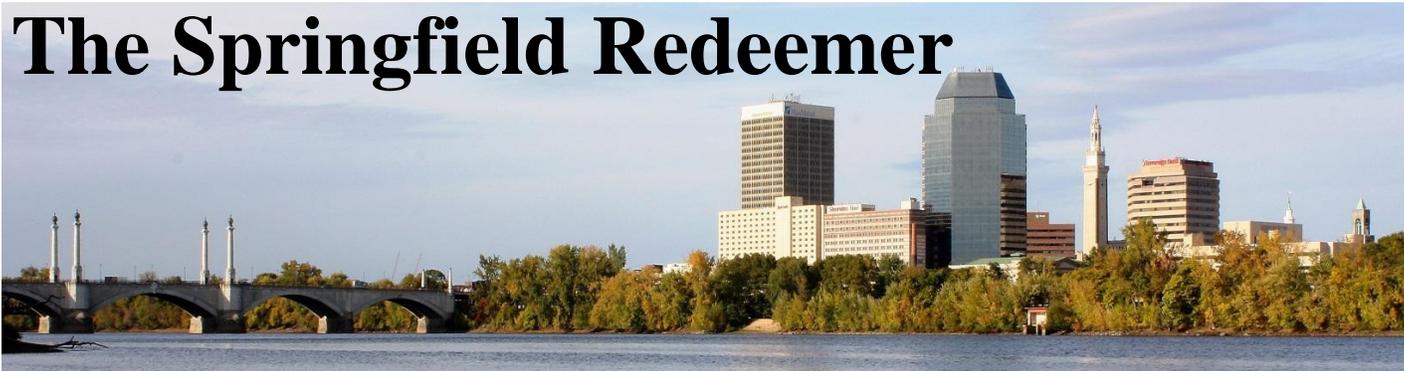


# The Springfield Redeemer



The Newsletter of Redemption Gate Mission Society

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“As you have received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the grace of God.” 1 Peter 4:10

## Pastor Greene Gets Married!

Last Saturday afternoon some of us from the Coffee House gathered to witness Pastor Brian Greene and Layla Morrison joined in Holy Matrimony!



This joyful event took place on March 3, at 5 p.m. at United Temple.

It was a simple, charming service, led by Pastor Cooley. He enjoys officiating at weddings, and kept the service light-hearted but meaningful. He emphasized the permanence of a godly marriage and challenged all of us to help keep them in the

way of the Lord and His Word.

The vows were traditional and they each had a ring to place on the other one's hand. Pastor explained the significance of the rings, how they symbolize the unbroken fellowship between husband and wife. The rings are worn on the fourth finger of the left hand, a tradition dating back to the Roman Empire, when they believed that the vein of that finger went directly to the heart, hence was called the “vein of love”.

Following the ring ceremony, the bride and groom offered each other the “right hand of fellowship” symbolizing how important it is to be friends before becoming husband and wife. Pray that they will always remain friends through all the joys and stresses of life. After the wedding, the new couple took off for a few days away.

## Holy Grounds Helps Jesse Blanchard's Mission Trip by Roberta D'Amico

There was lots of excitement at Holy Grounds Coffee House Friday night, March 9, 2018, as friends old and new gathered to help raise some funds for Jesse Blanchard, the son of Brian Blanchard, who oversees the building at 455 State Street. Jesse, now 23 years old, is a sophomore at the University of Valley Forge, a Christian university in Pennsylvania, where he is studying music and media production. This year Jesse was given the opportunity to go on his first mission trip, in May, to Nicaragua.

By 7 p.m. the Coffee House was filling up, as people from many churches, friends, family, and members of Holy Grounds came to support Jesse,



hear the music, and enjoy the coffee and snacks. Jesse led, accompanied by his girlfriend Jazmine, also

from UVF, and his sister Brianna, who is now married and finishing college online. They played some Christian songs, some popular, and also took requests. Jesse had the audience join in on some songs, and other music was played for background as people chatted with friends or met new ones.

A special feature was Jesse's Dad joining them for a couple of songs done in harmony, especially Search me O God, one of their favorites, and a rendition in harmony of Alleluia, a melody that's they had been singing together for years. It was wonderful listening to the excellent musical ability with which God has blessed these beautiful young people.

Jesse had been home for a week on Spring Break, raising money for his trip by visiting churches and speaking about the needs in Nicaragua. By 8:30 p.m. the Coffee House was full, and everyone was being blessed by the music and the relaxed, happy atmosphere of Holy Grounds.

Finally, Jesse and Jazmine spoke about their upcoming trip, the plans to build a house, work with children, and share the gospel. Then he announced how his funding was coming. The donations from this event helped. Then Brian Blanchard closed in prayer, and the evening ended on a very light-hearted note as Jesse's 4-year-old niece, Juliet, took the mic and sang Mary Had A Little Lamb in perfect pitch!

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## NEW! FRIDAY NIGHTS FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE



**Starts March 30, 2018!**

## *Chinese Auction March 24*

We had lots of good stuff and enthusiastic helpers, but less turn out than expected. Our hope is to have an Auction in the near future at United Temple, where there is ample parking!



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## Ongoing Events

**SUNDAY SERVICES:** 10 a.m.- Pastors Bobby & Kim; 1 p.m.- Pastor Brian Greene; and 4 p.m.- (NEW TIME!) Transformation Centered Healing Ministries with Pastors Eric & Susan Thomas.

**MONDAY -- FRIDAY:** Morning Bible Study at 7:30 a.m.

**WED** – Trust Jesus Recovery at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

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

**SATURDAY:** Lunch 2 to 4 p.m., except first Saturday. **1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY:** April 7, "Marriage with God" 4 to 6 p.m.

**SATURDAY NIGHT:** April 28, 7 p.m. Open Mic with Cathy Marvici.