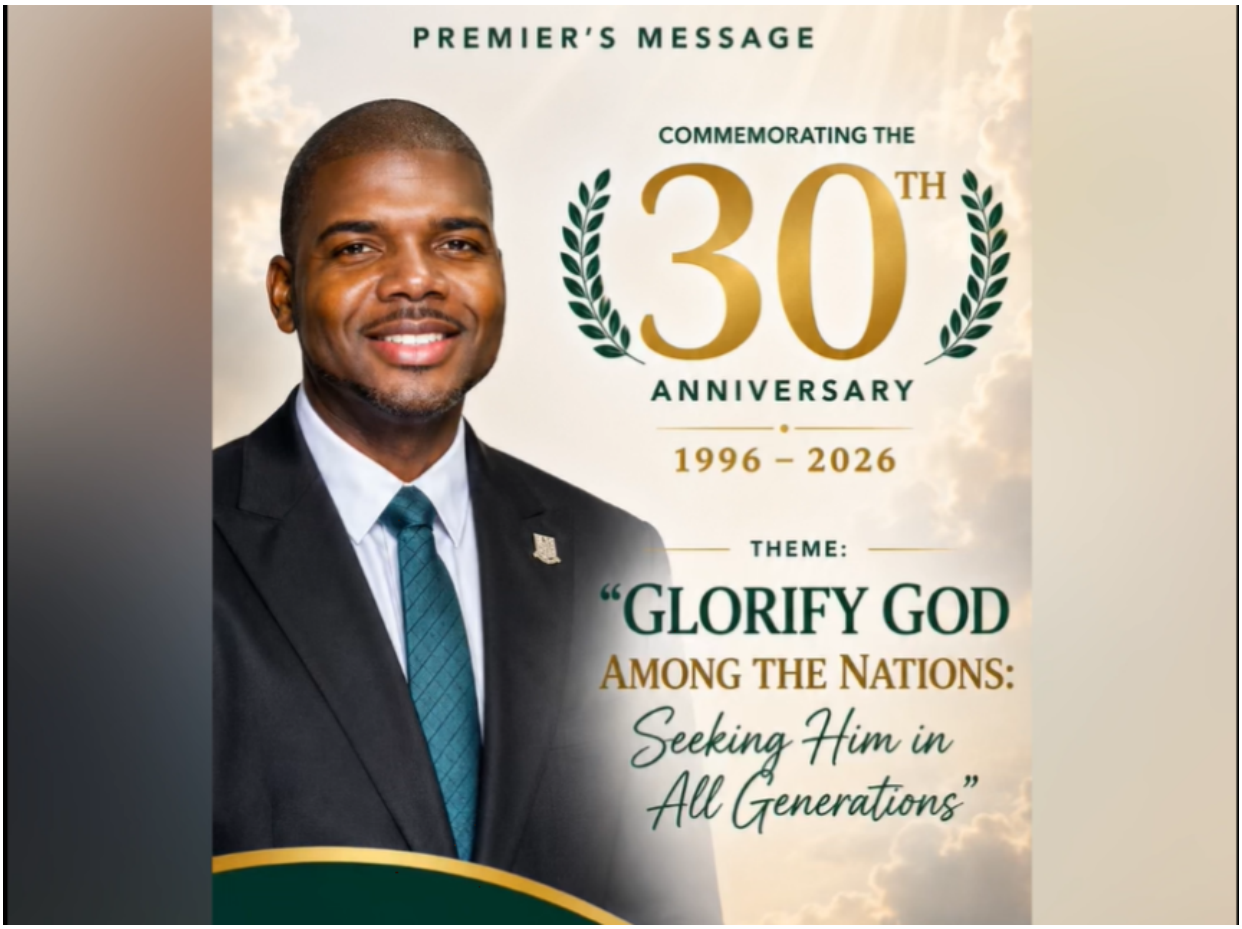
GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

STATEMENT

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Message by Premier Wheatley for Interdenominational Day of Prayer's 30th Anniversary

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My dear Virgin Islands people, today we join together in a spirit of reverence and thanksgiving as we mark 30 years of observing BVI Interdenominational Day of Prayer. This milestone is more than a commemoration of time; it is a testament to who we are as a people - rooted in faith, united in purpose, and steadfast in our belief that God must remain at the centre of our lives and our community.

This occasion comes at a time when the world is in turmoil. Conflicts rage across nations, crime and violence touch communities everywhere, climate change threatens our environment, and the rising cost of living weighs heavily on families. The Virgin Islands is not immune to these global pressures. These challenges affect not only our present wellbeing but also the future of our children and generations yet to come. They test our resilience, our values, and our ability to guide our young people away from harmful influences and toward lives grounded in purpose and hope.

This is why prayer matters. This is why seeking God in all things is essential. For generations, the people of these Virgin Islands have been a praying people. We have kept God at the centre of our homes, our institutions, and our national life. Time and again, through storms, hardships, and uncertainty, God has carried us through. He has never failed us. As our fore parents did, so must we - passing on this foundation of faith to every generation that follows.

As we celebrate 30 years of this sacred tradition, we also honour the unity it represents. The Interdenominational Day of Prayer is a powerful reminder that when we come together - across churches, denominations, and communities - we are stronger. In unity and common purpose, we uplift one another, and we strengthen the spiritual fabric of our Territory.

I extend sincere thanks to those whose vision and dedication established this observance three decades ago. I also express deep appreciation to all committee members, past and present, who have faithfully sustained it over the years. Your commitment has blessed our Territory in immeasurable ways. I especially want to remember Linton Wheatley, who pioneered this wonderful endeavour. May his soul continue to rest in peace. My Government and I remain committed to ensuring that our religious organisations continue to receive the support they need to fulfil their

spiritual and social roles in our society.

As we once again observe BVI Interdenominational Day of Prayer, let us lift our voices in prayer for peace throughout the world and for relief for all who are suffering. Let us pray for our families, our leaders, our young people, and our future. And above all, let us Glorify God, for with Him all things are possible.

May God bless you, and may God continue to bless The Virgin Islands.

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Additional Documents or Media

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