

Devote yourselves to prayer,
being watchful and thankful.

—Colossians 4:2

1 SUNDAY (CRWRC) *50 years of ministry*—Join CRWRC in praising God for his faithfulness over the past 50 years of ministry. From 1962-2012, God has worked through the lives of thousands of CRWRC volunteers, supporters, partners, and staff to share his mercy and love with people who are poor and disadvantaged. Pray for God's continued blessings in the years ahead.

2 MONDAY (World Missions) *Ukraine*—George de Vuyst and a colleague are leading Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) for mission and church leaders in Kyiv, Ukraine, this month. Praise God that interest in TLT is spreading to new areas. Pray that participants may be challenged and encouraged through this training and to bring back what they've learned to their agencies, churches, and communities.

3 TUESDAY (Pastor-Church Relations) *Maintaining balance*—Pray for pastors and their families challenged with various and competing demands for their focus, attention, resources, strength, energy, passion, time, recreation, commitment, and more. Pray that a God-honoring balance may be discovered and practiced.

4 WEDNESDAY (Back to God Ministries International) *Middle East*—Please pray for the safety of new believers and of our Arabic staff in the Middle East. Staff members have received covert requests for specific information about Muslim seekers who visit our website chatroom to ask about the Christian faith. Pray for wisdom in discipling these seekers and new believers.

5 THURSDAY (Chaplaincy and Care Ministry) *Serving veterans*—Chaplains who serve veterans are increasingly busy as large numbers of young men and women return from recent war fronts with physical injuries and/or emotional damage. Pray for chaplains like Ron Cok and Bruce Anderson who work with these veterans, and please ask that others may be drawn into this important ministry. Pray for Benita Koeman, the wife of a military chaplain, who manages a ministry and website called "Operation We Are Here" to help the families of deployed servicemen and women.

6 FRIDAY (Home Missions) *Church renewal*—The Home Missions Eastern Canada regional team helps to lead an extended time of prayer for congregations entering a re-visioning or renewal journey. Pray for this process and for churches seeking renewal.

7 SATURDAY (Canadian Ministries) *Urban Aboriginal Ministries*—In traditional Aboriginal culture, winter is a time for reflection. Pray that people would indeed have time and the inclination to take time to reflect on their lives and on how they would like to grow. Ask God's Spirit to guide this process.

8 SUNDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Study tours*—During the January term a group of seminary students and

a few spouses and others will be accompanying Professor Jeff Weima to Greece and Turkey on a tour to study Paul's missionary journeys. Another group will be accompanying Professor Mariano Avila to Honduras as part of a J-term course called "Seeds of Justice, Harvest of Shalom." Please pray that these study tours will be rich learning experiences, and pray for safety in travel.

9 MONDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Brazil*—Praise God that our Portuguese ministry distributed a record 900,000 Christmas *Cada Dia* devotional booklets in December. Pray that those who received these booklets as gifts will subscribe to the monthly devotional and daily continue to seek God's Word and will.

10 TUESDAY (World Missions) *Nigeria*—Praise God for the 410 women and 90 children involved in Bible Study Fellowship ministry in Nigeria. Last year several of the women testified to God's work within them, transforming them to love their enemies. Pray that they may discover more about following God through their study of Acts this year.

11 WEDNESDAY (Disability Concerns) *A matter of justice*—Disability is not only a medical or rehabilitation issue but also a matter of justice. As national and local leaders struggle with tight budgets, please pray that our societies will continue to place a high priority on services for people with serious mental illnesses and other disabilities.

12 THURSDAY (CRWRC) *Haiti*—Two years ago Haiti was rocked by the 7.0-magnitude earthquake that killed over 200,000 people and left millions homeless. Pray for the families who are still mourning and recovering. Praise God that in the past two years, thousands have received food, water, shelter, medical aid, counseling, and livelihood assistance through CRWRC, including about 2,500 families who have received earthquake-resistant houses.

13 FRIDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Japan*—For many years Hiroshi listened to our radio messages and attended ministry events. Recently he accepted Christ as Savior and took the bold step of asking to be baptized. However, the pastor who was preparing him for baptism accepted a call to another church. Pray that during this waiting time Hiroshi will remain steadfast in his desire to profess Christ publicly.

14 SATURDAY (Sustaining Pastoral Excellence) *Your pastor*—Pastors have received a wonderful calling from God, and as a result they experience many blessings. But their job isn't always easy. Please pray for your pastor regularly. Pray for strength, wisdom, patience, health, good relationships, refreshment, and God's continuous leading in his/her life.

15 SUNDAY (Home Missions) *Central U.S.*—The Home Missions Central U.S. Region includes 13 new churches, five campus ministries, and a leadership network. Please pray for

regional leader Peter Kelder and his team, who are also serving more than 100 CRCs through coaching, workshops, and consultation.

16 MONDAY (GEMS girls clubs) *New staff*—The Lord has recently brought a new staff person to GEMS to help us reach girls in urban settings in North America. We pray for his Spirit to continue to lead the way in this important outreach effort—to go before us as we initiate contacts and build relationships with urban churches.

17 TUESDAY (Race Relations) *Recruiting*—In January we will begin regional recruiting for facilitators for the racial reconciliation program “Widening the Circle.” Please pray that God will provide the needed volunteers from various congregations so that this training may spread to more churches.

18 WEDNESDAY (Back to God Ministries) *North America*—Pray for Jan, who responded to our English daily video reflection, *Walk the Way*. She wrote, “I cannot quite believe in God.” Pray that she will continue to listen to God’s Word through *Walk the Way* and take the step of faith to walk with Jesus daily.

19 THURSDAY (Home Missions) *Church planting*—Aaron Au is preparing to plant a new church in Edmonton, Alta., that serves people of various cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds. Pray for Aaron as he interns at MosaicHouse, a Home Missions-supported Edmonton church plant.

20 FRIDAY (World Missions) *Nicaragua*—Liam Starkenburg serves as general director of Nicaragua Christian Academy (NCA), a school with over 280 students. Five years ago, NCA began a Spanish-speaking school, NCA Nejapa. Now administrators hope to open another Spanish-speaking school in northern Nicaragua. Pray for wisdom for NCA leaders as they dream and plan.

21 SATURDAY (Home Missions) *Campus ministry*—Please pray for the new campus ministry at Fanshawe College in Woodstock, Ont. Pray that God will open doors of connection to establish incarnational ministry there.

22 SUNDAY (CRWRC) *Refugees*—Pray for refugee families from around the world who are forced to flee their countries because of violence, persecution, or natural disaster. Praise God that in the past 50 years the CRC has assisted thousands of refugees in resettling in North America through CRWRC. Pray that churches and individuals will continue to welcome refugee families in Jesus’ name.

23 MONDAY (Canadian Ministries) *Centre for Public Dialogue*—On January 24, Prime Minister Harper will be meeting with First Nations leaders from across Canada. This is an important step in forming a new nation-to-nation relationship between the Canadian government and Indigenous peoples in Canada. Pray for wisdom for all attending this meeting and that tangible steps for justice and a new relationship will take place.

24 TUESDAY (ServiceLink) *Volunteers*—There are many ways to serve others for the kingdom; ServiceLink helps churches and individuals explore many volunteer opportunities and then offers training and encouragement so that they can serve well at home or abroad. Pray that we discern the Lord’s leading in how best to bless the lives of others when we volunteer our time, talents, and treasures.

25 WEDNESDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Central African Republic*—Pray for a pastor in Bangui whose life was transformed through our French Bible study correspondence ministry. He reported that these systematic studies of God’s Word renewed his prayer life and passion for pastoral ministry. Pray that he will be effective as he disciples others in the Christian faith.

26 THURSDAY (World Missions) *Regional leaders*—Christian Reformed World Missions’ regional leaders oversee missionaries and ministries in specific geographic areas. Pray for safety in their frequent travels, insight and vision for current and possible ministry plans, and wisdom in supporting and encouraging missionaries in their regions.

27 FRIDAY (Home Missions) *Prayer, discipleship, and small groups*—Pray for Global Coffee Break Leaders throughout North America, Asia, South America, and Africa who lead people to discover Jesus through his Word. Pray for the Global Coffee Break Leadership team, representing four CRC agencies, and for our partner organizations as they make training and Coffee Break materials available worldwide.

28 SATURDAY (CRWRC) *Cambodia*—Pray for the country of Cambodia, where communities are learning the importance of education and literacy. Praise God that through CRWRC parents are encouraged to send their children to school, many for the first time. Give thanks that communities are building school latrines and wells and setting up nutrition programs for young children.

29 SUNDAY (Safe Church Ministry) *Church policies*—As a new year begins, pray that our churches will renew their commitment to keep children and vulnerable populations safe in the church environment. The Office of Safe Church Ministry has received many calls recently from churches creating or revising their safe church policies to reduce the risk of abuse (and the risk of false allegations against church staff or volunteers). Ask the Lord to bless these efforts to keep our churches safe and free from any kind of abuse.

30 MONDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Indonesia*—Praise God for 140 church leaders who received training to expand Global Coffee Break Bible study outreach in Indonesia. Pray that this resource for studying God’s Word, new to people in Indonesia, will have a huge impact for evangelism and discipleship in this country.

31 TUESDAY (World Missions) *West Africa*—Conferences on ministering to Muslims are being held in several West Africa locations throughout the year. Pray for wisdom and discernment as people discuss how to effectively share about Jesus as Savior and to follow through in their communities.

 www.crcna.org

To see the latest prayer concerns online or to subscribe for weekly e-mail delivery, please visit www.crcna.org/pray.