

PRAYER GUIDE

AUGUST 2019

Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

—1 Chronicles 16:11

THURSDAY (Inspire 2019) Blessing—Today is the first day of Inspire 2019.

People from churches across North America are gathered in Windsor, Ont., today to worship, connect, learn, share ideas, and be encouraged in their walk with Christ. Please pray for the Holy Spirit's leading in this event and in its impact in the weeks and months to come.

FRIDAY (World Renew) *Disaster Response Services (DRS)*—A massive flood swept through Hammond, La., in August 2016. World Renew DRS, in partnership with Tangilena Long-Term Recovery Group, worked to serve flood survivors there. Give thanks that 436 volunteers were able to clean up, rebuild, and repair 50 homes in the past three years.

SATURDAY (Resonate Global Mission)

Detroit—Pray for Hesed Community
Church, a Resonate partner in Detroit.

The house supervisor, Janaye, recently
moved into the church's second ministry
house. Please pray for her as she builds
relationships with families and children in
the neighborhood.

SUNDAY (Indigenous Family Centre)

Camp—It's summertime! Please

pray for our kids and youth camp, now in
full swing. A number of students serve the
local children with a trauma-informed,
healing approach. Pray for our kids and their
families as they learn how best to respond
when life seems overwhelming, and pray

that the students serve with patience, love, and wisdom.

MONDAY (Resonate) Grants—Give thanks for the many campus ministry interns who received a Resonate Emerging Leader grant this past year! Each leader was challenged, equipped, and encouraged. Pray for the Spirit's guidance as these young missional leaders move on to their next season in life. Ask for discernment and encouragement as they continue joining God in mission.

TUESDAY (Back to God Ministries International) Japan—On Wednesdays members of the Japanese ministry team answer callers' questions live on the air for two hours. Pray for wisdom for the radio hosts. Many of the callers are hurting deeply or are looking for answers to tough questions about the Christian faith.

WEDNESDAY (World Renew) Climate Witness Boot Camp—World Renew and the Office of Social Justice recently helped nine Christ-followers attend a "bootcamp" in East Africa to learn more about issues connected to climate change. Pray that they may share with their churches what they have learned. Please also pray for people most affected by climate change, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

Awareness—Summer is a time for vacation Bible school and mission projects, which provide extra opportunities for service, outreach, fun, and fellowship. These special activities, however, can also include limited supervision that leaves opportunities open for abuse. Pray for wisdom and awareness and for safe participation for everyone.

FRIDAY (Resonate) *Parents*—Pray for Resonate missionaries who are parenting children on the field. Ask God to equip them for all the challenges that come with raising children in another country and culture.

Ministries) Indonesia—Sri learned about the Christian faith through our Indonesian ministry programs, and she received Jesus as her Savior, despite knowing that her Muslim family wouldn't like it. Pray that her family may be open to learning more about her faith and that Sri will be lifted up by the Christian community in her area.

Pastoral care—Over 144 CRC chaplains provide pastoral care in moments that matter in people's lives as they struggle through crisis, illness, and a number of life questions. Every week thousands of lives are cared for. Please pray that through these chaplains God's wisdom will guide, his love will motivate, and his Spirit will work powerfully.

MONDAY (World Renew) Laos— Many people in remote areas of Laos grow rice for a living. Their traditional crop rotation system often results in soil erosion that undermines future crops, and their children tend to be malnourished by a rice-heavy diet. Thank God with us that we are able to work with these communities to find ways to diversify both nutrition and sustainable income streams.

TUESDAY (Resonate) West Africa—Resonate missionaries in West Africa ask you to pray for the people they work with in the midst of violence and persecution. "Pray for those who are living in fear for their lives. Pray that the gospel will speak to their hearts and allow them to find peace."

WEDNESDAY (Back to God Ministries) Hindi ministry—Chandrika says, "I belong to the Hindu religion and am a washerman by caste, which is the lowest Hindu caste. I cannot read the Bible and other books because I am illiterate, but I have a small radio on which I listen to your program." Pray that Chandrika will continue to listen to God's Word and will discover the freedom of life in Christ.

THURSDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Orientation*—The latter half of August is full of orientation activities for our new students, about 40 percent of whom are from outside North America. Give thanks for the families, churches, and communities that have shaped their stories, and pray for good transitions into seminary community life in the year ahead.

16 FRIDAY (World Renew)
Guatemala—Recently our
Guatemala-area staff traveled to San Martin with a Canadian short-term mission team of high school students, who came to serve, learn, build relationships, and witness the kingdom work being done in and by local

communities. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through our short-term mission teams, and pray that the projects taking place in these communities may bear fruit.

Resonate missionaries Pablo and Sheryl Canché in Mexico ask you to pray for the many people in the country who do not know Christ. "We are meeting new neighbors," say Pablo and Sheryl. "Pray that God will lead us as we talk with them about spiritual matters."

18 SUNDAY (Office of Social Justice) Worldwide—In light of immigration, refugees, and asylum seekers: God, we pray for all who feel the effects of violence and poverty and must flee for freedom and safety. We pray for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers at our borders and around the world who need just laws and compassionate hearts to help them thrive in their new homes. Help us to be your beloved church.

MONDAY (Back to God Ministries)
Chinese ministry—Pray for Chinese
students who will study abroad this year. Pray
for faithful witnesses who will connect with,
care for, and share the gospel with them. Pray
also that these students may find appropriate
resources for growing in faith, and that the
Holy Spirit may work in their hearts and lives
through the people they meet.

TUESDAY (Disability Concerns)
Relationships—In Breaking
Barriers, Terry DeYoung writes, "Friendships
and loving relationships with people with
disabilities change lives, reshape priorities,
and alter visions of God and humanness."
Pray that the people of your church may gain
a deeper understanding of God and his people

through deeper relationships with people who have disabilities.

WEDNESDAY (Resonate)
Washington—Pray for Living Word
Community, a new Resonate church plant
in Washington state, as they seek to make
disciples across all cultures and generations.

THURSDAY (World Renew) Ending hunger—Hunger is the world's top health risk. Every five seconds a child dies of hunger, and 821 million people go to bed hungry. These stats can be daunting, but there is strength and hope in working together! At the All Ontario Youth Convention (AOYC) in May, World Renew worked with more than 1,000 teens to help stamp out hunger. Praise God for these young people with a heart for God's world and everyone in it!

PRIDAY (Race Relations)

Changes—Please pray for the
Office of Race Relations in Canada as it
transitions through the leaving of Bernadette
Arthur as Canadian advocate and the arrival
of new staff. Pray that the momentum of racial
justice and reconciliation work in Canada's
CRC congregations will grow deeper and
stronger.

SATURDAY (Back to God Ministries) Family Fire—Teresa recently shared, "Pray for my relationship; it's been three years. My husband is not saved. The past year has been spent trying to rebuild trust that was lost due to his continuous lying." Pray for Teresa and many other followers of our Family Fire ministry who are hurting deeply in their marriages.

SUNDAY (Resonate) *Ontario*—Give thanks for The Bridge, a Resonate church plant in Ontario, as they partner with

other churches in the area to host community dinners. As these churches seek to be the hands and feet of Christ to their neighbors, pray that God's love will be made known.

Peace and wisdom—Pray this prayer for all worship leaders, planners, committees, and pastors: "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts" (Col. 3:15-16).

TUESDAY (World Renew) Haiti—In March, Haiti was affected by violent protests following the government's decision to increase gas prices by over 50 percent. Like the entire population, World Renew and partner staff suffered the strain and threat of violence and disruption. Things have mostly returned to normal, but please pray the disagreement will be resolved peaceably. Praise God that the majority of our projects will remain active.

WEDNESDAY (Cadets) Prayer—
"Then you will call on me and come
and pray to me, and I will listen to you." These
words from Jeremiah 29:12 are the basis for
this year's theme: "Hi God, it's me." Please
pray that boys will be encouraged to spend
time in prayer as part of living for Jesus.

THURSDAY (Resonate) Central Asia—Resonate missionaries in Central Asia ask you to pray that God will raise up more believers to be involved in church planting.

Spanish ministry—Our Spanish ministry team entered a long-term partnership with the National Presbyterian Church in Mexico, with plans to move our Spanish ministry to Tabasco state in Mexico. Praise God for this partnership, asking that it will be bring new opportunities to share the gospel with Spanish speakers worldwide.

SATURDAY (Timothy Leadership Training) Community connection—Enifa Masese of Machinga-Chikweo in Malawi was motivated to do home visitation as part of her Timothy Leadership Training (TLT). She reports, "Many souls in my neighborhood have joined our church as a result of our visiting them during their sicknesses or for comfort." Pray for the people doing pastoral visits and for the TLT trainers helping to share this important teaching around the world.

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