

Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission Through Word and Action



The
Presbyterian
Church
in Canada

October – December 2024

Life in Christ involves prayer, the seeking of God's will and blessing on all of life. Prayer is openness to the presence of God. In words, or the absence of words, prayer is the focusing of our lives towards God.

— *Living Faith* 8.1.4

Praying for and with PCC congregations, committees, agencies, people and partners is one way of engaging in God's mission in the world and focusing our lives on God.

The prayers, mission and social action stories in the *Prayer Partnership* reflect the ministry of many bodies within The Presbyterian Church in Canada, including:

- Atlantic Mission Society
- Committee on Church Doctrine
- Committee on History
- Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee
- The General Assembly Office
- Knox College in Toronto, Ontario
- Life and Mission Agency
- Maclean Estate (Crieff Hills Community)
- Moderator of the General Assembly
- National Indigenous Ministries Council
- The Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives
- The Presbyterian College in Montreal, Quebec
- Vancouver School of Theology in British Columbia
- St. Andrew's Hall
- Women's Missionary Society

Cover: Graffiti in Bethlehem. Credit: PCC

Looking for more information?

The Social Action Hub on the PCC website provides study guides, advocacy tools, liturgies and other resources to help individuals and congregations discern and live out the biblical call to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8). Organized thematically, you will find positions and actions the church has taken, as well as links to letters, reports and resources it has produced. The Hub is an ongoing project that is continually being updated and expanded with new information and resources, so we encourage you to check back often, and take time to explore all the many ways Presbyterians can seek justice through social action. Visit presbyterian.ca/social-action.

Visit the PCC's

Social Action Hub

to find current resources and history of the church's involvement in justice issues!



bit.ly/justice-social-action



Reconciliation and the PCC's 2024 Apology for colonization and residential schools

In 2023, the National Indigenous Ministries Council recommended to the General Assembly that The Presbyterian Church in Canada draft a renewed apology for its role in colonization and the operation of residential schools. A Committee composed of Indigenous and settler Presbyterians prepared the Apology, which was adopted by the 2024 General Assembly.

The Committee recognized the urgent need to respond amid the crises facing Indigenous people today, made significantly worse by the trauma caused by residential schools. It examined elements of apology, including admitting wrongdoing, reparation, commitments going forward and ongoing change. The Committee also heard that many people and communities directly impacted by schools run by the church did not know about or had not heard the 1994 Confession. While the 1994 Confession set the church on a path of reconciliation, in learning to walk that path, the church has learned much about and understands more deeply now the harm it caused. When we understand the harm we caused, we cannot help but be deeply sorry. The 2024 Apology comes out of the church's learning and is a response to that learning.

Words carry little meaning without action, so follow-up steps are critical. The Committee is working to develop additional guidance for the church toward the life-giving need for reconciliation, including how best to put into action the 2024 Apology. We are all part of shaping the church's collective journey toward reconciliation.

How can you get involved?

In order to better pursue reconciliation, we must understand what matters to Indigenous people locally and nationally, we must understand the church's legacy of harm through residential schools and colonialism, and we must respect Indigenous cultures and spiritualities. You can:

- Read and study the Apology in your church and presbytery to deepen understanding of the need for reconciliation;
- Visit the Social Action Hub—Indigenous Justice page to learn more about the PCC's commitments to healing and reconciliation;
(presbyterian.ca/justice/social-action/indigenous-justice)
- Attend local Indigenous events that are open to the public; find local reconciliation efforts and see how you can support them; observe Healing and Reconciliation Sunday (May 25, 2025), National Indigenous People's Day Sunday (June 15, 2025), the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30), and Sisters in Spirit Vigils (October 4);
- In your church and presbytery, discuss one of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action and consider how your community can respond;
- Build relationships with Indigenous people in your neighbourhood;
- Consider contributing to the Honouring the Children Fund which makes funding available for healing events, memorials, and searches of the grounds of former school sites to nations and groups impacted by residential schools run by the PCC.
(presbyterian.ca/2021/07/02/honouring-the-children-fund)

MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, September 29**

Today is Presbyterians Sharing Sunday—a day to celebrate the mission and ministry we do together in Canada and around the world. Through gifts to



Presbyterians Sharing, we build strong congregations, serve vulnerable people, walk with Indigenous people, seek justice and share God's love. Together, we provide hospitality for people who are homeless and help those involved in the sex trade reclaim their lives. We help congregations discover new and unique ways of renewing their ministry and provide many resources for congregations to use in worship and study. We help translate the Bible into Indigenous languages in Taiwan and bring hope and love to prisoners in Malawi. And so much more! When we put our gifts in God's hands, God does remarkable things.

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, September 29 (Presbyterians Sharing Sunday) We pray for the mission and ministry supported through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing and give thanks for congregations and individuals who support the work of the PCC through their generous gifts.

Monday, September 30 (Orange Shirt Day) We honour Survivors of residential schools, children who died and members of their families. Having rejected the Doctrine of Discovery, we commit to walk in ways that will end anti-Indigenous racism.

Tuesday, October 1 We pray for theological students who graduate this winter and are beginning the process of seeking a call.

Wednesday, October 2 In this harvest season we give thanks for the abundance of produce on the Crieff Hills farm—honey, maple syrup, eggs, vegetables, herbs, fruit and flowers.

Thursday, October 3 We pray for the Church Doctrine Committee as they develop a pastoral response to persons who have chosen Medical Assistance in Dying.

Friday, October 4 (Sisters in Spirit Vigils) We pray for Indigenous girls and women who have faced terrible levels of violence and for the families and friends of murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls seeking justice.

Saturday, October 5 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Synod of Quebec and Eastern Ontario.

Chandha Kumari is a 16-year-old girl living in a rural village in India. She's the eldest of five siblings and the financial strain weighs heavily on her family. Amid these daily struggles is the threat of child marriage, which remains a common practice in her village. Financial and social pressures led Chandha's parents to



consider marrying her off despite her age. This all changed when her mother attended a community awareness session on child marriage hosted by PWS&D's local partner. Chandha's mother shared with her husband what she learned during the session. Armed with knowledge about the legal age for marriage and the detrimental effects of child marriage, they decided to prioritize Chandha's education and seek other financial resources to prevent her early marriage.

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, October 6 (World Communion Sunday) We give thanks for the global Christian community and all who gather around God's Holy Table this Sunday.

Monday, October 7 We give thanks for the Pinuyumayan Church District of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan for 65 years of mission history and the publication of their very first translated New Testament.

Tuesday, October 8 We pray for the Rev. Dr. George Sabra as he retires after serving faithfully for 38 years as a faculty member, Academic Dean, and President of the Near East School of Theology in Lebanon.

Wednesday, October 9 We pray for congregations that are envisioning new forms of mission and ministry. May God's Spirit bless their conversations and new visions and give them strength and patience as the ministry grows.

Thursday, October 10 We pray for international students studying at Vancouver School of Theology. May God bless them with good friends and a sense of welcome and delight in the work.

Friday, October 11 (International Day of the Girl Child) We give thanks and pray for PWS&D programs in India that help reduce the incidence of child marriages and advocate for girls' education.

Saturday, October 12 We pray for good health for ministers and directors of the eight Indigenous ministries of the PCC, and for their families and friends who support them.

November 26, 2023, was a day of great joy and celebration for the Pinuyumayan Church District, one of the Indigenous groups of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. They gave thanks for 65 years of mission history and the publication of their very first New Testament translated into the language of their heart. It was the fruit of labour for the Pinuyumayan Bible translation team and the Rev. Dr. Paul McLean who worked on the project for eight years. Supported by Presbyterians Sharing, Paul works with 12 Bible translation teams preserving endangered Indigenous languages, promoting literacy, and when the Bible is read, proclaiming the Gospel.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, October 13 (Harvest Sunday) We give thanks to God for the earth and all its beauty and diversity and pray for a more just care of the earth and its resources.

Monday, October 14 (Thanksgiving Day) We pray for all the dedicated members of the Women's Missionary Society whose commitment was renewed at the 110th Anniversary celebrations of the Society in May 2024.

Tuesday, October 15 We give thanks for the ministry of 2SLGBTQIA+ leaders in the church.

Wednesday, October 16 (World Food Day) We give thanks for bountiful harvests that nourish and sustain life. We pray for those who lack access to sufficient nutritious food and for PWS&D's partners who strive to end hunger.

Thursday, October 17 (International Day for the Eradication of Poverty) We pray for people who do not have enough healthy food, safe, adequate homes, or communities of support. We pray for people who are working toward long-term solutions to end poverty and inequality.

Friday, October 18 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Eastern Han-Ca.

Saturday, October 19 We pray for congregations who have made the difficult but courageous decision to close, that along with their grief they may also celebrate their years of faithful witness to Christ and their legacy of lives shaped by the presence of the living God in Jesus Christ.

In Malawi, Rose and her family moved into her brother's house in 2023 when Cyclone Freddy destroyed their home. Struggling to make ends meet, their main concern was the lack of income opportunities, often leaving them hungry. However, their situation changed when Rose received cash assistance to buy food, as well as agricultural items like fertilizer, maize and vegetable seeds, and sweet potato vines.



This was part of the Cyclone Freddy Resilience and Recovery project, introduced by PWS&D's local partner. This aid not only provided food security but also significantly improved her family's health within three months. Rose and her family are deeply grateful for the support that has made a substantial difference in their lives.

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, October 20 (Students and Colleges Sunday) We pray for all those who are sensing a call to ministry. May they find spaces and wise mentors to support them in their discernment.

Monday, October 21 We pray for the congregation of Beaches Presbyterian Church in Toronto, ON as they work through the PCC's New Beginnings Renewal Program to discern their next steps in ministry.

Tuesday, October 22 We give thanks for Atlantic Mission Society members who go the extra mile! This year, an extra \$40,000 was given to support local, national and international ministries.

Wednesday, October 23 We pray for all those who serve on committees that oversee the important heritage, records, and artefact collections relating to the history of the PCC.

Thursday, October 24 We pray for those who are worried—about their family, work, a good friend, or how they will make it through the next few days. Turn our hearts to you, O Lord, so that every worry becomes a prayer and we may find solace in your grace.

Friday, October 25 We pray for congregational cohorts participating in the Missional Certificate Program at St. Andrew's Hall this fall, led by the Rev. Dr. Tim Dickau and the Centre for Missional Leadership.

Saturday, October 26 (Intersex Awareness Day) We give thanks for the work of intersex people advocating for a more just and accountable health care system.

In Guatemala, gender-based violence has been and continues to be one of the most obvious forms of gender inequality. To address this, PWS&D is supporting a project that



speaks to the problem of violence against women. Adolescents and young women participate in workshops where they learn about their rights and build their self-esteem and dignity. In addition, the project raises awareness among young men through workshops where they learn about machismo, identify what violence against women looks like and promote commitments to eliminate it.

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, October 27 (Reformation Sunday) Strengthen our hearts, O God; make them eager to serve you and your purposes.

Monday, October 28 We pray for Knox College students as they step away from scheduled classes for their Reading Week (Oct 28-Nov 1), for refreshment and renewal as they prepare to return for the final assignments and commitments of the Fall 2024 semester.

Tuesday, October 29 We pray for the Indigenous leaders and ministers of the PCC's Indigenous ministries as they cope with the stress and grief of caring for people affected by poverty, illness and premature death through drug overdose.

Wednesday, October 30 We pray for guests from Taiwan and Japan who participated in the Global Ecumenical Learning Community and *uplift 2024: Audacious Hope* as they share their experiences with their home churches.

Thursday, October 31 (Reformation Day) We give thanks for God's grace and guidance and pray that we will not become complacent but rather open to the guidance of God's Spirit.

Friday, November 1 (All Saints Day) We thank God for knitting us into one fellowship; for the people who have gone ahead of us in the faith and who loved us, formed our faith and served God with joy and grace.

Saturday, November 2 We pray that God will strengthen those displaced by conflict in Gaza as they receive support from PWS&D's partners, including food assistance, health care and psychological support.

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, November 3

When we give to Presbyterians Sharing, we participate in God's mission by proclaiming love, hope and grace through the words we use, the decisions we make and the actions we take. Together we provide funding for ministries, help congregations navigate challenging times, equip leaders to serve the church around the world, speak for those who have been silenced and marginalized, fight racism and discrimination, provide spaces for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to

walk together on a journey of healing and reconciliation and build a church where all are welcome. Together we are stewards of gifts from God, and through the power of God, we are accomplishing far more than we could ever imagine.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, November 3 We pray for students at the end of the fall semester. Give them all the grace and determination to finish well.

Monday, November 4 We pray for the Committee on History as it helps to keep the church's history alive.

Tuesday, November 5 We pray for Knox College as it celebrates the 180th anniversary of its founding on November 5, 1844. With joyful gratitude for the students the College has served since its founding, and for continued discernment of God's call to equip and prepare students for service and ministry.

Wednesday, November 6 We give thanks for the staff and volunteers of Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre who create a safe, loving and empowering space for the community of Little Burgundy in Montreal, QC.

Thursday, November 7 We pray for the work of the Committee on Education and Reception as it meets this week.

Friday, November 8 We pray for congregations confronted with difficult decisions about closing their churches, that Jesus' love and compassion may guide their conversations in celebrating their past and leaving a legacy for the future.

Saturday, November 9 We pray for the Church Doctrine Committee as it continues working on the preambles to the ordination vows.

MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, November 10**

Najua Osman recalls not being prepared to leave her home in Al Gezira, Sudan. However, as the war intensified, she had no choice but to seek refuge in South Sudan. Najua fled with her two children and was pregnant when she arrived in Renk. She delivered her twin babies safely but lacked basic items such as food, soap and mosquito nets. Because she didn't have enough to eat, she couldn't produce enough breastmilk to feed her twins. As Najua felt hopeless and depressed, she was approached by PWS&D's local partner, who registered her for a project where she received cash assistance. "The money helped me to buy food, which improved the production of breastmilk; I also bought mosquito nets and soap," she said.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, November 10 We pray for the people in the spiritual care of Indigenous ministries in Kenora, Saskatoon, Mistawasis, the lower mainland of BC, Winnipeg, Edmonton and the Cowichan First Nation in BC, that they may be lifted up in a spirit of hope for healing in all aspects of their lives that seem hopeless.

Monday, November 11 (Remembrance Day) We pray for all who mourn and suffer as a result of conflict and war. We ask God to protect and guide peacekeepers and those who serve in the Armed Forces.

Tuesday, November 12 We give thanks for the life and witness of generations of faithful people in the church, that we may continue to be inspired by the way their lives reflected their faith in Jesus Christ.

Wednesday, November 13 We pray for students in all denominations that have come to study at The Presbyterian College, Montreal. May the college community grow in its intent to be and to build Christian community in an increasingly ecumenical student body.

Thursday, November 14 We pray for the Rev. Sumarme Goble, Chaplain at St. Andrew's Hall, who cares for students and represents the PCC as part of the UBC Multi-Faith Chaplaincy team.

Friday, November 15 We pray for the Sabeel Liberation Theology Center as it hosts the "Challenging Religious Extremism" conference in Bethlehem and Jerusalem amid rising intolerance and violence in the Middle East.

Saturday, November 16 We pray for Atlantic Mission Society groups as they encourage congregations to support the Advent gift projects.

MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, November 17**

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, Action Réfugiés Montréal provides hope and assistance to refugees through social programming, sponsorship, and raising awareness of refugee rights. The organization operates the popular “Twinning Program,” which pairs newly arrived refugee women with women already residing in Montreal. Through frequent meetings and group activities, these “twins” forge bonds of friendship and solidarity. The program plays a crucial role in mitigating isolation and addressing barriers that these women encounter in their daily lives.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, November 17 (Legacy Giving Sunday) We pray for all the people in congregations who leave a legacy gift—a bequest, a charitable gift annuity, a gift of life insurance—so that we may have vibrant ministry, today and tomorrow.

Monday, November 18 (Restorative Justice Week, Nov. 17-23) We give thanks for the Church Council on Justice and Corrections, and its work to support healing for people and communities harmed by crime, fear and system injustices.

Tuesday, November 19 We pray for those who lack access to proper sanitation and for PWS&D programs that are working to provide water, sanitation and hygiene measures.

Wednesday, November 20 (Trans Day of Remembrance) We remember those who have died because of transphobic violence. We lament the church's role in contributing to prejudice and hatred of transgender people and commit to working for a future where trans people can flourish.

Thursday, November 21 We pray for chaplains in hospitals and long-term care homes as they continue to provide comfort, offer hope, and minister during moments that matter.

Friday, November 22 We pray for the four Women's Missionary Society members travelling to Nepal to learn about the work it supports there.

Saturday, November 23 We pray for PCC staff and committees who help and walk with the leaders of the Indigenous ministries of the PCC.

MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, November 24**

In Nicaragua, Urania is a 27-year-old mother who has many goals that she has not been able to achieve since becoming pregnant at the age of 17. Forced to drop out of high school, she dedicated herself to working to give her daughter the best. Now a single mother of two girls, earning an income has become increasingly difficult. With the support of PWS&D's local partner, who is working to empower young women and girls, Urania was able to start a café business. This initiative provides an income, as well as a flexible schedule that allows her to accompany her daughters in school and activities. She resumed her high school studies, improved her self-esteem and feels like an example for many young women.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, November 24 (Reign of Christ) Almighty and everlasting God, wrapped in glory; as you are compassionate, make us kind; as you are just, make us doers of justice; as you are one, unite us in the name of Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Monday, November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) We pray for the healing and wellbeing of women who experience violence. May God's unfailing love guide our actions to build more equitable and just communities where all women may flourish and violence is ended.

Tuesday, November 26 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Niagara.

Wednesday, November 27 We pray for those seeking God's light and warmth on personal spiritual retreats at Crieff Hills Retreat Centre, that God might meet them in moments of comfort and inspiration.

Thursday, November 28 We pray for the Christian Medical Association of India and for Dr. Priya John, General Secretary, as they work towards building a just and healthy society and serve the church in its ministry of healing.

Friday, November 29 We give thanks and pray for coaches involved in Cyclical PCC and the New Beginnings program who help ministers continue Christ's ministry in new ways.

Saturday, November 30 We pray for the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee as it encourages Presbyterians to understand and appreciate other faith traditions, and to live in good relationship with people of other faiths.

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, December 1

The difficulty of accessing much-needed health care for people in Dorica's home village fueled her passion for becoming a doctor and serving the poor population in rural areas of Malawi. With support from Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Catharines and Presbyterians Sharing, Dorica began her studies in 2017. In March 2024, Dorica graduated from the University of Malawi College of Medicine and began the final stage of her medical training, an 18-month internship. Following her internship, Dorica will be licensed to practice medicine in Malawi. She is grateful to the Knox congregation and the PCC for their financial support and prayer.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 1 (1st Sunday of Advent / World Aids Day) We pray for the millions of people affected by HIV and AIDS and for the work of PWS&D in Malawi, which is providing vital support to those living with HIV.

Monday, December 2 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Peace River.

Tuesday, December 3 (International Day for People with Disabilities) We pray for people living with disabilities in Ghana and Nepal, who are finding confidence and independence with support from PWS&D's partners.

Wednesday, December 4 We pray for those around the world who are the victims of violence and oppression, those who wonder how they will survive the next day, and those who have lost all they own. May God's reign of justice and peace inspire us to work for peace in their lands and provision for their needs.

Thursday, December 5 We pray for Dorica Nkhata, the PCC's leadership development student, as she begins the final stage of her medical training, an 18-month internship at Mzuzu Central Hospital in Malawi.

Friday, December 6 (The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women) We pray for the healing of women who experience violence, and for God's guidance as we work to build communities that do not tolerate misogyny and gender-based violence.

Saturday, December 7 We pray for theological students, that they would be taught by their teachers and God about God for the sake of life that is life indeed.

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, December 8

In Ghana, 12-year-old Abigail Awini became physically challenged shortly after birth, which left her unable to walk. Abigail's father died when she was just four years old, and shortly thereafter, her mother left. Abigail's grandmother, a poor farmer, became her caregiver. During a community survey, Abigail was registered for support from PWS&D's partner, the Garu Centre. With their advice, her grandmother enrolled her in school. Unable to move independently, Abigail's grandmother carried her on her back daily until Abigail got too big and had to drop out of school. However, the project supported Abigail with a tricycle to enhance her mobility. "The life of my granddaughter has changed," shares her grandmother. Abigail found independence and was able to resume her schooling.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 8 (2nd Sunday of Advent) We pray for those who grieve the death of someone they love—whose presence they miss with an ache too deep for words. Help us not to fear our grief, for it is a sign of how much we loved the one who now rejoices with the saints in God's presence.

Monday, December 9 We pray for Knox College students as they complete the Fall semester and journey through this Advent season to Christmas, for rest and renewal in time spent with family and friends.

Tuesday, December 10 (Human Rights Day of Prayer) We give thanks that women leaders in Nicaragua are receiving training in small business development with PWS&D support and are becoming better able to meet their families' needs.

Wednesday, December 11 We pray for people who are experiencing challenges conceiving or adopting children.

Thursday, December 12 We pray for the Continuing Education Grants Committee which meets this month and for grant recipients as they use their learning to enrich the ministries.

Friday, December 13 We pray for the proposed new pathway to ordained ministry for prospective Indigenous ministry students, which will help heal the relationship between Indigenous people, the church and country.

Saturday, December 14 As people gather with families and friends during the Christmas season, we pray for those who are experiencing loneliness.

MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, December 15**

Supported by Presbyterians Sharing, Edmonton Urban Native Ministry serves the needs of the local Eastwood community with compassion and care. Their comprehensive services include a daily hot meal program, distribution of clothing and essential supplies, a bi-weekly food bank, as well as spiritual and emotional support initiatives, such as Sunday worship and counseling sessions. The Rev. Tim Sungill Choi, the ministry's Executive Director, describes their role as a humble well, providing life-giving water to thirsty travelers. By extending a helping hand, offering essential resources, and standing in solidarity as allies, they help to empower Indigenous individuals and communities to navigate their paths, even amidst uncertainty.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 15 (3rd Sunday of Advent) We give thanks for the programs of Edmonton Urban Native Ministry that provide a sense of belonging, care and inclusion for people of all nations while upholding Indigenous cultural practices.

Monday, December 16 We pray for the housing, facilities and chaplaincy team at St. Andrew's Hall as they provide hospitality, programming and Christian witness for over 250 residents on the University of British Columbia campus.

Tuesday, December 17 We pray for the Church Doctrine Committee as they advise the church on how best to respond to issues from a wounded world.

Wednesday, December 18 (International Migrants Day) For Christ, there was no room in the inn; we pray for ministries like Action Réfugiés Montréal who welcome and provide support to families seeking refuge and shelter.

Thursday, December 19 We give thanks for the alumni of The Presbyterian College, Montreal, and pray for wisdom and strength for each one in their respective place of ministry.

Friday, December 20 During the Christmas season, may we recognize the value of "enough" while surrounded by expectations of extravagance and consumerism.

Saturday, December 21 We pray for Women's Missionary Society members and groups as they support local organizations helping people in need this Christmas. May their service bring honour to God as well as respite to those who receive their loving care.

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, December 22

Somalia has been devastated by drought for the last six years. Among the many pushed to the brink of starvation is Hawa Ahmed, a resilient mother of eight. When the lack of water and food made the situation increasingly dire, Hawa made the courageous decision to relocate her family for the chance at a better life. Her new surroundings came with a harsh reality: as a displaced person, she was stripped of her possessions and support system, leaving her feeling alone and anxious for a solution. Things changed when Hawa joined a program supported by PWS&D that provided families with emergency cash. With this financial support, Hawa was able to purchase food and ensure access to clean drinking water for her children.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 22 (4th Sunday of Advent) As we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ into the world, we pray for the staff at Crieff Hills Retreat Centre as they offer generous hospitality to all who come seeking rest and renewal.

Monday, December 23 We give thanks for ministries that demonstrate Christ's love and compassion by offering nourishment and fellowship through Christmas day dinners.

Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) We pray that our lives may echo the refrain of the angels, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to all people."

Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day) Loving God, we thank you for the gift of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ who brings reconciliation. May we know you more clearly and serve you more faithfully as we receive the Christ Child again.

Thursday, December 26 We pray for the safety of all who are travelling today.

Friday, December 27 We pray for military chaplains who bring guidance and support to our troops and their families. May their presence be a constant reminder of God's presence, especially at those times when people feel estranged from home and family.

Saturday, December 28 We pray for those recovering from illness or injury, that they will experience God's love and healing touch through the love of family and friends.

MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, December 29**

As Western culture becomes increasingly secular and Christianity occupies a more peripheral position in society, Canadian church plants are pioneering new ways to share God's love. One such initiative to encourage church planting is Cyclical PCC, supported by The Presbyterian Church in Canada in collaboration with



Cyclical Inc. This initiative aims to empower presbyteries and leaders within the denomination to initiate new worshipping communities. Participants in the program are part of a larger network of PCC leaders exploring their calling and taking initial steps toward launching new ministries. What exciting new forms of ministry are emerging in your local community?

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 29 We pray for those living in retirement homes who are struggling to find meaning in their everyday lives.

Monday, December 30 We give thanks to God for the generous gifts given to congregations, camps, ministries, Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D all year, and for the ways these gifts have blessed our communities, country and world.

Tuesday, December 31 As we prepare to welcome in a new year, let us reflect on the past and pray for a hopeful and peaceful future.

One Mission, Two Funds

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

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, relief and refugee sponsorship agency. PWS&D raises funds directly from congregations and individuals—over and above gifts to Presbyterians Sharing.



**Pray
Act
Give
... Together**



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