Addressing HIV In Your Church Year-Round
Engage YOUR Ministry

January
- Engage your Ministerial Team and Staff Leadership around HIV as a social justice issue.
- Download the Pastoral Brief and Activity Manual and discuss key points during one of your leadership meetings.

February
National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (February 7)
- Declare that your Place of Worship is a "Safe Space."
- Use National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day as an opportunity to engage and empower your entire congregation, preaching about HIV as a social justice issue.
- Let your Congregation know that you are joining the fight by ending:
  - Stigmatization
  - Shame
  - Silence

March
National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 10)
National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS (Visit http://www.balmingilead.org/nwpha/ for annual date)
- Engage your Prayer Ministry in the first week of March and undergird your efforts in prayer during the National Week of Prayer for the Healing of HIV and AIDS.
- Talk about issues associated with HIV.

April
National Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Day (April 10)
- Engage your Youth and College Ministry by inviting someone living with HIV to speak to your Youth Group.
- Begin a dialogue around what is a healthy relationship.
- Talk about issues associated with HIV.

May
Wedding Season
- Engage your Spiritual Care and Counseling Teams.
- Have your Marriage Ministry ask soon-to-be couples if they have had a recent HIV test together. Your local board of health department should be able to give you more information about Partner Testing.

June
National HIV Testing Day (June 27)
- Engage your Health and Wellness Ministry in a community wide testing event. (Check with your local board of health to determine if prior training and/or certification for your Ministry Members is required.)
**July**

**Day of Unity (Third Sunday of July)**
Continue the tradition of *The Black Church & HIV’s Day of Unity* by committing to preach about HIV as a social justice issue.

**August**

**National Faith & HIV Awareness Day (August 27)**
- Engage your Men’s Ministry by inviting someone living with HIV to speak to your Men’s Group.
- Discuss issues associated with HIV and other health disparities, including prostate cancer.
- Participate locally in one of the many Interfaith activities throughout the country occurring for National Faith & HIV/AIDS Awareness Day ([Faithaidsday.org](http://Faithaidsday.org)).

**September**

**National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (September 18)**
- Engage your Seniors Ministry by inviting someone who is over 50 years old and living with HIV/AIDS to speak to your Seniors Group.
- Talk about issues associated with HIV.

**October**

- Engage your Singles Ministry around HIV by hosting an open dialogue and discussion on sex.
- Bring in professionals or expert who can interweave the facts around biblical principle.

**December**

**World AIDS Day (December 1)**
- Engage your Health and Wellness Ministry in a community wide testing event. (Check with your local board of health to determine if prior training and/or certification for your Ministry Members is required.)