



<http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org>

September 2022 Newsletter

## Gulf Coast Jurisdiction has 2022 Biennial Missions Conference



**In the Photos:** 2022 Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Missions Conference choral singing group performing on Sunday morning. (Bottom) Bishop Charles D. Smith teaching a seminar on Saturday morning.

GULFPORT, MISS. – “Called, Chosen, and Appointed for the Work of Christ” was the theme of this year’s Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Biennial Missions Conference. Preachers and seminar teachers reminded the saints to study the word of God, pray, sanctify themselves and follow the Holy Spirit to do the will of God in winning souls for His kingdom.

The conference, held September 17-18, at Christ the Redeemer (CTR) Church in Gulfport, Miss., started with a morning seminar, business meeting working lunch, and afternoon seminar.

Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop, and Pastor of Promise Church, taught the first seminar and encouraged the saints, especially the pastors, to embrace change in order to be effective in today’s technological age. “Jesus was the greatest of all missionaries, and



when He came to the Jews, He changed everything except the original plan of God,” said Bishop Smith. “We must deny ourselves and let go of all distractions, move away from things that we have emotional attachments to, and change,” added Bishop Smith. “Then said Jesus to His disciples, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.’” (Matthew 16:24 NKJV)

(Continue on page 3)

## The Bishop's Corner

### *Change is necessary for church growth*

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” (Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV)

Jesus always did the will of God, (John 4:34, 6:38) which went against the traditions, customs, and laws of the Jews. Jesus came to preach to His own people first because they knew God, but they did not receive Him. (John 1:11) In order for us to do the will of God, we must be willing to change and let go of old traditions so that the church can grow. (Matthew 16:24-25) Below are changes we need to make.

Even as Jesus went to the Jews first, we also must go to former members of our church first, who have not found another church. We should seek them first because they know the doctrine, God, Jesus, and the Holy Ghost. However, there must be a change in us before those former members will come back to our church. We must do a restoration work with them and preach the gospel, rather than customs and traditions. (Colossians 2:8-12)

Often, it is we ourselves who hinder the Spirit. We must start church services on time so that visitors will come into a service that is beginning and not see us on our knees praying. We should not preach too long but stop when the Holy Spirit tells us. We must also realize that it is not how well we have church, but how effectively we have church. We should not be afraid to use an iPad for convenience and other versions of the Bible for getting a good understanding of the Word of God.

We must lose our church arrogance and have the mind of Christ. Jesus made Himself of no reputation, so we must humble ourselves as He did and not be high-minded. (Philippians 2:5-7) We must put on Christ and not church traditions. We must deny ourselves (Matthew 16:24-25) and have the mind to save and not condemn. (John 3:17)

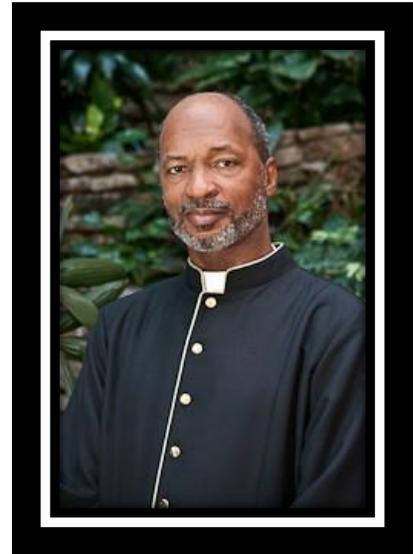
We must be fluent in the Word of God in revelation, and not just knowledge. (Ephesians 1:15-21; Romans 5:3-5) The Word of God must become life to us so when we're tried, and come through, the Word becomes revelation. When we're tried God expects us to use His Word to make it through any trial. We must be prayerful and diligent in the study of the Word of God. (2 Timothy 2:15) The Holy Spirit can't bring any Word back to us that we don't know, so He can only use us according to the amount of Word we know. (John 14:26) We must not pretend that we know the Word of God.

We must have the Spirit and power of God working with us when we preach. It is not enough to be filled with the Holy Spirit, but we must be in line with God and then the Spirit will work with us. We must be obedient and practice hearing and obeying the Holy Spirit's voice so He can lead and guide us. (John 16:13)

Finally, we must put ourselves in a position to be used by God by praying, increasing our faith and being a light in this dark world. (Jude 1:20-21; Matthew 5; Matthew 10:1-8, 40-42; 2 Corinthians 4:4)

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith  
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction



***For more of Bishop Smith's teachings, go to the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Website at <http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org> and click on "Encouragement" then "Teachings."***

## GCJ Missions Conference Continue from page 1:



The afternoon seminar, entitled “Missiology and Adaptive Leadership,” had two presenters, Reverend Howard M. Jenkins, Jr., Pastor of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Providence, RI, and his wife, Licentiate Teresa L. Jenkins. Reverend Jenkins introduced the saints to a new term “Missiology” the study of Christian missions and their methods and purposes. He challenged all in attendance to evaluate how we look at and do missions work. He used Luke 10:1-11 of Jesus sending the disciples out to preach the gospel and giving them instructions on what to do. Reverend Jenkins said, “The number one priority is to listen to God first before we do missions

work.” He said that we also must listen to people and meet their concerns and build relationships. “We need to do story telling, prayer, discernment, and listening,” said Reverend Jenkins.

Licentiate Jenkins shared the various organizations with which their church is partnering to meet the needs in their community and to win souls to Christ. These organizations include group homes, health and wellness, child care, and alzheimers. “It takes a village, all hands on deck” to do the missions work, said Licentiate Jenkins. “We must not forget how to stay in the lane God put us in, and everyone is needed to do whatever is necessary to do the work,” she said.



Reverend Jenkins concluded by saying, “We’ve got to get out there to do the work. We must rethink ministry and what the church needs to do. The church is changing, and we might miss it if we don’t listen to God.”



On Saturday night Minister Shaneika Brinkley, Youth Director for CTR Church, gave a testimony of how the Lord told her

how to start the bible study she does on her job. She read the scripture in Matthew 22:14 and said, “Many are called but few are chosen.” She said, “Follow the Spirit and get out of the Lord’s way, and let Him do a work in you.”

Elder Christopher Mastin, Pastor of Holy of Holies Tabernacle (HHT) in Holiday, Fla., gave a testimony of how God told him to start a church. He read 1 Corinthians



**In the Photos: (Top)** Reverend Howard M. Jenkins, Jr., **(Middle)** Minister Shaneika Brinkley and Licentiate Teresa L. Jenkins, **(Bottom)** Pastor Christopher Mastin and Assistant Pastor Kim Mastin.

## GCJ 2022 Missions Conference Continued:



9:22 and said, “We’re laborers together with God.” Pastor Mastin said, “We started teaching bible study in homeless shelters and halfway houses, and God added the increase. God told me to preach His word and love the people, and that’s what I am doing.” Minister Kim Mastin, Assistant Pastor of HHT, testified about all the organizations they are partnering with and the training they have received so they can effectively do the work of the ministry to people in their community.

Elder Deborah Sewell, Co-Pastor of Lily of the Valley Church in Thonotosassa, Fla., wrapped up the events of Saturday night by encouraging the saints that they are called, chosen, appointed, and anointed by God. She preached from 1 Peter 2:9-10, and told the ministers, “We must preach to convince sinners and to pull them out of the fire because we have the word of life.”

Elder Treani Thompson, Gulf Coast Jurisdiction, Missions Director, wrapped up the preaching at the conference on Sunday morning, encouraging the missionaries they are chosen and hand-picked by God to be preachers of the gospel. She preached from 1 Peter 2:9-10 and said, “God chose you in your time and in your generation to be a royal priesthood and a holy nation.” Elder Thompson told the saints, “It’s okay to be different because we’re in the army of the Lord.”

Elder Thompson resigned her position as GCJ Missions Director, so the local missionary directors from each church gave words of appreciation and encouragement. They also presented her with a certificate and a gift.

Bishop Smith closed the conference by encouraging the saints to adapt change, stay in unity and be obedient so the jurisdiction can go forward and do the work of the ministry. He also thanked everyone for coming and gave special thanks to the saints of Christ the Redeemer Church for hosting the conference.



**In the Photos: (Top)** Elder Deborah Sewell **(Middle)** Elder Treani Thompson preaching at the GCJ Missions Conference. **(Bottom)** Elder Treani Thompson and Minister Tracy-Ann West and Elder Paula Smith.



**GCJ 2022 Missions Conference Photos Continued:**



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the 2022 GCJ Missions Conference at Christ the Redeemer Church in Gulfport, MS.

**GCIJ 2022 Missions Conference Photos Continued:**



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**GCJ 2022 Missions Conference Photos Continued:**



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## More September stories

### Category: Events

*During the month of September, one church hosted a women's conference.*



**In the Photo:** Saints enjoying the women's conference.

- **From Prince of Peace:** Prince of Peace Church hosted its "Women of Power and Influence" Conference on Saturday, September 24, in Jacksonville, Fla. Elder Valerie Thomas, Perfecting Saints Church, and Minister Nova Lewis, Founder of Shekinah Woman Enrichment Ministry, were the speakers.

Elder Thomas spoke about Deborah, a judge in Israel (Judges 4:4-24), and who was a woman of power and influence. "Deborah was the only female judge in Israel, in a male-dominated culture.

## Prince of Peace Women's Conference Continued:

She had many titles; prophetess, wife, worshipper, intercessors, and mother, which made her a woman of power and influence,” said Elder Thomas. “She was so powerful that she had great influence on the military leader Barak, who would not go into battle without her going with him.”

Minister Lewis encouraged the women to be a woman of power and influence as Queen Esther, who when faced with death said, “If I perish, I perish.” (Esther 4-5) Minister Lewis said that Esther fasted and prayed, in preparation of going before the king to partition for her life and the life of her people. In conclusion, Minister Lewis encouraged the women to be virtuous and care for their household. (Proverbs 31:10, 25-29)

Elder Thompson and Minister Lewis both blessed the ladies in attendance. They were all encouraged and had a great time of fun, food, and fellowship.

*Elder Paulette Harrison:* “I am happy that the Lord allowed the women to come together and encourage one another.”



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the women's conference at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, Fla.

**Prince of Peace Women's Conference Photos Continued:**



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the women's conference at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, Fla.

**Prince of Peace Women's Conference Photos Continued:**



**In the Photos:** Saints enjoying the women's conference at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, Fla.

## Prince of Peace Women's Conference Photos Continued:



In the Photos: Saints enjoying the women's conference at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, Fla.

### Category: Prayer Request

*The saints need healing and comfort.*

- **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 avails much" (James 5:16b NKJV).

Elder T'Angela Rogers (Healing)  
Elder Paulette Harrison (Complete Healing)  
Minister Sirita Loiseau (Healing)

Minister India Rogers (Healing)  
Elder Paula Smith (Complete Healing)  
Elder Deborah Sewell (Healing)  
Minister Eartha Howard (Healing)  
Elder Bonita Russell (Healing)  
Sister Barbara Cooper (Healing)  
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn (Healing)  
Elder Jacqueline Terrell (Healing)  
Elder Angela Jenkins (Healing)  
Sister Nancy Torres (Healing)  
Sister Eleanor Rogers' Mother (Ms. Rosa Welcome) (Healing)  
Elder T'Angela Rogers' Mother and Stepfather (Healing)  
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn's Sister (Veronika) (Healing)  
Elder Treani Thompson (Healing)  
Elder Lakesha Sewell (Healing)  
Brother David Hawkins (Healing)

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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 her availability.

1. Elder Ruth Latham
  2. Minister Crystal Derico
  3. Minister Shaundra Smith
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- **From the Administrative Staff:** Saints please be mindful of these upcoming events.

### **The 2022 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Oct 21-23	European Jurisdictional Conf.	Rodenbach, Germany
<b>Nov 18-20</b>	<b>Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Conf.</b>	<b>FWB, FL</b>
<b>Dec 3-4</b>	<b>Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniv.</b>	<b>Gulfport, MS</b>

# Gulf Coast JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

November 18-20, 2022

**Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace**  
Ephesians 4:3; John 17:26

**Promise CLGI**  
Jurisdictional Headquarters  
716 Edge Street  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

#### Hotel

Hampton Inn & Suites Mary Esther-Fort Walton Beach  
301 Hollywood Blvd.  
Mary Esther, FL 32569  
(850-581-7000)  
(Queen- \$110; King- \$120 + tax)  
Group Code: C-CLG  
Booking Link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/churchofthelivinggod2022/>  
The last day to book a room under this group code is Nov 11, 2022.

For more information about the conference email:  
[gulfcoast.jurisdiction@gmail.com](mailto:gulfcoast.jurisdiction@gmail.com)

## Schedule

### Friday, November 18

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm GCJ Elders and Pastors Meeting

6:30 pm Prayer

7:00 pm Evening Service

Registration: Following Service (Pre-registration only)

### Saturday, November 19

8:00 am - 9:45 am GCJ Business Meeting

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Seminars

12:00 pm - 1:45 pm Lunch

2:00 pm - 3:50 pm Seminars

4:00 pm Music Workshop

6:30 pm Prayer

7:00 pm Evening Service

Registration: Following Service (On-site)

### Sunday, November 20

10:00 am Morning Service (Baptism)

(Schedule subject to change.)

CHRIST THE REDEEMER'S  
**PASTORAL**  
*22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary*



**GUEST SPEAKERS**



**ELDER JOHN WILLIAMS**  
Founder & President of  
Book of Acts Nation



**BISHOP CHARLES SMITH**  
Gulfcoast Jurisdictional  
Bishop of The Church of  
the Living God Int'l



**MINISTER Dr. TANOA WILLIAMS**  
Co-Founder & Vice  
President of Book of Acts  
Nation

<p><b>DECEMBER 3, 2022</b> 2:00PM BANQUET</p>	<p><b>DECEMBER 4, 2022</b> 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>	<p><b>DECEMBER 3-4, 2022</b> CHRIST THE REDEEMER 318 COMMERCE STREET GULFPORT, MS 39507</p>
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For more information please contact Deacon Tony Berrian (228) 213-0862

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*If you read this Gulf Coast Jurisdictional monthly newsletter and enjoy the articles, please help us keep it going by submitting articles and photos to [eldruthlath@gmail.com](mailto:eldruthlath@gmail.com) 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*

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