

The Springfield Redeemer



“Therefore,
my beloved brethren,
whom I long to see, ...
stand firm in the Lord.” Philippians
4:1

The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

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A New Season by Roberta D’Amico



September marks both an end to summer and a beginning of new things for many people. It may be school, a new job, or just a change in the daily routine. It may bring new challenges. Or it may usher in a ‘back to normal’ time in life. But

what is normal? Is there really a normal? Things change all the time. Except God, Who never changes, and His Word!

A true relationship with God is a living thing, and living things grow. In Christ, there is no going back. Even in old age, there is growing to do (hence the term, ‘growing’ old!) All through life, babies are born, people die, jobs are begun and ended, people move, businesses are started, some are lost, especially during this time. And we grow and change.

Some people do not like change, but we must remember that everything in this present age is temporary. The Bible says, “What is your life? It is like a vapor, passing away.” BUT GOD is eternal. Heaven is truly forever. Psalm 23 says, “I shall dwell in the house of the Lord *forever*.” And, no matter what our situation is now, we can always serve God in some way. Every circumstance can be ‘redeemed’ by trusting God and His plan. He has a purpose for all human beings, to know Him, worship Him, and make Him known. Everyone needs Him, whether they realize it or not. This is why the Holy Grounds Coffee House exists.

Here at Holy Grounds Coffee house is a place that God is using to both save and grow His people and teach them to serve Him through serving others. In spite of all the changes, it continues to be a source of truth and inspiration to all who enter. We are all about winning souls to Christ, teaching the Word, making disciples, promoting unity in the body of Christ, and loving one another of all nationalities. We

are all one race – there is only one race – the human race that God created in His image.

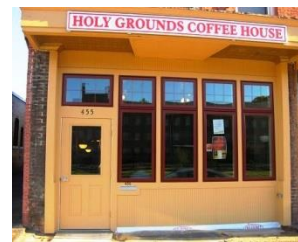
Here at Holy Grounds we are a ‘shelter’ to some lost souls

wandering the streets of Springfield. To others who live in the area, we are a place to fellowship with other Christians and a place to study the Word of God. To a few (too few) it is a place to serve the Lord and invest in the Kingdom.

Many people who have come through as young people (or adults) are out there testifying to the impact that this place has had on their lives. Some have come here not knowing how to do much but learned how to serve and have an impact on their world. If you are looking for a place to serve, then this is a good place for you!

This ministry was begun in 2008, from a group called “FIAT,” short for ‘Faith In Action Team,’ which still meets here! Beginning with street ministry on State Street, then moving into the Holy Grounds building in 2010, it has always been a mission church, although it appears as a Coffee House! That means what we do here depends totally on prayer, donations, and volunteers. We could do more if we had more volunteers, men and women with a passion for lost souls, plus, of course, the donations to keep it going. If you have a desire to see God’s work continue here in Springfield, would you consider becoming a prayer partner, supporter, or volunteer?

Praise God for providing our needs through these last couple of years, and thank you, all of you who donated and continue to donate to Holy Grounds Coffee House. God will reward you; you cannot out-give Him! Every donation is appreciated, any size!



Blessed to Be a Blessing – 24 years!

That's what Pastor Constant S. Cooley has been and much more, for 24 years at United Temple COGIC, along with his dear wife Jackie in recent years as First Lady. They have also served for around 10 years at Holy Grounds Coffee House, where they have labored tirelessly, side by side.



To honor this occasion, a party was held at United Temple on Sunday, 5 p.m., August 8, 2021. What a party it was! Well attended by United Temple people and Holy Grounds folks, the guest speaker was Superintendent Zachary Reynolds of Greater Harvest COGIC.

He began with 2 Timothy 2:6, how the hard-working farmer should enjoy the fruits of the harvest, applying it with honor to Dr. Cooley, who has been outstanding in his God-appointed role of leading these two ministries. We surely want him and First Lady Jackie to enjoy the fruits of their labor, so the offering given to them was generous, sweetening the departure for their month's sabbatical, during which they will be able to visit family. They plan to return early in September.

Heartfelt testimonies were shared by many about how much Pastor and Jackie have blessed their lives. Many musical pieces were enjoyed, especially one of my favorites, *Bless the Lord, O My Soul!* God has greatly blessed us through our Pastor and Jackie Cooley!

August 6, Friday fish Fry to raise funds for Coffee House expenses went well! We sold about 3 dozen dinners and raised \$379.00



Prayer and Praises from RGMS Evangelist Pastor Renzo Ventrice!

Betsy is home, slowly recovering, so Pastor Renzo has not been able to visit churches. He plans to visit Grace Christian Fellowship in New Hampshire on September 5. They thank you for your prayers for Betsy's complete healing and recovery.

Holy Grounds draws people from many ministries in the area, and Pastor Renzo represents RGMS to these ministries. Pray for churches to come together in unity and strength trusting only Jesus and His Word!

"The great pillars of all government and of social life [are] virtue, morality, and religion" —Patrick Henry, circa 1787.

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 resumes September 12, after his return.

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

THURSDAY: FIAT Thursday 7 p.m. September 9.

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

SATURDAY: Open Mic returns in September!