

The Springfield Redeemer



The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

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“For the poor will never cease out of the land; therefore I command you, you shall open wide your hands to your brother, to your needy, and to your poor in your land.” Deut. 15:11

Family Day Reaches Out to Springfield by Roberta D’Amico

Need something fun to do this summer? By August you might be looking for something to do as a family! Redemption Gate Mission Society and United Temple COGIC are hosting their big summer outreach, Family Day Celebration 2016, on August 13 at Magazine Park in Springfield Massachusetts. Everyone is invited--area churches, local families, and all you Springfieldians and area towns--to come out and enjoy our neighborhood picnic.

The event starts at 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., and will feature the usual Basketball Tournament, Bounce



House for the kiddies, Face Painting, free Family Portraits, free lunch, and our traditional Gospel Bracelet making. In

addition there will be Bible Stories for the children and balloons, all of which will be accompanied by Special Music from our band shell. Finally, we will hold Baptisms for any Christians who want to be baptized to make a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior.

The Redemption Gate Annual Family Day Event began in 2008 only months after Pastor Scott Lively arrived in Springfield. It was the first event organized by Pastor Scott and the newly founded Mission

Society. That first year it was held at Blunt Park and was quite successful, although it may have been hard for some to get out to Blunt Park. The 2nd Annual Family Day was held at Magazine Park where it has been since then.

Our purpose is to reach out to families here in Springfield where so many children do not have a mom and dad in the home to care for them. We want to be an encouragement to broken families, to demonstrate that there are men who can be a



‘father figure’ in their lives. We want to encourage uncles and nephews and big brothers to be role models to the

children, help them to grow up, and help stop the violence. The Christians and the church is God’s program for accomplishing this. As Pastor Scott said, "God Himself can fill the gaps and be the substitute for the things that are missing when we ask Him to and make Him the center of our family life."

Here is where we need your help to get the word out--plan to come, volunteer, and donate. Families need to know that someone cares--we care, and God cares.

Moved By Faith By Deborah Albury

Brother Samuel Patterson, like most of our volunteers, just showed up one day at the Coffee House following God's prompting. The ministry's ability to physically nourish Christ's Sheep is now anchored in Chef Sam's something-from-nothing soups. The soups are



hardly ever the same but are known to our guests by names like "Kitchen Sink" and "Grandma's Soup" and their common ingredient is the love of Christ.

Having Brother Sam's "chef-fing" hands has made it easier for our coffee serving counter volunteers. For the adventurous volunteer who wants to

make soup on their day of service Sam's impromptu soup school shows them how to take donated food stuff and transform it into soup. Brother Sam's Soup is served daily M-F at 11:30 am.

The appetizer however is the best of all - Prayer Time! Prayer Time helps us to bring the original prayer time from the upstairs Prayer Room into the midst of the people. Now Holy Ground volunteers begin the prayer and those who initially came for just soup have learned how to pray for themselves and for others and for the continuance of all the ministries housed at Redemption Gate. During Prayer Time all who have assembled hear the prayer needs of others and communally close reciting the Disciple's prayer (Matthew 6:9 - 13), and when Chef Sam leads his resounding baritone exhorts "Good food, good meat, good God let's eat!" at the end of Prayer Time.

Going Home A Milestone Moment

"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." Isaiah 32:17-18.

On May 16, 2016, one of our dear Sisters-in-Christ, Carlotta "Coco" Goron Lasala, went home to be with the Lord, quite unexpectedly. We will miss her face in the morning Bible study and her probing questions over coffee afterwards. Initially, her memorial service was scheduled to be held at a nearby funeral home, but due to the family's circumstances, it proved to be more advantageous to have it at our Holy Grounds Coffee House.

So on May 31st, all gathered at the Coffee House at 5 p.m. to share our memories of "Coco" and console her family and each other. Pastor Cooley, personally and lovingly designed her home going bulletin made with her picture on the front, encouraging Scripture, the order of service, and a short bio of Carlotta's life.

Friends and family had many good things to say about her and Pastor Cooley brought a short message from Ecclesiastes 12. His theme was, "how can I use the wisdom and knowledge God gives me for others?" After reading Carlotta's Legacy from the program, he added, "What a legacy to follow - to pursue learning and pass it on to others!" She attended Commerce High

School, and went on to get her bachelor's from Hofstra University in NY. Desiring to do more, she attended Elms College and UConn University to receive her Master's in Social Work!

What a testimony of the love and fellowship in Christ that Holy Grounds Carlotta's memorial service was. Pastor Cooley's comment, "To invite these people, who we did not know yet, to minister to this physical family, was a great experience for our Spiritual family. So they got to see what Holy Grounds is all about; and it was gratifying to see our family come together and blend." But, it turned out to be a landmark event This may be a milestone for the ministry, as it is the first memorial service that was done here.

Ongoing Events at Holy Grounds Coffee House

SUNDAY SERVICES 10 a.m., 2 p.m.
MON thru FRI MORNING BIBLE STUDY 7:30 a.m.
WED BIBLE STUDY 4:30 p.m. & TJ RECOVERY 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Women's Bible Study 1:00 p.m.
SATURDAY Sabbath 9 a.m. -12 noon
1ST, 3RD SAT MONTHLY MARRIAGE SEMINAR 4 p.m.
SATURDAY LUNCH on vacation – See you in SEPTEMBER!

Saturday Night Activities – 7 P.M.

July 9 Band Night
July 16 – Open Table
July 23 Open Mic with Cathy

For more information call 413-301-0918