



Elder Christiana M. Russell has been a member of the Church of the Living God International since she was 8 years old. She was saved and filled at a very young age and received her calling into the Ministry at the tender age of 13. She served as a local youth minister and secretary for the Pool of Bethesda Adult Choir and in 1995 was appointed the Secretary/Treasurer of the International Youth & Young Adult Department. In 1997 and she was ordained as one of the youngest Elders in the Church of the Living God. As a young woman Elder Russell's many talents earned her the reputation as a dynamic speaker and leader for other young teens in not only in her church but also in the community. Elder Russell's charity was not only evident in the church but also in her community where she volunteered at several area hospitals, Special Olympics of Ohio, and was a member of the Ohio Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Elder Russell has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe and Africa encouraging youth and young adults to reach their goals and aspire to do great things both in life and in the Lord.

Elder Christy attended The Ohio State University where she earned a BA in Psychology, followed by a BS in Criminology from Georgia State University. She returned to The Ohio State University for graduate school receiving her Master's in Social Work and her Doctorate in Human Development and Family Studies with a concentration in educational risk and marginalized youth populations in 2006.

Currently, Dr. Russell resides in Auburn, AL where she heads the K-12 Initiatives for Auburn University Outreach Department and serves on many boards and committees throughout the state of Alabama for educational initiatives and youth in poor communities. Dr. Russell is the Assistant Pastor of Auburn Opelika Worship Center in Auburn, AL and also the Assistant Director of the International Youth and Young Adult Department of the Church of the Living God International. Dr. Russell is happily married to Dr. Eric Russell and the mother of 2 beautiful little girls – Heaven and Faith.