

The Springfield Redeemer



May 1, 2025
Newsletter of Redemption
Gate Mission Society,
Holy Grounds Coffee House
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Not Our Way, but God's Way by *Dr. Iris L. Jenkins, PhD*

There are so many things we think we need. We often pursue these things on our own first, and then turn to God, when we believe we've exhausted all possibilities. At that point our prayers include phrases like, **"God, I need you now!"**, **"Help God!"**, **"Please God!"**, **"Lord, I NEED you to do this so, I can handle that"**, **"If you don't do this thing, God, I'll be ruined!"** We are at the point of desperation. We've tried on our own and failed, but when we DO go to God, we are determined to share our expectations for how He should handle our issues. We don't just want Him to move, we want Him to move the way that WE would.

We know that God has promised to supply all our need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (*Philippians 4:19*). So, when we bring our situations to God, we describe them as needs. We know that many of them are not necessities, but desires. Nevertheless, we do all that we can to convince God that we have an unmet need. We are specific with Him. We want Him to understand how serious our situation is. We want Him to understand what He must do and the timing in which it must be done. Our prayers become lists of instructions for God with very little acknowledgment of who He is in His perfect wisdom and power.

Then we find ourselves disappointed because things didn't go as we expected they would. We become frustrated because we told God what to do and how to do it. Yet here we are still dealing with the same situation. God didn't follow OUR plan. We seem to have forgotten that WE are the ones who should be following HIS plan.

We alone are to blame for our disappointment. We used our own logic and understanding to come up with a plan. Then we prayed to God basically asking Him to follow our plan. *Proverbs 3:5 says*, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." Trusting God in this way means that we lay our own plans aside and ask God what He wants to do about the situation.

Perhaps we need a new job and we're praying to God about a specific one we want. God may have a better job in mind for us, one with better long-term outcomes. We can only receive it if we let God have His way.

Perhaps we're asking God for money to buy food. God may want to bless us with the food directly, allowing us to save our money for something else. We must let God have His way if we want the best outcome.

Perhaps we've been praying to God about where we want to live. We have reasons why a specific location would be GREAT for us. Nevertheless, God has full knowledge of every heartache, every pain that would

come to us if He gave us what we asked for. We can avoid true disappointment if we just let God have His way.

There's nothing wrong with going to God with our concerns. We absolutely should! The problem arises when we want to control HOW God chooses to work things out. Rather than trying to apply logic and reasoning, let's trust God to be God. There is only one way we can guarantee an outcome that is best for us. It's not OUR way, but God's!

SPRINGFIELD'S ANNUAL MARCH FOR JESUS

ARTICLE BY Roberta D'Amico

Saturday morning, the Holy Grounds Coffee House hosted its last and final event to take place at 455 State Street, Springfield Massachusetts. This building has been used to bless Springfield for 15 years, and today was the gathering place for the annual March For Jesus! There were balloons, Trust Jesus signs, banners, and marchers from many different churches and denominations, plus a friendly escort from our local police department!



Pastor Cooley led off the March, as he always has, after appointing several men to guide the marchers down State Street. The marchers carried flags, signs, balloons, and banners to the steps of City Hall where we prayed, at the end of the march. When we got there, people sat on the steps of City Hall and the Pastors who were present lined to pray. Thank you to our sound Technician, Keith Davis, for his hard work with the setting up of the sound.

After each Pastor had prayed for various needs like our schools, government, families, and so on, to close the event, all the people made a large circle for a final prayer before returning to Holy Grounds Coffee House for some Popeye's chicken and fellowship!

Pastor Renzo's Report – March, April

I'm submitting my Monthly Ministry Report for March/April 2025. I've emailed my Ministry Cover Letter, Resume, Letters of Recommendation and other documents to 1 more new Pastor from Western New England and worldwide. As Evangelist and Revivalist from RGMS, I'm establishing contacts and sharing my vision of the urgent need for NE churches to come together in fervent prayer for revival and evangelism. Having forged new relationships with about 317 Pastors since August 2020, our hope is to preach REVIVAL, teach Christian History Seminars/tours together in NE after I secure enough commitments On March 16th, I had a great conversation with Dr. Mark Conrad, author of "Whatever Happened to the Biblical Church?" I met him in

December of last year during an Evangelist Ted Shuttlesworth Conference. He served as a Navy Medical Corpsman. He is helping New England Pastors to make Discipleship and Evangelism their number one priority again. I hope to be collaborating with him for the kingdom. In the near future, Lord willing.

On March 29th, I participated in a Pastors prayer meeting sponsored by my friend, Pastor Chuck Wimer of Jubilee Family Worship. We incessantly cried out to God for revival in New England and made connections with area ministers.

I have sent emails to over 35 Pastors in VT, NH, CT, and MA in preparation for Evangelist Ted Shuttlesworth's 6 day Preaching and Healing ministry at the Eastern States Exposition in June. On March 25th and April 8th, I joined about 16 saints from CT, MA and ME (online) for another focused and intense prayer meeting for the upcoming Evangelist Ted Shuttlesworth's 6 day celebration at the Eastern States Fairgrounds this coming June! On April 13th, I again preached at Greater Grace Church of CT in Enfield. Title was "Triumphal Entry of the Lamb of God" from ***Luke 19:29-48***. I led worship services along with brothers from my son Henry's BRKN band, on Saturday April 19th, I will be distributing Gospel of John booklets while our son Henry's BRKN band will be proclaiming the gospel in song. I will be preaching two evangelistic sermons as well.

***Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Renzo Ventrice***

Weekly Event:

***Morning Bible Study Monday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30am
191 Walnut Street, Springfield MA, 01105***

UPCOMING EVENTS

74th Annual NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER May 1, 2025

***Suffield CT 8:00am, Winsor Locks CT 10:00am, Holyoke MA 12Noon,
Springfield MA 5:30pm***

ELEVENTH ANNUAL OLD TIME GOSPEL SING-A-LONG May 10, 2025