

# The Springfield Redeemer



The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

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**“A Child will be born to us, a Son given to us; and the government will rest upon His shoulders; and His Name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6**

## AMERICA IN CRISIS by Dr. C. S. Cooley, Pastor

America has become a nation living in fear! We have forgotten the heritage that our nation was born out of. Biblical History has been replaced with man’s theology. Man has inserted his own concept of how and why we exist. In man’s version of our beginnings, we just “happened” from an explosion somewhere in space and which created this rock called earth, and all of us are now descendants of apes! Man has done this in an attempt to make himself feel in charge of his destiny, rather than being accountable to a sovereign God. Consequently, the elections over the last 12 years have brought out some of Americans’ worst fears concerning our lives being ruled by others bigger and more powerful than ourselves. Laws have been passed that have challenged the faith of all Christians in areas they thought they would never face. To some people, the very idea that they can be controlled by someone greater than themselves is funny. Unfortunately, with our lack of understanding we have replaced the wisdom of God with our limited knowledge, not considering that even our meager knowledge is given



by God, who created us all. (Genesis 1:1)

The church has undergone great economic growth and expansion; this alone enhanced our pride and caused some to forget their brothers in Christ. Many Christians who may not be a part of our denomination but are being oppressed by those who are enemies of God need our prayers and our help. Christians have had many opportunities to become vocal on the worldly scene in a market of reality TV, and in doing so became exposed and sometimes ridiculed by the world. We forgot what the Apostle Paul said in Romans 14:16 “Therefore do not let what you know is good be spoken of as evil.”

For example, Christians have been challenged as to the understanding of marriage and family values, but in Romans Chapter 1:26 – 27, the Apostle Paul tells us not to be burned up in our

lust and not to have men lie with men or women with women. The church has been challenged in the area of education, and has found itself shut out by American political leaders, who were once proud of stating that we are “One Nation Under God, Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all” and now some churches have allowed their faith to shrink.

For those of us who are willing to stand and exercise their faith, I remind you of Hebrews 11:6, “but without faith it is impossible to please Him,” and it goes on to say that “He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him,” and 2 Timothy 1:7 says, “God has not given us the Spirit of fear; but of power, of love, and of a sound mind.” Finally, I want every Christian to consider this time as a call to arms in the Army of God, with the weapon of the Gospel of Jesus and His Holy Bible. Let prayer be the force to penetrate the hearts of all wicked men. And let your love be the example, first for all Christians, and then those that are not Christians, a love that will change America to once again being “One Nation Under God.” Amen!



## The Matt Walker Band CD Released



Saturday night, and the Coffee House was jumping! November 12, 2016, was the big night for Matt Walker and his band of 4 members to release their new CD. The Coffee House was full, maybe 30 people came out to support him and hear the music, which was lively.

The new CD is called Soulful Americana, and features songs like Blessed Assurance, Pass Me Not, and Farther Along. Matt brought copies to his event, but you can buy one for \$10 by calling Matt at (860) 752-2398.

In addition to the music, we had a potluck supper, with several different good things to eat and drink, including pasta and pizza. It began around 7 and finished up by 10 p.m. It was a good time for everyone, hanging out with brothers and sisters in Christ, along with a few visitors!

## Why Should Christians Celebrate Hanukkah?

Christmas Eve, This year Hanukkah, an eight-day Jewish celebration, begins on December 24th! This awesome story of God's plan for His Kingdom happened during those 400 years between the close of the Old Testament as we know it today and the birth of Jesus. In the 2nd century before Christ, Israel was ruled and cruelly oppressed by Antiochus Epiphanes, the Syrian king. He forced the Greek and Syrian idol-worship and customs on God's people and many Jews were martyred.

An old priest, Mattityahu, and his followers fled to the hills of Judea, determined to remain loyal to God. They fought the Syrians from there and after many battles, miraculously defeated the 40,000-man army. Having liberated Jerusalem, they cleansed the Temple, built a new altar, and made a new Menorah, thereby defeating another of Satan's attempts to destroy God's chosen people and prevent the Messiah from coming!

Then another miracle – they had oil enough for



the menorah only for one day, and it would take eight days to get more. But God made

the oil last for the whole eight days. The celebration of Hanukkah, also called Feast of Lights or Dedication, developed to commemorate this event. So Hanukkah celebrates God's supplying the oil, a "shadow" of Christ, the Light of the World, His provision of our needs, and the preservation of the Messianic line of Christ our Savior.

## Ongoing Events

**SUNDAY SERVICES: 10 a.m.-** Pastors Bobby & Kim; **2 p.m.-** Pastor Renzo & Betsy Ventrice; and a new ministry at **6 p.m.-** Transformation Centered Healing Ministries with Prophet Eric Thomas & his wife Pastor Susan.

**MONDAY -- FRIDAY:** Morning Bible Study at 7:30 a.m.; **WED.:** Bible Study - 4:30 p.m.; Recovery at 6:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY:** Women's Bible Study 1:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY:** Sabbath Service 9 a.m. to 12 noon; Lunch 2 to 4 p.m.

**1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY:** "Marriage with God" 4 to 6 p.m.

**3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY:** "Singles with God" 4 to 6 p.m.

**SATURDAY NIGHTS:** December 10, 7 p.m., Rich O'Reilly and Band.  
December 17<sup>th</sup> ?

**Merry Christmas  
to all!**