



***GULF COAST JURISDICTION***  
*April 2017*

**Annual Elect Ladies and Brotherhood Conferences bring miracles**



FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA. – With the themes, “There is power in a praying woman” for the Elect Ladies and “Change is good, transformed is better” for the Brothers, God wrought many miracles during these annual Gulf Coast Jurisdictional conferences.

The conferences held April 21 to 23 in Fort Walton Beach, with the women meeting at Promise Church, 716 Edge St., and the men opened the

Brotherhood Conference at a nearby camping ground and culminated at the combined service on Sunday at Promise.

The miracles started on Friday night, with healings and deliverances, as the women preached about Hannah’s powerful prayer in 1 Sam 1:10-20, and gave their personal testimonies of how God had healed and delivered them. At Saturday’s luncheon, the women fellowshiped and had a prayer forum and fashion show following. On Saturday night, the preaching continued on the power of a praying woman and the saints were encouraged to pray and open up their hearts and allow the Holy Spirit to have free reign. God continued to heal many and delivered others in their minds.

Elder Paula J. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies Coordinator, culminated the preaching on the power of a praying woman on Sunday morning as she encouraged the women to pour out their souls unto God like Hannah. “You must keep praying and don’t stop. You have to commit everything in your life to prayer,” she said.

The Brotherhood Conference was equally powerful, with many healed and delivered by the Power of God. Congregating at the campground, an annual tradition, allowed the brothers of all ages to lift up the name of the Lord in open-air. The brothers had a physical fitness challenge, which helped to strengthen their relationships and bond in the Lord. They too had several speakers, to include the keynote speaker, Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop, who encouraged them to be strong men of God, like David’s mighty men and keep their bean patch. “You must keep the devil out of your home, ministry and the church,” he said.

Elder Augustus L. Russell Jr., Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Brotherhood Coordinator, culminated the preaching for the men's conference on Sunday morning by encouraging the brothers to have a strong prayer life and keep the devil out of their garden. "Men really need to pray, because the commandment was given to Adam to keep the garden. Every time we resist the devil, God gets the victory," he said.

Bishop Smith, close the conferences on Sunday morning by saying, "I thank God for all of you coming and in the spirit that you came; it shows that you're growing in the Lord." "A charge to keep I have is to work in the ministry," he added.

**In the photo:** The saints enjoying the Lord during praise and worship on Sunday morning at the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies and Brotherhood Conferences held April 21-23, at Promise in Fort Walton Beach.

More Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies and Brotherhood Conference photos. *All photos taken by: Elder Debbie Calix and Minister Oyama Lucas.*



Photos continue.



Photos continue.



Photos continue.



## More April stories

### Category: Events

*Gulf Coast Jurisdiction saints attended the CLGI Pastors and Leadership Conference.*

- **From the Editorial Staff:** Several Gulf Coast Jurisdiction saints, to include Bishop Charles D. Smith, GC Jurisdictional Bishop attended the CLGI Pastors and Leadership Conference, held April 27-29 in Atlanta, Ga. The theme was, “Change is Good...Transformed is Better. The GCJ saints preached, led praise and worship, played musical instruments and ushered. Bishop Joseph White, The Church of the Living God International Presiding Bishop was the first speaker on Friday morning. He encouraged the saints to, “Be fruitful and multiply your churches and don’t be satisfied with the small groups that you have.” “You must also cast all your cares on the Lord, because he cares for you,” he added.



*Elder Ruth Latham:* “Praise God for the saints representing the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction during this conference and bringing blessings back to us!”

**In the Photos:** Bishop Charles D. Smith, Elder Paula Smith, Elder Thomas Calix, Elder Debbie Calix, Elder Angela Jenkins, Elder Treani Thompson, Elder Bonita Russell, Elder Tamela Grandberry, Minister Stephen Calix and Exhorter Cory Cook. Elder Bob Garcia also attended.

*Many churches celebrated resurrection Sunday with plays and fellowships.*



- **From New Covenant:** This year, the New Covenant Youth and Young Adult department performed an Easter play entitled “He is risen”. We had a special actor this year, Pastor Augustus Russell, who was one of the soldiers guarding the tomb. The choir wrapped up the festivities with songs to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

*Exhorter Maurissa Spriggs:* “The youth did a fantastic job and showed dedication, by showing up for the practices and memorizing their lines in the play.”

*Photo taken by: Sister Barbara Cooper*

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Christ the Redeemer hosted an Easter fellowship and outdoor service in April to celebrate our Lord's resurrection. We had a great time with songs of worship and words of life during our fellowship. The children participated in an Easter egg hunt and games.

*Minister Tanoa Williams:* "It was a wonderful fellowship!"



*Photos taken by: Minister Tanoa Williams*

**In the Photos:** Picture #1: (Left to right; back to front): Brother Jalin Lucas, Brother Allen Johnson, Sister Jamikah Lucas, Brother Orion Brinkley and Brother Isaiah Brinkley. Picture #2: Pastor Carlos Thompson. Picture #3: Minister Lindsay Griffin preaching. Picture #4: Exhorter Kourtney Littlejohn preaching. Picture #5: Minister Katrina Lucas preaching.



- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Resurrection Sunday! Christ the Redeemer Youth and Young Adult department, under the direction of Minister Shaneika Brinkley, performed a short skit called "The Stones". This skit depicted how our sins are like heavy rocks, burdening us down and creating weights that keep us from being free. At the end of the skit, participants weighted down with burdens,

encountered the one person who could take their burdens and allow them to be free from the

weight of sin, Jesus. Deacon Joshua Marsh played the role of Jesus in the skit. In the end, Jesus took the rocks (burdens) and the people were free!

*Minister Tanoa Williams:* “Thank God for the power of the Holy Spirit, that raised Jesus from the dead!”

*Photos taken by: Minister Tanoa Williams*



- **From Spirit of Christ:** Pastor Tom Calix started the Easter weekend with a wonderful Friday evening Holy Communion service reflecting on the death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Saturday Minister Stephen Calix, Spirit of Christ Youth and Young Adult director, took the young people to a citywide community Easter egg hunt. Sunday morning culminated with a joyous celebration of our Savior’s Resurrection.

*Elder Debbie Calix:* “The whole weekend was such a blessing!”



*Photos taken by: Elder Debbie Calix*

- **From Lily of the Valley:** The month of April is always a favorite month of ours. This is the month that we celebrate our RISEN LORD and Savior by partaking in Holy Communion. The youth had the chance to fellowship together by coloring eggs, hiding the eggs, and finding them as well. The food was wonderful and there were many festivities. We even had a fashion contest for the BEST DRESSED! Our Pastors also celebrated 41 years of marriage! "We are so thankful to have come this far in the Lord together," said Pastor T.

*Minister Desiree Sewell: “We enjoyed all the resurrection weekend festivities.”*



*Photos taken by: Minister Desiree Sewell*

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### **Category: Blessing**

*Two churches had saints graduate, earn honor roll, get usher recognition, spiritual blessings, and one church had a youth revival.*

- **From Prince of Peace:** Sister Deshalya Harrison completed her nursing degree from the Florida State College at Jacksonville. She had her pinning ceremony on May 8 at the Florida Times Union Performing Arts Center, Jacoby Hall and graduated on May 13.

*Pastor Paulette Harrison: “I praise God for being with Sister Deshalya and bringing her through all of her accomplishments!”*



- **From Lily of the Valley:** Once again, we had the pleasure of acknowledging our Honor Students. "The Lord really has been with the youth of Lily of the Valley. Every grading period we have students making the honor roll," said Exhorter Tony Sewell.

*Minister Desiree Sewell:* "We are so proud of each of them."

*Photo taken by: Minister Desiree Sewell*



- **From Lily of the Valley:** Every quarter at LOV, we like to take a moment to acknowledge our doorkeepers. At times this department can be overlooked, but not at LOV. It takes a willing mind to be a part of the Usher Department. The ushers want to keep watch and serve the people of God! This quarter we acknowledged two of our faithful, always available ushers. Deacon Matthew Galarza is the adult usher and the junior usher is Sister Alanna Walker.

*Minister Desiree Sewell:* "I am thankful that I have a church full of eager motivated laborers in God."

*Photo taken by: Minister Desiree Sewell*

- **From Lily of the Valley:** The Lily of the Valley brothers came back strong and mighty after attending the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Brotherhood services. "When we get together, oh what a time it is," said Exhorter Tony Sewell.

*Minister Desiree Sewell:* "We are happy for our strong brothers."





- From Christ the Redeemer:** During the 2017 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Lady and Brotherhood Conferences, Christ the Redeemer was named as winners for two distinct awards. Sister Jhamia Lucas won first place in the Elect Lady fashion show and she celebrated her 9th birthday! Minister John Williams won the Brotherhood Mighty Men of Valor Fitness Competition.



*Minister Tanoa Williams:* “Congratulations to them!”

*Photos taken by: Minister Tanoa Williams*

- From Spirit of Christ:** Our Transformed Youth and Young Adult revival with Minister John and Minister Tanoa Williams along with Minister Curtis Bell was an absolutely, phenomenal move of God. Youth got filled and re-filled with the Holy Ghost, healed, and delivered. The Spirit of Christ family cannot express enough how much we love and appreciate the Williams family! We also had a wonderful fellowship and relaxation as we celebrated Minister John Williams and Sister Tonya Bloxson’s birthdays.



*Elder Debbie Calix:* “We will miss the Williams family greatly.”



**Photos taken by: Elder Debbie Calix**

## Category: Upcoming Events

- **From the Editorial Staff:** Saints please be mindful of the below upcoming events for the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction and CLGI.

### *The 2017 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jun 5	CLGI Consecration Begins	
Jun 10-11	Elder Harrison Pastoral Anniversary	Jacksonville, FL
Jun 28	CLGI Consecration Ends	
Jun 30- 9 Jul	IYYAC/Brotherhood/General Assembly	Mobile, AL
Jul 29-30	Elder Russell Pastoral Anniversary	Montgomery, AL
Aug 26-27	GC CE Recreational Fellowship	Thonotosassa, FL
Sep 1-3	Elder Paula Smith's Ret/B-Day Celeb.	FWB, FL
Sep 8-10	Elders Chisolm and Chisolm Pastoral Ann.	Melbourne, FL
Sep 21-24	International Missions Conference	Columbus, OH
Oct 13-15	Elder Calix/Elder McAuley Pastoral Ann.	FWB, FL
Nov 4-5	Elder Grandberry Pastoral Ann.	Gainesville, FL
Nov 17-19	Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Meeting	FWB, FL
Dec 2-3	Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniversary	Gulfport, MS