

PRAYER GUIDE

JANUARY 2024

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

-Colossians 4:2

MONDAY (CRC Communications) New Year's Day—We serve the one, triune God who is making everything new. As we celebrate a new year, we give thanks for the Lord's promises and daily care and provision. Pray that as individuals and as part of the family of God through Christ our Savior, we may keep in step with the Spirit through the coming year.

TUESDAY (World Renew) Education—Pray for all the families we work with around the world to prioritize education for their children. In many countries girls are often seen as only having a future as wives and mothers and are taken out of school at a young age. Pray that we may continue to find ways to emphasize the importance of education that will bring change.

Second State (Resonate Global Mission) *Estonia*—Resonate recently held a Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations workshop in Estonia. Give thanks, said Resonate missionary George de Vuyst, for all that God has done there—"and especially for the faithful brothers and sisters who seek God and his reconciliation for the nations of Europe."

THURSDAY (ReFrame Ministries) Japan—Pray for Noriko, who listens to our Japanese audio program every morning and recently asked to enroll in a Bible study by correspondence with our partners. "I want to know more about Jesus," she shared, "and [in 2024], I [want to pursue] that desire, read the Bible, and grow closer to God."

FRIDAY (World Renew) *Mercy*—As we enter the season of Epiphany, we give thanks for the many places where Christ makes himself known through the kindness and generosity of his people. As we share assistance with people in dire situations due to conflict and natural disasters, pray for relief and for lasting solutions that will bring glory to God in the year ahead.

SATURDAY (Thrive) *Epiphany*—On this Day of Epiphany, celebrating the light of Christ revealed to all nations, we pray: For peace on earth, that the peace of Christ may become a reality for all nations. For all who are sick or suffering, neglected or bereaved, that the light of Christ will lead them out of darkness. Lord of light, reveal to all people your Word made flesh.

T SUNDAY (ThereforeGo Ministries) SERVE 2024—Please join us in praying for all who are deciding where to participate in SERVE projects this year; we still have several sites available across the U.S. and Canada. We also covet your prayers surrounding our expanding opportunities for churches and emerging adults!

8 MONDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *January term*—Please pray for our January term classes, for students who are traveling, and especially for new students preparing to

begin their studies in the spring semester. Pray for health and safety for all.

9 TUESDAY (Resonate) *Uganda*—Give thanks for God's work in and through Emma in Uganda. Emma entered prison as a Muslim but decided to follow Christ through a Bible study led by Resonate missionary Josh Shaarda and his team at Freedom in Christ. Emma's life has changed so much "that his Muslim family invited the team to visit after Emma returned home," said Josh.

10 WEDNESDAY (ReFrame) Burkina Faso—Oumou, a respondent to our French-language ministry, visited a church to learn more about the Christian faith and to ask for prayers. She has been experiencing a painful situation in her marriage. Please lift up Oumou today in prayer—as well as other seekers in Burkina Faso, West Africa.

11 THURSDAY (Thrive) *New beginnings*—Pray for a smoothly executed start of January programming across congregational ministries in the CRCNA. Pray for joy in new beginnings and for excitement and anticipation for what God has in store for each ministry in the coming year.

12 FRIDAY (Resonate) Japan—After moving to serve in Japan, missionaries Jodi and Perrin Werner are learning Japanese. "I not only had an opportunity to share my faith with a classmate curious about Christianity, but I was also able to see how my everyday faith made an impact on my Japanese teacher," shared Perrin. Give thanks for God's ongoing work through seeds planted!

SATURDAY (Trinity Christian College) *Transformation*—Many students on our campus long to hear the lifechanging gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray that each of our students may experience the fullness of a life transformed in Christ by the Spirit. Pray too that the staff and faculty may have the energy and wisdom to contribute to the spiritual development of our student community.

SUNDAY (ReFrame) *Prayer ministry*—Praise God for Monty and more than 7,000 other prayer team participants who lift up others requesting prayer each week. Monty shared, "God is working in our community, and I have seen a lot of people changing their lives and living for God."

MONDAY (Thrive) Martin Luther King, Jr., Day—Today we remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the example he set in fighting for equality and justice. We lament the ways the church has complied in failing to honor the inherent dignity of all people, and we pray that we may instead rise up with a prophetic voice that speaks truth and compassion.

16 TUESDAY (Resonate) *University of Iowa*—"Pray for our upcoming Field and Faith events to encourage believers and unbelievers as we seek to be a resource and blessing for both the campus and the local church. We want to showcase the excellencies of Christ in all that we do," said Brett and Leigh Ann Erickson, campus ministers at Geneva Campus Ministry.

17 WEDNESDAY (World Renew) *Peace*—Join us and churches around the world in praying for an end to conflict, unrest, and oppression everywhere. We praise God for amazing stories of reconciliation and hope that our staff have been able to witness in places like Kenya, Laos, and Guatemala. Pray for peacebuilding work to continue in even the most difficult situations.

18 THURSDAY (GEMS) Courage and welcome—Pray that girls in GEMS clubs will share what they have been learning about Jesus with their friends and family members. Pray for courage as girls invite new friends to come to GEMS clubs. Please also pray that all new girls will be welcomed and will come to know Jesus as their Savior.

19 FRI)DAY (Resonate) *Nicaragua*—Resonate missionaries Jari and Jesse Rodriguez work with local farmers and entrepreneurs in Nicaragua. They give thanks that their first planting season in the community of Jinotega has been a success despite low rainfall. Give thanks to God for providing for these communities.

20 SATURDAY (Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee) One in Christ—Creator God, around the world we see your church body present in churches and denominations—Christ-followers worshiping you. Bless our connections with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Give us opportunities to bless and encourage and learn from each other. Make us one, Lord, as you are one.

21 SUNDAY (Centre for Public Dialogue) Sanctity of Human Life Sunday—People in Canada with mental illness alone will become eligible for assisted dying beginning in March 2024. Please pray for advocates working with Members of Parliament to change legislation on this matter. Pray for eyes to see other solutions for persons struggling with mental illness.

MONDAY (World Renew) *Justice*—Doing justice means equipping local churches to minister to people whom society has overlooked. For example, in Malawi, one church group, using our curriculum, identified seniors and other vulnerable members of their congregation who would benefit from their support. Praise God for the ways in which his people rise to the challenge of caring for everyone made in his image.

TUESDAY (Resonate) New York City—Pray for Manhattan Vertical Church, a Resonate partner church plant in New York City. Ask God to continue working through this church to share the gospel with people and to raise up disciples for Christ.

24 WEDNESDAY (ReFrame) *Chinese ministry*—Pray for ReFrame's Chinese ministry partners across North America and Asia. Pray for endurance as many of them work

multiple jobs. Pray that we may be effective in our work and that each person may be encouraged in their day-to-day tasks.

25 THURSDAY (Thrive) Young people—Pray for the continued faith formation of youth and emerging adults as Thrive partners with the TENx10 initiative: helping faith matter more to 10 million young people over the next 10 years, offering resources to prioritize youth discipleship and sparking an ecumenical movement that supports underresourced youth leaders.

26 FRIDAY (World Renew) *Health*—Join us in praying that all who are hungry may be fed, that all who are ill may find healing, and that all may have access to clean water for drinking, washing, and cooking. God wants his people to flourish. Pray that our teams working in WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) may find hope and solutions.

27 SATURDAY (Resonate) *Ontario*—Pray for Living Hope Community Church, a Resonate partner church plant in Whitby, Ont. Ask God to continue to draw individuals and families into this faith community where they can learn more about Jesus and how to live out the gospel.

SUNDAY (Cadets) Cadet Sunday—On this Cadet Sunday, our "Rooted and Grounded" theme, based on Ephesians 3:17-18, reminds boys and men involved in Cadets how wide and long and high and deep the love of Christ is. Please join us in praying that cadets and counselors will reflect that love as they continue living for Jesus.

29 MONDAY (ReFrame) *Hindi ministry*—Our Hindi ministry partners in India ask for prayer for Ahlad, a young man from a remote village who embraced Christianity after attending a local church program. As the only Christfollower in his family, he is actively seeking strength and conviction in his newfound faith.

30 TUESDAY (Thrive) *Volunteers*—Praise God for the faithful ministry of volunteers who are committed to equipping their local congregations to be safe and accessible worshiping communities.

31 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Central Asia*—A missionary serving in Central Asia is thankful to have met a young grocery store clerk, who has shared that he feels lonely and is searching for the truth. Ask God to work through this relationship, that this young man may come to know the love, hope, and grace of Jesus.

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