



Christian
Reformed
Church

PRAYER GUIDE

JUNE 2023

Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances.

—1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

1 THURSDAY (Race Relations) *Red Dress Campaign*—May 5 was a day to create awareness about Indigenous missing and murdered girls and women in North America. Participants wore a red dress and painted a red hand over their mouth to depict the silence of the media, law enforcement, and government agencies on this issue. Please pray for families whose daughter, sister, aunt, or mom is missing from their circle. Pray that our churches may grow in awareness of and raise their voices against this injustice.

2 FRIDAY (World Renew) *Clean water*—For one-third of the global population clean water is a dream that remains out of reach. World Renew helps communities establish safe, consistent water sources and teaches families sanitation and hygiene practices. Please pray for all who do not have access to clean water. May God purify, protect, and multiply their water sources so that their communities may thrive.

3 SATURDAY (Resonate Global Mission) *Community*—Give thanks that international students have found community through the Dinner Church that Leah De Vos, a Resonate mission network developer, hosts in her home. These students are curious about the gospel. Ask the Holy Spirit to continue

drawing them into a relationship with Jesus.

4 SUNDAY (Worship) *Synod 2023*—We are grateful for the many prayers being offered for Synod 2023, which begins on Friday, June 9. CRC Worship asks that you pray for worship during synod. Pray that preparations may go smoothly and that worship may orient and reorient us to God's presence in our midst during conversations and deliberations.

5 MONDAY (World Renew) *Creation care*—A growing number of churches are connecting with the Climate Witness Project (CWP), a joint ministry of Social Justice and World Renew. The CWP network provides resources for education, worship, energy stewardship, and advocacy, equipping churches with tools for creation care. Today, on World Environment Day, we praise God for these efforts and pray that creation care will continue to grow in North America.

6 TUESDAY (ReFrame Ministries) *Russian ministry*—Pray for young people like Inna who recently attended a conference led by ReFrame's Russian ministry partners. Inna shared that because of the conference she feels emboldened to bring up her Christian faith in conversations with nonbelieving friends and in social media posts.

7 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Michigan*—“Pray for students who are moving on from Western Michigan University, bringing all they’ve experienced here back to their homes around the world,” ask campus ministers from International Campus Ministry.

8 THURSDAY (Safe Church) *Discussions*—Please pray for discussions about the Code of Conduct at synod in the coming week, asking that we may not lose sight of survivors and others harmed by abuse in the church who now struggle to trust ministry leaders. Pray that our conversations lead us as a denomination to recommit ourselves to use our power and influence to bless others for the sake of God’s kingdom.

9 FRIDAY (Communications) *First day of synod*—Pray that delegates and advisers gathered at Synod 2023 in Grand Rapids, Mich., may have meaningful and grace-filled dialogue and seek God’s guidance in all decisions made. Pray for all church leaders and members as they interact with and implement these decisions. May God’s will be done and his name be glorified.

10 SATURDAY (ReFrame) *Japan*—Praise God for working in the lives of people like Tetsu, who listens to broadcasts from ReFrame’s partners in Japan. “Guided by God,” Tetsu shared, “I learned about your radio program, and now I am attending a church. I always look forward to Sundays. The brothers and sisters who gather at church are also kind and happy. I was able to be baptized because of your broadcast.”

11 SUNDAY (Candidacy Committee) *Candidates*—We invite you to rejoice with us in God’s faithful provision of 30 new candidates who are ready to be ordained as ministers of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church! Please ask God for wisdom and discernment as they make decisions about ministry opportunities, and for enduring peace and strength for their journey in ministry.

12 MONDAY (Resonate) *Germany*—Resonate missionaries David Kromminga and Mary Buteyn have planted a church with and for newcomers in Berlin, Germany. They’re hosting an Alpha course for people interested in learning more about the gospel. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through this ministry to draw people into a relationship with Jesus.

13 TUESDAY (Disability Concerns) *Book clubs*—We thank God that 50 churches are hosting a book club on the Disability Concerns book of the year, *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request* by Amy Kenny. Pray that people who read the book will become agents of change, breaking down physical, communicational, and attitudinal barriers within their church.

14 WEDNESDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Summer opportunities*—Pray for students as they enter into the summer season with plans for graduate placements, ministry sites, work, and travel. Ask God to continue forming students through their summer activities.

15 THURSDAY (ReFrame) *India*— Pray for Santosh, who follows our ministry programming from India. “My father is making a slow recovery from a stroke,” Santosh shared. “May the Lord heal him soon. May the Lord also bless and comfort my mother, who is very much broken by this incident.”

16 FRIDAY (Resonate) *South Asia*— “Pray that Hindus will look to Jesus as the true light of the world who shines in the darkness,” ask Resonate missionaries serving in South Asia.

17 SATURDAY (ThereforeGo Ministries) *SERVE 2023*— ThereforeGo Ministries is excited to kick off SERVE 2023 today! More than 850 participants will attend SERVE this year, coming from 16 states and seven provinces. Please ask the Lord with us to work in the hearts of each student, leader, and volunteer while keeping them safe in their travels and at their worksites.

18 SUNDAY (Canadian Indigenous Ministry Committee) *Indigenous Ministry Sunday (Canada)*—Please join us in prayer today for the Hearts Exchanged program. May the church’s reconciliation journey be one of ongoing relationship and depth. As the CRC looks toward next steps in reconciliation, please pray for ongoing progress forward in this program.

19 MONDAY (World Renew) *Juneteenth*—Today is a U.S. holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans, opening their pathway to freedom. This day is celebrated as a turning point toward recognizing the dignity, value, and freedom due to all people. Join us as we

pray for justice, healing, repentance, and unity for all God’s people.

20 TUESDAY (World Renew) *Refugees and displaced people*— Over 100 million people have been forcibly displaced worldwide due to persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations. Today, on World Refugee Day, please join us in asking God to keep these families safe, providing them with necessary food, shelter, health, and protection.

21 WEDNESDAY (Edmonton Native Healing Centre) *National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada)*—*Creator, we give thanks for this day and ask for guidance and wisdom as we seek to move forward on our Pahpiyiwihke [Cree for “smile”] project. We ask for successful fundraising efforts and for great new relationships that will allow our vulnerable population to receive free dental care. Thank you, Creator, for the collection of \$12,000 of the \$30,000 we are hoping to raise for this effort. Thank you for the courage allowing us to dream big and move forward in the confidence that you will supply all our needs. Hiy, Hiy!*

22 THURSDAY (Resonate) *Haiti*—Haiti is facing many challenges right now. Ask God to protect communities from violence and to provide for all who lack food, safe drinking water, and more. Ask for wisdom for Resonate’s ministry leaders and partners in the ongoing work in Haiti.

23 FRIDAY (ReFrame) *Prayer team*— Bailey recently shared this prayer request with our team: “My 15-year-old son has been struggling for several years after the sudden passing of his father. He

is making some very poor choices lately. I pray that the void in his heart will be filled with love and peace and that he can see how much he is loved.”

24 SATURDAY (Resonate) *Central America*—Several young adults are currently serving with our Cohort in Central America. Pray for these young adults as they serve in a grassroots ministry, build relationships and form community, and deepen and strengthen their faith.

25 SUNDAY (World Renew) *Justice for all*—We mobilize communities to identify, confront, and change unjust systems, equipping them to advocate for and work to create change. We focus on ensuring equal rights and opportunities, recognizing that injustice is often due to individual or systemic abuses of power and that peaceful and just environments enable effective community development. Please pray that we may work with wisdom as we strive to achieve justice for all.

26 MONDAY (Raise Up: Educational Care) *Training*—Praise God for a rich season of Educational Care training taking place in Uganda. Teachers in the Obongi Refugee Settlement have been planning among themselves for months to make the training there possible.

27 TUESDAY (Chaplaincy and Care) *Workplace chaplains*—Our workplace chaplains work in the industrial

or corporate world, serving the needs of employees affected by grief, trauma, and crises at home or at work and who may not have a spiritual support network. Please pray for these chaplains and the people they serve.

28 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Kenya*—Give thanks for the fruitful Helping without Hurting training that Resonate missionary Anthony Sytsma led recently in Nairobi, Kenya, in collaboration with World Renew staff. Pray that the participants may put into practice what they have learned.

29 THURSDAY (ReFrame) *Burkina Faso*—Oumarou is a faithful listener to our French-ministry programs. He recently visited our ministry office in Burkina Faso to share his gratitude to God for his miraculous recovery after a surgical procedure on his leg. Pray for Oumarou’s continued healing and ask that he may continue to grow in his faith.

30 FRIDAY (World Renew) *Disaster response*—In February, Cyclone Freddy made landfall in southeastern Africa, resulting in landslides and flooding and claiming the lives of over 700 people across Mozambique, Madagascar, and Malawi. Please pray for all who have lost loved ones, homes, and crops, and are depending on humanitarian aid to survive. Pray also for the wisdom and safety of our staff and partners as they work to share Christ’s hope.

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