PRESS RELEASE

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THANKS 4 GIVING - GIVING THANKS WHILE GIVING BACK

Combining the Seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas

[PITTSBURGH, PA, November 2023] — In commemoration of WAMO's 75th Anniversary and Brother Marlon's 25th Anniversary in gospel radio, each Sunday since November 12, 2023, concluding on December 10, 2023, Brother Marlon, host of "I Praise with Brother Marlon" on WAMO, has begun his season of Thanks by honoring six icons who hosted gospel on WAMO before him: Gloria Inez Brisky, Bishop Loran E. Mann, Apostle Otis L. Carswell, Joan Prentice, Nate Hollis, and Vickie Hill. "As I celebrate 25 years of service to God's people in radio, I want to give back to the station that gave me my first professional job in my field and allowed me to grow into who I am today while honoring those who paved the way," Brother Marlon said.

Each gospel legend will be showcased on a designated Sunday while Brother Marlon spotlights two charities dear to his heart: the Alzheimer's Association and the Multiple Sclerosis Society in honor of his parents, Douglas and Ercell Martin.

"My parents sacrificed so much for me over the years concerning my education, extracurricular activities, sports, and career," said Brother Marlon. "Now, I have become an advocate in the areas of need that were a need for them. My dad battled Alzheimer's for 17 years, and my mom was an advocate for him and others. My mom battled Multiple Sclerosis after being diagnosed shortly before my birth."

"We are thankful for Brother Marlon's support of the Alzheimer's Association through The Longest Day," said Nathaniel Sofranko, development manager for the Alzheimer's Association Greater Pennsylvania Chapter. "His efforts to raise awareness, funds and advocate will help families facing Alzheimer's disease or another dementia today, take more steps toward future treatments and finally ending this disease." The Alzheimer's Association is a worldwide voluntary health organization dedicated to Alzheimer's care, support and research. Its mission is to lead the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia — by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Visit <u>alz.org</u> or call the Alzheimer's Association using this link to his <u>fundraising page</u>.

The National MS Society, founded in 1946, funds cutting-edge research, drives change through advocacy, and provides programs and services to help people affected by MS live their best lives. The National MS Society is the largest MS organization in the world. We provide global leadership to break down barriers and bring all perspectives to the table to speed discoveries. We harness the power and passion of the MS movement. Whether you give, raise funds, volunteer or advocate, everyone has the power to change the world for people with MS. Learn more at <u>www.nationalMSsociety.org</u>. Brother Marlon encourages everyone to give to the MS Society using this link to his <u>fundraising page</u>.

You can listen to these weekly tributes on Brother Marlon's weekly gospel program, "I Praise with Brother Marlon" each Sunday from 7:00 to 11:00 am on WAMO 107.3 FM, the Audacy App (download and search for WAMO inside the app), or online at <u>www.wamo1073.com</u> continuing until December 10, 2023. There will be a meet and greet gathering with presentations to conclude the celebration on Friday, December 15, at the Grayson Center, 1852 Enoch St., Pittsburgh, PA 15219, from 7-9 pm.

For more information, visit <u>www.thanks4giving.org</u> Brother Marlon can be reached at <u>marlon.martin@audacy.com</u> or 412-579-1537.

Sponsored by: <u>Allegent Community Federal Credit Union</u>, <u>Marlee Communications</u>, <u>The</u> <u>Church Online</u>, <u>TRAC Services for Families</u>, and <u>Q&M's BBQ</u>

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About Brother Marlon: Started radio in 1992 at Washington & Jefferson College on WXJX. He started at WAMO in 1994 as an intern. Thanks to friend and mentor Nick Nice, he was hired as a board operator, then hosted overnights on the weekend, Club 106, The Quiet Storm, Middays and Evenings on Saturdays, and ultimately Host of the Breakfast Jam. He was also on staff as the assistant director of production. Brother Marlon left WAMO in 1998 and began working at WORD-FM and WGBN. He hosted middays at WGBN for 2 years, then became the morning show host and program director. In 2006, he returned to WAMO and began hosting Sunday mornings. He later became the program director at WPGR, and his show was simulcast on WAMO and WPGR until the stations were sold in 2009. He went back to WORD FM before returning home to Sheridan Broadcasting in 2011 to be a part of their national gospel programming: Sheridan Gospel Network. He was a producer and part-time on-air personality. During this time, he began taking on some programming duties, which prepared him for what was to come. Martz Communications then launched a station in Pittsburgh and rebranded the WAMO call letters, and in 2011, Brother Marlon was asked to host his Sunday program once again on WAMO; he continues to host this program to date for the Audacy brand. In 2014, he was elevated to Afternoon Drive host of the Nationally Syndicated Brother Marlon Show, heard across the country on SGN. In 2017, he was once again promoted, this time to Program Director.

Accomplishments: 31 years in radio, 25 years in gospel radio, 30 years as a turntable DJ, and continues to work in media as a photographer, videographer, voiceover artist, and an A/V specialist (sound, video, streaming, and production). He has hosted gospel on WAMO for 16 years, waking the city up with worship on Sunday mornings. In 2019 he was recognized by the New Pittsburgh Courier as one of their "Men of Excellence" during their annual event. He has been married for 17 years to Ellise Small Martin and is the father of 4 children: Marlon, II, Jason, Ephraim, and Caleb.