

PRAYER GUIDE

AUGUST 2024

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

-1 Chronicles 16:11

THURSDAY (Thrive) Chaplains—In Veterans Administration hospitals, chaplains serve veterans who not only have obvious physical injuries but may also have less obvious cognitive, emotional, spiritual, or moral injuries. Pray for our chaplains as they provide pastoral care, and pray that our local churches may find ways to enfold veterans into their communities.

Pray (ReFrame Ministries) Russian ministry—Our Russian ministry team recently established a phone and internet chat hotline for internally displaced people in Ukraine. Pray for Angelina, whose husband is on the front lines of the war. "His psychological condition isn't good," Angelina said. "His calls have become aggressive, jealous, and filled with insults."

SATURDAY (Resonate Global Mission) Ministry partners—Give thanks for all of the ways God's light is shining through Resonate missionaries, church plants, campus ministries, and other ministry partners. Many of these ministries serve on the margins of the denomination and its communities. That's where Resonate is seeing a lot of growth—people are finding belonging and care in faith communities, learning about the gospel, and deciding to follow Jesus.

SUNDAY (World Renew) *lowa*—Heavy rain and flooding damaged around 2,000 properties in northwestern lowa in June. Pray for all who have been affected by the devastation, and praise God for Disaster Response Services volunteers who are already assisting with clean-up efforts. May God continue to provide for residents living in temporary shelters while their homes are restored.

MONDAY (Communications) *Preparations*—As summer rolls on, many ministry leaders are planning for a new ministry year: gathering resources, connecting with volunteers and supporters, and making schedules. Pray for pastors, chaplains, Sunday school and other church education leaders, outreach workers, committee members, and others involved in ministries as they gear up for a new season.

TUESDAY (Resonate) *Education and training*—"Thank God for opportunities to share Christ through education," shared Mwikali Wambua, a Resonate missionary in Kenya who facilitates and leads Educational Care training throughout eastern and southern Africa. Please pray for financial support for Mwikali's ministry, asking also that educators, schools, children, and families may experience kingdom transformation through these training sessions.

WEDNESDAY (ReFrame) Today devotions—Praise God for Simona, a Today reader who shared, "When my mother passed away, I was angry at God. Then I slowly gave up on life, but God saved me. God never gave up on me, and today I am clean and sober."

8 THURSDAY (World Renew) Global food crisis—Over the past several years, progress made toward food security in many countries has been blocked by conflict, drought, and various results of the COVID-19 pandemic. World Renew works to alleviate hunger through food distribution and food security programs. Ask God to intervene in all situations of chronic hunger.

9 FRIDAY (Resonate) Campus ministries—Resonate partner campus ministries throughout Canada and the United States are beginning to welcome students back to campus for the fall semester. Brian Bork, Resonate's campus ministry leader, asks you to pray for "energy and wisdom toward peacemaking on campuses where political and ideological polarization is particularly intense."

10 SATURDAY (Thrive) *Safe Church coordinators*—Safe Church coordinators assist CRC classes in establishing teams to educate, prevent, and respond to situations of abuse with compassion and justice, providing opportunities for the transforming power of God's love to be revealed in our midst. Please pray for each coordinator serving in this role within their classis.

11 SUNDAY (ReFrame) *Nepal*—Pray for Kabi, who follows ReFrame's online programs from Nepal. "Pray for my daughter Deepika," Kabi shared. "She has had trouble breathing from her right nostril since she was young. The doctors have no answer but have given her nose drops; please pray for healing and clarity."

12 MONDAY (Resonate) *Japan*—"Please remember these two churches: Chichibu Church and Hikarigaoka Christ Church. Pray for their commitment to love each other as Jesus commanded," ask Jeong and Misook Gho, Resonate missionaries who serve in Japan.

13 TUESDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *New academic year*—The seminary is gearing up for a new school year, both online and residential. Orientation, travel, moving, and readiness for courses are ongoing. Pray for these transitions as we begin the new school year together.

14 WEDNESDAY (World Renew) *Latin America*—World Renew's Latin America Ministry Team countries are in the midst of "hurricane season," and forecasts indicate that this may be a tough year. Pray for enough but not too much rain so that farmers will have successful crops. Pray also for programs in Indigenous communities throughout Latin America, that local groups may be resourced to build hope for the future in all seasons.

- **15** THURSDAY (ReFrame) *Japan*—Pray for Yoshika, who accesses our online Japanese devotions every morning. She recently shared, "My home church is far from my house, and I prioritize work and other things, so I have not been able to attend church services very often. I feel spiritually thirsty every day, but I would like to receive spiritual nourishment."
- **16** FRIDAY (Thrive) *Leaders and volunteers*—Please pray for wisdom, discernment, and strength for pastors, leaders, and volunteers in congregations across the U.S. and Canada.
- **17** SATURDAY (Resonate) *Detroit*—Word Encounter Church, a Resonate church plant partner in Detroit, Michigan, is hosting Jazz on the Grass today. This yearly event provides an opportunity for the church to engage with the local community and connect with people. Please pray that the community may experience the love of Christ through this event.
- **18** SUNDAY (Communications) Annual Day of Justice—Today is the CRC's Annual Day of Justice. Pray for churches as they reflect on how to meet the needs of people in their communities and "do away with the yoke of oppression." Pray that the CRC's Faith Practices Project may be a blessing to churches as they seek to engage in doing justice.
- **19** MONDAY (World Renew) *Peace and stability*—We pray for peace in Kenya, where recent decisions on taxes led to escalated protests. May God bring comfort to the families of persons who were killed or injured. Pray for stability in other tumultuous regions, including some where entire villages have been displaced by extremist groups.
- TUESDAY (Resonate) Middle East—A Resonate missionary serving in the Middle East asks for prayer for the member care center she is leading, as it provides pastoral care for missionaries on the field. Pray that missionaries find encouragement through this ministry so that they can continue their work of sharing Christ's love.
- **21** WEDNESDAY (ReFrame) *India*—Our Hindi ministry partners recently published a new book about Daniel. Pray that this book may touch many lives, bringing biblical truth and inspiration to the people who read it. Ask God to bless the efforts of our Hindi ministry team as they continue to serve him through Christian literature and other media.
- **22** THURSDAY (Thrive) *Disability Advocates*—Disability Advocates serve congregations by advocating with and for people with disabilities and working to address barriers to full inclusion. Please pray for the advocates in your local congregation.
- **23** FRIDAY (Resonate) *Cohort Europe*—Volunteers serving with Resonate's Cohort Europe are arriving on the field this month in Lithuania, Hungary, and Germany. Cohort is an opportunity for young adults to live in community, serve in a grassroots ministry, and engage in deep spiritual formation. Ask God to work powerfully in and through these young adults during this experience.

- **24** SATURDAY (World Renew) *Southern Africa*—Across Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia, regions continue to be in crisis with the prospect of continued worsening food insecurity. Pray for the Lord's provision, for emergency assistance efforts to be helpful, and for conservation agriculture methods to be effective.
- **25** SUNDAY (Indigenous Family Centre) *Summer*—Thank you for the support we receive from the CRCNA. Please pray for the safety, health, and well-being of our community members during the hot summer months.
- **26** MONDAY (ReFrame) *Burkina Faso*—Wendinda is a faithful listener to our French radio program in Kaya, Burkina Faso. She gives thanks to God for healing her home by freeing her husband from gambling and narcotics. She also thanks God for enabling her to open a hairdressing salon and to sell beauty products.
- **27** TUESDAY (Thrive) Children and youth ministry—Pray for children's ministry and youth ministry staff and volunteers in our churches as they prepare to return soon to fall-season programming.
- **28** WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Nicaragua*—Many Resonate missionaries serve with the Nicaragua Christian Academy. "Praise God that this school continues to serve and impact the lives of many Nicaraguan, international, and missionary students and their families," said missionaries Jessica and Liam Starkenburg.
- THURSDAY (World Renew) Sustainable solutions— The World Renew team is passionate about meeting the deepest concerns of this world with the creativity and sustainability that only the great Creator and Sustainer can provide. Praise God for the exciting ways in which long-term solutions address issues of food insecurity and injustice. Pray for continued support for projects from tree planting to refugee resettlement that offer lasting solutions.
- FRIDAY (Calvinist Cadet Corps) New season—The theme of our upcoming Cadet season, based on 1 Timothy 4:12, is "Lead the Way." We pray that this theme will challenge cadets and their counselors to be leaders in their clubs, churches, and communities. We pray that the boys and men of Cadets will "Lead the Way" as they live for Jesus.
- SATURDAY (Diaconal Ministries Canada) Benevolence—Deacons often find themselves on a treadmill of providing short-term financial help that doesn't seem to really change lives. Please pray for our new diaconal coach-atlarge, Anja, who offers a Financial Life Coaching program—a more sustainable solution to enhance the benevolent work of deacons. Lives are being changed, and financial stories are being rewritten—praise God!

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