



## THE WEST INDIAN SOCIAL CLUB OF HARTFORD, INC.

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### HURRICANE MELISSA NATIONAL DAYS OF PRAYER Thank You to Friends, Supporters, and Community Partners

Thank you to our faith leaders, elected officials, volunteers, donors, cultural organizations, and residents who united in prayer, reflection, and solidarity. Your compassion and willingness to stand with those affected by this catastrophic disaster demonstrate the true meaning of community.

The outreach efforts undertaken to support the Government of Jamaica's call to churches, community partners, and international networks in observance of the National Days of Prayer on November 15–16, 2025.

In response to the urgency and importance of this initiative, our outreach team, Rev. Horace Johnson, Claudette Graham, and Errol A. Smith, coordinated an extensive communication effort to engage churches, community organizations, radio networks, civic leaders, and international partners. Despite the short notice, we were successful in raising significant awareness both locally and abroad.

Below is a consolidated list of the churches, organizations, and individuals contacted to publicize and support the National Days of Prayer:

#### **Entities and Persons Contacted: Local Churches, Community Leaders & Organizations**

- **Dr. Damifo**, Principal, Seventh-day Adventist School, Woodland Street, Hartford, CT  
Distributed the call to prayer among SDA churches.
- **Rev. Egan Bovelle**, North United Methodist Church served as liaison for contacting eight United Methodist Churches in Greater Hartford, including Bloomfield Methodist, North United Methodist, Greater Hartford Korean United Methodist, West Hartford United Methodist, and others.
- **Trinity Pentecostal Church**
- **New Testament Church of God**
- **Faith Congregational Church**
- Rev. Johnson facilitated additional outreach to **Trinity Episcopal Church** as well as **St. Monica & St. Martin Episcopal Church**.
- **Dr. Suzette DeBetham-Brown**, liaison to three major faith-based networks representing more than 100 churches in the region:
  - New England Churches of God
  - Southern New England Churches of God
  - Faith-Based Initiative

- **Ms. Elorie Stevens** provided live announcements on her radio broadcasts Drip (formerly BusyRadio).
- **Mr. Michael Chambers**, Cricket Hall of Fame, Hartford, CT
- **Mr. David Small**, Northside Church of Christ, Hartford, CT
- **Ms. Judith Williams**, St. Justin Catholic Church, Hartford, CT
- **Mr. Anthony Tembara**, President, Swahili Community Center, Hartford, CT
- **State Representative Bobby Gibson**
- **Former State Representative Edwin Vargas**
- **Mayor Arunan Arulampalam**, City of Hartford

## International Partners

- **Mr. Rudy Page**, London, England  
Distributed the flyer through email networks and promoted the event on Fresh FM London radio.
- **Mr. Deval Mocktan**, Church of Christ, Nepal
- **Minister Marcus Watkins**, Atlanta Church of Christ
- **Mr. Emmanuel Agayman**, African Churches Network, Massachusetts
- **Mr. Lorenzo Harewood**, Consul General of Barbados.

## General Community Outreach

- Numerous friends, family members, and personal contacts who further shared the announcement within their networks.

## Acknowledgment

Special appreciation is extended to **Rev. Horace Johnson, Claudette Graham, and Errol A. Smith** whose leadership, dedication, and tireless efforts were instrumental in reaching a wide network of churches and organizations within a very limited timeframe. Their teamwork ensured that this important call to prayer received broad visibility.

Special Thanks to **John Rhone**, Director of Marketing, who created the awesome flyer that was sent to churches.

We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who participated in National Prayer Day for Hurricane Melissa. Your presence, whether in person, online, or in spirit, brought strength, comfort, and hope to families and communities facing unimaginable loss. Please know that your contribution, no matter the size, has made a difference.

With heartfelt appreciation,  
*Hurricane Melissa Relief Team*