

The Springfield Redeemer



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Newsletter of Redemption
Gate Mission Society,
Holy Grounds Coffee House
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What to do? by Iris L. Jenkins, PhD

United Temple Church of God In Christ

Hebrews 10:23 “ Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”

There are times when life becomes so full of challenges that we're not sure what to do. Those are the times when everything is coming at us at once. We may be reeling from the death of a loved one, overwhelmed with responsibility, pulled in multiple directions by those who rely on us. We may be struggling physically, emotionally, or financially. Our minds race with thoughts of, "What will happen next?", or "What should I do?" Even when God has made it abundantly clear that He is taking care of us and we are to cast all of cares on Him, we can find ourselves feeling the need to do something. We want to take action, fix things. To have a plan.

We must remind ourselves that God remains in control whether we see it or not. We must remember that God's power is not impacted by our emotions. He remains powerfully in control whether we are happy or sad. He's still all powerful whether we feel that life is grand or we feel that life leaves much to be desired. He has a plan. We don't need to make one of our own. We must follow His. We must consider that there are benefits that come with trusting in the Lord rather than placing confidence in ourselves or others. God is the one with the ability to get things done. God is the one who has been sustaining us all along. God is the one who will bring us out and bring us through!

So when we have that urgency to do something, what we can do is hold fast. We must not let go of our faith no matter how things, look, sound, or feel. What God has promised He WILL perform. Rather than taking matters into our own hands, we can hold on to God's promise, hold on to our faith, be strong in the Lord and the power of His might. We can DO faith instead of just talking about it. That gives us plenty to do.

More News:

Iris Jenkins and family are relocating to Virginia, however, she will still be writing for the Redeemer Newsletter. On July 6, 2024, there was a nice going-away party put on by Pastor Cooley and United Temple Church, held at Macedonia Church of God in Christ on Tinkham Road in Springfield MA. Iris was offered a very good job there with Virginia Tech University!

The party began at 5 PM, with music, delicious food, testimonies, and words of encouragement and blessings,



and prayers for her safety, success, and future ministry there in Virginia. Iris has been under Pastor C. S. Cooley and his wife, Jacqueline, at United Temple Church of God in Christ for 10 years. We all wish her and their lovely family many blessings and God's awesome Grace for her future.

Renzo Report

Over the last month, Pastor Renzo Ventrice participated in several Rise Up New England prayer meetings, and the June 22nd Evangelistic Celebration, where he was able to lead a person to the Lord! He is praying this event will be the spark that will ignite a Great Awakening! In the week following, he helped integrate the new Believers into churches.

On June 15th, he was able to give his testimony of salvation at an event on the steps of City Hall, Springfield MA. Henry, son of Renzo and Betsy, ministered in song there, with his band called BRKN, and the Springfield Vox Church supplying food, water, and the gospel.

At the end of June, Pastor Renzo and Betsy attended the Great American Tent Meeting in White River Junction, VT, participating in Evangelism Training with Christians from around New England. Their group shared the Gospel with hundreds of people in VT, NH, and Dartmouth University. And on July 14th, he preached on evangelism at Greater Grace Church in Enfield. He has now visited 215 churches.

Rise Up New England

Shortly after the Michael Youssef Celebration on June 22, 2024, the leaders met together at the Rise Up New England office to talk about the event. Along with the Regional Director, Reggie Cole, they all agreed that great things came out of the Celebration, and it strengthened the Body of Christ.

First, that God was glorified in it. It was estimated that around 3000 people attended and heard Michael Youssef's powerful message. At the end of the message, 63 people responded, 41 of them first time professions of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. And 22 people rededicated themselves to God. By Monday morning, June 24, every one of the responders were connected to a church where they will be discipled.

At the June 22 event, the worship groups and choir did a great job. As far as attendance, unfortunately, the date of the event conflicted with some other events in the area. However, many individuals and churches raised funds for this event and much effort was made to bring folks who got to hear the gospel message. God will surely use His word as it went forth, as He promised.

Going forward, the Body of Christ needs to be strong, and united, and to be about the Lord's business of preaching the Word, and preparing people for Christ's return.

Visitors to the Holy Grounds Coffee House!

A couple of months ago, we at Holy Grounds were excited to have a couple of visitors! Eli Torres and Ranesha Webb stopped in to say "Hi!" They used to come to Bible Study here in 2017-18 when they were students at STCC. Their remarks about their experience here were, "Don't care much about coffee, but loved the atmosphere, fellowship, and Jesus!"

Regular Events: Morning Bible Study is open to all to learn more about the Bible – Monday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Services at 10 a.m. with Pastor Bobby Quinones.