



**The Washington Flyer  
November 24, 2017**

*“O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;”  
Psalm 107:1-2*

**Help Needed for AACCS Schools in Puerto Rico**

As we started the Thanksgiving week, Dr. Jeff Walton sent a message to AACCS member schools regarding the needs of the Christian schools in Puerto Rico. AACCS has been seeking to raise funds to help four Christian schools which suffered extensive damage from Hurricane Maria this year. Pastor John Cortes, president of the Puerto Rico Association of Christian Schools which is part of the AACCS, has reported that the member schools have temporarily patched walls and roofs and have resumed classes, but they are often without electricity for lights and equipment for days at a time. News reports indicate that it will be months before stable power is restored. Pastor Cortes has indicated that the greatest need for the schools is diesel generators. The AACCS has asked its member schools and ministries to consider contributing towards these generators and the operating expenses for the office of the Puerto Rico Association of Christian schools so that they can continue to serve their schools without having to collect any dues from their schools this year. To date, AACCS has received about 8% of the money needed to purchase the four generators, a cost which will total approximately \$21,000. In his message to schools, Dr. Walton wrote, “Help is needed for Levittown Baptist Academy, Ponce Christian Academy, Lighthouse Baptist Academy, and Igelsia Escuela Castillo Fuerte. We know that many of you have just given to help with needs in Texas and Florida, but our partners in Puerto Rico are teaching children and ministering to their communities in very difficult circumstances, and we want them to know that their Christian brothers and sisters in the States love and support them. Please act quickly, and thank you for your gracious generosity.” If you can help, please send your donation to the AACCS National Office at 602 Belvoir Ave., East Ridge, TN 37412. All contributions will be sent in their entirety to help the Puerto Rico schools.

**The First National Thanksgiving Proclamation by the Continental Congress, November 1, 1777**

*FORASMUCH as it is the indispensable Duty of all Men to adore the superintending Providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with Gratitude their Obligation to him for Benefits received, and to implore such farther Blessings as they stand in Need of: And it having pleased him in his abundant Mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable Bounties of his common Providence; but also to smile upon us in the Prosecution of a just and necessary War, for the Defense and Establishment of our unalienable Rights and Liberties; particularly in that he hath been pleased, in so great a Measure, to prosper the Means used for the Support of our Troops, and to crown our Arms with most signal success: It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive Powers of these UNITED STATES to set apart THURSDAY, the eighteenth Day of December next, for SOLEMN THANKSGIVING and PRAISE: That at one Time and with one Voice, the good People may express the grateful*

*Feelings of their Hearts, and consecrate themselves to the Service of their Divine Benefactor; and that, together with their sincere Acknowledgments and Offerings, they may join the penitent Confession of their manifold Sins, whereby they had forfeited every Favor; and their humble and earnest Supplication that it may please GOD through the Merits of JESUS CHRIST, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of Remembrance; That it may please him graciously to afford his Blessing on the Governments of these States respectively, and prosper the public Council of the whole: To inspire our Commanders, both by Land and Sea, and all under them, with that Wisdom and Fortitude which may render them fit Instruments, under the Providence of Almighty GOD, to secure for these United States, the greatest of all human Blessings, INDEPENDENCE and PEACE: That it may please him, to prosper the Trade and Manufactures of the People, and the Labor of the Husbandman, that our Land may yield its Increase: To take Schools and Seminaries of Education, so necessary for cultivating the Principles of true Liberty, Virtue and Piety, under his nurturing Hand; and to prosper the Means of Religion, for the promotion and enlargement of that Kingdom, which consisteth "in Righteousness, Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost." And it is further recommended, That servile Labor, and such Recreation, as, though at other Times innocent, may be unbecoming the Purpose of this Appointment, be omitted on so solemn an Occasion.*

*We at AACS wish you a blessed Thanksgiving as you reflect on God's great goodness.*

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