

Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances.

—1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

1 MONDAY (*World Renew*) *Disaster Response*—Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, churches continue to find creative, inspiring, and cooperative opportunities to reach out to people affected by this crisis. World Renew and Diaconal Ministries Canada have partnered to offer small grants to churches assisting local ministries in meeting community needs. Please pray for the efforts of these congregations and communities in the midst of this crisis.

2 TUESDAY (*Back to God Ministries International*) *Japan*—The Japanese ministry team has been sharing stories of Jesus' healing miracles to encourage listeners at a time when much healing is needed. Ask God to use these messages to bring hope and faith to many new believers.

3 WEDNESDAY (*Resonate Global Mission*) *Worldwide*—Through Resonate Global Mission, the Christian Reformed Church sends and supports 120 missionaries throughout the world. Please pray for missionaries as they plant churches, disciple believers, equip leaders, and minister to seekers. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide, encourage, and protect these missionaries as they spread the gospel.

4 THURSDAY (*Faith Formation Ministries*) *Summer ministry*—Please join with FFM staff in praying for the many children, youth, and emerging adults who are grieving the loss of summer camp experiences this year. Pray for camp ministries and churches that are working hard to create other faith formative opportunities for children and youth to meet and grow in relationship with Jesus Christ this summer.

5 FRIDAY (*World Renew*) *Honduras*—While borders, schools, and businesses in Honduras have been closed, World Renew's agricultural initiatives have been deemed an essential service: providing food security for the nation's people. We thank you for your prayers for the people of Honduras and for our staff as they prepare to faithfully carry out their work.

6 SATURDAY (*Resonate*) *Japan*—Less than 2 percent of Japan's population openly follow Christ. Before the coronavirus pandemic, Resonate missionaries Larry and Ruth Spalink reported that more people were attending church. Praise God! Please ask the Holy Spirit to keep working in people's lives and to draw them into a relationship with Jesus.

7 SUNDAY (*Communications*) *Trinity Sunday*—Many churches celebrate this first Sunday after Pentecost as Trinity Sunday. Praise God for his three-in-one nature and celebrate his love in creating us, saving us, and guiding us for his glory.

8 MONDAY (*Disability Concerns*) *Pandemic*—Pray for people with disabilities in our churches and society. We have watched with anguish and sadness as our global society

has approached the COVID-19 crisis from an ableist perspective. Many of us have not received services that we require. Pray that everyone in need may receive the comfort of the Holy Spirit. We are all broken as we come before God.

9 TUESDAY (*Resonate*) *Workers*—In Matthew 9:37, Jesus tells his disciples: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." Ask God to raise up more people to join God's mission with Resonate.

10 WEDNESDAY (*Back to God Ministries*) *Burkina Faso*—Djibril is a young man who came to faith in Christ a few months ago, and he recently visited our offices in Burkina Faso to tell his story. Praise God for working in the life of Djibril. Pray that he will continue to grow in faith.

11 THURSDAY (*World Renew*) *Hunger crisis*—Experts predict that the number of people facing food crises in the world may double because of COVID-19. In this time of need, we are reminded of Jesus' call to love our neighbor, and providing food is a demonstration of our love. Please pray that we can continue to respond to this great need and that families will have enough to eat.

12 FRIDAY (*Resonate*) *Central Asia*—Many Resonate missionaries serve as teachers in Christian schools throughout the world. A Resonate missionary who serves as a teacher in Central Asia asks you to pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of students as he teaches them a biblical worldview.

13 SATURDAY (*Safe Church*) *Webinars*—Give thanks and pray for our webinar series. In April, Ruth Everhart discussed her book, *The #MeToo Reckoning*. In May we heard from Chuck DeGroat, who wrote *When Narcissism Comes to Church*. Pray that the webinar recordings become helpful resources for churches, and that online book studies lead to additional discussion and learning. Pray for future webinar planning.

14 SUNDAY (*Candidacy Committee*) *Candidates*—Pray for the 36 persons being approved as first-time candidates this month. Celebrate with them and lift them up in prayer for discernment and patience as they seek a call. The names and photos of candidates are available at crcna.org/candidacy. Note too that the eligibility of 23 other candidates is being extended for another year—they also cherish your prayers.

15 MONDAY (*Resonate*) *Canada*—Pray for Resonate missionaries in British Columbia as they share the gospel with a people group from the Middle East who are from a predominantly Muslim background. Ask the Holy Spirit to open hearts to the truth of Jesus as Lord and Savior!

16 TUESDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Planning*—Pray for students, staff, and faculty as we prepare this summer to find the best way forward for the fall semester in the midst of the virus pandemic. Pray for discernment in decision making and planning for all.

17 WEDNESDAY (World Renew) *Uganda and Kenya*—While much of the world focuses on the virus pandemic, East Africa is battling the worst invasion of desert locusts in decades. Pray for wisdom for our staff as they navigate virus-related issues that limit community action and make it difficult to address this threat that is devastating crops in these countries. Ask God to protect the communities affected by this disaster.

18 THURSDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Mexico*—A television station in Mexico reached out to our Spanish-language ministry to ask for a special Sunday-service program in light of COVID-19. The video had more than 180,000 viewers in Mexico. Praise God for this opportunity to reach people with God's good news in a time of suffering.

19 FRIDAY (Resonate) *Eastern Europe*—A Resonate missionary in Eastern Europe asks you to pray for fruitful trainings for church planters. Ask God to work through the trainings to mentor and equip more Christian leaders for his kingdom.

20 SATURDAY (Edmonton Native Healing Centre) *Community*—Pray for continued health and safety for the homeless people in Edmonton, who appear not to have had a COVID-19 case among them yet (as of mid-May). Pray for our staff working to meet community needs daily, and for our mental health counselors working online, by phone, and in person. Please pray also for success with funding requests we have submitted for aid to help us continue serving the community.

21 SUNDAY (Canadian Indigenous Ministries Committee) *National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada)*—Pray for the CRC as it journeys toward reconciliation. Ask God to show us the broken places that need healing, help us to confront the areas of misunderstanding that need clarity, and bring us together as one body with many members. May God make the church a channel of his peace.

22 MONDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Today devotions*—Pray with Shawn, who reads the *Today* devotions and wrote us to say, "I'm a new Christian, and I'm born again! I ask that you pray for me, that the Lord will continue to have *his* way in my life and will give me a continued hunger for his Word!"

23 TUESDAY (World Renew) *Climate change*—World Renew has joined a group of Canadian churches, development agencies, and faith-based organizations in a new strategic response to climate change called "For the Love of Creation—A Faith-Based Initiative for Climate Justice." They aim to engage people in action and dialogue through theological reflection, local and congregational engagement, and political advocacy. Join us in praying that everyone involved will grow in their understanding and faith in God, including a greater commitment to care for creation as God intends.

24 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *West Africa*—Resonate missionaries in West Africa ask you to pray for peace

in the region, where ethnic tensions often cause violence. Ask the Prince of Peace to bring an end to the conflicts there.

25 THURSDAY (Chaplaincy and Care) *Care amid crisis*—During these unprecedented times, chaplains are providing pastoral care on the frontlines in hospitals, prisons, nursing homes, hospice settings, military installations, and workplaces. They provide hope, healing, and connection to God in the midst of grief and isolation. Pray for strength, health, and safety for our 147 chaplains as they minister to thousands of people each week.

26 FRIDAY (Raise Up: Educational Care) *Innovation*—From an African school that participated in Educational Care: "Before we closed school, children were happy, especially knowing everything we own belongs to God [as learned in Educational Care]. Amid the disruptions due to COVID-19, we are grateful for the blessings of technology that help us keep in touch with our partners, and we can use this time to strengthen our resources. Pray for wisdom to be innovative as we move forward into a new reality."

27 SATURDAY (Youth Unlimited) *SERVE 2020*—Youth Unlimited has launched SERVE@Home, an opportunity for youth and other members of their congregation to participate in mission work this summer in their local contexts. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it impossible for churches to travel to SERVE sites, so we pray that this ministry will bring students together to minister in their communities and be strengthened in faith.

28 SUNDAY (World Renew) *Haiti*—World Renew is launching a short-term disaster response in Haiti to control the spread of COVID-19. Community and church leaders will be trained to lead awareness campaigns in their communities. Radio stations will broadcast messages about COVID-19, informative flyers will be distributed, and families will receive soap and hand sanitizer. Please pray that these efforts will help prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Haiti.

29 MONDAY (Resonate) *Graduates*—Pray for children of missionaries—and students that Resonate missionaries teach—who graduated from high school this year. Because of COVID-19, many of them missed out on graduation ceremonies and other end-of-year events. Many will be moving to other countries for university, jobs, and more. Pray for grace in the transition.

30 TUESDAY (Back to God Ministries) *India*—On a recent visit to communities reached by our programs in India, ministry staff met a man named Rinku, who demonstrated his talents of writing and singing songs. Praise God for the joyful noise he made! Pray, along with Rinku, that he will find opportunities to use his gifts for God's glory.

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