

women in the ministry were rare, Bishop Reems would not be denied and continues to follow her calling.

With little more than faith and a vision, the Center of Hope Community Church was founded in 1968 with four members. Today its membership exceeds 1500. Bishop Reems has a uniquely charismatic and humorous preaching style. Her sermons speak to people's hearts and are rich with poetic commentary, startling insights, and contemporary applications of the Bible's message. Her devotion is evidenced through a practice of intercessory prayer and fasting that has made her dear to the congregation of Center of Hope. In the audience, passionate praise, worship, and spontaneous dancing always punctuate her words.

The hallmark of Bishop Reems' ministry is her tireless compassion for people in need. Her non-judgmental attitude is one of the keys to her success in helping recovering drug addicts, prostitutes, prisoners, ex-prisoners, the homeless and others. Bishop Reems' drive is evident in her successful efforts to open a 56-unit senior housing complex, a 17-unit transitional housing program for homeless single women with children, and a 150-unit affordable housing complex. Additionally, she has founded a number of community-based services and is chairman of the boards of Hope Housing and Hope Development Corporations.

In 1988, Bishop Reems organized the E.C. Reems Women's International Ministries. Under her direction and leadership, its charter is to encourage and energize women to be active partners in the gospel and to work in their local churches. Each year the participation continues to exceed the previous year. E.C. Reems Women's International Ministries also organizes and hosts regional conferences around the USA.

She wrote two books, "Counting Everything as Joy!" and "Through the Storm." In addition to her ministerial duties, she is the loving mother of two sons, Brondon and Brian. Her husband Paul Reems passed away recently after 41 years of devoted marriage.

Finally as I honor Dr. Reems today, I want to thank her on behalf of the entire 9th Congressional District for being a great religious and community leader. Bishop Reems has shared her wisdom and provided me tremendous support. Most of all, I thank her for her friendship and prayers.

I take great pride in joining her friends, family, and members of the congregation to salute the extraordinary Bishop Ernestine Cleveland Reems.

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TRIBUTE TO MOTHER TERESA OF  
CALCUTTA

**HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring recognition to one of the 20th century's greatest public servants, the Honorable Mother Teresa of Calcutta, whose birthday was August, 27 and who will be beatified by Pope John Paul II in Rome on October 19, 2003. Her life was a steadfast devotion to providing needed assistance to the most destitute of her fellow neighbors.

Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Albania, August 26, 1910. She decided to become a Roman Catholic Sister at the tender age of 18. She left home to join a community of Irish nuns in Calcutta. Here she took the name 'Sister Teresa,' after Saint Teresa of Lisieux, the patroness of missionaries. She spent the following 17 years teaching and being principal of 500 students at St. Mary's High School.

In 1946, she fell ill with suspected tuberculosis and was sent to the town of Darjeeling to recover.

"It was in the train I heard the call to give up all and follow him to the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor," she recalled. Pope Pius XII would later grant her permission to leave her order. She arrived in the slums of Calcutta to start a school for children. It was there that she was first addressed as Mother Teresa.

Her impact was mostly felt in her adopted home, Calcutta. Over time, the work of her order, the Missionaries of Charity would spawn a global network of homes for the poor reaching from Calcutta to New York, including one of the first homes of AIDS victims. Missionaries of Charity continues its service to this day in locales across the United States and throughout the world. By 1996, she was operating 517 missions in more than 100 countries.

Mother Teresa was a paradigm of humility. When Pope Paul VI gave her a white Lincoln Continental, she auctioned the car, using the money to establish a leper colony in West Bengal. Despite her humble nature, even she was not without critics for holding steadfast positions against abortion, divorce and war.

Mother Teresa was undeterred by criticism stating, "No matter who says what, you should accept it with a smile and do your own work."

After an increasing frequency of heart problems, she passed away on Sept. 5, 1997.

When asked how she managed to do all she did, Mother Teresa responded, "What matters is why you do it. If you do it out of duty or obligation, it will deplete you; but if you do it out of love, it will not; it will energize you."

These words should be taken to heart by all public servants, in the House of Representatives and beyond.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO FIRST  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this Nation to pay tribute to a landmark institution from my district. The First United Methodist Church of Pueblo, Colorado has served its parishioners and our community for one hundred forty years. By working to promote a spirit of unity and co-operation, the church has shaped the Pueblo community for the better. For its many years of service to the people of Pueblo, I am honored to pay tribute to the First United Methodist Church here today.

Founded in 1863, the First United Methodist Church has worked tirelessly to meet the needs of its parishioners and the community

at large. Its work includes everything from promoting its missionary efforts to reaching out to less fortunate members of the community. First United Methodist is also active in the Pueblo Interfaith Hospitality Network, a program to house homeless families, and the Downtown Cooperative Care Center, a program to provide food, clothing, and assistance to the less fortunate.

Mr. Speaker, First United Methodist Church's efforts to meet the needs of the community and foster a spirit of generosity are an inspiration to us all. The church is the kind of institution that our community turns to for guidance and encouragement in their daily lives, and I am honored to join with my colleagues today in thanking the people of the First United Methodist Church for their tireless work.

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TRIBUTE TO ZONIA SANDOVAL  
WALDON

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements and invaluable contributions of Zonia Sandoval Waldon over the last 30 plus years in Santa Clara County. Her dedication to families, adults and children has been laudable.

Born and raised in El Salvador, Zonia Waldon came to the United States at age eight and went to school in San Francisco and Daly City. She is a proud mother of twin sons and has resided in Santa Clara County most of her adult life.

Ms. Waldon began her career with the Social Services Agency in 1972 starting out as an eligibility worker—what was then referred to as the "blind unit." The unit was unique in that it combined the efforts of all staff members including eligibility, social workers and supervisors in resolving issues.

Learning to work well with people, both clients and staff, Ms. Waldon was given increasingly more responsible positions such as: Supervisor for General Assistance, Supervisor for Aid to Families with Dependent Children, and Supervisor for the Medi-Cal Unit at Valley Medical Center. Zonia's ability to "get the job done" led to her next assignment as District Office Manager of the East Valley Office of Social Services. Her role in management of facilities led to other managerial roles such as branching into labor management issues. She served as Steward, State Delegate, and Negotiator for the Union Local 535, SEIU. Zonia created the first Supervisory Chapter of Union Local 535. She was a co-founder and served as the first President of the Supervisory Chapter.

Other projects Zonia was involved with included a Family Preservation Pilot Project awarded by the State Department of Social Services. Highlights of accomplishments included: parent education, child respite care, counseling, development of Family Resource Centers, community-based child welfare services and community collaboratives. She also helped to initiate the Youth Leadership Gang Prevention Program funded by the State and the City of San Jose Mayor's Gang Task Force. This program currently serves youth

throughout Santa Clara County and has graduated more than 2,000 youth to date.

In February of 2001, Zonia Waldon was promoted to Deputy Director of the Department of Family and Children's Services. Zonia believes that her greatest accomplishment in her career was her never-ending desire to mentor people around her and to assist them in carving out their career paths. She has been a true leader and extremely instrumental in improving the quality of Social Services our community has today. I wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life. She will be sorely missed, but never forgotten.

FORTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE RE-  
PUBLIC OF CYPRUS

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, today marks the forty-third anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Cyprus, after 80 years of British colonial rule. Independence is particularly significant for the Cypriot people because of their ancient and extensive history of conquerors, empire builders, and invaders. Throughout history Cyprus has endured oppression and occupation by preserving its unique identity and culture. While this is a day of celebration for the progress and successes that the Republic of Cyprus has achieved, it is also a solemn reminder of the Turkish occupation under which 37 percent of the island struggles.

Since Turkish troops invaded in 1974, Turkey has expelled 200,000 Greek Cypriots, moved 80,000 settlers from the Turkish mainland into Greek Cypriot homes in an attempt to change the demographics of the area and restricted the rights of the few Greek Cypriots who remain in the north. The United Nations Security Council and the European Union have condemned these actions by the Turkish government as explicit violations of international law.

After 29 years of illegal occupation, the Turkish-Cypriot leadership under Rauf Denktash has proven itself unwilling to resolve this situation. Tens of thousands of Turkish Cypriots have demonstrated in the occupied areas of the north, urging Mr. Denktash to support the U.N. peace process. But Mr. Denktash has not only rejected the plan, he has refused to allow his constituency to voice their opinion through a referendum. Due to this intransigent policy, the opportunity has been lost for all Cypriots—both Turkish and Greek. However, throughout this long path towards peace, the people of Cyprus have held on to their independence and taken huge strides in building a prosperous and flourishing nation.

Today—after 43 years of independence—Cyprus continues to grow economically, develop democratically and foster regional stability as it takes momentous steps toward joining the European Union. On April 16, 2003, along with nine other countries, Cyprus signed the Accession Treaty to the European Union with the intention of officially becoming a member-state of the EU in May 2004. The Accession of Cyprus will proceed whether it is as

an island with a partition or as an island newly reunified.

The positive impact of the forthcoming EU accession will bring great benefits to all Cypriots both Greek and Turkish. It will bring foreign investment; access to markets and jobs throughout Europe, and additional development assistance to the areas of northern Cyprus. Having looked out across the Green line during my last visit to Cyprus, I strongly believe that the unification of Cyprus into a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation—as called for by United Nations Security Council resolutions—is the only solution that can guarantee economic development and equal political representation for all inhabitants of the island.

Globally—the United States, the EU and the international community and locally—the government of the Cypriot Republic, and the people of Cyprus, both Greek and Turkish, are committed to finding a peaceful settlement in the near future—it is time to work in good faith to make it a reality.

Despite the ongoing conflict and the obstructionist stance of the Turkish-Cypriot leadership, the Government of Cyprus has continued to also strengthen its close partnership with the United States, and it has proven the strength of these ties by providing its support in our fight against global terrorism.

Immediately after the September 11 terrorist attacks, Cyprus was among the first nations to express its solidarity with the U.S. Cyprus has granted blanket clearance for U.S. military aircraft to fly over Cyprus and to use its airports, and is sharing intelligence with and providing legal assistance to various U.S. agencies.

Cyprus has also introduced tough new criminal laws and regulations to deter and punish terrorists and their supporters, taken measures to freeze the assets of terrorists and increased security measures at seaports and airports and at the U.S. Embassy in the capital of Nicosia.

Cyprus has also endorsed and implemented U.N. Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) to freeze the assets of terrorists and their supporters; implemented all other relevant resolutions and decisions of the U.N. Security Council, the EU and other international organizations; and ratified the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

And most recently, on September 18, the United States and Cyprus signed a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty that will promote closer coordination between the two countries in the fight against global terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking and related violent crimes.

As an active member of both the Congressional Hellenic Issues Caucus and the House Committee on International Relations, I have supported a number of legislative initiatives to resolve the Cyprus dispute and promote the accession of the government of Cyprus to the European Union.

I strongly support the accession of Cyprus to the European Union, whether or not a solution to the island's division has been reached beforehand. I have cosponsored legislation calling on the U.S. Government to support EU accession, and I have written to President Bush on this matter as well.

I have co-sponsored legislation introduced in the House to end restrictions on the freedoms and human rights of the Greek Cypriot enclaves in northern Cyprus. I personally tried

to visit the enclaves during a recent trip to Cyprus so I could see for myself the condition of the Greek Cypriots living there, but I was prevented from doing so by the Turkish Cypriot leadership.

I support the Administration's allocation of \$15 million each year to promote measures aimed at reunification of the island and designed to reduce tensions and promote peace and cooperation between the two communities in Cyprus.

I believe it is critical that the Turkish Cypriot side provide information on the five American citizens of Greek Cypriot descent who have been missing since 1974. As a purely humanitarian matter, the Turkish side must make progress on this issue.

My district includes a large Cypriot-American community in Queens and I have listened to their needs and concerns regarding their homes and families in Cyprus many times. On this day of independence and celebration for Cyprus, I believe that it is important that both the United States and the Republic of Cyprus renew the commitment towards strengthening relations and working towards a peaceful and durable settlement for this divided island. I sincerely hope that the Turkish Cypriot leadership decides to make the compromises necessary to end the division of Cyprus so that the entire island can continue to prosper and develop as an active member of the international community.

Until that time comes, I congratulate the people of Cyprus on the 43d anniversary of their independence.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH  
FARIS

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to the life and memory of an outstanding citizen from my district. Joseph Faris of Walsenburg, Colorado recently passed away at the age of eighty-two. Joseph was a man of integrity and vision who dealt fairly with everyone he encountered. As his family and friends mourn Joseph's passing, I am honored to pay tribute to his life and achievements here today.

Joseph was a kind and friendly man who left a mark on everyone he met. He was a gifted businessman who built his company, Faris Land and Cattle Company, into a thriving business. As an active member of the community, Joseph spent time at the Pueblo Elks Lodge and supported the Pueblo Dodgers baseball team. In addition, he loved to participate in charity golf tournaments.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph Faris had a great passion for life, and he loved to share that passion with others. While Joseph has passed on, his legacy will continue to live. I am honored to join with my colleagues in honoring Joseph here today. My thoughts are with Joseph's family during their time of bereavement.