



Christian
Reformed
Church

PRAYER GUIDE **SEPTEMBER 2024**

I will pray with my spirit,
but I will also pray with my understanding.

—1 Corinthians 14:15

1 SUNDAY (Calvin University) *New academic year*—Another academic year is starting at Calvin University, and we are grateful for your financial support. Every dollar of ministry shares for Calvin goes to student scholarships. You are making it possible for the young people of your church, school, or city to afford a Calvin education! Pray for our students, staff, and faculty as they look forward to another year of learning and discipleship.

2 MONDAY (Resonate Global Mission) *Labor Day*—On this Labor Day please pray for Resonate missionaries, church planters, campus ministers, and other ministry leaders who are working to share the gospel wherever God has called them. Please pray also that believers everywhere may share God’s love and good news in and through their daily work at home, school, and elsewhere.

3 TUESDAY (ReFrame Ministries) *Today devotions*—Pray for peace and comfort for Jackie, a *Today* reader who shared that she recently lost her son in a car accident. “I’m having trouble understanding why he was taken,” Jackie said. “My heart is broken.”

4 WEDNESDAY (Thrive) *Gather events*—Pray for Gather events taking place later this month in Vancouver, B.C. (Sept. 19-21), and

Calgary, Alta. (Sept. 23-25). At each event, several CRC classes are coming together to share what has been happening in their local contexts and to discern where God may be leading them into renewed ministry and mission.

5 THURSDAY (Resonate) *Logistics*—Pray for Resonate missionaries serving overseas and awaiting approvals on visas, work permits, and other logistic matters. Paperwork can take a long time to process, and these systems can be confusing to navigate—but these matters are important for being able to do ministry well.

6 FRIDAY (World Renew) *Government relations*—As we work to show the love of Christ in tangible ways throughout more than 30 countries, nurturing a relationship of mutual respect and trust with each nation’s government is essential. Ask God to continue to bless these efforts. May Christ’s love shine so brightly through the work of our staff and partners that governments will want them to serve in their countries.

7 SATURDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Academic year*—It’s the start of a new year. We rejoice in the enrollment of new students. Pray for returning students and for the transitions that new students, including those from many other countries, will be undertaking.

8 SUNDAY (Resonate) *Mission emphasis*—The work of mission is not just for a select few; it's an important calling for each of us. As many CRC churches begin celebrating mission emphasis this week, please pray for our church engagement teams as they walk alongside, equip, and resource churches and faith communities who are joining God on mission overseas and across the street.

9 MONDAY (ReFrame) *Japan*—Pray for Yuki, who listens to our Japanese ministry programs faithfully and wants to share them with her loved ones. Pray for courage to share God's Word, and pray that Yuki's family will be open to hearing the good news of Jesus.

10 TUESDAY (Thrive) *Ministry*—Pray for Thrive ministry consultants as they work closely with congregations across the denomination. Please pray also for your congregation's worship leaders and planners, asking God to fill them with energy, with joy in their work, and with ample times of rest.

11 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Mission emphasis*—Please pray for churches and small groups who are walking through our *Witness: Equipped to Share the Good News* study. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide these individuals and small groups as they take steps to share the love of Christ in their neighborhoods.

12 THURSDAY (World Renew) *Volunteers*—Praise God with us for volunteers! We are grateful for all the individuals who contribute to our work of living out justice, loving mercy, and

servicing Christ. May God's strength sustain all who give of their time and resources to serve with us in our offices, with Disaster Response Services, on Discovery Tours, or in their churches and communities.

13 FRIDAY (ThereforeGo Ministries) *SERVE*—Give thanks with us for a safe and fruitful summer of growth for our students through SERVE. Please pray for churches deciding to host SERVE next summer and for those making plans to send students on SERVE. May the Lord begin to prepare their hearts and minds to explore our next theme: "Beautiful and Broken."

14 SATURDAY (Resonate) *Campus ministry*—Resonate partner campus ministries throughout Canada and the United States kicked off fall semester programming with small groups, Bible studies, weekly dinners, worship gatherings, and more. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through all of these ministries to draw students, faculty, and staff into a relationship with Christ.

15 SUNDAY (ReFrame) *Kids Corner*—Praise God for Chandler, a nine-year-old who recently shared with his congregation a song that he enjoys on ReFrame's *Kids Corner* website and podcast. Praise God for Chandler's growing faith and for the opportunity he took to share his faith with others.

16 MONDAY (Thrive) *Volunteers*—Praise God for the faithful ministries of volunteers who are committed to equipping their local congregations to be safe and accessible worshiping communities.

17 TUESDAY (Resonate) *Lithuania*—Give thanks for Yana, a student at Resonate partner LCC International University in Lithuania, who decided to follow Jesus last year! Yana became interested in Christianity through interactions with friends, Resonate volunteers, and Resonate missionaries on campus. Please pray for Yana as she continues to grow as a disciple of Christ and shares her faith with the people around her.

18 WEDNESDAY (ReFrame) *French ministry*—Pray for opportunities to continue sharing the gospel in a Muslim-majority context in West Africa. Tindano, a faithful listener of our radio broadcasts there, is a Christian and journalist, and she recently asked our French ministry team to expand their broadcast to include non-Christian radio stations so that the message can reach a wider area.

19 THURSDAY (Candidacy Committee) *Prayer*—The Candidacy Committee invites you to set an alarm on your phone at 10:02 a.m. each day to pray as Jesus teaches us in Luke 10:2: “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

20 FRIDAY (Resonate) *Michigan*—Resonate church planters in Michigan ask for prayer for a couple in which the husband is struggling with alcoholism. This has made the couple open to hearing the gospel. Please pray that the husband may be healed and

that the couple may find grace and faith in Jesus.

21 SATURDAY (World Renew) *International Day of Peace*—Pray with us as nations around the globe dedicate a day to the ideals of peace, building societies where all people can flourish and be treated equally, regardless of race or background. May we work toward a world free of discrimination, and may the conflicts taking place in many nations be resolved.

22 SUNDAY (Communications) *Ministry shares*—Let’s give thanks for ministry shares and the covenant relationship they represent for CRC congregations. Ministry-share funds support local ministries, global missions, media ministry, and more to help churches share the good news of Christ and grow in faith. May churches see and embrace ministry shares as an expression of our shared purpose in serving Christ and his church.

23 MONDAY (Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee) *Unity*—Father God, we pray for unity among Christians in every denomination as we work together in your kingdom and share one hope in Jesus as our Savior and Lord.

24 TUESDAY (World Renew) *Rain*—Throughout the Global South, many people depend on having the right amount of rain. If the rainy season is too short and not enough rain falls, crops fail. But if rain is too abundant, fields and homes flood. Ask God to provide the right balance of rain and sunshine, as

well as creative initiatives and innovative solutions to combat climate change.

25 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Burundi*—Give thanks for the training that Resonate missionary Renita Reed Thomson and her partners at Discipling Marketplace Leaders led with young people in Burundi. The training equipped youth to build businesses that would help provide a livelihood as well as opportunities to live out their faith. “I now have a vision for the future!” shared one of the participants.

26 THURSDAY (ReFrame) *Chinese ministry*—Pray for opportunities to share the gospel in mainland China and beyond. In recent years large numbers of people have moved from the mainland to Hong Kong for work. Pray for our Hong Kong-based partners as they support local churches in reaching newcomers from the mainland.

27 FRIDAY (Thrive) *Chaplains*—Chaplains minister in psychiatric hospitals, behavioral health units, and forensic hospitals. Special training, skills, love, and perseverance are required while chaplains often work with limited resources to provide holistic care for patients in emotional, spiritual, and mental crises. May our chaplains in these situations receive overflowing measures of grace and wisdom for the people entrusted to their care.

28 SATURDAY (World Renew) *Education and justice*—Birth certificates can be hard to obtain when parents live far from official clinics or offices and have few resources. But a birth certificate can open doors to education, health, and employment. We work with local communities to help with this daunting task. May no child be denied an education or opportunities for a meaningful livelihood.

29 SUNDAY (Resonate) *Nicaragua*—Missionaries Jesse and Jari Rodriguez, who work with farmers in Nicaragua, are helping a neighborhood by providing garden boxes. Many families in this neighborhood search through trash for things to sell and recycle, and these garden boxes can help to provide fresh food. Pray that God’s message of love and hope will transform people’s hearts in this community.

30 MONDAY (Canadian Indigenous Ministry Committee) *Truth and Reconciliation*—Today is the annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. Please pray for the CRC’s Canadian Indigenous Ministry Committee as it seeks to reconcile the church with Indigenous people. Pray also for everyone participating in the learning journey of Hearts Exchanged.

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