

*week one:*

## October 4-10

### RE-ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

Planning for the future is exciting! Last year, Christian Horizons developed its strategic plan, but COVID-19 has impacted many aspects of what we do. It takes time, wisdom, and resilience to change direction – but our commitment to our Vision remains firm, and we look forward to re-engaging communities in new ways in the days ahead.

“None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others.”

*~ Philippians 2:4 NIRV*

#### PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for wisdom for the public health and government leaders in each province and country where Christian Horizons serves as they make decisions. May the virus not spread.
- Pray for church partners around the world as they seek to share practical support in their communities.
- Pray for the blessing of God’s wisdom and understanding within every level of Christian Horizons, across all communities, as we seek to fulfill our roles in unique and effective ways.

*Feedback or requests?*

### ORGANIZATIONAL & SPIRITUAL LIFE

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In Bowmanville, people who use Christian Horizons’ services enjoyed a full (socially distanced) crafting afternoon and Victorian tea party!

*This month’s prayer guide highlights the work of Christian Horizons in central-East Ontario and around the world through Christian Horizons Global.*

## 2020 PRAYER GUIDE

*October*

“Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.”

*~ Philippians 2:3, NIRV*

*week two:*

## October 11-17

"They did what [Jesus] said. The person in charge tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He didn't realize where it had come from but the servants who had brought the water knew..." ~ *John 2:8-9, NIRV*

**THOUGHT:** At the insistence of his mother during the wedding in Cana, Jesus performs a miracle that turns water into wine, preventing the host's embarrassment and keeping the celebration going. Praise God for His provision and pray that God might make you aware of opportunities to bless others.

### PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that God would continue to bring excellent people to Christian Horizons who are committed to fostering communities of belonging.
- Give thanks that God is sustaining people who use Christian Horizons services and employees through the challenging era of COVID-19.
- On behalf of Central East communities in Ontario, pray for Paul's transition to the role of Executive Director. May God's direction flow through him.
- Pray for continued strengthening and unity across the organization.
- We are thankful that people who use Christian Horizons services have been able to go for overnight visits with their families. It is a joyful experience to see family members reunited.

*week three:*

## October 18-24

"But test all prophecies. Hold on to what is good. Say no to every kind of evil."

~ *1 Thessalonians 5:21-22, NIRV*

**THOUGHT:** In the midst of the pandemic, many fear illness or death. It is easy to be confused by conspiracy theories. Remember God's abundant unconditional love, His presence in the midst of joy and sorrow throughout history, and His promise to work all things for good for those who love Him.

### PRAYER POINTS

- Give thanks with the Oshawa community as they were able to help several people who use Christian Horizons services to obtain better quality housing through the move to Genoa Avenue.
- Pray for a young lady who uses Christian Horizons services who has recently been diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. One of her many loves is the outdoors – especially horses. Since she can't access horses currently, we were able to bring a mini horse to her to her delight.
- Pray for peace and strength for families connected with Christian Horizons who have lost loved ones in recent weeks.

*week four:*

## Oct 25-Oct 31

"Haven't you ever read about what David did? He and his men were hungry. They needed food. ... [They] entered the house of God and ate the holy bread." ~ *Mark 2:25-26, NIRV*

**THOUGHT:** Jesus' reply to the Pharisees shows that doing the right thing is not just about following the rules – it depends on what is needed in the situation. May God give us wisdom to understand the best ways we can honour him and serve others in complex circumstances.

### PRAYER POINTS

- We praise God for all of the creativity of Christian Horizons employees and partner agencies! One gentleman who uses Christian Horizons services has enjoyed virtual art classes on a scheduled basis through the months of COVID-19, when community participation was not an option.
- The Bowmanville team gives thanks for a wonderful experience at a Victorian crafting afternoon. The team secured a large tent and decorated it with all manner of Victorian trimming right down to grandma's silver tea service. "Lady Kimberly" from Newcastle tea grannies came with artifacts and crafting ideas in full costume. The visit was thoroughly enjoyed by those who live at that location.