

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the United House of Prayer for All People as the church celebrates its 100th year anniversary. The United House of Prayer for All People was founded by Bishop Charles Manuel Grace in 1919 in West Wareham, MA. The church is now headquartered in the District of Columbia and has 137 places of worship in 27 states.

Bishop Charles Manuel Grace's vision for the United House of Prayer for All People was for it to be a place of worship that also addressed the critical needs of communities devastated by social and economic injustice. The impact of the church can be seen through community development, enterprise, and improved housing throughout the United States. United House of Prayer has developed thousands of multi-family and single-family homes while maintaining affordability in neighborhoods across the country.

The church has also made a major impact on education. The late Bishop Walter McCollough, the church's second leader, founded the McCollough Scholarship College Fund to afford young people the opportunity to pursue their dreams of higher education. The late Bishop S.C. Madison established the St. Lady D. Scholastic Achievement program to reward grade school students for maintaining good citizenship and honor roll achievement.

The United House of Prayer continues to be an extraordinary force in serving the needs of the less fortunate and impoverished citizens across this country. I am fortunate to represent several House of Prayer congregations in Virginia's third congressional district. The House of Prayer provides youth community programs, senior citizen projects, food banks, child care, and other community projects. The church remains focused on being a place where all nations and people, irrespective of denomination or creed, can pray and worship in spirit and in truth.

The 100-year celebration of the United House of Prayer for All People is not just a celebration of bricks and mortar, it is a celebration of faith, unity, and dynamic leadership.

Madam Speaker, the United House of Prayer for All People, under the current leadership of Bishop C.M. Bailey, has never sought public recognition for their hard work and dedication to the community. Bishop Bailey and the church have dedicated their lives to the advancement, growth, and success of communities throughout the country. I congratulate them on their 100th anniversary and I am excited to see the positive contributions they will continue to make in the years ahead.