

The Springfield Redeemer

The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

www.redemptiongate.org

*Go into all the world
and proclaim the
gospel to the world.
Mark 16:15*

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Multiplying the ministry

by Roberta D'Amico

On March 28, Pastor Steve Cooley and First Lady Jackie were off to Concord, New Hampshire, to lead a weekend Revival at Pastor Jerome Hall's Abundant Life. The event turned out to be much more, including street witnessing and a marriage seminar. Pastor Jerome's church had also become interested in our ministry here in Springfield, so Pastor Cooley brought some materials, along with some Springfield Redeemers.

However, the weekend plans were almost canceled when Pastor Cooley received a phone call two days before the trip. He said, "Pastor Hall called me up and said, 'I want to cancel the revival, because we are trying to buy this building and we are already \$57,000 short, so I can't ask my people for another offering for your trip and expenses.' Pastor Hall was struggling with what to do. I said to him, do not cancel the revival, but he said, 'I don't know what I can do for you when you get here. I won't be able to pay your expenses.' I told him, let's go ahead and trust God to provide. My wife and I are coming anyway, so pass out the flyers!"

Friday night, Pastor Cooley began teaching on the story of the Coffee House. He shared the Redeemer newspapers, and how

Scott had come to Springfield, and contacted the Faith In Action Team (FIAT). We became his supporters and born out of that was the Redemption Gate Mission Society and the Coffee House.

In his own words Pastor Cooley said, "I went over the entire concept of the Trust Jesus Campaign and the themes: Trust Jesus, Pray Daily, Read Your Bible, Go To Church, and then I showed them the buttons and bumper stickers. Pastor hall was really excited about the Coffee House. He wanted to know how to get it started, how to make it work, and how much money we make! I laughed and explained it's not about money. Everything is on donation. I invited them to use the materials I brought. The premise of the Coffee House is that people here work for love; love of God first and then each other."

Afterwards, Pastor Jerome told the 'rest of the story,' "After I got off the phone that night, I met with the people about the building, and said, 'I don't know how I'm going to get the money for the building,' and the guy who owned the building, said 'I'm going to give you the \$57,000, I want you to have the building.' Wow! \$57,000! It's a huge building, a beautiful place for an outreach with chapel and meeting rooms, and also a house on the property. The guy said he would finance the house

also. The Lord made sure I would get that building." Pastor Jerome had thought he would not be able to get the building and grow the ministry, but when Pastor Cooley came anyway, he found the Lord had gone before him and had it all worked out!

On Saturday, they did a mini-March for Jesus, with about 30 people. They put bumper stickers on the backs of their jackets, and took signs and gospel tracts. Out in the streets, they rejoiced with singing, and the people enjoyed seeing us, especially the children. The young children were so excited to be witnessing for the first time. Even one very young boy held his Seek



Unity sign up high, and just went on steadily down the street. Every time he saw a passerby, he'd invite them to Christ. They went about ¾ of a mile, passing out tracts, responding to the questions people asked, singing, and praying for people who stopped. One young man was annoyed, as we were in his way, but when one of the children offered him a Trust Jesus button, he changed his attitude, as if God touched his heart.

Pastor Jerome's plan now is to do a Love Walk in the city using

some of our materials this summer. He is on fire now to do this. He wants to form a coffee house outreach like we have and with the new building he would have adequate space. God's clearly taking what he's doing here in Springfield and multiplying it, as we "Go and make disciples." It was a most blessed trip, thanks to your prayers here in Springfield.

One final blessing: A lady named Cindy was also staying at the hotel in New Hampshire. When she gave the man at the desk a Victoria

Secrets magazine he was all excited, and said it made his day! Pastor Cooley and Jackie prayed for the lady, and then on Sunday morning, bumped into her again. They chatted, and when she learned he was a pastor, she said, "I'm glad I didn't do anything crazy this weekend!" Then she told about an experience she had with God 16 years ago, and had never told anyone. "I saw Christ in the sky and I was frightened. What does it mean?" she asked. "I am divorced now, a year ago, and seeking what to

do now."

Pastor Cooley answered, "God spoke to you 16 years ago, and He has a job for you to do. I'm here to remind you. You must seek to have fun in the right way." She said her husband was a Christian, but she was not in love with him anymore. The Cooleys invited her to pray with them. "We have also lived through difficulties. God gave you a Christian husband, and has not turned you loose. You can learn to see Christ in your husband." After prayer, she was considering going back to him.

Marching For Jesus April 19

By Pastor Renzo Ventrice

The Pioneer Valley is the land of the First and Second Great Awakening! Here at the March For Jesus in Springfield, we are red and yellow, black and white—Hispanic, Russian, Italian, Spanish, Jewish. We're all praying prayers of repentance: "Lord Jesus, send revival to the churches, especially here in New England, move among Your people!" God's people are excited about all of this because every Christian is a missionary. We are community changers. We are not playing church. We are disciples of Jesus and we want to live radical, sold out, spirit-filled lives, carrying out the Great Commission, hundreds of us on a parade victoriously marching for Jesus in the devil's face to the glory of God!



Free Justina

We held a rally at State and Federal Streets on April 2 to call attention to the plight of Justina Pelletier. She has been held against her parents' wishes for over a year by DCF. This 15-year-old from



Connecticut has a rare genetic disorder and was under her doctor's care. When

she went to Boston Children's Hospital for tests, a psychiatrist there overruled the doctors and her parents and put her in a psyche ward. He stopped her treatment, insisting it was "all just in her head."

Her condition has suffered greatly this past year. Before that she was active, even ice skating, and now she is in a wheelchair! Justina's Mom and Dad are fighting for her life. Will you help by calling the governor and your State legislators demanding her release?

Ongoing Events at Holy Grounds Coffee House

SUNDAY SERVICES 10 AM & 2 PM

MON THRU FRI MORNING BIBLE STUDY 7:30 AM

TUES & THURS PRAYER 11 AM

TUESDAY SOLID ROCK NIGHT MUSIC FORUM 7:00 PM

WED BIBLE STUDY 4:30 & CELEBRATE RECOVERY 6:30 PM

SATURDAY LUNCH 2-4 PM WEEKLY

1ST SAT MONTHLY MARRIAGE SEMINAR 4 PM

~For more Information call 413-301-0918~

Saturday Night Activities

Movie nights, May 3 & 17

May 3rd showing *Flywheel*

Open mic nights May 10 & 24

6:30 PM

Play Music, Read Scripture,
Sing, Poetry, Testimonies

Share Your Talents!