

**AMP 10-18-15 | 9:00 - 9:30am**

**Today's Service**

- That God would draw unsaved people to our service and into his kingdom. Pray especially for those that reached by Robert's tract ministry.
- That Pastor Jon would preach in God's power as he is preaching a new series, Community & Diversity at Christ's Church in Queens, on how we function as a church.
- That God's presence would be palpable and that all in attendance would be changed by the goodness, power, and love of God.

**RPC Outreach**

- That we the people of RPC would desire to be a word and deed church.
- That God would open up great and lasting opportunities of community service for RPC.

**Regional Church**

- Pray for the other churches of our presbytery: Westminster Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Jonathan Holst (Hamden, CT); Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Bohemia, Meindert Ploegman (Bohemia, NY); Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Franklin Square, William Shishko (Franklin Square, NY), Trinity Church, Ben Miller (Syosset, NY), Westchester Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Dan Osborne (Mt. Vernon, NY).

**Samoa | Basic Country Facts:**

**Operation World Denomination Statistics**



Christians	Deno ms	Pop %	Affiliates	Ann Gr
<b>Protestant</b>	16	57.53	103,000	-0.7%
<b>Independent</b>	6	4.55	8,000	1.9%
<b>Anglican</b>	1	0.21	<400	0.8%
<b>Catholic</b>	1	18.72	34,000	-0.4%
<b>Marginal</b>	6	19.03	34,000	3.6%
<b>Doubly affiliated</b>		-3.44	-789,000	0.0%

**Ethnic Breakdown:** Samoan 92.6%, Euronesians (persons of European and Polynesian blood) 7%, Europeans 0.4% (2001 census)

**Major Languages:** Samoan (Polynesian) (official), English

**Religion:** Protestant 57.4% (Congregationalist 31.8%, Methodist 13.7%, Assembly of God 8%, Seventh-Day Adventist 3.9%), Roman Catholic 19.4%, Mormon 15.2%, Worship Centre 1.7%, other Christian 5.5%, other 0.7%, none 0.1%, unspecified 0.1% (2011 est.)

**Population:** 197,773 note: prior estimates used official net migration data by sex, but a highly unusual pattern for 1993 lead to a significant imbalance in the sex ratios (more men and fewer women) and a seeming reduction in the female population; the revised total was calculated using a 1993 number that was an average of the 1992 and 1994 migration figures (July 2015 est.)

**Life Expectancy:** male: 70.58 years female: 76.48 years (2015 est.)

**Government:** parliamentary democracy

**Economic Conditions:** The economy of Samoa has traditionally been dependent on development aid, family remittances from overseas, tourism, agriculture, and fishing. It has a nominal GDP of \$780 million. Agriculture, including fishing, employs roughly two-thirds of the labor force and furnishes 90% of exports, featuring fish, coconut oil, nonu products, and taro. The manufacturing sector mainly processes agricultural products. One factory in the Foreign Trade Zone employs 1,000 people to make automobile electrical harnesses for an assembly plant in Australia, and is responsible for 65% of total exports. Industry accounts for nearly 15% of GDP while employing less than 6% of the work force. The service sector accounts for nearly three-quarters of GDP and employs approximately 50% of the labor force. Tourism is an expanding sector accounting for 25% of GDP; 132,000 tourists visited the islands in 2013. The country is vulnerable to devastating

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storms. In late September 2009, an earthquake and the resulting tsunami severely damaged Samoa, and nearby American Samoa, disrupting transportation and power generation, and resulting in about 200 deaths. In December 2012, extensive flooding and wind damage from Tropical Cyclone Evan killed four people, displaced over 6,000, and damaged or destroyed an estimated 1,500 homes in Samoa's Upolu Island. The Samoan Government has called for deregulation of the financial sector, encouragement of investment, and continued fiscal discipline, while at the same time protecting the environment. Foreign reserves are in a relatively healthy state and inflation is low, but the external debt is approximately 55% of GDP. Samoa became the 155th member of the WTO in May 2012, and graduated from least developed country (LDC) status in January 2014.

**GDP Per Capita:** \$5,200 (2014 est.)

**GDP - composition, by sector of origin:** agriculture: 11.4% industry: 30.1% services: 58.5% (2014 est.)

**Education:** Literacy 99%. (OW)

**State of the Church:** Samoans' religious adherence includes the following: Christian Congregational Church of Samoa 31.8%, Roman Catholic 19.4%, Methodist 15.2%, Assembly of God 13.7%, Mormon 7.6%, Seventh-day Adventist 3.9%, Worship Centre 1.7%, other Christian 5.5%, other 0.7%, none 0.1%, unspecified 0.1% (2011 estimate). The Head of State until 2007, His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II, was a Bahá'í convert. Samoa hosts one of seven Bahá'í Houses of Worship in the world; completed in 1984 and dedicated by the Head of State, it is located in Tiapapata, 8 km (5 mi) from Apia. (wiki)

**Prayer Points:**

- Samoans have been Christian for over a century, and every village has at least one church. But the traditional class structure and pre-Christian cultural standards were not necessarily transformed by the gospel. Much of the Church suffers from nominalism, and rivalry among denominations does not generate a good spiritual atmosphere. Pride and politics influence church life too much, and the financial demands on a poorer population are heavy. These, coupled with the modern challenges of domestic strife and imported moral vice, make for a society in need of prayer. (OW 1)
- Mormonism is a point of contention; it is growing quickly, but the numbers they claim and the census results are hugely divergent. Mormons receive and send more missionaries to/from Samoa than any other denomination. Pray for all seeking to win Mormons to Jesus and to enlighten Samoan Christians of Mormonism's errors. Pray for renewal and revival within churches that will safeguard against further Mormon growth. (OW 2)
- The growth of evangelicals is encouraging – through renewal movements in mainline churches as well as through newer groups, especially Pentecostals/charismatics. This growth parallels a major decline in traditional denominations. Pentecostals/charismatics and other evangelical agencies, such as Youth for Christ, are met with opposition, particularly from some mainline denominations. Pray for harmony between the newer and the more traditional branches of the Church. (OW 3)
- Unity among evangelicals needs developing. Pray that the Samoan Evangelical Alliance, formed in 1991, may be a means to overcome the prevailing nominalism, to underscore personal commitment to Christ and to further the cause of the gospel. In a small constituency, the spirit of competition is too easily manifest. Pray that the birth of Graceland Broadcasting Network (90% Trinity Broadcasting Network content, 10% local content) might be a bridge between evangelical groups. (OW 4)
- Samoan missionaries played a major role in evangelizing the Pacific in the last century. Today, most Samoans who serve outside of Samoa are pastoring the many Samoan migrant congregations abroad. An exception to this is the contingent of around 50 Samoan YWAMers serving around the world. Pray for them, and pray for their ongoing influence on their home churches. (OW 5)