

**Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood** is a native of Lonoke, Arkansas and is the son of the late Lewis Charles and Lillie Pearl Gatewood. After hearing an anointed message preached by his older brother, he accepted Christ into his life and made a life-long commitment to God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Dr. Gatewood attended George Washington Carver High School and later graduated from Lonoke High School where he was selected as one of Arkansas' Outstanding Teenagers of America in 1972 and was voted Best All Around in his senior class. He attended the University of Central Arkansas and later received a Bachelor's Degree from the University of the State of New Dr. Gatewood matriculated at Baylor York. University's Truett Theological Seminary receiving a Master of Divinity degree graduating Magna Cum Laude. He culminated his formal education at Baylor University with the degree of Doctor of Ministry in Theology with a focus in Spiritual Formation. He is a member of the Theta Alpha Kappa National Honors Society for Religious Studies.

Dr. Gatewood served in the United States Army retiring after twenty-six years of service. During those years, he ministered faithfully to God's people as an Evangelist before accepting his call as Senior Pastor of Bethesda Fellowship Ministries where he has served as Pastor for the past 25 years.

Dr. Gatewood has always displayed an apostolic gift. He established a Gospel service at the historic Chapel of the Centurion in Hampton, Virginia, and established a gospel study group at the Military Chapel in Newport News, Virginia. He served as an area Evangelist in the Republic of South Korea and built a thriving worship community among military service members serving in the country of Bosnia. In 1998, he founded Bethesda Fellowship Ministries in Copperas Cove, Texas. In fulfilling his Vision 2010 project, a 10,000 square feet worship and educational facility in Copperas Cove was built which serves as the headquarters for Bethesda Fellowship Ministries, Gatewood Theological Institute and Seminary, and Concord Fellowship of Churches International.

As Bishop of Concord, Dr. Gatewood serves as the spiritual leader and mentor for members that currently span nine states and internationally the countries of Africa and Haiti, with the goal of planning and organizing new church missions, establishing Dean



and developmental training models for ministry leaders, and leading the cooperative efforts of the organization towards ministry excellence.

Along with serving as Center Director of Gatewood Theological Institute and Seminary, Dr. Gatewood serves as Professor of Theology, Church History, Biblical Languages, and Biblical Studies.

In his community, Dr. Gatewood has served as a Planning and Zoning Commissioner and a City Council Member serving one term as the city's Mayor Pro Tem. He has served as the President of the Copperas Cove Ministerial Alliance and is a member of the Citizens Police Academy. He is a former Board Member of the Copperas Cove Independent School District Foundation and served three terms as the Ninth District Chaplain of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., He is married to Kim Gatewood and has four daughters and four grandchildren.





# Welcome to our Holy Convocation!

#### Praise the Lord God of Heaven!

Welcome delegates and members of Concord Fellowship of Churches International (CFCI). Once again, we're excited about the opportunity to worship with you and conduct the annual business of CFCI. I welcome all new members/delegates and all first-time attendees. I pray that this meeting will be a blessing to you and that you will glean something useful that can be taken back to your home churches.

This year our focus is "Elevating Our Standards". If all of us do an honest assessment, there's no one present who can say that they've reached the pinnacle of their spiritual journey. We strive for holiness and righteousness every day. Therefore, elevating our standards is a requirement to move and advance in discipleship, spiritual education, growing our churches, and serving our communities. Achieving and maintaining established standards is good, however, our goal must be to elevate and become better once the standard is achieved.

We're ever so grateful for Bishop Gwendolyn Biggers our Southeast and International Regional Bishop and Bishop Larry Johnson our Southwest Regional Bishop. Both of these anointed leaders have your best interest at heart. Special thanks to our Regional, State, and District leaders, and of course every Pastor and Leader of our member organizations. You are the backbone of CFCI. Thank you for being visionary, committed, and involved. My challenge to each of you is to "Elevate your Standards" in your called assignment. Be better today than you were yesterday.

Finally, heartfelt gratitude is extended to our Women's Leader Lady Cynthia Mosley and Lady Kim Gatewood and all the women who work with them. God has blessed us with these "Women of God" who truly have our best interest at heart and work tirelessly on our behalf. I encourage leaders at every level to consult with them and glean from their wisdom. And to the men who form the nerve center of our international organization; Administrative Assistant for Operations Bishop Tony Major, and Executive Administrative Assistant Elder Darrin Turley. The efforts of these men cannot be measured, and no price can be placed upon the work they do on our behalf. On behalf of CFCI, I offer my personal thanks to you for all you do.

As I say each year, allow these next four days to serve as a ministerial retreat and spiritual revival. This is an annual time to get away from the hustle and bustle of ministry and allow yourselves to receive ministering; a time when you as servants have an opportunity to relax, heal, fellowship, be fed, and enjoy an environment of learning while worshipping the Lord Jesus Christ.

God bless you and welcome to Copperas Cove, Texas! **Bishop Gatewood** 

# Seminar Schedule

#### WOMEN'S DAY - Thursday Schedule (July 20, 2023)

#### Theme: L.I.F.T.

#### Level up in Intercession, Faith and Transformative Thinking.

- 9:00 12:00 On Site Registration
- 12:00 12:15 Devotional Worship
- 12:15 12:25 Welcome of Delegates .... Lady Cynthia Mosley & Lady Kim Gatewood
- 12:25 1:40 Lunch
  - 1:40 4:25 Women Seminars
- 4:25 4:30 Closing Prayer
- 4:30 7:00 Administrative Time

#### **Primary Sessions:**

- 1:40 2:35 Session I Level up your gift of Helps ----- Lady Linda Majors
- 2:35 3:30 Session II Transform your energy level ---- Osjah Brown
- 3:30 4:25 Session III Music Workshop ----- Minister of Music Kirsten Gatewood

#### **Concurrent Sessions:**

- 12:00 4:00pm Youth Skating Killeen 254 Kascade (see schedule below)
- 4:00 5:30 Young Adult Meet and Greet & Fellowship Dinner (Location) (TBD)

#### 7:00 – Thursday Evening Worship Service – Speaker: Elder Cynthia Mosley

#### Friday Schedule (July 21, 2023)

- 8:30 8:50 Prayer
- 9:00 9:30 Worship and Administrative Guidance Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood
- 9:30 10:30 Overview Elevating Our Standards Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood
- 10:30 -11:30 Session I (Part 1) Superintendent (Dr.) J.L. Mosley
- 11:30 1:00 LUNCH
- 1:00 1:15 Devotion
- 1:15 2:15 Session I (Part 2) Superintendent (Dr.) J.L. Mosley
- 2:15- 3:15 Session II (Part 1) Bishop (Dr.) Larry Johnson
- 3:15 4:15 Session II (Part 2) Bishop (Dr.) Larry Johnson

**Session I:** Elevating Standards as Disciples in a Postmodern World. (Part 1&2)

**Session II:** The Church Elevating Standards in the 21st Century (Part 1&2)

#### **Concurrent Sessions:**

- $10: 30-4: 15-Adjutant's \ Academy \ Chief \ Adjutant \ Elder \ Thomas \ Reaves$
- 10:30 4:15 Young Adults (Schedule below) Minister Kenneth & Ranyel Trent
- 8:00 4:00 Youth Activities (Camp Triumph) Lady Brenda McDonald

# Seminar Schedule

#### Saturday Schedule (Saturday July 22, 2023)



- 8:30 Prayer
- 8:50 Morning Devotion/Administrative Guidance
- 9:00 9:30 Morning Worship
- 9:30 11:30 Interactive Leadership Strategies (2hr) Vernon Shazier
- 11:30 1:00 Lunch (Meals will be provided by Jason's Deli)
- 1:00 3:00 Young Adult Production
- 3:00 7:00 Free Time
- 6:00 7:00 Regional Bishops Time with Regions
- 6:00 7:00 Pastor Spouses

#### **Primary Sessions**

9:30 - 11:30 - Interactive Leadership Strategies - Pastor Vernon Shazier

#### **Concurrent Sessions:**

- 9:30 11:30 Adjutant's Academy Chief Adjutant Elder Thomas Reaves
- 9:30 11:30 Ordination Board Executive Administrative Assistant Elder Darrin Turley
- 9:30 11:30 Young Adults (Schedule below) Minister Kenneth & Ranyel Trent
- 8:00 11:00 Youth Activities (Gethsemane Prayer Chapel) Lady Brenda McDonald

7:00 P.M. - Saturday Evening Worship "Presiding Bishop's Appreciation" Speaker: Pastor Vernon Shazier

# Sunday Official Day Schedule (July 23, 2023) (See Enclosed Program)

- 9:30 10:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 1:30 Worship, Ordination and Episcopal Appointments

# IDENTIFICATION BADGES ARE REQUIRED FOR SEMINAR SESSIONS ALL WORRSHIP SERVICES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Concord Fellowship of Churches International

# Youth Schedule

# **CFCI 2023 Holy Convocation: "Elevate Your Standards"**

# iamworthy...





8:00 - 4:00 - Meet on the campus of Camp Triumph

8:00 – 8:30 - Meet and Greet/ Safety Brief - Elder Brenda McDonald

9:00 - 9:45 - Classes and Activities

9:45 -10:00 - Break

10:00 –10:45 - Classes and Activities Resume

10:45 –11:00 - Break

11:00 –12:00 - Lunch

12:00 – 4:00 - Play Time (Go carts, swimming pool, splash pad, volleyball, basketball)

4:00 – 4:15 - Parent Pick-up

#### Saturday July 22, 2023

8:00 – 11:00 – Meet at Gethsemane prayer chapel

8:00 – 8:30 – Prayer and Accountability

8:30 - 9:30 - Movie

9:30 - 9:45 - Break

9:45 – 10:15 – Movie Discussion

10:15 - 10:30 - Break

10:30 – 11:30 – Final Remarks and Survey

12:00 - LUNCH

#### IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING LUNCH MOVE TO CFCI MAIN CAMPUS FOR CONCERT.

Free Time Following the Concert

7:00PM - Evening Worship. (Children's Church in the Fellowship Hall if there is overflow).

#### Sunday July 23, 2023 Official Day Services

10:00 – Morning Bible Study

11:00 – 1:30 – Worship Service

Concord Fellowship of Churches International



# Young Adult Schedule

## CFCI 2023 CONFERENCE YOUNG ADULT ACTIVITIES

Theme: **ELEVATING STANDARDS** 



#### **Friday July 21, 2023**

9:00 – 9:30 – Worship and administrative direction

9:30 – 10:30 - Elevating Standards Overview – Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood

10:30 – 11:30 – Panel discussion – (See Topics Below).

11:30 – 12:30 - Discussion - Style vs Standard: Exploring Worship Standards versus Styles.

.12:20 - 1:00 - Lunch

1:00 – 4:00 – Free Time at Camp Triumph

7:00 - Worship Service

#### Saturday July 22, 2023

9:00 - 9:30 - Devotion

9:30 – 10:20 – Position vs Reflection – Exploring the worshippers Position verses Reflection.

10:30 – 11:20 - Righteous vs Relevant – Uncovering responsibilities of Kingdom citizenship as it relates to personal intentional transformation and their Kingdom authority.

11:20 - 1:00 - Lunch

1:00 – 3:25 – Do It For the Kingdom Concert

7:00 - Worship Service

#### **Sunday July 23, 2023**

9:30 – 11:00 – Morning Bible Study

11:00 - 1:30 - Worship Service

#### **Friday Rise Up Panel Discussion Topics**

Moderators: Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood; Dr. Ranyel Trent

Participants: Pastor Orlando Sutton, Lady Pat Johnson, Minister Kenneth Trent, Minister Felix

Duckworth Jr.

#### **Topics:**

Use of Gender Identity Pronouns in the Church

Christians and Alcohol

Politics from the Pulpit

Types of Worship Music

Woke Christians: Is Pro-Blackness Christ like

## Presiding Bishop and Administrative Assistants



The Seal of Concord Fellowship of Churches International



Presiding Bishop
Dr. R. Ray Gatewood
And
Elect Lady Kim Gatewood



The Seal of the Presiding Bishop



Administrative Assistant for Operations Pastor Tony J. Majors And Lady Linda Majors



Executive Administrative Assistant
Elder Darrin Turley
And
Lady Delia Turley



Lady Cynthia Mosley Holy Hill COGIC Banks, AR

# Thursday Evening Worship "Women's Day Services" July 20, 2023 - 7:00 PM

#### **Mistress of Ceremony**

The Right Reverend Bishop (Dr.) Gwendolyn Biggers His Glorious Praise Spring Lake, NC

#### The Prayer of Invocation and Consecration

Tammie Rhodes Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Copperas Cove, TX



Old Testament

Lady Latonya Sago Light of Hope Fellowship Ministries Killeen, TX

**New Testament** 

Takella Gatewood-Reaves Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Copperas Cove, TX

#### The Sacrifice of Praise and Worship

Minister Kirsten Gatewood Minister of Music, Concord Fellowship of Churches International

Welcome and Greeting

Lady Kim Gatewood Executive Pastor, Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Copperas Cove, TX

#### The Sacrifice of Offering

**Inspirational Moment** 

Lady Brenda McDonald Faith Emanuel Empowerment Temple Killeen, TX

Introduction of Speaker

Lady Kim Gatewood Executive Pastor, Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Copperas Cove, TX

The Ministry of Music

CFCI Women Voices of Praise

The Word of God

Lady Cynthia Mosley Holy Hill Church of God In Christ CFCI International Women's Leader Banks, AR

Call to Prayer

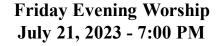
Lady Lavonica Davis Hot Springs, AR

Recognitions and Presentations Remarks and Benediction Lady Gatewood, Lady Shazier, Lady Majors Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood Presiding Bishop



Bishop Shelton C. Rhodes Prelate, TX Southwest 2<sup>nd</sup> Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, COGIC San Antonio, TX

Old Testament



#### **Mistress of Ceremony**

Lady Melinda Berrien Winter Haven Worship Center Winter Haven, FL

#### The Prayer of Invocation and Consecration

Chaplain Donnell Nelson City Temple of Baltimore (Baptist) Baltimore, MD



Elder Armond Biggers His Glorious Praise Spring Lake, NC

Chaplain Emily Hughes Mount Zion Baptist Church Madison, WI

New Testament

#### The Sacrifice of Praise and Worship

Minister Kirsten Gatewood Minister of Music, Concord Fellowship of Churches International

Welcome and Greeting

Lady Kim Gatewood Executive Pastor, Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Copperas Cove, TX

#### The Sacrifice of Offerings

Introduction of Speaker

The Most Reverend Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood Presiding Bishop, Concord Fellowship of Churches International Copperas Cove, TX

The Ministry of Music

Minister Kirsten Gatewood Concord Fellowship of Churches International Minister of Music

The Word of God

The Right Reverend Bishop Shelton C. Rhodes Prelate, Texas Southwest 2nd Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction COGIC San Antonio, TX

#### Call to Prayer

Remarks and Benediction

The Most Reverend Bishop (Dr.) R. Ray Gatewood Presiding Bishop, Concord Fellowship of Churches International Copperas Cove, TX

All Services are Open to the Public.



Reverend Vernon Shazier River of Life Fellowship Ministries Ft. Pierce, FL

Old Testament

#### Saturday Worship July 22, 2023 - 7:00 PM

# "Bishop Appreciation Day" Master of Ceremony

The Right Reverend Bishop (Dr.) Larry Johnson Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Bald Knob, AR Prelate, Southwest Region



Elder Joe Washington Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Copperas Cove, TX

Pastor Byron Sago Light of Hope Fellowship Ministries

Killeen, TX

New Testament The Sacrifice of Praise and Worship

Pastor Mark C. Lee Christian Temple of Restoration Killeen, TX

Minister Kirsten Gatewood

Minister of Music Concord Fellowship of Churches International

Welcome and Greeting

Lady Kim Gatewood Executive Pastor, Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Copperas Cove, TX

#### The Sacrifice of Offerings

(Proceeds are designated for the Bishop's Appreciation)
The Right Reverend Bishop Tony Majors
CFCI Administrative Assistant for Operations

Introduction of Speaker

Lady Shawn Shazier River of Life Fellowship Ministries Fort Pierce, FL

The Ministry of Music

The Ministry of Music Minister Kirsten Gatewood CFCI Minister of Music

The Word of God

Pastor Vernon Shazier River of Life Fellowship Ministries CFCI International Leadership Advisor Fort Pierce, FL

Call To Prayer

Remarks and Benediction

The Most Reverend Dr. R. Ray Gatewood Presiding Bishop, Concord Fellowship of Churches



Dr. R. Ray Gatewood Presiding Bishop

Concord Fellowship of Churches International Presiding Bishop Senior Pastor Bethesda Fellowship Copperas Cove, Texas

**Old Testament** 

**New Testament** 

The Ministry of Music

**Welcome and Greeting** 

**Introduction of the Speaker Grandison** 

The Ministry of Music

The Word of God

Sunday Worship July 23, 2023 - 11:00 AM

Master of Ceremony
Elder Darrin P. Turley, Presiding
Executive Administrative Assistant
Concord Fellowship of Churches International

The Sacrifice of Praise and Worship Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Music Team

The Prayer of Invocation and Consecration
Pastor Norma Payne
District Coordinator
Central Texas District
Killeen, TX



District Coordinator Felix Duckworth Central Arkansas District Jacksonville, AR

District Coordinator Orlando Sutton San Antonio, District San Antonio, TX

Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Music Team

Lady Kim Gatewood Executive Pastor, Bethesda Fellowship Ministry Copperas Cove, TX

The Sacrifice of Tithes and Offerings

**Episcopal Appointments and Recognitions** 

Willie and Dionne Representing the Laity

Bethesda Fellowship Ministries Music Team

The Most Reverend Dr. R. Ray Gatewood
The Presiding Bishop

Call to Repentance and Prayer

The License and Ordination Service

Remarks and Benediction

#### The Ordination Service

**Ordination Chairperson:** Bishop, I present to you (candidate's name) to be ordained as an Elder/Deacon within Concord Fellowship of Churches International.

(Candidate, spouse and family come forward as name s are read)

**Scripture:** Mark 16:15-16; Ephesians 4:11-13

**Bishop:** Saints of God, we bring before you and God these/this minister to be ordained to the Christian ministry. After due examination and recommendations by the proper authorities, we present this/these individuals before you and God.

#### **Prayer:**

**The Charge:** Members, saints, and friends: ordination is a serious act validated in scripture and recognized throughout the entirety of Christianity. It is not to be entered into lightly. This act of God ordains a person to serve as a messenger and ambassador of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are here to send you forward on behalf of God, as a watchman and a steward, to preach, teach, admonish, feed the flock of God, and to lead them into spiritual pastures. Ordinate(s), I charge you before God and these witnesses that you preach the Word of God and commit yourself to this charge and to Christ. We pray that you as a minster of Jesus Christ, will keep as a trust this ministry which has been delivered to us, showing yourself as an example in every good work before the people.

**Bishop:** Do you believe in your heart that you are truly called of God to preach the Gospel or to serve as a deacon in the ministry of service?

**Minister:** I do believe.

**Bishop:** Do you believe the Bible to be the only inspired Word of God and that it is the final authority for all of our faith and practice?

**Minister:** I do believe.

**Bishop:** Are you willing to preach and teach the Word of God and uphold biblical doctrine, and perform the ordinances of the church in your assigned capacity?

**Minister:** I will by the help of God.

**Bishop:** Will you be diligent in prayer and fasting, in reading and doing what is contained in the Bible, and to study to show yourself approved a workman that need not be ashamed?

**Minister:** I will, the Lord being my help.

## The Ordination Service (cont.)

**Bishop:** Will you be obedient to those who have rule over you, follow the doctrines and bylaws of Concord Fellowship of Churches International, it's administration and its judicial governing laws?

**Minister:** I will, so help me God.

(Minister shall kneel before the altar)

(Pastor and Elders shall perform the laying on of hands, and the Minister shall receive the communion).

**Bishop:** (*Presenting the bible...*) Take this the Word of God. It is your authority from God. Preach it live it, and administer its Holy Ordinances to the saints in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Saints and Friends, we have this day performed an apostolic duty of ordaining these/this minister to the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us pray that they remain faithful ministers and bring forth fruits of righteousness and God's people to the heavenly prize and life everlasting through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.



#### The License Service

**Bishop:** Almighty God, whose Word of truth, in the keeping of which is eternal life, we thank you for this person/theses people whom this day we set aside in your name as a minister of the Gospel. Prepare them in body, mind, and spirit for this task, and keep them in your grace, that they may increase and bless your church through their labors, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Scripture Reading:** For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him or whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without preacher? And how shall they preach, except they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the Gospel. For Esaias said, "Lord who has believed our report? So then faith comes by hearing, and by hearing the Word of God." Roman 10:13-17.

**The Charge** (candidate(s) stand): (Name) \_\_\_\_\_\_, In so far as you know in your heart, do you believe that you have received the Divine call to the Gospel ministry?

Candidate: "I do."

**Bishop:** Do you believe that scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the inspired Word of God, that the Bible is the final source for all of our faith and practice, and that the Gospel of Christ is the power of God that leads to salvation to everyone who believes?

Candidate: "I do believe"

**Bishop:** Then in the Name of Jesus Christ and by the authority which Christ has given His church, you are hereby licensed to preach the Gospel wherever God in God's wisdom calls you. We send you forward in the name of Christ, and may the blessing of the Father rest upon you. May Christ anoint you, and the Holy Spirit empower you. Amen

**Presentation of the Bible:** Take now this Bible. Be diligent to study this Word and show yourself approve to God, a workman who need not be ashamed. Read this Word, study this Word, rightly divide it and be ready to preach the Gospel of the grace of God. Be an example of the faith and use this book for all of your faith and practice, and may the rich mercies of God and all of God's promises be with your and safeguard you until the Lords' glorious appearing when you shall give an account of your stewardship of the Gospel.

(Minister shall kneel before the altar. Pastor and Elders shall perform the laying on of hands)

**Bishop:** Almighty God, we thank you for this person whom this day we have set aside in your name as carrier of the Gospel. Send your grace upon them that they may increase so that the Word may be effectively delivered through them. In the name of Christ our Lord, Amen

# Concord Fellowship Of Churches International Inc.



#### WHY JOIN CFCI?

The primary purpose of Concord is to function as a central point of Christian fellowship for churches or Christian Organizations; to be a place where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached and taught; to provide a setting for mutual fellowship and support between churches; provide a central responsible source for ordaining ministers; to establish and build churches; to sponsor missionary activities; to provide counsel, guidance and mentoring for churches and ministers within the Fellowship; to provide an avenue for church training; and to host an annual gathering of the Fellowship of Churches for the purpose of worship and to conduct the business of the Fellowship. The mission of Concord is developed through four primary directives:

- 1. A group of churches and Christian organizations, or establishing churches to become partners in the ministry effort. By partnering with Concord, each church maintains its own set of values, traditions, and practices.
- 2. Establishing a Christian Education Ministry for people of all ages through a Department of Education, and the training of Christian workers for participation in fulfilling our purpose.
- 3. Focus on Missions and Evangelism that is designed to seek and meet the needs of all people. Concord will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, or physical disability; however, Concord reserves the right to make judgment of an interested group's religious practices in order to ensure that it is a Christian congregation.
- 4. Establishing a centralized system of management for the purpose of providing assistance; ordinations; establishing new church organizations; discipline; cooperative endeavors; and acting as a "covering" for ministries and organizations who have none.