



**EPC**

*A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches*

**THE JEREMIAH JOURNAL**

## **March 2019**

Welcome to the March edition of the Jeremiah Journal. I'm Jerry Iamurri, standing in for Jeff this month.

As you know, Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico in 2017, and the island is still recovering. We have three churches in Puerto Rico: one in San Juan on the northern coast, and two in the far west of the island.

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Mayagüez is one of the western congregations. The owner of the facility they worship in also owns a retreat center in the mountains, called Circle Christian Camp. This retreat center was almost completely destroyed by the hurricane, but through your donations to the Hurricane Maria Emergency Relief Fund, and the efforts of a lot of people, the camp was rebuilt and rededicated earlier this month. Some of you took trips there through our partner, Praying Pelicans, to do this hard work.

Juan Rivera, pastor of our EPC church in San Juan, told me that the owner of the camp has told them that it is "their retreat center, too." Everyone involved there is so grateful for the EPC!

Please let me introduce you to Juan, who wanted to thank you personally.

Hello, brothers and sisters. My name is Juan Rivera. I am the Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Bayamón, Puerto Rico.

We thank the Lord for Maria. We have a retreat center on the west side of the island. It's name is Circulo Cristiano. After Maria, this retreat center suffered a lot. Almost all the retreat center was affected by the hurricane.

Thanks to the EPC offerings, we started last year to rebuild the retreat center. Thanks to the Lord, just a week ago we started worshiping in the retreat center. And we thank the Lord for Praying Pelicans, the organization who worked with our churches. And we thank the Lord for the offerings of the EPC, but also for the teams—the missional teams—that visited the island to work with us.

We thank the Lord, and we are so grateful for your prayers, your work, and your friendship. Thanks!



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Thank you Juan, for your faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ. We continue to pray for the ministries of all three Puerto Rican congregations as they reach their communities for Christ.

And thank you for your faithfulness and generosity when disaster strikes. We pray that this year's hurricane season is quiet. But if it isn't, I know you will demonstrate once again that we truly are "Better Together."

To God be the glory!