

The Springfield Redeemer



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The Cooley Family Celebrates 42nd Reunion

Late in July, on the 26th to the 28th, the Cooley Family met together in Western Massachusetts for their 42nd Reunion. The beautiful family get-together was organized by Pastor C.S. Cooley, who is the head of his large family. Seventy family members came from many states across the country: Georgia, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, New York, New Jersey, and of course Massachusetts.

Pastor Cooley said, “We all stayed at the Tru-Hilton Hotel in Chicopee MA. We started with a fish fry, cooked by yours truly, on Friday. On Saturday, we all went outdoors that morning to Blunt Park in Springfield, and returned that evening to the Hilton for a formal Banquet, where we were entertained with music, song, and praise dancing. This was a special time and my favorite memory of the event, first, the lovely Praise Dancing, then the special music, a song by Christine. She was in a very bad accident a few years ago, where her head was crushed, but now by God’s grace, she is healed and can sing again!



“On Sunday morning, we had breakfast at the hotel and then enjoyed God’s grace at the United Temple Church for an excellent service. Afterwards we prayed for the family and voted for our next reunion in 2026, to be held in New Jersey.”

It is such a blessing to know a family who will come together like that and celebrate God’s goodness!

All Things New

by Dr. Missionary Iris L. Jenkins, PhD

Isaiah 43:19 “Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.”

Our family recently relocated from Springfield, Massachusetts to Blacksburg, Virginia. The move came because I was recruited by Virginia Tech University for a position as Director of Research Integrity & Consultation. I wasn’t looking for a job at the time, but the opportunity came to me. Ultimately, my husband and I agreed that this was God’s doing and it was time for a move. This would mean a lot of changes ...new jobs, new home, new location, new schools for our children, new local church. Everything new!

It's exciting when God plots a course for your life and you're able to follow His leading. Nevertheless, when God does a new thing, it is not necessarily smooth sailing. The Bible tells us in Genesis chapter 37, how God visited Joseph through dreams and showed him that his brothers would one day bow down to him. Joseph was excited at the time...so excited that he shared the dreams with his brothers. I'm sure he did not expect that this would result in his brothers trying to do away with him. He was thrown into a pit. He was sold into slavery. He temporarily rose to a position of power and then was accused of rape and thrown in prison. In the end, things turned out exactly the way God said they would. Joseph ended up with great authority and his brothers had to bow before him. Joseph's life completely changed, yet the journey to that change was a tough one.

God can and will do a new thing in our lives. Just like He did for Joseph, He can make things new for us. What newness God brought about for the Jenkins family when He moved us to Virginia! Nevertheless, it has not been without struggle. It has not been without uncertainty. It hasn't happened without our wondering why things couldn't just go smoothly. It has included hills and valleys. This is why God reminds us in Isaiah 43:19, that He will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. As God is working on making things new for us, it's quite possible that we will have to go through some wilderness. It's quite possible that we will experience some isolation. It's quite possible that we will begin to wonder if where we're going will turn out to be better than where we've been. We may find ourselves in the desert, a dry place, not understanding how God's plan for newness resulted in this. Yet, even in the desert God has promised to provide rivers.

When God decides to do a new thing. He takes care of every detail. There's nothing that goes unaccounted for. The rough terrain, the dry climate...whatever it is, God can and will take care of it. We don't need to be discouraged because the going is tough. We can be encouraged because God has promised us a new thing and He will do everything to get us to it.

Renzo Report

I'm submitting my Monthly Ministry Report for August 2024. As Evangelist and Revivalist from RGMS, I'm establishing contacts and sharing my vision of the urgent need for NE churches to come together in fervent prayer for revival and evangelism. Having forged new relationships with about 301 Pastors since August 2020, our hope is to preach REVIVAL and teach Christian History Seminars/tours together in NE after I secure enough commitments.

On Saturday, August 3rd, I attended our Monthly Ministers Prayer Meeting sponsored by Pastor Chuck Wimer and Jubilee Christian Outreach Center of West Springfield, MA. We continue praying that revival will be ignited by the Holy Spirit in response to our unity demonstrated over the last 14 months.

On Tuesday August 6th, I attended a Men's Prayer Meeting at the Rise Up New England offices in Agawam, MA. Men from CT and MA came together for mutual fellowship and encouragement.

On Sunday, August 11th, I was asked to host Pastor Robert Pears' "Pure Heart Ministries" online Sunday Service. I preached from Genesis 32:26, "Unless You Bless Me".

I have had several phone conversations in August with Pastor Nelson Crapser from MA, Church. Lord willing, I am planning to conduct Evangelism Training, visiting people in town, and preach there on Columbus Day weekend.

Regular Events at Holy Grounds Coffee House: Morning Bible Study is open to all to learn more about the Bible -

Monday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 (or so).

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