

"Let the Redeemed of the Lord say so! . . ." Psalm 107:2

Marching for Jesus by Roberta D'Amico

It's 10 o'clock, and there is great excitement on Homer Street! It's warm and humid with a breeze on June 24, 2017, as the *Pioneer Valley March for Jesus* is lining up for this great event.



The theme of the year is Joy in Jesus! The sound system mounted on the truck is pumping out lively Christian music and many groups are gathering.



Motivated By faith is here, Revival Time Evangelistic Center, Spanish Christian Church, other groups, the Kingdom Warriors with their motorcycles, plus



I.A.R. the organizing ministry, or Apostolic Renewal Church led by Apostle Rafael Osorio.

The March, led by police cruisers, marches down the north side of State Street all the way to Court Square and City Hall. The banner goes first, then flags and dancers with their tambourines



and Michael Carter blowing his trumpet, followed by City and Church Leaders and finally all the people - the Body of Christ.

Half way to Federal Street, it

begins to rain! For a few minutes, it pours, but then it stops and soon the sun comes out again! Finally we reach City Hall, having passed the Courthouse, College, High School, Library. Dear God, make Your Name great again in these institutions!



Evangelist Ronny Berrios takes the mic. Behind him is the Prayer Tent, available for those with



needs. In front of him are the pastors, the dancers, and the Body of Christ from different churches, united to build THE Church, the Kingdom of God. "We

are the Salt and Light," he says, "God is doing something in this city and the schools!

Jesus said, 'We are One!'" (John 17:23) We end with prayers for the city, youth, and the lost.

The final prayer, in English, is also translated into Spanish: "We claim Springfield for Christ!"

Holy Grounds Shares the Coffee House Vision

In June of 2017, Pastor Brasino shared his vision for reproducing the Coffee House ministry. The leaders of the Springfield Redemption Gate ministry began considering growing the footprint of Holy Grounds Coffee House to the state of Connecticut.

In addition, he sees a need to establish a statewide base to co-ordinate the work involving reaching the high school students in other schools. The vision is to involve students at Putnam High School and other schools "in daily Bible sharing and morning prayers before heading to classes, to help them discover God's worldview and His plan for their lives, so that they will affect other young people and ultimately the city of Springfield."

But the vision goes beyond Springfield! Pastor Brasino says, "While we face difficulties with finding a student meeting venue near Putnam, we are presented with the wonderful opportunity to branch out our national footprint. In Connecticut, the initial morning Bible Studies will be at the Hartford Bullpen Cafe, on 122 Bartholomew Avenue, Hartford Connecticut, a restaurant run by one of the Bible

Study members. This area is both commercial and residential, with many families to be reached here with the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ."

As in Springfield, the Hartford Coffee House will offer free coffee, tea, water, bread, and sweets. From this venue, we will be able to expand, working with existing church groups in the Hartford area, and establish student prayer ministries for nearby schools there.

Much ground work will be needed to build membership and participation in a ministry in Hartford. So please pray for this vision, and that God will continue to grow the ministry here as well as in Springfield.

Seeing the growth and blessings here in Springfield makes all work worth doing to bless the students, youth, and local families," Brasino says. "There comes a time when the students will bring prayer back into their schools! The fire is already lit in Springfield through the high school students. Pray that the Lord starts a great awakening!"

Save the Date!

Convoy of Hope Springfield - Saturday August 19 2017 9 a.m. RIVERFRONT PARK, WEST COLUMBUS AVENUE AND STATE ST.

Groceries, haircuts, prayer, lunch, entertainment, health services, job & career services, family portraits. For more information call 413-789-2930 ext. 135 or Convoyofhope.org/springfield.

Ongoing Events:

SUNDAY SERVICES: 10 a.m.- Pastors Bobby & Kim; 2 p.m.- Pastor Brian Greene; and 6 p.m.- Transformation Centered Healing Ministries with Prophet Eric Thomas & Pastor Susan. Note: The Thomases are having an event: "The I in Unity is Me!" at Magazine Park, 1-5 p.m., Saturday, July 22.

MONDAY -- FRIDAY: Morning Bible Study at 7:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY: Bible Study - 4:30 p.m.; Recovery with Deborah at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY: Women's Bible Study 1:00 p.m.

SATURDAY: NO LUNCH in July.

1ST SATURDAY: "Marriage with God" 4 to 6 p.m.

SATURDAY NIGHT: July 22, 7 p.m. Open Mic with Cathy Marvici.