

# The Springfield Redeemer



February 1, 2023  
Newsletter of Redemption  
Gate Mission Society,  
Holy Grounds Coffee  
House  
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## Mission Pioneer Valley Monthly Prayer Luncheon Closes Out the Year 2022!

Meeting at Bethany Assembly of God Church in Agawam, as we do every month, the group of pastors and ministry leaders, known as Mission Pioneer Valley, came together for the last time in 2022 for the Prayer Luncheon on the last Thursday of the month, December 29. This month there were slightly less than 40 people there - men, women, several young adults, and even a couple of children. Starting at 11:30 (approximately), a sumptuous lunch was served buffet-style, provided by Pastor Steve Cooley and his church, United Temple C.O.G.I.C. It offered fried or baked chicken, rice, veggies, rolls, and other delicious things, plus desserts! All this great food was prepared by Chef Henryne Lockett, the Caterer!

Then, since there were quite a few new people at the lunch, Pastor Daniel Torres went into a bit of history about the group. Evangelist Luis Palau had come to New England in 1995 and again in 2001, and the Mission Pioneer Valley group began as a result. The main goal is to bring unity to the Body of Christ, but also to support pastors and ministry leaders. Daniel Torres does the administrative work, which he is gifted at, and works closely with Juan Feliciano, who is his pastor. But, he insists, "I am not the leader! As we go to prayer, we anticipate that the Holy Spirit will lead!"

The environment that is created is unity. Unity is vitally important to God, as it says in the Gospel of John, chapter 17. Jesus declares that "the Father and I are One" and it is His desire that all of His followers become one in heart and spirit, just as the Father and Son and Holy Spirit are One. So, we must be One, and come together in love and harmony. In harmony, the Holy Spirit can operate freely!

"The Bible is filled with examples of the power of One," Pastor Juan said. "God wants to use each one filled with the Holy Spirit. He is still writing His Story and you are a part of it! The Lord has brought us here today, and He is with us. I pray, Lord, open our eyes! Let us see what You are doing right now." Then, everyone prayed with those at their table. After prayer, we were encouraged by Isaiah 40, beginning at verse 25: Who created the stars? Why do you think God does not notice you? Don't fall into the Elijah Syndrome – "I am left all alone!" when in fact, God still had 7000 followers! He gives power to the faint and increases might; wait, be patient, renew your strength. One person with God is a majority, but it must be His ministry and His will done in His way. There is no problem bigger than God! Enter any situation in the fear of the Lord and find Him already there!

Mission Pioneer Valley is continuing the Trust Jesus Unity Services in the months that have a 5th Sunday, at 5 p.m. These Unity Revival Services began in 2020, during the covid epidemic, the summer of widespread rioting and looting, when Pastor Cooley told Pastor Daniel that Sunday was the most segregated day of the week in America. Four Pastors met and held the first service. Going into the fourth year, they will still continue, on the 5th Sundays for the edification of the church, the universal Body of Christ.

Here is the flyer for the January Unity Service:



## Celebrating the New Year!

Sunday afternoon, January 1! 2023! It was 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and a few of us gathered at Holy Grounds Coffee House to celebrate the New Year, a gift from God! What blessings does God have for us, His beloved children, in the next twelve months?

We had decided we wanted to usher in this New Year with God's blessing, and with God's people, so we invited anyone connected to Holy Grounds to join us for a casual, relaxed potluck gathering. When the first guests arrived, we had turned on some nice Christian music, and proceeded to start a game of "Taboo" to break the ice! Pastor Renzo was next to join us, and the game became quite lively as one side of the table tried to describe the word, and the other side tried to guess what it was!

Then when Pastor Cooley and Jackie came, they prayed and we served up the food! There were a lot of different dishes, including Ham Tetrizzini and Jackie Cooley's Collard Greens! People continued to come and join us, including some long-time friends from the ministry.

While we ate, some shared testimonies, especially Pastor Renzo who spoke about the Holy Spirit. He said that we don't hear so much about Him in these days, partly because the Holy Spirit is not talked about in churches as much as in former days. Pastor Renzo mentioned some times in past centuries when the moving of the Spirit was in more evidence than now, when people were apt to think more about life after death!

New Year's is only the beginning. January had more things to celebrate: Martin Luther King Day and the annual March For Life in Washington (50th year!) and the Springfield March for Life January 23, and still more in February: Valentine's, President's Day, Ash Wednesday, but the most important thing to celebrate in this coming year is our relationship with our Heavenly Father through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And so we began a New Year – not knowing what it will bring, but knowing Who does – the One who not just knows the future, but created it, planned it, and will be with us each day of it! That is, if we have recognized our need for Him and put our faith in Him and been born again!

## Long Awaited March For Jesus! - April 2023!

Plans are being made for the long-awaited March For Jesus in Springfield Massachusetts! April 8, the day before Resurrection Sunday (otherwise known as Easter). We are praying for a coalition of churches who are willing to gather together to glorify Christ! We are praying for unity of believers. We hope to have the support of Mission Pioneer Valley, the Q99.7, and many other groups. We will have flyers available

The theme will be Jesus is Lord! Holy Grounds will be the "base camp." All Believers are welcome! We need prayer and unity – this should be the biggest ever.

## Ongoing Events

**SUNDAY SERVICES:** Evening Service - Motivated by Faith with Bobby and Kim Q. at 5 p.m.;

And a new ministry! Pastor Shekina Withers here at Holy Grounds – 12 noon to 2 p.m.

**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 - February / March Meeting, March 9, 2023, 7:30 pm. At Holy Grounds.

**FRIDAY:** 1:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study with Shelly Saunders.