

*week one:*

## FEBRUARY 5-11

### FOCUS: SERVICES ROOTED IN FAITH

At Christian Horizons, remaining rooted in the Christian faith is fundamental to our mission and ministry. These roots in faith are expressed through our core values: *valuing people, fostering belonging, serving others and respecting gifts*. There are hundreds of ways each of these values are experienced every day in the lives of people supported by Christian Horizons. We pray that these roots in faith continue to grow and nourish the life and service of the organization.

"They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water... Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit." – *Jeremiah 17:8, NLT*

### PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that in 2017, people supported by Christian Horizons experience our core values in a new way. Pray that they know they are valued, experience communities of belonging, have opportunities to serve others and to be served, and know that their gifts are respected.
- Pray for government leaders as they determine budgets and other legislation that affects people with developmental disabilities, their families, and the organizations that support them. Thanksgiving for opportunities to connect with Government on these topics and advocate for people with disabilities and their families.

*Feedback or requests?*

### CHRISTIAN HORIZONS ORGANIZATIONAL & SPIRITUAL LIFE

Dr. Neil Cudney (Director)  
Keith Dow (Manager)  
Chantal Huinink (Coordinator)

(519) 650-0966  
[ministry@christian-horizons.org](mailto:ministry@christian-horizons.org)



*The second Christian Horizons Winter Wonderland Family Retreat at Galilee Bible Camp near Ottawa, Ontario from January 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> was enjoyed by all. Snow was abundant as were the opportunities for families experiencing disability to connect and renew.*

## PRAYER GUIDE

*February 2017*

"Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!"

*~ Psalm 34:8, NLT*

week two:

## FEBRUARY 12-18

"Away with your noisy hymns of praise! I will not listen to the music of your harps. Instead, I want to see a mighty flood of justice, an endless river of righteous living."

~ Amos 5:23-24, NLT

**THOUGHT:** Justice is the primary theme of the prophets' writing. God's warning is that people of privilege, position and power have a responsibility to those who are weak and vulnerable. God's intention is that His justice would flow through us into the lives of others. In turn, we discover that we, too, need others to pour into *our* lives.

**PRAYER:**

*Lord, may your justice flow through me to others. May I lift up spirits that are downcast and hearts that are filled with heavy burdens.*

**PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray for *Discover Communities of Belonging* events taking place over the next year, where people can come to learn about the impact Christian Horizons is having around the world. Thanksgiving for people who are coordinating these events and pray that participants would be encouraged and inspired.
- Praise for the rest and rejuvenation experienced as part of the Winter Wonderland Family Retreat.
- Praise and prayer for new and growing relationships, such as partnership possibilities with *Joni and Friends* in Haiti.

week three:

## FEBRUARY 19-25

"So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

~ Genesis 1:27, NLT

**THOUGHT:** We too quickly forget that every person we meet is an image bearer of God. People with disabilities often have their value and worth questioned in society. God does not question it. He calls us to help everyone to uncover this divine truth, that every person is fearfully and wonderfully made.

**PRAYER:**

*Father, in our interactions with others, may they experience the value and worth You have given them. May our actions and words help others to uncover who they really are in You.*

**PRAYER POINTS**

- Praise for a donation of electronics to the Link community participation program in Windsor. Prayer as this program develops and for their ongoing connection with St. Clair College's *Culinary Skills Experience*.
- Keep in prayer people who are transitioning to long-term or palliative care. Remember those who are experiencing grief at the thought of their loved one passing away.
- Pray for the new home on Talisman Cres. in London. Pray for the team, for transitions, and for people who recently moved to this location.

week four:

## FEB 26-MAR 4

"When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, 'Do you want to get well?'"

~ John 5:6, NIV

**THOUGHT:** This is a curious question that Jesus poses to the man at the pool of Bethesda. Jesus invites the man to express his own agency. Too often, things are done to and for people with disabilities without asking "*is this what you want?*"

**PRAYER:**

*God, help us to stop and ask "Is this what you want?" Even when we believe that it is "for the best" or what needs to be done, may we never presume to remove the agency of another.*

**PRAYER POINTS**

- Continue to pray for peace in South Sudan and other war-torn countries around the world.
- Wisdom during preparation for the new fiscal year and accomplishing our work within budget in the current year.
- Pray for upcoming March Break camps, including the one taking place in the Woodstock, Ontario.

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