

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



# Daily Prayer & Mission Moment Calendar

February – April 2021

God is in love with the world. And Christ calls us to participate in God's mission in and for the world by working and praying for the growth of God's reign of love and reconciliation.

In the crucifixion, Christ tramples down death and all that denies life and hope. And in his resurrection, we are able to see God at work in the world. The church lives out Easter hope by praying for and taking action to help the suffering find justice, the troubled have peace, the vulnerable be protected, the hurt begin healing and the wronged reconciled.

This new format of the Prayer Partnership resource integrates daily prayers, justice initiatives and stories about ways The Presbyterian Church in Canada participates hopefully in God's mission in and to the world.

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### International Decade for People of African Descent

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2015–2024 as the **International Decade for People of African Descent**.<sup>1</sup> The intention is to recognize the many millions of people of African descent whose rights must be protected.

*Living Faith* states that human beings “have been made in the divine image,” affirming the value and dignity of all people (2.2.1). But the horrific treatment of people of African descent by colonial powers throughout history demonstrates a blatant disregard of this basic assertion.

While the abolition of the slave trade and the civil rights movement were important steps forward for race relations in Canada and the United States, the current landscape of race relations calls us to resist any narrative that diminishes the depth and ongoing harm of systemic racism in our society.

The Canadian story must recall that slavery existed in Canada from the 16th century until its abolition in 1834, and that African Canadians faced segregation in housing, schooling and employment. While Canada has taken steps to promote diversity and inclusion, the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent notes that people of African descent living in Canada experience poverty at higher rates than much of the population, have poorer health and lower educational outcomes, and are overrepresented in the criminal justice system.

**What can you do?** Racism diminishes the integrity and well-being of all parts of society. We can meaningfully participate in the International Decade for People of African Descent by raising awareness and learning about anti-Black racism in our church and communities. One way to do this is by contacting city, provincial or territory and federal officials, as well as your church minister or local police departments, to see what actions they are taking to promote the Decade’s themes of recognition, justice and development.

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1 To learn more about the Decade, see [un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent](https://un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent).

We celebrate in prayer that vulnerable families in Nicaragua are being empowered through PWS&D-supported programs to help with their babies' growth, and the overall health of their families.



## Knowledge Nourishes Babies and Families

When Cristina Flete gave birth to her first baby, she wasn't aware of how crucial exclusive breastfeeding and developmental activities could be to her child's long-term health. When her second child was born, Cristina attended a workshop facilitated by Presbyterian World Service & Development's (PWS&D) local partner in Nicaragua. With other mothers, Cristina learned the importance of breastmilk for a child's developing brain and how to create materials to stimulate her child's mind. Additionally, culinary classes empower parents with tools to help with their families' overall health. With PWS&D support, families are combating malnutrition and chronic illness, giving their babies the best chance for a future of good health.

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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## FEBRUARY

**Monday, February 1** We pray that God nurtures and grows our practice of hospitality so that we might offer our time to those in need of friendship and compassion more easily and often.

**Tuesday, February 2** We give thanks and pray for all frontline workers who support and serve under difficult circumstances.

**Wednesday, February 3** We pray for the Near East School of Theology (NEST) in Beirut, Lebanon, and for Dr. George Sabra, President of NEST, as the school continues its recovery efforts after the explosion in Beirut's port in August.

**Thursday, February 4** We pray for church secretaries and custodians and all those who support the worship and mission of the church in ways that are too often overlooked.

**Friday, February 5** We pray for all those affected by COVID-19, including international partners of Presbyterian World Service & Development who continue to respond.

**Saturday, February 6** We give thanks for the people in our lives who have mentored and nurtured us in Christian faith and discipline.

**(PWS&D Sunday)** We give thanks for congregations and individuals who continue to generously support the work Presbyterian World Service & Development is doing to bring abundant life for all.



## PWS&D Sunday

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) envisions a sustainable, compassionate and just world. On PWS&D Sunday, we celebrate and reflect on the work our church is doing to ensure vulnerable communities around the world are able to improve their quality of life. From responding to emergencies to helping people access nutritious food, clean water, adequate health care and quality education, PWS&D is helping people thrive. Through the generous support of individuals and congregations, and in collaboration with global partners, we respond together.

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, February 8** We pray for The Presbyterian Church in Canada's staff as they work to carry out the decisions of the General Assembly and support the church's mission in the world.

**Tuesday, February 9** We pray for those doing interim or transitional ministry, and for the congregations they are serving, that God will work with them to bring healing, new hope and renewed vision.

**Wednesday, February 10** We pray for Sylvia Haddad, Director of the Joint Christian Committee for Social Service, as she supports Palestinian and Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

**Thursday, February 11** We pray for those offering congregational and mission outreach programs and for those who receive food and clothing from them. May they all experience the love of Christ through these caring initiatives.

**Friday, February 12** Today is the anniversary of the publication of the PCC's letter of repentance for how it has treated LGBTQI people. We pray for those harmed by homophobia and ask for God's guidance in becoming a more inclusive and whole church.

**Saturday, February 13** We pray for Captain Gavin Robertson, who serves as a reserve force military chaplain in Trail, B.C., and for his ministry of presence with the diverse communities that are part of the Canadian Armed Forces.

**(Transfiguration Sunday)** We pray for the gift of love in our lives—love that is patient, kind, faithful and unconditional.

## A Meaningful Message

St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church in Creston, B.C., is a small, remote church tucked away in the Kootenay Valley. With a grant from Presbyterians Sharing to support ministry in remote communities, they called the Rev. Stephen Vangroonen to their congregation in the hope that he would help strengthen and grow their ministry. But shortly after he and his family arrived, the COVID-19 pandemic hit, and the congregation found itself adapting quickly to move their services online. Then, when churches were permitted to reopen, they had to adapt to the new health and safety protocols. Throughout it all, the Rev. Vangroonen has blessed St. Stephen's with a positive outlook, continually encouraging the new community he serves to trust God and share the love of Christ with others—a meaningful message during this turbulent time.



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## DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, February 15 (Family Day)** We pray for families of all shapes, sizes and configurations, that they may be filled with love and joy.

**Tuesday, February 16 (Shrove Tuesday)** We give thanks to God for seasons of feasting and fasting, and we pray for all who have chosen a discipline to follow in the season of Lent.

**Wednesday, February 17 (Ash Wednesday)** Loving God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive our sins. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until it rests in you. Help us to return to you and to your way, and create in us new hearts so that we might love you more dearly and follow you more nearly.

**Thursday, February 18** We give thanks and pray for schools and teachers who are working to provide the best educational tools to engage and teach children both at home virtually and in the classroom.

**Friday, February 19** We pray for those leading worship and study groups in this Lenten season.

**Saturday, February 20 (World Day for Social Justice)** We pray for the peacemakers and justice seekers who are working to reflect God's vision of justice in the world, where the dignity and well-being of all are protected.

**(1st Sunday in Lent | Heritage Sunday)** We give thanks to God for our ancestors, and pray that we might remember and appreciate the gifts they have passed down to us.

## Certainty in the Midst of Change

We live in a world that is constantly changing. The past year brought unprecedented change, and we had to learn to adapt in our lives, jobs and congregations. In the midst of so much change, Presbyterians Sharing has continued to support the mission and ministry we do together—often in new and adaptive ways. What hasn't changed is our commitment to one another, discerning together, moving forward together, being in community together, sharing God's message together, confronting injustice together and caring for vulnerable people together. That's what Presbyterians Sharing is all about. As we put our gifts into God's hands, God is doing remarkable things.




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## DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, February 22** We pray for new ministers who may feel overwhelmed and alone in their first pastoral charge.

**Tuesday, February 23** We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Essex-Kent in Ont.

**Wednesday, February 24 (Black History Month)** We celebrate and give thanks for the contributions and prophetic witness of Black people in Canada.

**Thursday, February 25** We pray for the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca's Ministry Committee. May they feel a strong sense of God's presence to strengthen, focus and lead their discernment.

**Friday, February 26** Eternal God, in the worry and anxiety of life, we pray for assurance that comes by faith alone: "Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you" (Psalm 116:7).

**Saturday, February 27** We remember in prayer the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024) and give thanks for those working to promote and protect the rights of people of African descent.

# MARCH

## S O C I A L   A C T I O N   S P O T L I G H T

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### Women's Rights

Gender equality is a right under the United Nations Charter. Fulfilling this right is one of the most effective ways the world has to meet some of the most pressing challenges of our time—from economic crises and lack of health care, to climate change, violence against women and protracted conflicts.

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed an even heavier burden on women and reversed many gains made toward gender equality in recent years. Women and girls face higher rates of poverty, increased care burdens and greater exposure to violence. The United Nations estimates that a further 36.5 million women will be pushed into extreme poverty due to the pandemic. The rate of child marriage is also expected to increase.

On March 8, the world recognizes **International Women's Day**—a day to reflect on progress made, call for change and celebrate the work that women around the world have played in achieving gender equality. While unprecedented advances have been made, no country has yet achieved gender equality.

Internationally, our church is working through Presbyterian World Service & Development to ensure that women have equal access to resources and opportunities, from support for women's health to girls' education projects, livelihoods and financial literacy training. By empowering women and girls to use their voices to advocate for their rights, we're contributing to a more just world.

**What can you do?** Watch the *Common Strength* documentary, available from Canadian Foodgrains Bank, to learn more about the challenges faced by women in the developing world.<sup>1</sup> If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, world hunger could decrease by 12–17%. Let your Member of Parliament know you would like the Canadian government to invest more in ensuring women have equal access to resources, empowering them to thrive.

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<sup>1</sup> [foodgrainsbank.ca/commonstrength](http://foodgrainsbank.ca/commonstrength)

**(2nd Sunday in Lent)** God of Lent, we pray your grace moves us beyond our desires so that we may offer ourselves to you and put our faith into action.



## Hygiene Kits Protect Families in Nicaragua

“As a family, we try to take all the necessary measures, like covering our nose when sneezing, avoiding shaking hands or going places where there might be large crowds. For many of the families in our community, it’s not possible to acquire protection materials like face masks, gloves, hand sanitizer or cleaning materials due to rising prices in the market. We are so thankful for all of you and the help you bring to our community.” Like many in Nicaragua, María struggles to access proper protection materials and cleaning products due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Presbyterian World Service & Development, through local partners, is helping people like María and her whole community, receive hygiene and sanitation items, ensuring they are prepared to safely face the pandemic.

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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## MARCH

**Monday, March 1** We pray for presbyteries of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that they have a spirit of cooperation and collegiality as they oversee the work of ministers and congregations.

**Tuesday, March 2** We pray for stewardship and mission committees as they work to inspire their congregations and generate enthusiasm for the ministry God is doing through them.

**Wednesday, March 3** We pray for food banks as they find ways to meet the increased demand for their services.

**Thursday, March 4** We pray for Atlantic Mission Society groups and members as they find new ways to meet together for worship, fellowship and to support the mission work of the church.

**Friday, March 5 (World Day of Prayer)** We pray for wisdom and guidance to be better neighbours, to better care for the homeless, the elderly and those who are different from us, and to live in harmony with all of your creation.

**Saturday, March 6** We pray for members of the Benevolence Committee and those who receive support thanks to generous gifts that people have made over the years.

**(3rd Sunday in Lent)** We pray for the ministry of the Revs. Jon Wyminga and Shannon Bell in the Dakelh communities of the Cariboo region of B.C. as they bring hope in the face of much despair and many deaths in the past year.



## Staying Connected During the Pandemic

Serving Palestinians in Gaza, Jerusalem, the West Bank, Jordan and Lebanon since 1948, the work of the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) in health care, education and food security is essential. When COVID-19 struck, DSPR Director, Dr. Bernard Sabella, knew they needed the support of their friends. DSPR invited partners to attend five webinars to learn and understand the economic and political challenges, and to hear from people working on the ground. Partners were asked to fund the webinars, and International Ministries was one of the first to respond. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing have supported DSPR since 2011 in their ministry of maintaining human dignity and hope for Palestinian refugees.

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, March 8 (International Women's Day)** We give thanks for Presbyterian World Service & Development projects that work to break barriers to gender equality and empower women to achieve economic independence and improve their well-being.

**Tuesday, March 9** We pray for an end to violence and rights abuses of women and girls, and ask for the willingness to challenge systems that underpin gender inequality and to celebrate women's achievements.

**Wednesday, March 10** We pray for the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) and the newly appointed officers of the General Assembly, including the Rev. Mwawi Chilongozi, the first woman to serve as General Secretary of the CCAP General Assembly.

**Thursday, March 11** We pray for Cathy Reid, President of the Women's Missionary Society (WMS), as she meets with WMS groups and members online to study and pray.

**Friday, March 12** We pray for Commander Bonnie Mason, Deputy Director of Chaplaincy Services in the Canadian Armed Forces, who offers spiritual and moral guidance to our military leaders.

**Saturday, March 13** We pray for the Rev. Cheryl Gaver, Presbytery Ministry Animator for the Presbyteries of Ottawa and Seaway-Glengarry in Ont.

**(4th Sunday in Lent)** We give thanks and pray for Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas in Guatemala as they empower Mayan women through Bible study and workshops on self-esteem and human rights.



## Empowering Women and Girls

On March 8, we celebrate International Women's Day and reflect on the work the church is doing around the world to help achieve gender equality. Through Presbyterian World Service & Development, we support programs that help marginalized women and girls reach their full potential, access quality education and health care, achieve economic independence and advocate for their rights. Empowering and supporting vulnerable women and girls not only creates self-reliance but is crucial to ending poverty and hunger. When women are empowered, they help build a more sustainable and just world.

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, March 15** We give thanks for volunteers, who are the heart and hands of their church communities.

**Tuesday, March 16** We pray for the Ministry & Personnel Committee of the Presbytery of Lindsay-Peterborough in Ont. May they feel a strong sense of God's presence to strengthen, focus and lead their discernment.

**Wednesday, March 17** We pray for Presbyterian World Service & Development projects that teach families about cooking and nutrition in order to build healthier, more sustainable futures.

**Thursday, March 18** We pray that the faculty of Knox College (Toronto, Ont.), Presbyterian College (Montreal, Que.) and Vancouver School of Theology (B.C.) find joy and wisdom in and for the work of theological education.

**Friday, March 19** We pray for those who are feeling isolated or alone, and give thanks for church fellowship programs that extend Christ's friendship to those suffering from loneliness and isolation.

**Saturday, March 20 (Spring Equinox)** We give thanks for a new growing season and pray for ministries with gardening programs.

**(5th Sunday in Lent | International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination)** Holy God, Creator of all, we pray for courage to live lives of truth, reconciliation and healing, to face our complicity in perpetuating racism, and to work towards eliminating racial prejudice and injustice so that all your world can live in harmony.



## Summer Student's Virtual Ministry

Presbyterians Sharing provides financial assistance for seminary students to gain ministry experience by serving in rural and remote congregations across the country. Last summer, Samuel Andri, a student from the Vancouver School of Theology, served in the Synod of Saskatchewan. Due to COVID-19, Samuel led online worship and helped deliver a Vacation Bible School program virtually. Though his responsibilities were fulfilled online instead of in person, it did not make his experience any less meaningful. When asked about his summer experience, Samuel said, "I am forever grateful for the opportunity to reflect on what it means to serve God in more rural areas of Canada and to reflect on the beauty of serving God in a more close-knit community even through online platforms."

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, March 22 (World Water Day)** We give thanks to God for the gift of safe, clean water.

**Tuesday, March 23** We give thanks for people and projects that help provide access to safe water and sanitation for vulnerable communities in Canada and abroad.

**Wednesday, March 24** We pray for the treasurers of congregations who work hard all year to keep the financial books in order.

**Thursday, March 25** We pray for members of the Assembly Council Design Team and Assembly Office staff as they prepare in new ways for the 2021 General Assembly.

**Friday, March 26** We pray for the ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Cape Breton in N.S.

**Saturday, March 27** We pray for Jewish families and communities celebrating Passover.

## Ecological Justice and Climate Change

Rising sea levels, expanding deserts, raging forest fires, melting glaciers, overflowing garbage dumps, floating islands of plastic, extreme weather events—the world is in the grips of an ecological crisis. The planet is warming, significantly, affecting life as we know it. Climate change is impacting food production, decreasing biodiversity and rapidly increasing rates of extinction. It is devastating economies, destroying homes and creating ecological refugees. It is also harming mental health, as people express ecological grief, feeling anxious and hopeless about the health of our planet.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada acknowledges that global warming is caused by human activities and that those who have done the least to contribute to the causes suffer disproportionately from its impacts. We believe that those who produce the majority of the greenhouse gases have a special responsibility to do more to stop it and remediate its impacts.

The world is a beloved gift from God. We do not own it—but God has given all humanity the responsibility to care for it and to respect the integrity of its natural systems and the limits they place on economic growth and material consumption. As the body of Christ in the world, we are called to help shape a world that allows all of creation, including humans, to flourish.

Reduce, reuse and recycle! Buy locally grown and in-season foods when you are able. Contact your local MPP and raise the issue of plastic reduction in your municipality.<sup>1</sup>

As a congregation, reduce your use of plastics, promote congregational awareness about the impact of climate change and plastics, and organize an environmental audit on your building and practices. Participate in the KAIROS ecological justice 30 Day Challenge.<sup>2</sup>

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1 Find sample letters to government at [presbyterian.ca/justice/letters-to-the-government](https://www.presbyterian.ca/justice/letters-to-the-government).

2 [kairoscanada.org](https://www.kairoscanada.org)

**(Palm/Passion Sunday)** When we turn off our lights during **Earth Hour**, we are reminded of the need to use the Earth's resources responsibly. We pray that we will carry this reminder throughout the year.



## Providing Clean Water and Sanitation

Today, there are 4.2 billion people in the world who do not have access to sanitation services and 2.2 billion people who do not have safe, clean water to drink. Consequently, many people are at risk for waterborne diseases, such as cholera and diarrhea. The COVID-19 pandemic has made us even more aware of the importance of clean water, as handwashing is a crucial way to help curb the spread of disease. Presbyterian World Service & Development works with local partners to bring clean water and sanitation services to vulnerable communities. Clean water allows people to harvest crops, care for their families, expand their livelihoods and lead healthy, productive lives.

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, March 29** We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Kootenay in B.C.

**Tuesday, March 30** We pray for retired ministers and professional church workers, and for those preparing for retirement.

**Wednesday, March 31 (Transgender Day of Visibility)** We pray for the safety, dignity and well-being of all transgender people.

## APRIL

**Thursday, April 1 (Maundy Thursday)** We give thanks for the leadership of the Rev. Amanda Currie while she served as Moderator and for the support of the Committee to Advise with the Moderator during her term and today as they count the ballots for the Moderator-Elect for the upcoming General Assembly.

**Friday, April 2 (Good Friday)** Let us pray for the church, and that God will keep it faithful in worship, humble in service, gracious in spirit, grounded in truth and persistent in proclaiming the good news of the gospel.

**Saturday, April 3 (Holy Saturday)** We pray for a spirit of encouragement for congregations as they seek ways to work with local churches and interfaith organizations.

**(Easter Sunday)** God's love has given us new life and hope. By love, for love, Christ is risen! In love we proclaim: Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!



## Nourishing Body, Mind and Spirit

Food is central to fellowship, providing both physical and emotional nourishment. Not surprisingly, some of the ministries supported by gifts to Presbyterians Sharing share God's love through food. The Raw Carrot Soup Enterprise in Hamilton, Ont., provides nourishment with their homemade soup, while giving meaningful employment to people with disabilities and mental health illnesses. Cooking and nutrition workshops at Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Montreal, Que., help parents of young children open up as they discuss the challenges of parenting. Besides providing lunches at their drop-in centre, Kenora Fellowship Centre in Kenora, Ont., hosts a monthly Elder's Breakfast to show respect and care for elderly patrons, many of whom are survivors of Indian Residential Schools. These ministries are sharing the love of Christ through hospitality.

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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, April 5 (Easter Monday)** We pray that we will be filled with the joy of Easter, and live our lives in response to God's abundant grace.

**Tuesday, April 6** We pray for people who are questioning their gender identity or sexual orientation. May they be supported by their families and communities through their discernment and self-discovery.

**Wednesday, April 7** We pray for Presbyterian World Service & Development partners walking hand-in-hand with those suffering from tuberculosis, HIV, leprosy and malaria as they journey to health and well-being.

**Thursday, April 8** We give thanks for those who have been nominated to serve on the committees of the General Assembly and for the Committee to Nominate Standing Committees as they prepare a slate of nominees for the 2021 General Assembly.

**Friday, April 9** We pray for colleague covenant groups and clergy support groups as they support one another and develop healthy perspectives for themselves and their ministries.

**Saturday, April 10** We pray for Lay Training Centres of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana (Nsaba, Tamale, Ramseyer) as they train and equip ordained and lay leaders.

We pray for all those who are suffering from illness or long-term health conditions. May Christ's healing be received and experienced.

## Annakala Finds Answers at Shining Hospital

In Nepal, Annakala Nepali was living in significant discomfort. Severe problems with her fingers, along with loss of sensation in her legs and tingling in her body were followed by vision problems. In Annakala's community, many people prefer traditional healers to address their medical problems—Annakala decided to do the same. However, she still suffered after the visit. Her daughter-in-law, on seeing her in pain and suspecting that it might be due to leprosy, encouraged Annakala to visit the Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported Shining Hospital. Once she was admitted to the hospital, she was officially diagnosed with leprosy and started treatment, which has improved her symptoms and pain. Annakala is very grateful for the Shining Hospital's care, love and support.




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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, April 12** We pray for those in the Order of Diaconal Ministries who serve the church in areas of Christian education, pastoral care and social ministry.

**Tuesday, April 13** We pray for our Muslim neighbours as they fast and pray during the month of Ramadan.

**Wednesday, April 14** We pray for the ministry of congregations and missions receiving grants this spring, that their programs and initiatives will share the love of Christ in their communities.

**Thursday, April 15** We pray for the Continuing Education Grants Committee as they meet this month and consider applications from ministers seeking to enrich their ministry with further study.

**Friday, April 16** We pray for the ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Central Alberta.

**Saturday, April 17** We pray for farmers in Guatemala receiving support from Presbyterian World Service & Development to improve their harvests by protecting their soil and water resources.

We give thanks for the farmers of our country who work so hard to grow and provide us with the bountiful fresh produce we are able to enjoy at this time of the year.

## Equipping Farmers to Thrive

Andrew and Flora successfully grow rice, cassava, maize and groundnuts on their two acres of farmland in Malawi as a result of adopting conservation agriculture practices to help their farm flourish and better cope with droughts. Last year, Andrew and Flora attended Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported training to learn how to rotate crops and protect the soil. In addition to conservation agriculture workshops, they also attended gender training where they learned the importance of working together. With these tools, Andrew and Flora now enjoy the rewards of conservation agriculture.



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## DAILY PRAYERS

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**Monday, April 19** We give thanks for camp committees, staff and leaders who have nurtured our faith and enlivened the church, and pray that camping ministries continue to flourish in the PCC.

**Tuesday, April 20** We give thanks for music and the choir members, directors and musicians who share their gifts with their congregations.

**Wednesday, April 21** We pray for the members of the Committee on Education and Reception as they meet this week with the candidates and ministers who have applied to be received into The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

**Thursday, April 22 (Earth Day)** We give thanks for the earth and all creation, and pray for the courage to make hard changes that will protect and preserve the earth's ecological systems so that all creation may thrive.

**Friday, April 23** We pray for the staff at Action Réfugiés Montréal as they provide hope and assistance to asylum-seekers and refugee people in Canada.

**Saturday, April 24** We pray for PCC mission partners who are facing so many new challenges and striving to find safe and economical ways to respond to so many enduring needs.

**(Mission Awareness Sunday)** We remember in prayer and give thanks for all former and current mission staff who, in faith, accepted God's call to participate in God's mission in Canada and globally.



## Arising

ARISE Ministry offers compassionate outreach and spiritual care to survivors of sexual exploitation living in the Greater Toronto Area. Inspired by Jesus' healing of the woman who was afflicted for 18 years with a condition that kept her bent over (Luke 13:10–17), ARISE aims to help those who have been living "bent over" by exploitation, trauma, abuse and addiction. Staff and volunteers work with vulnerable women, youth and children by providing one-on-one, goal-oriented support. As relationships strengthen, hope and empowerment are fostered, making it possible for futures to be reclaimed. Like the woman in the gospel of Luke, several women that ARISE has helped are now standing straight and tall, and God continues to do amazing things in their lives. This is a reason to rejoice!

## DAILY PRAYERS

**Monday, April 26** We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Montreal in Que.

**Tuesday, April 27** We pray for congregations that are concerned about finances, and that God will provide the resources they need to continue the ministry they are called to do.

**Wednesday, April 28** We pray that congregations that are searching for a new minister will be filled with hope, wisdom and patience.

**Thursday, April 29** We pray for the Forum for Intercultural Leadership and Learning as it works to build a society and churches that fully honour diversity and God's unequivocal welcome.

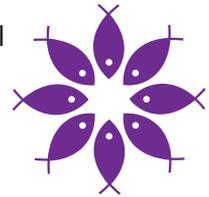
**Friday, April 30** We pray for university students completing the academic year, that God brings them peace as they complete this part of their journey and move on to the next.

Daily prayers are submitted by the colleges, committees, agencies and mission societies of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

# One Mission, Two Funds

## Proclaiming Christ in Word and Deed

**Presbyterians Sharing** supports the overall mission and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Congregations are encouraged to raise an accepted allocation each year.



### **Presbyterian World Service & Development**

is the PCC's development and relief agency. PWS&D raises funds directly from congregations and individuals and through government grants—over and above gifts to Presbyterians Sharing. International Ministries mission personnel, funded through Presbyterians Sharing, often work with PWS&D partners.



Your gifts to Presbyterians Sharing and Presbyterian World Service & Development are making a difference!



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