

July 2019

Churches convene for 2019 annual General Assembly



In the Photo: Saints participating in the military tribute on July 4 at the 2019 General Assembly.

MOBILE, ALA. – The Word of God encouraged the saints in churches and Bible studies from around the world to endure afflictions, fight the good fight of faith and dig another well at The Church of the Living God International, Inc.’s annual General Assembly.

The General Assembly, held July 2-7 at the Arthur R. Outlaw Convention Center, brought CLGI congregations to one meeting place so the Holy Ghost could lead in worship, seminars, fellowship, spiritual education and training. The GA also included a military tribute on July 4 to honor all those who have served their country.

This year’s theme was “Moving Forward” and the scripture was Genesis 26:22: “And he removed from thence and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, ‘For now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.’”

Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop and Pastor of Promise in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., encouraged the saints to be the kind of people that the Lord can count on. “When Isaac went into the land and they filled his wells, he remembered that he had told Abraham and God that they could count on him. When you dug a well, it meant that you owned the land. Isaac needed the land to build an altar to the Lord so he could bring Abraham’s God into the land,” said Bishop Smith.

All of the preachers at the general assembly gave powerful words to encourage the saints to move forward and stand until Jesus comes back on a cloud.

The Bishop's Corner

New Creature in Christ

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new” (II Corinthians 5:17).

Our body will make us not want to stay in God because we still have a lot of soul life left in us after salvation. We must die to our soul life and worldly tendencies. Only then, can the Holy Spirit come in and make us new creatures in Christ.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you” (II Peter 5:8-10).

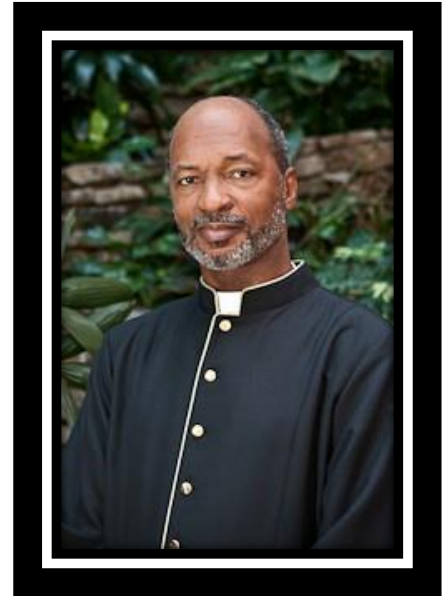
In times of trials and sufferings, instead of responding as the scriptures above says, most people withdraw from God and stop praying. We must learn to draw near to God and come to his throne of grace where we can obtain mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need (Hebrews 4:14-16). It is during these times, and in these prayers that we are able to lay aside every weight and sin and allow the Holy Spirit to perform a transformation in us.

God knew that there were things about Jacob that needed to change because he had great plans for him. On his way back home after leaving Laban, he had to face Esau, whom he had cheated out of the birthright. Jacob was afraid, because he did not know what to expect from Esau, so he prepared for the worse and prayed to God. Jacob changed during that prayer, and God changed his name from Jacob to Israel and he walked with a limp from that time forward. When God works in our lives and the Holy Spirit changes us, everybody will know it.

We can be encouraged in God or discouraged in doubt. If we want God to move for us, we must draw closer to God, trust in Him and obey Him.

God bless all of you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction



More July stories

Category: Events

One church had a family fun night; another enjoyed the praises of a youth group, while another church had saints that blessed during international conferences.

- **From New Covenant:** New Covenant's Family Fun Night. A celebration of Faith, Fellowship and Fun! The saints had a wonderful time fellowshiping at the Civil Axe Throwing Activity and ended the evening with bowling at the Bowlero Lanes.

Elder Bonita Russell: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).



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- **From Lily of the Valley:** Youth at Lily of the Valley sang unto the glory of God on Sunday, July 28, 2019. The youngest member of the church decided to join the group.

Sister Sereese Davis: "We have a new singer in training!"



- **From Christ the Redeemer:** The saints of Christ the Redeemer were truly a blessing during this year's International Youth and Young Adult and International Brotherhood Conferences, and the Military Tribute during the 2019 Church of the Living God International General Assembly. In the IYYAD Conference, Minister Kourtney Littlejohn exhorted the youth and young adults to keep moving forward in God because the Lord has made room for them, in that, He is calling them to be assistant pastors, jurisdictional youth directors, ministers, and exhorters. Minister Littlejohn also encouraged the saints through



her testimony about her military promotion. She said, "If we hold our peace and let the Lord fight our battles by not striving, but just digging another well, then the Lord will make a way for us." Additionally during the IYYAD Conference, The Anointed Voices of Worship, which includes Minister Shanika Brinkley, Exhorter Tyrone Brinkley, Minister Littlejohn, and Sister Gabby, blessed the saints with a song and Sister Gabby also sang a solo. During the Brotherhood Conference, Exhorter Brinkley led a song and did a saxophone



solo while Minister Lindsey Griffin directed the choir. During the military tribute, Exhorter Brinkley played the National Anthem on the saxophone and Minister Littlejohn assisted with the awards, decorations, and promotions for the ceremony.

Minister Kourtney Littlejohn: "The Lord is using and anointing Christ the Redeemer's saints!"

Category: Prayer Request

The saints need healings.

- **From the Editorial Staff:** The saints below need prayer. If you have a prayer request, please submit it to the monthly newsletter. We will run the testimonies of saints' answered prayers in the newsletter. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

Minister Xiomara Rivera (Healing)
 Elder T'Angela Rogers (Healing)
 Elder Kim Montgomery (Healing)

Minister George McFadden (Healing)
Minister Norma Taylor's Mother (Healing)
Minister Joseph Johnson (Healing)
Brother Joshua Henderson (Healing)
Elder Paulette Harrison (Healing)
Sister Carolyn Russell (Healing)
Minister Ricketa Hurdle (Healing)
Brother Anthony Burrell (Complete Healing)
Elder LaToya Smith's Father (Complete Healing)
Minister Chemiese Hall's Niece (Healing)
Minister Chemiese Hall's Sister (Comfort)
Sister Francesca Di Chiaro (Healing)
Sister Alyssa (Minister Desiree Sewell Walker's daughter) (Healing)
Minister Danni Garcia's Mother (Healing)
Bishop Royschel Richardson's Mother (Healing)
Minister Tina Martin's Father (Healing)
Sister T'Shaura Gay's Mother (Healing)
Minister Sirita Loiseau (Healing)
Minister Cory Cook and Family (Bereavement)
Minister Cynthia Evans (Bereavement)

Category: Testimonies

Saints received healings and blessings from the Lord.

- **From Minister Desiree Sewell:** Praise the Lord Saints! This is an update for everyone who has been praying for my daughter Alyssa. We truly appreciate all of the encouraging words and prayers and high thoughts. On July 29, Alyssa had her follow-up appointment and x-ray. The doctor informed us that her spine has stopped curving and now has a 25 percent decrease of curvature (so it is straightening up). The Lord is moving! The doctor wants her to return in six months for another check-up. This gives us more time to continue to pray and allow the Lord to heal her completely. Alyssa was very happy and it is very clear that the Lord is moving. She does have to wear her brace as often as possible, but we trust and believe that the Lord is working! Please continue to pray for her. Thank you all!
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Category: Upcoming Events

- **From the Evangelistic Team:** Below are the Evangelistic team members for the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction. Please pray that the Lord will use them mightily to speak words that are Spirit and life and confirm His Word by miracles, wonders and signs. If you need a revival at your church, please contact one of the evangelists listed below to check his or her availability.

1. Elder Ruth Latham
2. Elder Tom Calix
3. Minister Crystal Derico
4. Minister Shaundra Smith
5. Minister Sirita Loiseau
6. Minister Desiree Walker

2019 Revival Schedule

- 6-7 Aug (*Tue-Wed*) **Christ the Redeemer**, Gulfport, Miss. (*Confirmed*)
 8-9 Aug (*Thur-Fri*) **Promise**, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. (*Confirmed*)
 20-21 Aug (*Tue-Wed*) **Lily of the Valley**, Thonotosassa, Fla. (*Confirmed*)
 24-25 Oct (*Thur-Fri*) **Spirit of Christ**, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

- **From the Administrative Staff:** Saints please be mindful of these upcoming events.

The 2019 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sep 6-8	Elder Calix Pastoral Anniv.	FWB, Fla.
Sep 20-22	International Missions Conference	Columbus, Ohio
Oct 11-13	Holy of Holies Tabernacle Anniv.	Holiday, Fla.
Nov 22-24	Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Meeting	FWB, Fla.
Dec 7-8	Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniv.	Gulfport, Miss.

If you read this Gulf Coast Jurisdictional monthly newsletter and enjoy the articles, then please help us keep it going by submitting articles and photos so we can enjoy reading and seeing the activities at your church.

Thanks to all of you who faithfully support the newsletter with your monthly inputs.

*Very Respectively,
The Editorial Staff*