

week one:

May 3 - 9

OUR VALUES LEAD THE WAY

It seems like everything has changed. Even through this crisis, though, our values lead the way. While our Onward strategic plan looks different right now, people who use our services still guide us, we are connecting in new ways with our community, family, and friends, and our Direct Support Professionals carry on with resilience and compassion.

"God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble."

~ Psalm 46:1, NLT

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for leadership teams as they strive to provide clear direction during these uncertain times of new learning and leading.
- Praise God for the joy of creative outlets accessed by people who use Christian Horizons services and their God-given talents shining through.
- Pray that all employees can find rest and reassurance during this pandemic, so we are operating out of a spirit of peace and not fear.

Feedback or requests?

ORGANIZATIONAL & SPIRITUAL LIFE

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Above: Ben in the Windsor-Essex area encourages his neighbours with colourful signage and a radiant smile.

This month's prayer guide highlights the work of Christian Horizons in Southern Ontario communities and through Christian Horizons Global.

2020
PRAYER GUIDE

May

"The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

~ Philippians 4:5-7, NIV

week two:

May 10 - 16

"... As Aaron spoke to the whole community of Israel, they looked out toward the wilderness. There they could see the awesome glory of the LORD in the cloud."

~ Exodus 16:10, NLT

THOUGHT: God journeyed with the Israelites through the desert, revealing Himself to His hurting people, not through brilliance and beauty but rather a cloud. God is also among us as we wander through a global pandemic. The glory of the Lord may likewise be revealed to us in unexpected ways.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the health and safety of Christian Horizons Global staff distributing food and supplies.
- Pray for COVID-19 response teams as they seek to bring peace and alleviate anxiety while responding to suspected outbreaks.
- Pray that employees and people supported diagnosed with COVID-19 would recover quickly and be restored to full health.
- Pray for wisdom and direction as we collaborate with various health units.
- Praise God for the excellent response of amazing employees who stepped up to live-in at a residence where COVID-19 was present, despite increased personal risk.

week three:

May 17 - 23

"The glory of the LORD settled down on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days. On the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from inside the cloud."

~ Exodus 24:17, NLT

THOUGHT: The Israelites were prevented from going anywhere when the cloud would not move. Like many DSPs and others working on the front lines throughout the pandemic, Moses showed great strength and courage by joining God in the cloud on behalf of the people. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER POINTS

- Give thanks for grocery stores that have allowed the overriding of usual limits to ensure access to all needed groceries.
- Praise God for faith communities and local organizations that have donated personal protective equipment and reusable cloth masks, as well as family and friends who have helped sew gowns.
- Praise God for the dedication support professionals who willingly adapted to many changes at work locations with extended shift hours.
- We pray that faith communities would continue to reach out to populations at high risk of coronavirus in innovative ways throughout the pandemic and beyond.

week four:

May 24 - 30

"God has enabled us to be ministers of His new covenant. This is a covenant not of written laws, but of the Spirit. The old written covenant ends in death; but under the new covenant, the Spirit gives life."

~ 2 Corinthians 3:6, NLT

THOUGHT: As ministers of God's new covenant in the midst of a global pandemic, we are likely not without some fear, but the Spirit of life can help us not to be overcome by this fear. It is possible to minister to people through any and all gestures of love and support.

PRAYER POINTS

- On behalf of Christian Horizons Global, pray for people of Ethiopia as so many are without water and frequent thorough handwashing is important for reducing the spread of COVID-19.
- Pray for all people who use Christian Horizons services: May they find peace and joy during the challenging times and may God's protection be on each of them.
- Pray for God's blessing on Christian Horizons self-advocacy groups as they continue their work virtually.
- On behalf of Christian Horizons Global, pray for caregivers in developing countries who must weigh the dangers of coronavirus against the dangers of hunger.