



9 April 2024

**Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (PCT)  
Disaster Relief Update: Concerning Taiwan Earthquake 3 April 2024**

**Kind Attention:** PCT Partners Churches and related Ecumenical Organizations and Friends

**Dear partners and friends**

Peace to you all - Peng-an!

Due to the swift action of the international press and social media our partners around the world were quickly alerted of the earthquake which occurred at 07:58 (Taiwan time) on 3 April 2024. As has been widely reported by the mass media, with a magnitude of 7.2 this proved to be the strongest earthquake Taiwan has witnessed in a quarter of a century. While the epicenter was on the East side of our country near Hualien the strong effects were felt throughout Taiwan.

Our President, Dr Tsai Ing-Wen and related Government departments instantly set up a command centre to coordinate the response, assess the extent the damage in various areas, while all public transport (HSR, TRA and MRT train systems) came to an immediate halt and inspected. We are deeply grateful for the immediate and efficient disaster response teams of our government as well as those of local NGO bodies.

According to the Taiwan Central Disaster Response Center statistics (information updated as of 7 April) the earthquake victims stood at:

Fatalities (deceased) thirteen (13) persons; Injured 1,140 persons; and six (6) individuals unaccounted for (missing).

Concerning property damage according to the Department of Land and Resources categories of dangerous buildings, there are:

42 red listed, comprising of 32 in Hualien, two (2) in Taipei City, four (4) in New Taipei City, four (4) in Taoyuan. And a further 70 buildings yellow listed.

Damage to both the TRC (Taiwan Railway Corporation) and the MRT system (Mass Rapid Transit) were quickly attended to and transport services resumed amazingly within a few hours.

Landslides and rock fall particularly in the Taroko Gorge, Hualien hampered the rescue operations. Taiwan is grateful for the specialized team that has come to assist from Turkey.

Disaster statistics specific to the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (PCT) church members, congregations and institutions under our jurisdiction are as follows:

I. Earthquake Victims:

Among the Fatalities (deceased) we grieve the passing of  
one brother - church member of Makotaay congregation, Amis Presbytery.  
one sister – church member of Simma congregation, Central Bunun Presbytery.

There remains one person unaccounted for (missing) who is a member of the Truku congregation, Truku Presbytery

Persons who sustained injuries:

Truku Presbytery: one person from Ciwang Church; one person from Truku Church; one person from Skadang Church, and one person from Tpuqu Church.

Paiwan Presbytery: one person from Shiwen Village, Chunri Township

## II. Damage to church property (continue under assessment):

Truku Presbytery: three chapels and five houses

Eastern Presbytery: two chapels and one house

Taipei Presbytery: one house

Yushan Theological College and Seminary: several buildings on campus sustained damage (including dorms and classrooms) as well as “cracked” road/walkways.

## III. PCT Disaster Response and Relief operations:

The first response and service projects included condolences to the deceased and injured believers, water and electricity maintenance, and drinking water distribution in Fushi Village.

After evaluating the situation our General Assembly has not set up a permanent disaster relief command center in the epicenter. PCT is serving in partnership and cooperation with the local presbytery and congregations to handle church related disaster relief ministry case by case. Further assessments are of course needed before addressing the damage caused to buildings and long term response.

The PCT Church and Society Committee post news updates on its Facebook and website

FB 長老教會教會與社會委員會 <https://society.pct.org.tw/>

If you have any questions, please contact:

E-Mail: <[society@pct.org.tw](mailto:society@pct.org.tw)> PCT Tel: (+886) 02-2362-5282

Responsible Programme Secretary, Rev. Lim Ui-Lian (William Lin) Ext. 155

Assistant Ms Lâu Ka-Hun Ext. 255

Several of you have graciously inquired about making donations - PCT has set up an account for Disaster Relief Donations for the 0403 Taiwan Earthquake such expression of love contributions can be made by wire transfer for International Payments – all foreign currency to the PCT bank:

Account No. :	002087242539	SWIFT	UWCBTWP
Account Name : ** Please write in full	Juridical Person of Mission Foundation of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan		
Bank Name :	Cathay United Bank (Ku-Ting Branch)		
Bank Branch Address	149, Roosevelt Rd. Sec 3, Taipei 106608 TAIWAN		
When a wire transfer is made please notify us with the details of date, amount purpose, and contact information: PCT General Secretary (3, Lane 269, Roosevelt Rd., Sec 3, Taipei 106613 TAIWAN) E-mail: < <a href="mailto:gs@mail.pct.org.tw">gs@mail.pct.org.tw</a> > Thank you			

As a nation we know that the recent earthquake could well have resulted in far worse outcome given its magnitude - we are grateful beyond measure and thank the Lord this was not the case.

Last but not least, the PCT wish to express and reiterate our heartfelt gratitude for the many letters and messages of concern and solidarity received from our partners and friends around the world.

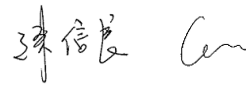
From experiences of dealing with natural disasters we can all attest how a few minutes of major trauma requires months and years of rehabilitation, recovery and rebuilding of lives, land and property. We ask that you continue to keep all the victims, their families and communities and the frontline responders in your prayers; and for the healing of the land of our precious country, Taiwan.

Once again thank you for your care and concern – God bless you all

Yours Sincerely,



**Rev. Phàng Chy-Fùng (彭志鴻)**  
**PCT 68th GA Moderator (總會議長)**



**Rev. CHEN Hsin-Liang (陳信良)**  
**PCT General Secretary (總幹事)**