



GULF COAST JURISDICTION
March 2018

GCJ Missionaries reconciling the lost at all cost

Annual Missions Conference filled with seminars, canvassing and preaching



In the photo: The Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Missions choir singing on Sunday morning at the conference.

MONTGOMERY, ALA. – “And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:18) Preachers reminded the saints at the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction’s Annual Missions Conference that they are new creatures in Christ and should reconcile the lost to Christ at all cost.

The conference, held March 10 and 11 at New Covenant Church of the Living God International (CLGI) in Montgomery Ala., started with various seminars and workshops.

Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Presiding Bishop and Pastor of Promise Church of the Living God International, Fort Walton Beach, Fla., encouraged the saints from 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 and Colossians 3:15-17. “More important than changing your clothes is changing your mind,” he said. “There are only two sins that you cannot be forgiven for: blasphemy of the Holy Ghost and unforgiveness.”

He further encouraged saints that, “Holy Ghost filled people must seek peace. If you want to see if God is in something, look for peace. The devil identifies problems, but the Holy Ghost gives solutions. You cannot fight for God unless you are right.”

The seminars continued as the Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Missions Director, Elder Treani Thompson, who is also the Assistant Pastor at Christ the Redeemer CLGI in Gulfport, Miss., took this opportunity to give refresher training and a leadership workshop to all local GCJ Missions Coordinators. Meanwhile, Minister Tabitha Hines, assistant GCJ Missions Director, Lily of the

Valley CLGI, Thonotosassa, Fla., taught the junior missionaries about canvassing and witnessing. They then went throughout the local neighborhood practicing what they had learned.

A combined session with Minister Dorothy Negley, GCJ Missions Treasurer, Spirit of Christ CLGI, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. and Minister Traci Coleman, Missions Coordinator, Sword of the Spirit CLGI, Lansdown, Pa., culminated the seminars.

They encouraged the saints on effective witnessing, understanding people and seeing the value in everyone. “It takes a willing mind” was the title of Minister Negley’s seminar as she taught about the brain and how it works, so that saints could gain insight into the, “taken-for-granted” knowledge needed to survive in various social classes.

“Some of us have fixed mindsets, growth mindsets and mindsets that are developed by experience, but we may need to change in order to do outreach and be an effective witness for Christ,” said Minister Negley.

Minister Coleman, whose profession is in social work, said, “We must take people as they are and not look down on them. If we’re going to be effective in witnessing, we must first examine ourselves.” She added, “We have to come out of our traditions and be what people need. We have to be kind in the church to the saints and visitors. I challenge you to think differently!”

The Saturday night service was a blessing as Minister Hines and Minister Georgia Armstrong, the CLGI Missions Secretary, Atlanta Worship Center, Atlanta, Ga., encouraged the saints to work in the church and stand until Jesus comes.

“I don’t want my labor to be in vain,” said Minister Armstrong. “When we get the Word of God, it is not just for us, but we must give it to someone else so they can be saved. We must be a beacon of light in a time of darkness. The Holy Spirit does not bring death, but life,” she said.

Minister Hines encouraged the saints not to faint, but do all to stand. “I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, because it is the power of God unto salvation. If you’re in the fellowship of the saints, every band in your life can be loosed.”

Elder Thompson wrapped up the preaching at the conference on Sunday morning by encouraging the missionaries not to forget where they came from and do not turn around. “God is still faithful and we need to remain faithful as well. Be steadfast in the faith and let no man steal your crown.” “When we witness to people, they need to know that God can wash and cleanse them and they can have peace with God,” she said.

Bishop Smith closed the conference by thanking everyone for coming and saying, “Missions work is important and in God we need to find out what is important to God. Spiritual means that we learn how to follow the Spirit.”



In the Photo: (Left to Right) Pastor Carlos Thompson, Elder Treani Thompson, Elder Bonita Russell, Minister Georgia Armstrong, Minister Sirta Loiseau, Minister Cheryl James and Minister Dorothy Negley.

More Missions photos:



In the Photos: (Top Left to Right) Elder Thompson and Minister Coleman, Elder Thompson, Minister Hines, (Second row) the GCJ musicians, (Bottom Row) Bishop Smith, Minister Armstrong, Minister Hines and Minister Negley.

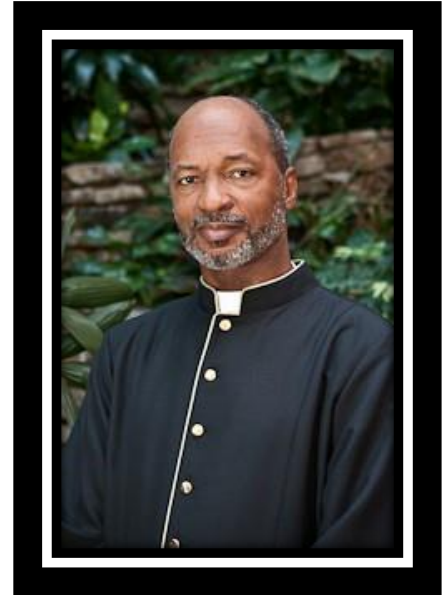
The Bishop's Corner

Appreciation

Praise the Lord Saints,

Thank you all for attending and supporting our Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Missions Conference held in Montgomery, Ala. March 10-11. A special thanks to Elder Treani Thompson, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Missions Director, for her hard work in arranging and directing the conference.

Additionally, thanks also to Pastor Augustus Russell and the New Covenant congregation for hosting this event. I appreciate all of the Gulf Coast Missions staff and members who attended and helped make this conference a success and blessing to everyone. Whether you ushered, worked registration, did finances, sang, played music, did refreshments, cleaned or provided hospitality, it was truly a commendable effort by everyone working together in unity to do the Lord's will in executing this conference.



The Lord came in, blessed us and met our needs in the seminars and preaching! The seminars of Minister Dorothy Negley, GCJ Missions Treasury and Minister Traci Coleman, Missions Director at Sword of the Spirit Church in Lansdown, Pa., gave us insight into our brain and they told us what it takes to survive in various social classes, while on the mission field. The Word of God was rich, coming from The Church of the Living God International, Inc. Missions Secretary, Minister Georgia Armstrong, GCJ Assistant Mission Director Minister Tabitha Hines and the GCJ Missions Director Elder Treani Thompson.

Please keep Elder Paula Smith, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Elect Ladies Director and Elder Augustus Russell, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Brotherhood Coordinator and their staff in prayer as they prepare for the upcoming Elect Ladies and Brotherhood Conferences, hosted by the Promise CLGI saints in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. on April 6-8. Please do your best to attend. As the Lord has met us at the other conferences, I believe he will meet us again and do exceedingly, abundantly above anything we can think or ask. Come expecting a blessing!

God bless all of you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction

More March stories

Category: Events

One churches hosted the GCJ Missions Conference and another church had its first revival.

- **From New Covenant:** The saints at New Covenant hosted the 2018 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Missions Conference. We had a great time in the Lord, from the beginning to end! Starting with seminars taught by Bishop Charles D. Smith giving us encouraging words and instructions, Minister Traci Coleman out of Lansdowne, PA, Minister Dorothy Negley on having a growth mindset, and Minister Tabitha Hines, Assistant Director, who taught a class on canvassing. Minister Hines provided engaging instructions and feedback by taking our Junior Missionaries in the field and canvassed the local area. Culminating our wonderful Missions seminars, our Jurisdictional Director Elder Treani Thompson taught a seminar on Leadership. Throughout the entire weekend, we had a wonderful time. Saturday evening, we heard good sound preaching by Minister Georgia Armstrong and Minister Tabitha Hines; wrapping us up on Sunday, Elder Treani Thompson encouraged us all to help pull the wagon.



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- **From Holy of Holies Tabernacle:** The saints at Holy of Holies Tabernacle had their first revival March 22-23. Elder Ruth Latham, Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Evangelistic Team Coordinator encouraged the saints on Thursday night that Jesus is a good shepherd. “The hireling careth not for the sheep, but kills, steals and destroys. Jesus is a good shepherd and always shows the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, longsuffering, faith, meekness, gentleness, goodness and temperance).” She added, “When we’re in the presence of Jesus, we never leave hurt, wounded, discouraged, brokenhearted, but healed, delivered and set free.” She culminated the revival on Friday night by telling the saints that Jesus, the good shepherd shall appear and take us to heaven. “The chief shepherd has gone away to prepare a place for us and he is coming back on a cloud to get us and we shall live with him forever. Be encouraged and do all you can do to purify yourself, so you can go back with him when he comes.”

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. (*Confirmed*)

May 10 (Thur) *Life in Christ*, Tallahassee, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

May 17-18 (Thur-Fri) *Emmanuel*, Parker, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

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> |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Apr 6-8 | GCJ Elect Ladies/Brotherhood Conf. | FWB, Fla. |
| May 4-6 | Elder Sewell/Sewell Pastoral Anniv. | Thonotosassa, Fla. |
| May 25-27 | <i>International Elect Ladies Conf.</i> | <i>Atlanta, Ga.</i> |
| Jun 4 | <i>CLGI Consecration Begins</i> | <i>N/A</i> |
| Jun 9-10 | Elder Harrison Pastoral Anniv. | Jacksonville, Fla. |
| Jun 27 | <i>CLGI Consecration Ends</i> | <i>N/A</i> |
| Jun 29- Jul 8 | <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. |