

# *A Special* cuba REPORT

## Irma Destroys, the Church Will Build

A letter from Dr. Norberto Quesada  
President of Los Pinos Nuevos

Just a few days have passed since Irma's passage through the Island of Cuba. I think you can appreciate the disaster it caused as it ripped through the north coast of the country. Reports tell us that hundreds of electrical lines have been destroyed, houses are without roofs and many people are without homes. The most regrettable is the loss of 10 lives, people that are facing eternity, possibly without Christ. The people of Cuba today face one of the saddest moments of the last few years.

Many of the "Los Pinos Nuevos" churches located in the affected areas suffered serious damage, some were utterly destroyed.



*Gibara:  
Total collapse of most of the building. The cost to repair everything is estimated to be 18,000.00 US.*

*Sagua La Grande:  
The collapse was partial, however it affects the entire structure of the building. No repairs can be made because the rest of the structure will not allow it. The estimated cost of rebuilding will be \$66,000 US.*





*Amaro:*

*The building was totally destroyed and must be rebuilt in its entirety. The estimate to rebuild is \$20,500 US.*

Church buildings in other cities also suffered. In Chambas, the building was totally destroyed. In Camajuani the entire roof was lost. In Mayajigua there is significant damage. Repair or rebuilding costs for these and other sites have not yet been determined.

Despite the crisis faced by the pastors, leaders and congregations of these churches, we want to return to the fundamental value we learn from Jesus' example: to love those who need His Love. For this reason, we want to reverse suffering and turn it into a new way of seeing God. God turns crises into opportunities, tests into teachings and problems into blessings.

Right now we are continuing to operate ten community kitchens to feed the most needy. In those ten difficult places the possibilities are open for the church to serve the community as light in the midst of darkness. Volunteers from these places are seeing new opportunities for serving their community, and giving a true testimony of His Love.

Focussed on building? We are focussed on:

- ◆ Building serious relationships that impact the Kingdom.
- ◆ Building opportunities to show God's Love to all.
- ◆ Building solid bases of protection for the most needy.
- ◆ Building places of Refuge, Restoration and Celebration for Cubans.

What do we need?

1. Brothers and sisters from other places and churches to come and support the reconstruction in these affected areas.
2. Construction materials and tools to raise fallen buildings.
3. Sufficient finances for the purchase of building materials to rebuild these fallen buildings.
4. Food of all types, especially non-perishable, that does not need refrigeration. Much of the food we can buy here. We only need the financial resources to do it.
5. Blankets and clothing for victims, as well as personal hygiene items.
6. People trained to work with those who have been impacted by these traumas.

While Irma did extensive damage, the Cuban church today stands firm to build the fallen walls, lift up the testimony of Jesus and celebrate the victory of the King.

# What Can We Do?

Hurricane Irma raged across the Caribbean and into the USA ravaging communities and entire countries. Hundreds of thousands of people are now trying to rebuild their lives. In Cuba, members of the Los Pinos Nuevos denomination are ministering to the people of their country at this critical moment in time. They are ministering right now, but to continue they will need our help. They want to minister to people who have lost everything and they also need to rebuild churches which Hurricane Irma has destroyed.

The message on the previous pages, from Dr. Norberto Quesada, president of Los Pinos Nuevos, is one of hope amidst tragedy. God's people in Cuba are on the move. They need our help.

Would you prayerfully consider whether the Lord would want you to assist the Church in Cuba with a donation to help in ministering to the needs of people and to rebuild damaged and destroyed church properties. Would you share this need with a friend, with your church? And please lift in prayer the people of Cuba, and the Christians of Cuba who are ministering to those around them.

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Would you help Los Pinos Nuevos in Cuba as they minister to those affected by Hurricane Irma and rebuild churches?

Giving a one time amount of: G \$25. G \$50. G \$100 G Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (040539)

Giving a monthly gift of: G \$25. G \$50. G \$100 G Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (040539)

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❶ Post-Dated Checks - Please make cheques payable to World Team. Please leave memo line blank.

❷ Pre-Authorized Payment (PAP) - I / We authorize World Team to make automatic withdrawals from my / our bank account on the G 3<sup>rd</sup> or G 18<sup>th</sup> of each month until further notice. Please enclose a void cheque.

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G I/We understand that I/We may cancel, request a time limit on the plan, or change the amount by written or phone request at any time.

G I/We authorize World Team to issue me/us one annual receipt.

G I/We have enclosed a "VOID" cheque for pre-authorized payment (PAP).

Gifts toward the ministry of World Team are acknowledged and receipted with an official receipt for income tax purposes where allowed. Spending of the funds is confined to Board approved programs, including remuneration of personnel and ministry expenses. Each gift designated toward an approved program will be used with the understanding that when a given need has been met these designated funds will be directed where most needed.

### Mail to World Team at:

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# Would You Like to Help?

Would you like to help with Cuba ministry expenses? You can donate using World Team's secure online donation system. Follow the appropriate link below and in the blank for the missionary or project name choose one of the following projects.

*Cuba Hurricane Irma Relief Project (040539)*

*Where Most Needed in Cuba Ministries (40503)*

*For the Los Pinos Nuevos Seminary (40507)*

*For Printing Books in Cuba (40510)*

*Pastors Retirement Home Project (040528)*

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## Want more information about World Team or Cuba?

Write to us at: [Gary.Clow@worldteam.org](mailto:Gary.Clow@worldteam.org)



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*Glorifying God by working together to establish reproducing churches focussing on the unreached peoples of the world.*