

week one:

JANUARY 1-7

FOCUS: BEGINNING WITH THE END IN MIND

As a new year gets underway, we look forward to what is to come. Through prayer we seek to align our "looking," our hoping, and our planning to God's coming kingdom and His will being done on earth as it is in heaven. At Christian Horizons this means that we look forward with the vision that "People with exceptional needs belong to communities in which their God-given gifts are valued and respected." Won't you partner with us in this Vision for 2017 and the years to come?

"Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed..." – *Hebrews 12:2, The Message*

PRAYER POINTS

- Prayers that we would "keep our eyes on Jesus" in the years to come, as we seek to imitate His work and service in the world.
- Thanksgiving for the senior leaders and board members that help discern direction for the work of Christian Horizons, and the countless leaders that make Christian Horizons' Vision a reality in the work that they do each day.
- Prayers for peace and clarity during preparation for re-accreditation in 2017
- Praise for all that was accomplished in 2016 in seeing the Vision of Christian Horizons realized and the positive ways people's lives have been impacted.

Feedback or requests?

CHRISTIAN HORIZONS ORGANIZATIONAL & SPIRITUAL LIFE

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YOU'RE INVITED TO LEARN ABOUT CHRISTIAN HORIZONS



Come to our
community
town hall meeting

Thursday January 12, 2017
Edithvale Community Centre
131 Finch Ave. W.
North York
7pm - 8:30pm
light refreshments provided

You will hear from someone who receives services and our community leadership team about **what** we do, **who** we serve, **where** we provide services and **our vision** for the future.

www.christian-horizons.org



PRAYER GUIDE

January 2017

"I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us."

~ Paul (*Philippians 3:14, NLT*)



week two:

JANUARY 8-14

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

~ Prov 31:8-9

THOUGHT: We have a responsibility and opportunity to ‘speak up’ for those whose voices are not heard. We must ensure that we are listening, and lending our voice on behalf of those who need justice. In this we are not *replacing* the voice of the other, but in getting to know those who are not heard they are able to speak with and through us.

PRAYER:

Lord, give me a heart to listen so that those who need to be heard may speak through me.

PRAYER POINTS

- Thanksgiving for all who helped make Christmas a special time of celebration for those we serve, whether family members, employees, or community.
- Prayers for the Winter Wonderland Family Retreat near Ottawa, Ontario.
- Prayers for a week of teaching at Providence University in Haiti from January 9th-12th. Teachers, nurses, and pastoral students will be learning about disability and ministry.
- Wisdom during preparation for the new fiscal year and accomplishing our work within budget in the current year.

week three:

JANUARY 15-21

“He will not quarrel or cry out; no one will hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he has brought justice through to victory!”

~ Matthew 12:19-20

THOUGHT: Justice Jesus-style is not about demanding my rights, but about advocating and advancing justice on behalf of others. It is different from the world’s “justice.” It is a justice of gentleness, compassion and grace.

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, help us to understand how to live out your justice. May we engage with one another in a way that brings strength, hope, and restoration, rather than brokenness, weakness and rejection.

PRAYER POINTS

- Prayers for health and wellbeing for employees and minimal illness for people supported and their families.
- Keep in prayer those experiencing grief and loss, and for those who many not have close family. Winter can feel like an isolating season.
- Pray for qualified and passionate Direct Support Professionals to fill positions in the West District and other areas experiencing staffing shortages. Pray for the transition and on-boarding of new employees and resilience for those who currently serve.

week four:

JANUARY 22-28

“Jesus saw her”

~ Luke 13:12, John 11:33-45 (or “Jesus saw him”) Matt. 9:9, Mark 12:34, John 9:1, John 5:6 etc.

THOUGHT: One of the remarkable qualities about Jesus is that he truly *sees* the man or woman in need that he encounters. So often we pass by without seeing. To see in this way is not dependent on physical sight. It is to be known, to be respected, to be loved. May we, too, *see* those around us.

PRAYER:

Father God, help me to see others as Jesus does. Help me to take a moment to speak your words of hope, peace and love into their lives.

PRAYER POINTS

- Thanksgiving for the work of Christian Horizons Vacation Services that has been a blessing to so many as a part of our history. Prayer for the new and innovative ways these supports will be provided as we journey forward.
- Pray that 2017 would be a year that communities of belonging and family relationships are strengthened in the lives of the people we support.

For the week of January 29th, or to receive these weekly thoughts by email, visit www.disabilityandfaith.org