



Christian
Reformed
Church

PRAYER GUIDE

OCTOBER 2024

Be . . . faithful in prayer.

—Romans 12:12

- 1 TUESDAY** (ReFrame Ministries) *French ministry*—Pray for Sanata, a Muslim-background believer in Burkina Faso who is forbidden by her father to attend church. Ask for wisdom as she balances faith and family. May God give her strength in her new Christian walk and work in the hearts of her father and other family members as well.
- 2 WEDNESDAY** (Thrive) *Refugees*—*Lord, open our eyes to see the needs of refugees; open our ears to hear people's cries for justice; open our hearts to help sojourners near and far. Show us where love, hope, and faith are needed. Guide us to protect people who are disadvantaged and to defend those who are poor, that we may be able to do some work of peace.*
- 3 THURSDAY** (Resonate Global Mission) *All nations*—Give thanks for the ways God is working in and through Resonate to spread the gospel to people of all nations. We support more than 140 missionaries working in over 40 countries, and we work alongside more than 60 church plants and over 30 campus ministries throughout North America that reflect diverse cultures, languages, and backgrounds.
- 4 FRIDAY** (World Renew) *Haiti*—Our hearts go out to people living in Haiti, where gang-related violence has escalated this year. We ask God to intervene and bring peace in Haiti and in

other countries where chaos and unrest persist. Please pray for God's protection over our staff and partners in areas experiencing violence and conflict.

5 SATURDAY (Centre for Public Dialogue) *Grace and justice*—In a U.S. election year and as the Canadian Parliament resumes, we pray for our polarized society. May political leaders have wisdom, and may the church model graciousness and discernment. May leaders take seriously their responsibilities to address poverty and to act justly in the months and years ahead.

6 SUNDAY (Thrive) *All Nations Heritage Sunday*—We grieve that the church—which shares one Spirit, one faith, and one hope—has become a broken communion in a broken world. We marvel that the Lord gathers the broken pieces to do his work, and that he blesses us still with joy, new members, and surprising evidences of unity. May we seek and express the oneness of all who follow Jesus (adapted from *Our World Belongs to God*, para. 38-43).

7 MONDAY (ReFrame) *Japan*—Praise God for Mariko in Japan, whose faith journey began through ReFrame's *Asa no Kotoba* ("Morning Word") audio program. A broadcast on peacemaking and 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 led Mariko to explore Scripture, attend church, and be

baptized. Pray for her continued growth and for the program's ongoing impact.

8 TUESDAY (Resonate) *Ontario*—Andrew, Lisa, and their son, Alec, decided to follow Christ after becoming part of Living Hope Community Church, a Resonate partner church plant in Ontario. Praise God! Please pray for this family as they continue to grow as disciples of Christ.

9 WEDNESDAY (World Renew) *New staff*—We recently welcomed some new staff members, including Christi Schaeftbauer as chief finance and investment officer and Garry Mayhew as head of humanitarian and emergency affairs. Please pray for all staff members and for smooth transitions for all who have moved into new roles within World Renew. May God guide them to thrive in their roles.

10 THURSDAY (ReFrame) *Ministry*—Pray for staff who work in various ways to create broadcasts and podcasts and other resources, for people who interact with listeners requesting prayer, and for volunteers who help in the ministry of ReFrame. Thank God for their contributions, and may the Holy Spirit continue to touch hearts and lives through this ministry.

11 FRIDAY (GEMS Girls Clubs) *International Day of the Girl*—On this International Day of the Girl, pray for God's blessing and protection for all GEMS clubs around the world. May GEMS continue to provide safe places for girls everywhere to belong, to be loved, and to discover who Jesus is and how they can have a living, dynamic relationship with him.

12 SATURDAY (Resonate) *California*—David wrestled for a long time with depression and thoughts of suicide. Though a Christian, he didn't feel worthy of God's love and grace—but then he found Church of Refugia, a Resonate partner church plant in California. Give thanks for the way God is working in David's life.

13 SUNDAY (Thrive) *Clergy appreciation*—We thank God for the faithful pastors he has placed across our denomination to shepherd, disciple, serve, and council CRCNA congregations.

14 MONDAY (World Renew) *Thanksgiving Day (Canada)*—With thankful hearts we acknowledge God's goodness and provision as we work to help people break the cycle of poverty in many settings around the world. May the God of mercy bless families and individuals with good health, nourishment, justice in their communities, relief from disasters, and opportunities to thrive.

15 TUESDAY (ReFrame) *Family Fire*—Pray for Tessa, a woman who is facing marital reconciliation challenges. Her ex-husband is willing to try again but struggles with negativity. Ask for healing in their relationship and wisdom to navigate this difficult time. May God's will prevail amid spiritual warfare.

16 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Disability awareness*—Give thanks for the many individuals and families who have found a church home through City Hope GR, a Resonate partner church plant in Grand Rapids, Mich., that serves people of all abilities. Please pray for this church as they continue to reach more people.

17 THURSDAY (ReFrame) *India*—Praise God for a successful cake-baking training attended by 25 participants. The training session combined gospel sharing with income-generating skills. Ask that the bonds formed during this event may strengthen the community and deepen their walk with Christ.

18 FRIDAY (World Renew) *Maternal and child health*—The well-being of mothers and children can determine the health of a community for the future. World Renew works to provide maternal and child health training and resources for communities worldwide. Pray for the continuation of this work so that every mother can access the care she needs and every child can have a healthy start.

19 SATURDAY (Resonate) *Hungary*—When Hanis moved from Nigeria to Budapest to attend university, he struggled to find community—until he met Resonate missionaries Jeff and Julie Bouman. Hanis found friends who helped him grow through International Student Fellowship, and he is serving with Resonate’s Cohort Europe this year. Please pray for him as he continues to follow God’s call in his life.

20 SUNDAY (Thrive) *Disability Awareness Sunday*—*Creator God, in the beginning you created, and you called everything “good.” Made in your image, each of us belongs to you. We lament the ways we have perpetuated ableism in our lives, institutions, and churches. We have built structures and programs not accessible to all. We grieve that our churches are welcoming and equipped for some but not for all. We confess the harm these attitudes and actions have caused. Come among us and work in our*

hearts. We long to be your faithful church for all of your beloved children.

21 MONDAY (Indigenous Christian Fellowship) *Community*—Pray for staff and community members at Indigenous Christian Fellowship. Pray that good and healing connections will be made, and may all who pass through our doors know the love of our Creator.

22 TUESDAY (ReFrame) *Brazil*—Pray for Anna, who, with her children, follows our Portuguese ministry. They are facing difficult living conditions and humiliation in their extended family. Ask for God’s provision for them, and for strength, peace, and healing. May the Lord’s wisdom and intervention improve their situation while preserving family relationships.

23 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Asia*—A Resonate missionary who is serving at a church in Asia has been walking alongside a seeker for months. Give thanks that she has decided to follow Jesus! Please pray for this new believer as she grows in her relationship with Christ, and may God work through her to draw her family and friends to Jesus.

24 THURSDAY (World Renew) *Food security*—Despite the world’s ability to produce enough food to feed everyone, food insecurity is still prevalent in many nations. World Renew helps families to access nutritious meals and become food secure for the future. Join us in prayer as we extend God’s compassion to vulnerable communities and help to alleviate hunger worldwide.

25 FRIDAY (Thrive) *Spiritual Care Week*—Throughout Canada and the United States, chaplains and institutions are celebrating Spiritual Care Week Oct. 20-26 to recognize the spiritual caregivers in their midst and the ministries they provide. Pray with our 135 chaplains and spiritual care practitioners as they share their stories and celebrate their ministries.

26 SATURDAY (Resonate) *Central America*—Resonate missionaries in Central America give thanks for all who participate in Faithwalking, a program that invites them to a life of radical obedience, reflection, and communal authenticity. Please pray for the participants as they continue to grow through this spiritual process.

27 SUNDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Students*—Pray for students, faculty, and staff as they navigate school, families, and other obligations this semester. Pray for healthy rhythms. Stress levels can rise, so please pray that all will be able to take time with the One who gives rest (Matt. 11:28).

28 MONDAY (World Renew) *World Hunger Awareness*—Every October, people around the globe participate in World Hunger Awareness. This tradition encourages all of us to do our part to help alleviate hunger worldwide. Pray that all who are hungry may access sustainable, nutritious food

and experience a fuller relationship with the Lord, our provider.

29 TUESDAY (Resonate) *Nutrition*—Resonate missionary Sara Sytsma helps to train communities with best practices for farming in Uganda. She gives thanks for families whose nutrition has improved because of this training. One woman even shared chaya cuttings with a neighbor whose son has anemia and needs to eat greens every day. The family is now able to grow chaya and provide the necessary nutrition for their son.

30 WEDNESDAY (Thrive) *Hunger*—*Lord, in sharing the loaves and fishes, you gave us an image of solidarity with the hungry. Give us the hunger to participate in the feeding and healing of this world. Nourish us with your grace, that we may work with joy to serve your children. Open our eyes and hearts to recognize people in poverty, and increase our awareness of structures and systems that need to be changed for your sake (adapted from a Jesuit prayer).*

31 THURSDAY (Communications) *Reformation Day*—In 1517, Martin Luther posted 95 theses and initiated a movement in the church that still shapes our faith today. Ask God to give each of us the courage to continue to follow Christ's calling in our lives so that the church around the world and through the ages may be built up.

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