East Jamaica Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Sabbath School & Personal Ministries Department

74 CONSTANT SPRING ROAD P.O. BOX 181 KINGSTON 10, JAMAICA W.I. <u>Tel :(876) 924-1061-</u>5 Fax: (876) 924-0263 E-mail: <u>abaugh@ejcsda.com</u> deniesebrown@ejcsda.com



January 10, 2023

To: Pastors, Elders and Sabbath School & Personal Ministries Leaders

Re: Prison Ministries Day, Sabbath, January 14, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Seventh-day Adventist Church firmly believes that no one will be saved in the Kingdom of God based on their work. We resolutely accept that we are saved by grace through faith, and that it is a free gift from God. Ephesians 2:8, 9.

However, we also unapologetically accept that we are saved for good works. Ephesians 2:10. Therefore, our relationship with God will be demonstrated by the work we do for the benefit of humanity.

As disciples of Jesus, we should pay close attention to every word uttered by Jesus. And during His earthly ministry, He indicated that ministering to those in prison is an aspect of mission to which we should give significant attention to. Mat. 25:36.

Recognizing the importance of ministering to the incarcerated, for a number of years a dedicated team of members have been going into the prisons to minister to the incarcerated. These servants deserve our commendation/

However, a number of factors, including the COVID 19 pandemic have had a significant negative impact on the ministry we are now able to offer.

With this in mind, the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department of East Jamaica Conference is now on a drive to revive Prison Ministry in the Conference. This includes the recruitment of new members, a closer calibration between the ministry and local congregations, and provision of greater financial support.

For this reason, we have decided to make Sabbath, January 14, 2023 Prison Ministries Emphasis Day. This day is intended to once again place the spotlight on this very important ministry.

How You May Participate

- 1. Read this letter in your congregation
- 2. Call for a special season of prayer for the incarcerated.
- 3. Place the ministry before the Lord in prayer

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Please note that only members from seventeen (17) SDA congregations are presently permitted to go into the prisons to minister. Please see list below for the named congregations.

List of Churches:

- 1. Johnson Town
- 2. Rollington Town
- 3. Kings Chapel
- 4. North Street
- 5. Kencot
- 6. Macedonia
- 7. Omara Road
- 8. Hagley Park
- 9. Olympic Way
- 10. Seaview Gardens
- 11. New Haven
- 12. Washington Gardens
- 13. Meadowvale
- 14. Shortwood
- 15. August Town
- 16. Mavis Bank
- 17. Constitution Hill

Please remember, the Lord didn't call us to minister only to saints and the lovable. Jesus died for all. Therefore, even the vilest of sinners must be given the opportunity to find salvation.

Yours in the Master's business

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Pastor Anthony Baugh Director Sabbath School & Personal Ministries Dept.