



GULF COAST JURISDICTION
April 2018

Annual Elect Ladies and Brotherhood Conferences bring blessings



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 6-8, at Promise in Fort Walton Beach.

FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA. – With the themes, “Fearfully and wonderfully made” for the Elect Ladies and “Strong in the faith” for the Brothers, God wrought many blessings during these annual Gulf Coast Jurisdictional conferences.

The conferences held April 6-8 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 blessings started on Friday night, as the women preached from 1 Peter 3:3-5 and Psalms 139:14 about being fearfully and wonderfully made and encouraged the saints to stand and endure to the end. At Saturday’s luncheon, the women fellowshiped and had a fashion show. Following the fashion show, Elder Paula Smith, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies Coordinator taught a dynamic seminar encouraging the women to give the right impression, so that people know that they are children of God. “We want to make sure we give off the Spirit of

God,” she said. “We want to be spiritual, holy women of God and walk in the light of Jesus, because he was holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners.”

On Saturday night, the women continued to preach on the theme of, being fearfully and wonderfully made. The saints were encouraged that God is with them, no matter what they go through; to keep working to become a new creature; and even when they are wrong, God can turn them around if they have hope in God.

Elder Smith ended the preaching for the Elect Ladies Conference on Sunday morning as she encouraged the women to have a meek and quite spirit, which is of great price to God. “Women let the meek and quite spirit emanate from you. Let the Lord fix you, because it takes time. I encourage you to stay with Christ and let the Word purge you, so you can be like him,” she said.

The Brotherhood Conference was equally a blessing, with powerful words of encouragement from the speakers. 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 activities, which helped to strengthen their relationships and bond in the Lord. They too had several speakers, to include the keynote speaker, Elder Ronald Talley, The Church of the Living God International Brotherhood Director, who spoke to the brothers up to age 45.

Elder Talley taught on Judas from John 13:18 and gave some points of how we should treat those who have the same spirit as Judas. “-Jesus prayed for Judas all the way to the very end! -Jesus prayed for Judas all night. -Jesus was hoping that Judas would change his mind. -When we do certain things, we can be go against the plan of God. -We should not want to see any brother fall. -When we break bread together, as coming together in fellowship, we should not leave each other with ought in our heart or have ill words or feelings towards one another.”

Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Presiding Bishop, encouraged the men over age 45 that it is not too late to do something in the Lord. “We should be the next leadership to guide the Youth into transition to be the next leaders,” he said. “Men, get up and don't let the devil accuse you of doing something that you did not do. The Devil is a liar! We all can be the next somebody in God,” he added. The other speakers encouraged the men to love the Lord with their whole heart, mind, and soul and trust in the Lord.

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 stay in unity and do not bite and devour one another. “The devil is the real enemy, not our brothers and sisters,” he said. “No matter what you go through, you've got to hold on and know that the God we serve has the power to put things back together.”

Bishop Smith, close the conferences on Sunday morning by saying, “We're addicted to the care and ministry of the saints.” He thanked everyone for coming and supporting Elder Smith in the Elect Ladies Conference and Elder Russell in the Brotherhood Conference.



More Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies and Brotherhood Conference photos. *All photos taken by: Elder Debbie Calix and Sister Tonya Bloxson.*



Photos continue.



The Bishop's Corner

Appreciation

Praise the Lord Saints,

Thank you all for attending and supporting our combined Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Brotherhood and Elect Ladies Conferences held in Niceville and Fort Walton Beach, Fla., April 6-8. A special thanks to Elder Augustus Russell, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Brotherhood Coordinator and Elder Paula Smith, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies Coordinator, for their hard work in arranging and directing the conferences.

Additionally, thanks also to all the brothers and ladies for supporting the conferences and helping to make them a success. I really appreciate all the pastors who were able to attend and bring their members. It was truly a blessing and God is always please when we can come together in unity and lift up His name.

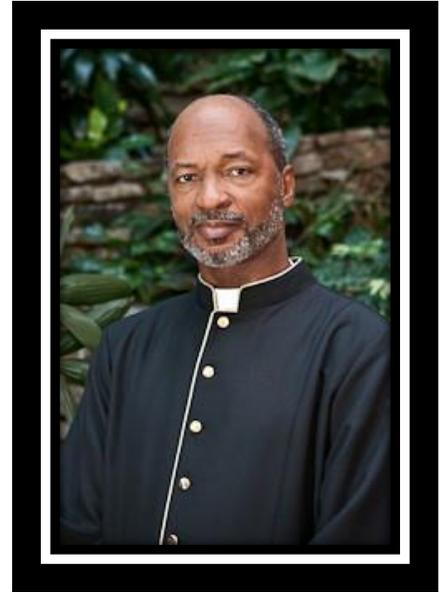
A special thanks to Elder Ronald Talley, The Church of the Living God International Brotherhood Director, for taking the time to attend and teach a powerful seminar that left the men encouraged and uplifted in the faith. During these conferences, the Lord came in, blessed us and met our needs in the seminars and preaching!

Next year we will elect another Brotherhood and Elect Ladies Coordinator. Please be in prayer on whom the Lord will raise up to take these vital positions. They will need to be individuals with the heart of God and are addicted to the love and ministry of the saints.

As members of the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction, until we all come in the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man, let us continue to be great examples by preaching the Word of God. Let us love without dissimulation; be kindly affectioned one to another; bless them that curse us; recompense no man evil for evil; and live peaceably with all men.

God bless all of you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction



More April stories

Category: Events

Churches celebrated resurrection Sunday, held weddings, revivals, birthdays, graduation and welcome home celebrations. Brothers from one church did a landscaping project.

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** The saints of Christ the Redeemer celebrated Jesus Christ's Resurrection with an Easter picnic. The Youth and Young Adult Department hosted the event at a local park. There was a short afternoon service followed by games.

Minister Kourtney Littlejohn: "The Saints enjoyed food, fun, and fellowship!"



In the Photos: Christ the Redeemer Saints enjoying food, fellowship, playing softball and sack racing.

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Christ the Redeemer's Youth and Young Adult Department hosted a revival with our very own Gulf Coast Youth and Young Adult Director, Pastor Curtis Bell. It started on Friday with evening service and on Saturday morning, Pastor Bell taught a seminar, followed by an afternoon service, where local youth and young adults preached the Word of God. Pastor Bell encouraged the saints that, "Who God says you are, that is who you are. Don't let the world tell you who you are in God."

Minister Kourtney Littlejohn: "We were all encouraged and uplifted following the revival!"

Christ the Redeemer youth and young adult revival photos.



In the Photos: 1. Minister Kourtney Littlejohn preaching the Word of God. 2. Minister Curtis Bell, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Youth and Young Adult Director teaching a seminar during the youth revival at Christ the Redeemer in April.

- **From Lily of the Valley:** On Saturday April 28, 2018 at 3 p.m., we had the pleasure of witnessing the marriage of Esence Hines and Lester Garris. Pastor Tony Sewell officiated the wedding at Lily of the Valley CLGI.



Sis Sereese Davis: "We at LOV will miss Sis Esence but are excited to see the new Mrs. Garris embrace this new chapter in life."

Photo by Deacon Mathew Galarza

- **From Holy of Holies Tabernacle:** The saints at Holy of Holies Tabernacle hosted their first youth revival on April 27. The guest speaker, Pastor Curtis Bell, Gulf Coast Youth and Young Adult Director experienced car troubles and could not make it. Minister Ebony Hines graciously stepped in and titled her message, "Jesus knows my name." It was a blessing to have our new youth members and visitors from the community join us. All in attendance could relate to her message and sat attentively and enjoyed her. She told them that Jesus was their good Shepherd and knows all of them by



name and knows exactly who they are. She encouraged them that they could take all their troubles to Jesus, even bullying or sadness. The word ministered to them as she asked all to pray with her to ask whatever they wanted from the Lord. After service, we enjoyed pizza and a McDonald's fellowship.

Minister Kim Mastin: "We had food, fun and fellowship! We look forward to our next revival with our Gulf Coast Youth Director."

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** The saints welcomed home Minister Kourtney Littlejohn who was TDY for a couple of months. Following the revival, the saints went to Mville for an evening activity. They surprised Missionary Hannah James with a cake and gifts to recognize her achievement for graduating from High School next month.

Minister Kourtney Littlejohn: "The saints had a great time in the LORD!"



In the photos: Christ the Redeemer saints and visitors, Missionary Hannah James with her cake and Minister Littlejohn's cake.

- From Spirit of Christ:** The saints at Spirit of Christ are so very thankful to have our fellow Ministers and Brothers in the Lord, SSgt Sean Francis and SSgt Cory Cook back home from their overseas assignments, while serving in the United States Air Force. Pastor Calix presented Minister Cook his Minister's license, because he was deployed during the Gulf Coast Conference in November 2017, when he was appointed. Minister Cook got right back to work as our Usher Coordinator, ensuring the house of the Lord is prepared and ready to greet welcomed guests and visitors. Pastor Calix appointed Minister Francis as our Brotherhood Coordinator, picking up where he left off 3 years ago. The timing was perfect leading right into the Gulf Coast Brotherhood Conference.

Elder Debbie Calix: “God truly kept them safe and we are so grateful!”



- From Spirit of Christ:** Sister Tonya Bloxson celebrated her birthday this month with the Saints at Red Lobster. We were so glad that her parents, Pastor Ozzie and Sister Gyra Bloxson, from Covenant Community Church in Fort Walton Beach, could join us.

Elder Debbie Calix: “It was a great time of fellowship. Happy Birthday Sister Tonya!”





- From Spirit of Christ:** The saints at Spirit of Christ were excited to have a guest Minister this month. Minister Derek Woods from Jubilee Church in Pensacola, Fla. blessed us in the ministry of the Word. We consider him one of ours, because we have watched him grow in the Lord. There was a time when he did not know the power of the Holy Spirit, and then he became filled with the Spirit. He is growing in his love for God and is now serving the Lord with all his heart in many capacities.

Elder Debbie Calix: “He is a blessing unto his Pastor and Church and he brought a blessing to Spirit of Christ.”

- From Spirit of Christ:** The saints at Spirit of Christ want to give a "Big Shout Out" to our Brotherhood Department for doing such a great job on our landscaping project. They took our large front weed-covered piece of property, which was not very nice to look at, and made it beautiful and eye-catching. It was not an easy task. It took 3 days of hand tilling the ground with a sod cutter, rakes and shovels; followed by laying over 10 pallets of St. Augustine grass.

Elder Debbie Calix: “Stay tuned for our next beautification project of a new fence!”





Category: Blessing

One church had a saint earn honor roll and make the President's List.

- **From Prince of Peace:** Sister Deshalya Harrison achieved academic success by making the Dean's List during the Fall 2017 Term at Florida State College at Jacksonville. This list honored students who earned at least a 3.75 grade point average in the term and have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0.

Pastor Paulette Harrison: "We're so very proud of Deshalya and pray that God will continue to bless her!"



Category: Upcoming Events

- **From the Evangelistic Team:** Below is the 2018 schedule of revivals throughout the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction. Please pray for the Evangelistic team that the Lord will use them mightily to speak words that are Spirit and life and confirm His Word by miracles, wonders and signs.

2018 Revival Schedule

May 8-9 (Tue-Wed) *Way of Holiness*, Gainesville, Fla. (*Cancelled*)

May 10 (Thur) *Life in Christ*, Tallahassee, Fla. (*Confirmed*)
 May 17-18 (Thur-Fri) *Emmanuel*, Parker, Fla. (*Cancelled*)
 Aug 7-8 (Tue-Wed) *Christ the Redeemer*, Gulfport, Miss. (*Confirmed*)
 Aug 9-10 (Thur-Fri) *Promise*, Ft Walton Beach, Fla. (*Confirmed*)
 Aug 21-22 (Tue-Wed) *Lily of the Valley*, Thonotosassa, Fla. (*Confirmed*)
 Oct 25-26 (Thur-Fri) *Spirit of Christ*, Ft Walton Beach, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

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

The 2018 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 4-6	Elder Sewell/Sewell Pastoral Anniv.	Thonotosassa, Fla.
<i>May 25-27</i>	<i>International Elect Ladies Conf.</i>	<i>Atlanta, Ga.</i>
<i>Jun 4</i>	<i>CLGI Consecration Begins</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Jun 9-10	Elder Harrison Pastoral Anniv.	Jacksonville, Fla.
<i>Jun 27</i>	<i>CLGI Consecration Ends</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Jun 29- Jul 8</i>	<i>IYYAC/Brotherhood/General Assembly</i>	<i>Mobile, Ala.</i>
Jul 28-29	Elder Russell Pastoral Anniv.	Montgomery, Ala.
Sep 7-9	Elder Chisolm/Chisolm Pastoral Anniv.	Melbourne, Fla.
Sep 21-23	Elder Calix Pastoral Anniv.	FWB, Fla.
Sep 29-30	GCJ CE Recreational Fellowship	Thonotosassa, Fla.
Nov 3-4	Elder Grandberry Pastoral Anniv.	Gainesville, Fla.
Nov 15-18	Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Meeting	FWB, Fla.
Dec 1-2	Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniv.	Gulfport, Miss.