MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rooted in Prayer, Called to Action

World Day of Prayer 2018 written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Suriname

On Friday, March 3, 1922, one of the greatest events in North American religious history took place. Millions of Church women throughout Canada and the United States met as a great sisterhood for a day of prayer. Today, that day of prayer is observed by women and men around the world in 113 languages. The purpose of the World Day of Prayer is prayer with “immediate application.” In Canada, informed prayer and prayerful action has provided over half a million dollars in grants to justice projects over the last five years alone.

The World Day of Prayer was started by women on both sides of the border who had endured a war in which they had little agency. Women in Canada were not even considered persons under the law until 1927. Today women struggle to have their voices heard on issues that affect them such as peace negotiations, disaster recovery, policy development, and human rights violations. The World Day of Prayer connects people in authentic, meaningful ways across social, geographic and political barriers by amplifying the voice of women who inform our prayers by sharing their concerns and their context.

On March 2, 2018, Christians in over 1,200 communities across Canada will gather to learn about, pray, and celebrate environmental issues in solidarity with the women of Suriname through the World Day of Prayer. Please join us and invite your friends and family to attend the World Day of Prayer 2018.

A local World Day of Prayer service will be held at:

**St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, 1123 Henry Street, Wellesley ON**

**Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 at 11 a.m..**

For more information on the World Day of Prayer services in this community, please contact:

**Susan Cook-Scheerer, Chair, 2018 World Day of Prayer Committee**

**519-656-3008**

In Canada, the World Day of Prayer is coordinated by the Women’s Inter-Church Council of Canada. For World Day of Prayer materials or to learn more about WICC, please visit our website or contact us:

**Women’s Inter-Church Council of Canada**, 47 Queen’s Park Crescent East, Toronto, ON M5S 2C3

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www.facebook/WICCanada

The World Day of Prayer grew from an ecumenical day of prayer organized by women in Canada and the United States in 1920. This event became the international World Day of Prayer in 1922, and Christians around the world began celebrating this event on the first Friday of March.

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