

Pray, lifting up holy hands. . . .

—1 Timothy 2:8

1 MONDAY (ReFrame Ministries) *Prayer ministry*—Pray with Stella, who recently told our prayer ministry team that she feels guilty for calling the police on her son, who was abusing drugs. Pray for her son’s recovery and for a sense of peace for Stella as she reflects on and navigates her difficult circumstances.

2 TUESDAY (Resonate Global Mission) *Asia*—Give thanks for a successful Timothy Leadership training in eastern and central Asia. “Everything was new to me!” said one participant. “I have never heard of such things, but I desire now to apply them all into my ministry setting.” Pray for participants as they put their learning about Christian leadership into practice.

3 WEDNESDAY (World Renew) *Disaster Response Services*—The past 16 months have seen a brutal onslaught of natural storms across the United States. The people who are affected are often left confused, hopeless, distressed, and feeling forgotten long after the storms have passed. Please join us in praying for these survivors, and ask for wisdom as we search out the best ways to help.

4 THURSDAY (Disability Concerns) *Resource and community*—Each Thursday last month, our Disability Concerns community gathered to explore our newest resource: *Everybody Belongs, Serving Together*. We’re thankful for all who shared their knowledge within the field and supported our learning experience. Pray with us that conversations begun there may have a significant impact on ministry throughout the church.

5 FRIDAY (Kuyper College) *New starts*—We give thanks and praise for an overall healthy and in-person first semester this school year. Please pray for students in the new Workplace Partnership Program, a collaboration between Kuyper College and area businesses providing urban students an affordable Christian college education, combining workplace experience and access to Kuyper classes.

6 SATURDAY (Resonate) *Campus ministries*—Pray for campus ministers as they continue to navigate ministry during the pandemic. Many limitations continue on what they may or may not do, and rules and regulations often change. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in making plans and connecting with students while helping to ensure everyone’s health and safety.

7 SUNDAY (World Renew) *World Hunger Sunday*—In communities facing poverty, people often struggle to grow enough food, find clean water, rebuild after a disaster, and deal with injustice. We praise God for opportunities to come together as one in Christ and to love our neighbor. Pray with us for equipping to foster justice, love, and mercy in our work with partners and congregations.

8 MONDAY (Raise Up: TLT) *Changes*—Pray for the revision process of Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) manuals. We pray that interactive and accessible content may continue to aid facilitators and deepen participants’ appreciation of God’s grace. Pray for wisdom in introducing changes, and for increased opportunities in developing partnerships and new resources.

9 TUESDAY (ReFrame) *Japan*—Reiko is undergoing treatment for breast cancer, and some days she has very little energy. “On those days I am truly grateful for the encouragement from your program,” she shared with our Japanese ministry team. Pray for continued healing for Reiko, and praise God that she has found a source of strength in him.

10 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Communities*—Pray for our church plant partners as they share the love of Christ in their communities. Ask the Holy Spirit for opportunities to connect with neighbors and share the gospel, both through actions and conversations.

11 THURSDAY (Communications) *Remembrance Day/ Veterans Day*—Today we remember military service personnel who have served their countries, recognizing that many gave their lives or returned forever changed. Together may we ask God to bring peace and healing for veterans and for all whose lives have been disrupted by war.

12 FRIDAY (Cadets) *New theme*—This year’s theme, “God’s In Control,” based on Joshua 1:9, continues to remind cadets and counselors that God is always with them, including during times of stress and anxiety. We pray that this reassurance will help our boys and men to be strong and courageous in living for Jesus.

13 SATURDAY (World Renew) *India*—This summer, as the pandemic claimed many lives in India, gifts of over \$1 million helped our international disaster response team to provide families with life-saving resources (such as food, medicines, and hygiene kits) and to supply rural medical facilities with urgently needed oxygen and other resources. We praise God for this overwhelming response!

14 SUNDAY (ReFrame) *Prayer for the persecuted church*—In this week of prayer for the persecuted church, remember all who are imprisoned and suffering for their faith in Christ. May the grace and love of Christ be our ongoing witness everywhere. May the Spirit of God break down strongholds and hardened hearts, that the good news of Jesus may spread to the ends of the earth.

15 MONDAY (Centre for Public Dialogue) *China*—Pray for Christians in China who regularly declare their unwavering faith in the face of oppression and persecution. Pray

for protection and safety from physical harm and for provision for material needs. Pray for protection from evil—that God will guard the hearts of his people from despondency, fear, and isolation.

16 TUESDAY (Resonate) *Cambodia*—Resonate missionaries Ly Chhay and Navy Chann Chhay ask for prayer for the pastors and churches they work with in Cambodia. Pray for “God’s direction for the local church to carry out their ministry in their area and beyond,” they ask.

17 WEDNESDAY (Safe Church) *Learning*—Today the Safe Church and Women’s Leadership ministries are hosting a conversation with Beth Allison Barr, author of *The Making of Biblical Womanhood*, on how the Bible has been interpreted regarding the roles of women. Pray that everyone will come together with a posture of humility and a deep desire to learn. See network.crcna.org/safe-church.

18 THURSDAY (Pastor Church Resources) *Grace and guidance*—These days there are many opportunities for congregations to tackle topics that bring out strong opinions, emotions, and responses. Talking about “tough stuff” is important and healthy. Pray that as these conversations take place, all may listen well, honor each other, extend much grace, and listen deeply for the Spirit’s guidance.

19 FRIDAY (Resonate) *Michigan*—Hesed Community Church, a Resonate church plant partner in Detroit, Mich., recently purchased another ministry house! Pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance as they move into the neighborhood.

20 SATURDAY (ReFrame) *World Children’s Day*—This year on World Children’s Day we are focusing on children in schools across Indonesia who receive devotional booklets and watch videos supplied by our Indonesian ministry team. Pray that the biblical messages in these resources will offer hope and practical ways for young people in Indonesia to learn about faith in Christ.

21 SUNDAY (Chaplaincy and Care) *Chaplaincy Sunday*—Pray for and encourage the work of our 155 CRC chaplains ministering to over 2 million people each year in hospitals, hospices, counseling agencies, long-term care facilities, correctional facilities, community service agencies, veterans centers, the military, and the workplace. May our chaplains be a light in the darkness, bringing Christ’s grace, peace, and healing.

22 MONDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Diversity*—Over one-third of our students come from outside North America. Our students come from 25 countries, and 30 percent of our students are women. It is a blessing to hear diverse stories of the church and of Christ’s calling as we learn together. Give thanks and pray for the beautiful diversity in our seminary community.

23 TUESDAY (Resonate) *Community witness*—Pray for CRC members seeking to join God on mission in their neighborhoods. Ask God for meaningful connections with their neighbors. Pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and for opportunities to talk about Jesus.

24 WEDNESDAY (Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations) *Togetherness*—As we approach the holiday season, let’s pray that Christians everywhere will find joy and fellowship in the faith we share with each other and in the good news we work to share with the world.

25 THURSDAY (World Renew) *Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)*—“I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation. . . . I can do all this through him who gives me strength” (Phil. 4:12-13). In all things may we be thankful for the gifts God has given us, and may we use our gifts to help our neighbors.

26 FRIDAY (ReFrame) *India*—As the only Christian in his family, Binod has been concerned about the spiritual well-being of his family members. Praise God with Binod that his brother was recently baptized! Continue to pray with him that the other members of his family may come to faith in Christ.

27 SATURDAY (Resonate) *Michigan*—“Pray that God will bless our gatherings . . . and the new connections we are making with other ministries and with Michigan State University’s staff and faculty this year,” asks Dara Nykamp, a Resonate partner campus minister at Campus Edge Fellowship in East Lansing, Mich.

28 SUNDAY (Worship Ministries) *First day of Advent*—As worship leaders prepare for a busy liturgical season, pray for an anointing of the Spirit and for hearts that are open as they plan worship. Pray for freedom from distractions as they work with pastors, volunteers, and others, that they may have creative and sound resources to help lead people to saving faith in Jesus.

29 MONDAY (Race Relations) *Peace and healing*—Isaiah 9:6 promises the coming Messiah, saying, “To us a child is born.” Jesus came to bring us peace with God, with one another, and with creation. He brought peace not by asserting his rights but by taking up his cross. He came to bring healing, and he calls us to join him in this work. May we hear his Word and sacrifice ourselves to bring healing amid the racialized suffering and violence so often perpetrated today.

30 TUESDAY (World Renew) *Giving Tuesday*—On this international day of charitable giving, note that nearly a billion people are experiencing food insecurity around the world due to conflict, climate change, and economic downturn. Please join us in asking God to bring hope to these families. May they be able to access food, grow crops, save their resources for food crises, and find relief from violence or disaster that robs them of their basic needs.

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