

The Howard University School of Divinity joins with the Balm in Gilead and faith communities throughout the nation during the week of March 7-13 for the National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is a very real issue that has or will touch each of us in some way individually and has deeply impacted us all collectively. It is in the face of this urgent reality that God's people are continually reminded we are our brother's and sister's keeper. Even more, we are called upon to work together to be a source of empowerment, compassion and hope. None of us can effectively mobilize against HIV/AIDS in isolation.

Whether we are in the church, mosque or synagogue, the faith community is called upon in this kairos moment to demonstrate in word and deed the transformative love of God to all persons infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS. We lift up not only our hearts in compassion, but also our hands in service and minds in scholarship. Indeed, our very lives are committed to prayer and advocacy, all working together for the good of all humankind.

The government can not do it alone nor can our community and civic organizations. The prevention and healing of AIDS requires all of us – government, public square, educational institutions and our nation's communities of faith.

So, as we observe this national week of prayer we do so committed to the cause and each other. We are our brother's and sister's keeper.

In the Presence,

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