

**AMP 11-22-15 | 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 Dr. Joseph Pipa, president of Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, who will be preaching at Reformation and leading the Sunday School would teach and preach in God's power.
- 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 (sabbatical) (Syosset, NY), Westchester Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Dan Osborne (Mt. Vernon, NY).

**Trinidad & Tobago | Basic Country Facts:**

**Operation World Denomination Statistics**



Christians	Deno ms	Pop %	Affiliates	Ann Gr
Protestant	57	24.03	323,000	2.3%
Independent	37	12.40	167,000	3.4%
Anglican	1	6.18	83,000	-1.8%
Catholic	1	21.95	295,000	-2.1%
Orthodox	3	0.59	8,000	0.8%
Marginal	10	2.36	32,000	1.7%
Doubly Affiliated		-1.92	-26,000	0.0%

**Ethnic Breakdown:** East Indian 35.4%, African 34.2%, mixed - other 15.3%, mixed African/East Indian 7.7%, other 1.3%, unspecified 6.2% (2011 est.)

**Major Languages:** English (official), Caribbean Hindustani (a dialect of Hindi), French, Spanish, Chinese

**Religion:** Protestant 32.1% (Pentecostal/Evangelical/Full Gospel 12%, Baptist 6.9%, Anglican 5.7%, Seventh-Day Adventist 4.1%, Presbyterian/Congregational 2.5, other Protestant .9), Roman Catholic 21.6%, Hindu 18.2%, Muslim 5%, Jehovah's Witness 1.5%, other 8.4%, none 2.2%, unspecified 11.1% (2011 est.)

**Population:** 1,222,363 (July 2015 est.)

**Life Expectancy:** male: 69.69 years female: 75.56 years (2015 est.)

**Government:** parliamentary democracy

**Economic Conditions:** Trinidad and Tobago attracts considerable foreign direct investment, particularly in energy, and has one of the highest per capita incomes in Latin America and the Caribbean. Trinidad and Tobago is the leading Caribbean producer of oil and gas, and its economy is heavily dependent upon these resources. It also supplies manufactured goods, notably food products and beverages, as well as cement to the Caribbean region. Oil and gas account for about 40% of GDP and 80% of exports but only 5% of employment.

Growth has been fueled by investments in liquefied natural gas, petrochemicals, and steel with additional upstream and downstream investment planned. Oil production has declined over the last decade as the country focused the majority of its efforts on natural gas. The economy benefits from a growing trade surplus with the US. The US is Trinidad and Tobago's leading trade partner.

Although Trinidad and Tobago enjoys cheap electricity from natural gas, the renewable energy sector has recently garnered increased interest. The country is also a regional financial center with a well-regulated and stable financial system. Other sectors the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has targeted for increased investment and projected growth include tourism, agriculture, information and communications technology, and shipping.

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Crime and bureaucratic hurdles continue to be the biggest deterrents for attracting more foreign direct investment and business.

**GDP Per Capita:** \$32,100 (2014 est.)

**GDP - composition, by sector of origin:** agriculture: 0.5% industry: 15.2% services: 84.3% (2014 est.)

**Education:** Education in Trinidad and Tobago is free and compulsory between ages 5 and 16. Trinidad and Tobago is considered one of the most educated countries in the World with a literacy rate exceeding 98%. This exceptionally high literacy rate can be attributed, in part, to free tuition from Kindergarten (Pre-School) to University. In addition, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, via the Ministry of Education provides free transport, books and meals to students of primary and secondary age. (wiki)

**State of the Church:** Many different religions are practised in Trinidad and Tobago. According to the 2011 Census Roman Catholics were the largest religious group in Trinidad and Tobago with 21.60% of the total population. Hindus were the second largest group with 18.15% whilst the Pentecostal/Evangelical/Full Gospel denomination was the third largest group with 12.02% of the population. Significantly, respondents who did not state a Religious affiliation represented 11.1% of the population and those who stated Other comprised 7.27% placing them at 4th and 5th place respectively. The remaining population is made of – Baptist-Spiritual Shouter (5.67%), Anglican (5.67%), Islam (4.97%), Seventh Day Adventist (4.09%), Presbyterian/Congregational (2.49%), None (2.18%), Jehovah's Witness (1.47%), Baptist-Other (1.21%), Orisha (0.9%), Methodist (0.65%), Rastafarian (0.27%) and Moravian (0.27%).

Two African syncretic faiths, the Shouter or Spiritual Baptists and the Orisha faith (formerly called Shangos, a less than complimentary term) are among the fastest growing religious groups.

Similarly, there is a noticeable increase in numbers of evangelical and fundamentalist churches usually lumped as "Pentecostal" by most Trinidadians (although this designation is often inaccurate).

A small Jewish community exists on the islands, and several Eastern religions such as Buddhism and Taoism are followed by the Chinese community. There is also a small Baha'i community. (wiki)

**Prayer Points:**

- Many social challenges face Trinidad & Tobago. Increasing crime and gang violence associated with the illicit drug trade are worsened by endemic weaknesses in the policing/justice system. Alcoholism, kidnapping, armed robbery and theft are dangerously common and a high percentage of children are born out of wedlock and to teenage mothers. Pray that righteous and effective solutions might be found through both the public and faith sectors. (OW 1)
- The nation's racial diversity could also be considered a racial divide. Inter-ethnic harmony is hindered by racially aligned politics and the activities of several extremist minorities among Muslims, Hindus and some "Christians". Pray that the government may be impartial and fair to all ethnic groups and that the culture of corruption and bribery would be exposed and eliminated. The Church is one of the only structures connected to every community, and therefore has enormous but unrealized potential to bridge the racial divide. Pray that churches would be instruments of reconciliation and demonstrate that all are one in Christ. (OW 2)
- Christianity is professed by nearly two-thirds of the population, but true disciples faithful to God's Word are not so common. Many Christians are nominal; many others are polluted by witchcraft, Afro-Spiritist beliefs and Hinduism-influenced worldviews. Family life and morals within the Christian sphere often do not demonstrate the lordship of Christ. Greater theological training – for leaders as well as laity – is needed and a discipleship mentality must be fostered. Thank God for the minority who do live to please God, and pray that purity and passion might be restored across all denominations. (OW 3)
- The South Asian community, largely originating from North India, is the largest non-Christian group in the Caribbean. Many Hindus and some Muslims have turned to Christ, and over 20% of the population are Christian today. The Presbyterians, WT and TEAM planted strong churches, and there are many Pentecostal and charismatic congregations with largely Indian believers. Domestic violence and female suicide are factors needing prayer and ministry. (OW 7)