

# The Springfield Redeemer

The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

[www.redemptiongate.org](http://www.redemptiongate.org)

**Ecclesiastes 12:1**

Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come ...

May 1, 2013, Volume 2, Edition 4 Trust Jesus ▪ Pray Daily ▪ Read Your Bible ▪ Go To Church

## The State of the Mission 2013 by Roberta D'Amico

### The State of the Mission 2013 As told by Pastor Scott Lively

#### **Where We Have Been: Rehearsing God's Faithfulness.**

It has been five years since Anne and I got off the train in Springfield with just our suitcases. How to re-Christianize a city? We were waiting for God to open doors and lead us. I needed missionary minded helpers.

I met Pastor Steve Cooley, and we selected a Redemption Zone of 10 square miles of inner city. I bought a house in the center of it. We proceeded to redeem this old fixer-upper as an example of what can be done in the hearts of people. Then, in spite of warnings that we were brave to go out, we began the street ministry God so blessed. For over two years it never rained on the Tuesday night street ministry!

We needed a central place to operate from and the State Street building was miraculously for sale. God led us to it and directed as we planted the church, planned the activities and motivated Christians to get active.

The first event was Family Day, in the summer of 2008. Then we added the March For Jesus, Thanksgiving To God Feast, and Apologetics Seminar. The Lord gave me a 7 year plan, with the 7

themes, four of which we have now used on bumper stickers, buttons, and signs: Trust Jesus, Pray Daily, Read Your Bible, and Go To Church. All the resources are free to those who will use them. Every day they can be seen on cars all over Springfield.



#### **Where We Are Now: The Present State of the Mission.**

Pastor Steve is now the Executive Director of Redemption Gate Ministries, including the Coffee House. It is so awesome seeing the Commerce High School kids come every morning. The Coffee House is near Commerce High School, so we invited a few students from Pastor Cooley's Church to come in the morning for free coffee and donuts. God used this small beginning to grow this ministry to 60 or more students every morning before school. They come for coffee and hugs and prayer. We are teaching them to be bold in their faith. They take the Trust Jesus buttons with them

to school to share with their friends. Some of the young people, our future leaders, are doing Bible Study in the morning before school.

One young man was involved with a dangerous gang, but he really wanted to get into baseball. We told him that God would help him. We gave him a card to bring to his gang leader, requesting that he be let out of the gang. A month went by and then we heard from him. "I was able to quit the gang, improve my grades, and get signed on to a farm team," he said. God is so good!

The newest ministry is the Upper Room Prayer Center where we pray together and bring our requests before God. At present we meet for prayer on Tuesdays from 11 to 12 noon. The Prayer room includes a prayer closet, a place to pray privately. Now we need a special place where people can leave prayer requests.

#### **The Future of Redemption Gate Mission Society**

We are seeking the Lord on how to have the greatest impact on Springfield. We have copies of a booklet called A Patriot's Handbook of Students' Rights, which we will make available to the students. We will continue to pray for and pray with the

students here at the Coffee House.

Part of the plan is to establish an After-School Drop-In Center, for students only. A godly young couple have volunteered to lead it, along with support staff.

We also will be making contact with the High Schools, identifying Christian Clubs, and Christian students. We offer resources from the Trust Jesus Campaign. A new Trust Jesus Newspaper will provide students

with information about their rights, writings from our Founding Fathers, and more.

Starting in September, we plan on handing out literature at the schools, encouraging students to join the Christian Clubs, and empowering them to influence others. They are the hope for Springfield.

To help in this work, we will ask local churches and youth pastors of Bible-believing churches

to adopt a school. We will be supplying resources and materials for them. We have yard signs and banners that can be displayed.

We need youth-oriented gospel tracts. Perhaps the young people in our ministry can design some. All efforts must be Christ-centered, and Holy Spirit led. We do not want to compete with local churches, but be a resource.

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### **What the Coffee House Means To Me by Johnny Augustin**

The Holy Grounds Coffee House Church has given me a godly, peaceful setting where I can read and study the Bible. It also is a place where I can interact with other believers and receive more in-depth insight into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Instead of leaning on my own understanding of Scripture, I can get a broader perspective and clarification from my brothers and sisters in Christ. Holy Grounds hosts a Bible Study every weekday morning which I attend, providing an atmosphere where the Holy Spirit leads

Here I see God bringing hope to many that are lost in the ways of the world. Through this ministry, Holy Grounds is a beacon of light; that is God's Truth.

#### **Hundreds Came Out to The March For Jesus**

It was an awesome sight to see so many people, lifting up the name

of Jesus so enthusiastically!



Saturday, March 30, dawned bright and sunny as hundreds came out to gather at the Coffee House to prepare for the annual March in Springfield MA. The excitement ran high as we rejoiced that our Savior lives!

Many young people arrived early and began blowing up the multicolored balloons, filling the building with them. More people arrived, crowding the Coffee House, enjoying the coffee and snacks, buying the bumper stickers and Trust Jesus buttons. Outside, groups of people gathered all along State Street with Trust Jesus signs, balloons, and banners. Cars were streaming

by, waving and honking, as the crowd cheered.

At 11 am, Pastor Scott blew the Shofar, the traditional call to worship or battle. With the March For Jesus banner leading, up to 800 people started off down the State Street hill, amid shouts and songs. All along the way, drivers continued to honk their horns and wave. One of the first timers, Terri Luvera, said, "It was awesome; you could feel the Holy Spirit."

When we reached City Hall, we all gathered on the steps Up front, 13 pastors lined up. Prayers went up to God for Springfield, the local churches, residents, and our nation in Hebrew, Spanish, Ukrainian, Russian, and English.

"It was totally awesome," said Cheryl Shukes, one of the marchers, "to see so many teenagers, little ones, young adults, from all denominations and churches, believing in Jesus and going to church." It was a pure and powerful light that shown in this dark world and touched Springfield on Saturday.

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### **Ongoing Events At the Coffee House**

- Sunday Services 10am & 2pm
- Monday thru Friday Morning Bible Study 7:30am
- Tuesday prayer 11am
- Wednesday Bible Study 4:30pm.
- Wednesday Celebrate Recovery 6:30pm
- Thursday 7pm FIAT 'Faith In Action Team'
- Saturday Dinner 2-4pm monthly



Open Mic Night 7pm  
Last Saturday Monthly

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### **Save The Dates!**

- Family Day --  
Convoy of Hope 2013  
Saturday, August 24th
- Patriots Rally, June 7th