimpse of what education might be and really learned something. . . . Yet it was not what I learned but the fact that I learned something, that I discovered that it was the keenest of pleasures to use one's mind, a new sensation, and one which made Mr. Adams's course in the history of the Middle Ages so memorable to me.

To teach students that it is a pleasure to use one's mind is our single most important task at universities, I think, and it seems inescapable that we cannot measure how well we perform it. Instead of talking metrics, let's listen to another source of wisdom on intellectual pleasure, namely, Lionel Trilling.

. . . if we abandon the idea of literature as an independent, contemplative experience, as a pleasure, . . . if we continue to make it conform to philosophies of immediate ends, . . . and do not keep clear its own particular nature, we shall be contributing to the loss of two things of the greatest social value. Of these one is the possibility which art offers of an experience that is justified in itself, of nearly unconditioned living. Upon such experience, or even the close approach to it, we have learned to turn hostile faces: that is one of the strategic errors of our culture, for in the long run the possibility of such experience is a social necessity. The second thing we shall lose is the awareness—it is ultimately practical—which comes only from the single-minded contemplation of works that arise from the artist's own contemplation of events and objects; this is an awareness of the qualities of things. In the realm of art we call these qualities style, in the realm of morals we call them character, in the realm of politics we have no name for them but they are finally important. To these qualities, especially in times of crisis, society seems to be stolidly indifferent; actually they are, after survival, the great social concern.

We are in the age of big data, accountability, and hurry-up offenses. But long-term quality, not instant quantification, should be our concern in universities: helping our students gain "an awareness of the qualities of things" for a lifetime of personal pleasure and democratic contributions.

Intellectual contemplation and pleasure are, to put it mildly, not much in vogue these days, but they are clearly what Princeton gave to James Madison almost 250 years ago. Knowing Chris Eisgruber and his passion for intellectual engagement as the true measure of higher education, I have no doubt that Princeton will remain faithful to this central principle. And I wish him and all of you a lot of pleasure in its pursuit!

GREATER CARLISLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Greater Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, which celebrated its 100th anniversary on October 10, 2013.

Founded in 1751, the borough of Carlisle is a historic community in south-central Pennsylvania. The Greater Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1913 and serves to encourage economic growth and stability throughout the area. The Chamber takes on many roles vital to the prosperity of the bor-

ough including helping start and grow local businesses, planning and hosting networking and professional development events, and assisting tourists in exploring the town. They continue to be an important asset to this growing community.

Mr. Speaker, for 100 years the Greater Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce has been a catalyst for economic growth in Carlisle, PA. Therefore, I commend all those who have served to improve their community as part of this important organization.

THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF REVEREND LAWRENCE E. AKER III

HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Reverend Lawrence E. Aker III. During his years of service, Rev. Aker has ministered to thousands and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of all those he encountered. In honor of his tenth anniversary as pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Rev. Aker was honored at a celebratory banquet on April 27, 2013 at Steiner Studios in Brooklyn, New York.

In 1917, Cornerstone Baptist Church was founded in Brooklyn, NY by a small group of forward minded individuals. Today, it is a thriving church of over 1,500 members with active boards, clubs, Sunday school programs, and choirs. In the last decade, Cornerstone Baptist Church has continued to thrive under the outstanding leadership of Rev. Aker. In order to meet the needs of his ever-growing parishioners, an additional Sunday service was added. By embracing technology, Rev. Aker has made his church more accessible to all who are called to worship. During his tenure, the church underwent extensive renovation to the exterior of the edifice. This beautification of the church was greatly celebrated by the community, lifting not just the congregation but all those in its vicinity. As a visionary, Rev. Aker plans to continue the church's enhancement through the renovation of the church's gym and community center.

His strong commitment to nurturing the next generation led to the creation of "Friday Nite Fire," a weekly bible study for youth and young adults. He also created the Women of the World (WOW) ministry, which offers spiritual guidance to women. Rev. Aker's reach extends outside the parish: I experienced this first hand as a member of the Assembly when we worked together to organize a community career fair at Cornerstone Baptist Church.

This past winter, I was privileged to accept the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award with the Reverend, given to us from the State of Israel and presented by Ambassador Ido Aharoni, Consul General of Israel in New York, for "spreading compassion and uniting communities of all backgrounds." As a life-long parishioner of Cornerstone, I could think of no higher honor than to be counted among his company.

Rev. Aker holds a Bachelor's degree in Communications from Howard University, a Master in Theology from Dallas Theological Seminary, a Master of Sacred Theology from Yale University, and is currently a Doctor of Philosophy candidate at Drew University.

Rev. Aker is an inspirational leader whose work would not have been possible without the love and support of his wife Cynthia Aker and their devoted children. We thank his family for sharing him with us all. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Rev. Aker on his 10th pastoral anniversary. For his commitment to the people of Brooklyn, he is worthy of the highest praise.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALLEN CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 80th anniversary of Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church of Asbury Park, New Jersey. Since its founding, Allen Chapel AME Church has provided outstanding spiritual guidance and outreach to the community.

Allen Chapel AME Church has grown structurally and in membership since its founding as a mission in 1933. First worshipping at a local Presbyterian Church temporarily, the founding committee acquired property and moved the mission to its permanent and current location in 1934. The congregation assisted in renovating and rebuilding the site to a house of worship, a study room, choir room, lecture room, kitchen and a large yard for outdoor events. Twenty-two years later, the church purchased another adjacent building to use as a parsonage. In 1960, design and construction began to replace the original church building with a new, modern church on the same site. Church leaders, congregants and friends volunteered to help with the demolition and rebuilding and the new church was completed in 1964. Less than 10 years later, the mortgage burning was celebrated.

Allen Chapel AME Church is dedicated to expanding its ministry, social action and community outreach. In 2012, it began a prayer line during the Lenten season that was eventually extended to a weekly occurrence. Allen Chapel AME Church also facilitated bringing Covenant House to Asbury Park, providing a haven to the homeless youth throughout the community.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Allen Chapel AME Church on its 80th anniversary. Its dedicated service to its congregants and the greater Asbury Park community is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 532, I was unable to cast my vote due to conflict which did not allow me to return to the floor in time to make the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."