

**AMP 12-20-15 | 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 teach and preach in God's power as he preaches a series on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's.
- 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 othevr 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).

**US Virgin Islands | Basic Country Facts:**

**Operation World Denomination Statistics**



Christians	Deno ms	Pop %	Affiliates	Ann Gr
<b>Protestant</b>	37	31.52	34,000	0.2%
<b>Independent</b>	26	12.95	14,000	0.9%
<b>Anglican</b>	1	10.06	11,000	-2.5%
<b>Catholic</b>	1	26.98	30,000	-0.3%
<b>Orthodox</b>	1	0.32	<500	1.5%
<b>Marginal</b>	7	2.21	2,000	1.0%
<b>Unaffiliated</b>		19.1	21,000	1.0%
<b>Doubly Affiliated</b>		-8.23	-9,000	0.0%

**Ethnic Breakdown:** black 76%, white 15.6%, Asian 1.4%, other 4.9%, mixed 2.1%

note: 17.4% self-identify as latino (2010 est.)

**Major Languages:** English 71.6%, Spanish or Spanish Creole 17.2%, French or French Creole 8.6%, other 2.5% (2010 est.)

**Religion:** Protestant 59% (Baptist 42%, Episcopalian 17%), Roman Catholic 34%, other 7%

**Population:** 103,574 (July 2015 est.)

**Life Expectancy:** male: 76.84 years female: 83.11 years (2015 est.)

**Government:** none (territory of the US); there are no first-order administrative divisions as defined by the US Government, but there are 3 islands at the second order; Saint Croix, Saint John, Saint Thomas

**Economic Conditions:** Tourism, trade, and other services are the primary economic activities, accounting for nearly 60% of the Virgin Island's GDP and about half of total civilian employment. The islands host nearly 3 million tourists per year, mostly from visiting cruise ships. The islands are vulnerable to damage from storms. The agriculture sector is small, with most food being imported. Industry and government each account for about one-fifth of GDP. Federal programs and grants, totaling \$241.4 million in 2013, contributed 19.7% of the territory's total revenues. The manufacturing sector consists of rum distilling, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and watch assembly. A refinery on St. Croix, one of the world's largest, processed 350,000 barrels of crude oil a day until it was shut down in February 2012, after operating for 45 years. The economy declined in 2013, due to decreases in exports resulting from the loss of refined oil products. Nevertheless, the economy remains relatively diversified. Along with a vibrant tourism industry, rum exports, trade, and services will be major income sources in future years.

**GDP Per Capita:** \$36,100 (2013 est.)

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**GDP - composition, by sector of origin:** agriculture: 2% industry: 20% services: 78% (2012 est.)

**Education:** The Virgin Islands Department of Education serves as the territory's education agency, and has two school districts: St. Thomas-St. John School District and St. Croix School District.

The University of the Virgin Islands provides higher education leading to associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees, with campuses on St. Thomas and St. Croix. (wiki)

**State of the Church:** Christianity is the dominant religion in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Protestantism is most prevalent, reflecting the territory's Dano-Norwegian colonial heritage. There is also a strong Roman Catholic presence. Rastafari is also prevalent. Saint Thomas is home to one of the oldest Jewish communities in the Western Hemisphere as Sephardic Jews began to settle the island in the 18th century as traders and merchants. The St. Thomas Synagogue in Charlotte Amalie is the second oldest synagogue on American soil and oldest in terms of continuous usage. (wiki)

**Prayer Points:**

- Tourism and the influx of wealth affect society profoundly, corroding its moral fabric. Pray that the gospel might impact society, personal lifestyles and family life. (OW 1)
- The Christian Church has become very nominal, lacking in vitality and vision. The Moravians had a glorious past, but they and all churches need revival. The Catholic Church increases through immigration of Puerto Ricans and through charismatic renewal. Some evangelical groups have grown; the great need is revival. (OW 2)
- Specific outreach is needed for the many tourists, the Hispanic immigrants, the Rastafarians and those involved in the morally questionable aspects of island life. Pray that local churches and their leaders may work together in evangelism and in vision for the future. (OW 3)