

The Springfield Redeemer



“The Gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
Romans 6:23

The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

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The Greatest Gift Exchange by Roberta D’Amico

Well, it’s January 1, 2022, Christmas is past, a new year has begun, but some things seem to linger. Almost every time people get together, the conversation seems to inevitably devolve to the latest bad news about the problems besetting us here in the USA, and in the world! The cost of living, the state of the economy, mandates, vaccines, the spread of covid (especially among family and friends), and what’s going on in Washington and in the public schools, to name a few! I don’t remember it being like that in the past.

Up until these last couple of years, conversation this time of year tended to be about parties, decoration, Christmas dinner, and that list of Christmas gifts to find, purchase, wrap, and sometimes exchange! Sometimes the Christ Child can be forgotten in the busyness of the season; attending church can be neglected, along with Christmas Programs where you could experience the real Christmas Story of how God sent His Son into the world on a mission – to die on the cross to pay for our sins and reconcile us to God our Father. These things do not seem to occupy the attention of people as much as they used to, before covid, even though the times and the seasons point to the soon coming of the return of Jesus Christ.

People seem to still be in survival mode! But then, so were Mary and Joseph and their newborn Baby Jesus in Bethlehem! They were far away from home that first Christmas due to government mandates. But even 2000 years ago, survival wasn’t the only thing on some people’s minds. It was the gifts! Not just the needed gifts the Wise Men were going to bring, but the Gift of Christmas Himself! Even the lowly shepherds recognized a Gift when they saw Him.

You see, people then had all the same problems we do: illness, poverty, and a tyrannical

government! But of all the difficulties, their worst problem, often unrecognized, was their unrepentant hearts! Their sin problem was not just a life-or-death problem, but a question of eternity. That was the real reason for Christmas! The wages of sin is death – but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23) The gifts we make and buy to give at Christmas are just a way to memorialize the gift Almighty God gave two thousand plus years ago! We need to ponder the importance of His Gift!

Even among the busyness of the season, and the challenges that still go on into the New Year that adversely affect our life in this world, we are not made for this world! We are made for eternity, and the sin issue affects where we will spend eternity!

That is why the Father in Heaven sent His Son Jesus into our world that first Christmas. He was given to us, to die to save us from the consequences of our sin. What a Gift! Like no other, ever! All we have to do is accept it! Shouldn’t we desire to give God a gift of thankfulness in return? But what can we give in exchange? What do you give as a gift to the One who created everything? What does God want for Christmas?

That is simple, God wants your heart! Your surrender, your undivided allegiance, your complete trust in Him, your confidence that His way is best! That is the gift God wants! It must be freely given, and faithfully renewed constantly through the power of the Christ in us. As a result, we experience His love, joy, and peace.



NEW YEAR

START THE YEAR RIGHT!

Next area wide Unity Prayer Service will be on Saturday, January 9, 2022,

At Cornerstone Church, Kibbe Road, East Longmeadow, 5 p.m.

Theme: Rekindle the Fire! Prioritize Unity! Pastor C.S. Cooley – speaker.

A year ago, the fourth Unity Prayer Service was held at Cornerstone, with more than a dozen pastors participating. Let's do it again, and even bigger! Come to worship God and appeal to Him for our nation. Our Theme Scripture is still 2 Chronicles 7:14 – If My People who are called by My Name will humble themselves and pray and seek My Face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and forgive their sin and heal their land.

There will be worship, prayer, and Pastor C. S. Cooley speaking.

Please come and pray with us!



November's Report from Redemption Gate Mission Society (RGMS) Evangelist Pastor Renzo Ventrice!

Pastor Renzo is still visiting churches, joining them in prayer for revival in New England, and taking care of Betsy when she needs help. After visiting Jubilee Family Church in West Springfield, and Granville Federated Church, he came down with an Upper Respiratory Infection. In spite of this, he was able to share the ministry of Redemption Gate Mission with the church in Granville. We continually hope and pray that some churches in the area will want to partner with us and help support us with finances and/or volunteers. We hope that they will want to be on our mailing list

and receive the Coffee House Newsletter, The Springfield Redeemer!

Holy Grounds Thanksgiving

On November 25th, 2021, Holy Grounds Coffee House had a great Thanksgiving Dinner for the public. This has become an annual tradition. This year, we were able to provide 50 meals, which people came and picked up, and we gave away 5 turkeys which had been donated. Pastor Cooley himself cooked 2 turkeys for the meals, and 4 pans of potatoes and stuffing were donated by Faith Bible Church in Agawam! Other food items were donated by other volunteers. Here at Holy Grounds we are happy to be able to bless the community.

Ongoing Events

SUNDAY SERVICES:

10 a.m. - Motivated by Faith with Pastor Bobby and Kim Quinones.

3:00 p.m. Coffee House Church with Pastor Cooley.

MONDAY -- FRIDAY: Morning Bible Study at 7:30 a.m. ***Come and be blessed!***

WEDNESDAY: 1 pm to 4 pm – Coffee House open with Steve Morin.

THURSDAY: FIAT Thursday 7 p.m. Jan 13, 2022

FRIDAY: Women's Bible Study with Shelly Saunders, Fridays at 1:00 PM.