

To aid in priming the soil for planting of the Word, soul stirring music was needed, so several choirs were established: The Senior Choir, under the direction of the late Sis. Rebecca Jordan; the Youth and Junior Choirs were led by Sis. Lannie Spann; and Sis. Mary Davis was pianist for the Male Chorus and Chancel Choir, which later became the Inspirational Choir. The church also in-acted an After-School Tutorial Program, led by the late Bro. George Coleman, then by Sis. Velma Spann, and finally by Deacon Charles Smith. The students were not only taught the 3R's but also offered a holistic approach to their student studies.

Greater Fairview became a true source of spiritual revitalization for the Shady Oaks community and the people that were being drawn through her doors by the pure God-given preaching of Pastor Spann, and the strong spiritual messages through songs sung by the choirs, and all the teachings through love were aids in growing this congregation. The Young Adult Choir was a great draw to the community and church alike; recording its' first album in 1973 and touring the country representing Christ and the church respectively.

Greater Fairview continued to grow in leaps and bounds and the unadulterated word of God continued to come forth encouraging, admonishing, and changing the lives of many. Under Spann's leadership many Sons were called, nurtured, and equipped for service using Godly precepts, fatherly teachings. and examples, they are as follows: the late Rev. Annia Collier, the late Rev. John Hunter, Rev. S.L. Jamison, Rev. Timothy Taylor, the late Rev. Ray Bowman, Rev. H. L. Sylvester, Rev. Robert Clark, Rev. Lonnie Wesley, the late Rev. Keith Brooks, Rev. Christopher Golden, Rev. Kenneth Whitten, Rev. Charlie Jackson, Rev. Johnny Smith, Rev. Bobby Burks, Rev. Willie McDowell, Rev. Dr. John McCarty, Rev. Larry Davidson, Rev. Matthew R. Spann, Rev. Charles Bell, Rev. Charles H. Spann, Rev. Fredrick Green, and Rev. Frederick Hanskins.

In 1992, Dr. Spann was led by the Holy Ghost to build a new sanctuary, and the project began with total support from the church and its leaders. The building was dedicated the 3rd Sunday in October 1995. Many said that Dr. Spann was too old for such a great undertaking, and that he probably wouldn't see it come to fruition. But, to the dismay of many he did see it and led the congregation into the new church on that rainy October day in 1995, and brought many stirring messages for another 4 years, until retirement in 1999.

During the period of Dr. Spann's; honorable position as Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Charles H. Spann served as Interim pastor of the church for approximately fifteen (15) months. Following the formation of a Search Committee by the church; who was charged with the responsibility of selecting a new pastor. Rev. Charles Bell and Rev. Bobby Burks served together as Pulpit Facilitators. Amazingly, these temporal positions for these three (3) Sons of the House provided them with leadership experience and ultimately prepared them; for they were soon called to serve at churches of their own. The words, "A Church Where Love Prevails over Hate." became more prevalent in the process to find a new leader.

As in life when assignments are complete they must all move on, and Pastor Spann's assignments were completed on November 9,

2001 after 38 years of service to Greater Fairview Church, the Shady Oaks Community, and the State of Mississippi. He was called home to a just reward, leaving the church sad- den yet rejoicing in the fact that they had been taught how to love each other to an un-meas- urable magnitude, and in the midst of sorrow his teachings could be accessed to help them through the dark hour. But feeling the dis- connect, just 9 months later in August 2002, God called Mother Spann home too, leaving the church with a legacy of memories of a hallmark of quiet, gracious, and humble char- acters in the midst of servitude.

After an arduous process of fasting, praying, and listening to several candidates for pastor, it was decided by a vote that Rev. Danny R. Hollins, a native of Pochahontas, MS and the tenured pastor of Cedar Grove Baptist Church, become the next leader, the majority con- ceded and he was elected.

Rev. Danny R. Hollins preached his first sermon on the 5th Sunday of July 2001 and was installed as pastor on the third Sunday in October of that same year. Greater Fairview grew over the next few years as the word con- tinued to go forth. They never lost our vision and zeal for ministry and many other min- istries were added.

In 2004 the church purchased 34 acres of land on Boling Street for future development. During the 2005 Hurricane Katrina aftermath, the church became a refuge center, and pro- vided shelter for 60 members of one family from Slidell, La. and later to a Hispanic family, from Houston, Texas, when Hurricane Rita hit in September of that same year. The creed of "Meeting people where they are." was truly tested and taken to the limits while helping neighbors.

The Church adopted in 2006 Johnson Ele- mentary School, Morrison Academic Advance- ment Center in 2007, Dawson Elementary and Northwest Middle Schools in 2010, and also became a satellite program with the Con- tinuing Adult Education Program, of Jackson State University, where many of the members obtained a college degree. Finally, in October of 2010, ground was broken for the long an- ticipated development. The Fairview Learning Academy, along with the Recreational Out- reach Center, was built.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Greater Fairview Missionary Baptist Church.

CONGRATULATING QUALITY OF LIFE HEALTH SERVICES, INC. ON ITS FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Quality of Life Health Services (QOLHS) on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. This Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), was founded by Dr. Roberta O. Watts to provide health care to the most vul- nerable populations.

QOLHS, based in Gadsden, Alabama, is the state's largest community health program. The organization's network extends from the north- ern area of Alabama in Geraldine to Phenix City in the southeastern corner of Alabama.

QOLHS's network consists of 24 health cen- ters. Fifteen of those locations are in Ala- bama's Fourth Congressional District—which I am honored to represent.

I am proud to be a long-time supporter of QOLHS, helping to support numerous federal grants, attending the groundbreaking and grand opening of a school-based program in Gadsden, and joining in other events over the years.

Quality of Life serves over 55,000 patients each year and shows a profound commitment to the communities it serves. Let me end by congratulating Dr. Watts for her years of dedi- cation, and a very special congratulations to Wayne Rowe—who has served as CEO for the past 35 years. I look forward to continuing to work with QOLHS in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL CONGRES- SIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Justin Smith Morrill Con- gressional Gold Medal Act of 2016. This legislation would honor a true American hero by post- humously awarding the Honorable Justin Smith Morrill with the Congressional Gold Medal. Mr. Morrill was elected to six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and six terms in the United States Senate, making him the longest serving Member of Congress in the 19th Century. During his tenure, he chaired the House Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Committee on Finance, and the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Buildings and Grounds, he served as the principle advocate for financing and constructing the Thomas Jefferson Build- ing of the Library of Congress and planned the location of the U.S. Supreme Court Building. He also raised funds to complete the then-un- finished Washington Monument and advo- cated for the Smithsonian Institution through- out his service in Congress.

His greatest achievement was authoring the Morrill Act of 1862, which created the land- grant university system. Today, land-grant col- leges and universities award nearly 1 million degrees annually and perform more than \$37 billion in research. Additionally, almost 30 years later, Senator Morrill authored the Morrill Act of 1890, which created the flourishing sys- tem of historically Black land-grant colleges and universities. I am proud to be a graduate of Washington State University, in my humble opinion, the premier land-grant university in Senator Morrill's system. I have seen first- hand how the system of colleges and univer- sities created by Senator Morrill has changed countless lives and shaped communities across the nation.

Justin Smith Morrill is a man who has pro- vided generations and millions of Americans— particularly those from working class families and rural communities—with access to higher education throughout the nation. His achieve- ments have inspired American history, values, and culture, and will be recognized and hon- ored by generations to come. For these rea- sons, and many others, I urge all members to

join me in supporting this legislation to bestow Senator Justin Smith Morrill with a Congressional Gold Medal, a fitting honor for a great American hero.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAYMOND
V. WALENDZAK

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Raymond V. Walendzak, who served for over 20 years as the Chief of the Oregon Fire Department. Ray passed away in his Oregon home surrounded by his family on June 7, 2017.

Ray was born in Toledo, Ohio on September 27, 1941 to Joan and Stanley Walendzak. He played football and wrestled for Clay High School, from which he graduated in 1959. Ray continued his education at Findlay College, and then joined the United States Air Force and served in West Germany.

In 1968, Ray became an Oregon firefighter, where he began his service in the department's maintenance division, became a fire prevention officer, a district chief, and the assistant chief. Ray's father also served as a firefighter, which helped Ray bridge the differences between the different generations who were serving as firefighters. He appreciated the traditions of fire service, and also the need to modernize fire service with technology.

Ray became Fire Chief in 1986 and retired in 2007 for a total of 39 years of fire service. While Fire Chief, Ray made sure his department was current in training and technology, and made sure that the department had the right equipment. Ray has said that his biggest achievement was getting a fire training facility built in Oregon.

His passion about the fire-fighting community led him to serve its various organizations which include serving as the past president of the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association, Lucas County Fire Chiefs Association, Oregon Fire Fighters Association, Ottawa County Fireman's Association, and, for over 26 years, as past president and secretary of the Northwest Ohio Volunteer Fire Association.

He had received the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association's Distinguished Service Award, and was inducted into the Ohio Fire Service Hall of Fame. Ray served as a Governor appointee to the State of the Ohio Board of Emergency Medical Services for 12 years. He was inducted into the Clay High School Hall of Fame in 2014.

Ray's commitment to his community did not just stop with the fire department—it extended through his service to his church, St. Ignatius, and through many of the civic organizations he was a member of: the American Legion Christ Dunberger Post No. 537, Knights of Columbus, Swiss Club at the GAF, and the Clay Boosters.

Ray dedicated an enormous amount of time to the youth of his community, where he was a longtime coach of youth baseball through the Oregon Recreation Department. Ray also served as a football coach at Oregon Clay High School. His dedication to the young

members of his community led him to run for four terms on the Oregon Board of Education where he also served as Board President.

Ray will be remembered for his dedication to his chosen profession of Fire Fighting and for his dedication to the Oregon community at large.

We offer Ray's children, Dean, Donald and Dennis, his six grandchildren, his family and friends, our prayers and hope that they find comfort in the wonderful memories of what Ray had meant to each of the institutions that he served.

HONORING THE REMARKABLE MT.
MORIAH BAPTIST UNION ASSO-
CIATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable historical Mt. Moriah Baptist Union Association.

The Mt. Moriah Baptist Union Association was organized in 1908, by Dr. C.P. Bohannon and he served as the first moderator for the Mt. Moriah MB Union Association for twenty-three years. Thirty congregations united themselves together in an effort to keep alive the hope of a people for the work of service to our Lord has been the strength of this body. Together, we can accomplish what one congregation may not achieve alone. Therefore, strength is generated through unity.

The association represented in the National Baptist Convention, USA, INC., the General Baptist State Convention and Moderator Bohannon Challenged the local churches of Mt. Moriah by say "our missionary activities in foreign land carried on." Moderator Bohannon passed in 1939 and vice moderator A.M. Robert completed his term. Other moderators followed; Rev. William H. Turner (upon his death, Rev. B.J. Edwards, as Vice-Moderator, carried out his term); Rev. J.C. Batteast, Rev. J.C. Hentz, Rev. Amos Sims and the newly elect, Rev. Larry Hervey. In May 1972, Sarah Kimble donated land to the Mt. Moriah District Baptist Association. In July 1982, Moderator Batteast led the association in the purchase of the Davidson Elementary School building in Water Valley to serve as a site for the work of the Association. The facility served the Association's for 18 years.

In March of 1999, the Association Board, under the leadership of Moderator J.C. Hentz, made the decision to build a new headquarters on the land donated by Mrs. Sarah Kimble. The vision of the forefathers has become a reality. The Mt. Moriah District Missionary Baptist Association headquarters was erected in 2000. On May 2008, the Association building was destroyed by fire. Mt. Moriah District Missionary headquarters was rebuilt in 2009 under the leadership of Moderator Sims, and stands today as a testimony of the power of vision among God's people.

In recognition of the challenging need of enlistment of ever growing constituency of the Baptist Churches affiliated with the General Missionary Baptist State Convention, USA, for the purpose of developing a strong and sound progressive denomination to fulfill the "Great Commission" enunciated by Jesus Christ, the

head of the church. We, the messenger of the Mount Moriah District Missionary Baptist Association pledge its future to carrying forward of programs of religious educational training in church membership, evangelism and mission as sponsored by the General Missionary Baptist State Convention of Mississippi, through its several boards/committees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Mt. Moriah Baptist Union Association for their dedication and outstanding service to their communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN
LANESBOROUGH, MASSACHU-
SETTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Lanesborough, Massachusetts as they celebrate their 250th Anniversary on June 25th. The continued dedication of the congregation of St. Luke's was pivotal in the church becoming the oldest active Episcopal parish in Western Massachusetts.

The origins of St. Luke's Episcopal Church begin in 1767 when a small group of Church of England members would meet in a private home to worship together. From there they moved to a school house where they continued their worship until they were able to move their small congregation to a wooden church located in the center of town in 1769. During these early years, the church seldom had a pastor and was kept alive by the dedication of its lay members. In 1862, the parish built the "Old Stone Church," an impressive Gothic Revival structure that was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. Along with many of its original 19th century fixtures, the Old Stone Church also boasts a 450-pipe, hand-pumped organ that was crafted by William Johnson of Westfield, Massachusetts. The organ has gone through several restorations and is currently the fifth-oldest organ in use in Massachusetts.

In 1898, the congregation moved into a new structure called the Village Church and temporarily ceased operating out of the Old Stone Church. A major restoration effort in the 1980s, aided by the Massachusetts Historical Society, and returned the church to functional condition. Since then, the Old Stone Church serves as the parish's summer home as a place of worship for parishioners during the summer months, while a second building, the Village Church is the parish's winter home.

Mr. Speaker, St. Luke's Episcopal Church serves as a vital link to our region's history and still has much to offer to its parishioners even after all these years. As they celebrate their semiquincentennial, I wish them all the best in continuing to preserve their rich history and community involvement that has been the legacy of St. Luke's.