## 台灣基督長老教會總會

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## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN TAIWAN

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Presbyterian Church (USA)

The Rev. Jihyun Oh Stated Clerk of the General Assembly Rev. Mienda Uriarte Director World Mission, Presbyterian Mission Agency

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

The recent past week while facing the movements of Typhoon Krathon across Taiwan we were also very keenly aware of the widespread destruction which Hurricane Helene caused in the south-east of the USA impacting several states late September.

On behalf of the officer and member of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (PCT) we extend to you our heartfelt sorrow and condolences for the devastating destruction Helena left behind in its wake.

It is especially poignant for PCT in that only a few days prior a group of pastors from our church, together with others from Malawi, were gathered together to share mission stories and enjoy rich fellowship at the Montreat Conference Center (MCC). As part of the spiritual formation programme they also visited several Presbyterian congregations and were graciously hosted by your church families in North Carolina. Such bonds make the human face of this tragedy even more real and painful.

In the midst of sorrow we also thank God for all the faithful and brave first responders who serve and work tirelessly and for all the volunteers who have reached out to provide helping hands in one way or another. There is no doubt the impact of Helene on so many households and communities will be felt for months and indeed years to come; as cleaning continues and impact assessments are made, until eventually reconstruction will takes place.

Now your nation is bracing itself once again; as Hurricane Milton is projected to be heading towards Florida. Undoubtedly there is anxiety and trepidation as to what is ahead and we lift these communities in prayer that they will be as well prepared as possible.

Although there are many uncertainties to be faced, we remember the encouraging words from Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." With these few words accept our assurance of prayers in this difficult time,

Sincerely yours,

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Fuyan Suda

Rev. Fuyan Suda (張培理 牧師) PCT69GA Moderator

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PCT69GA/PCUSA-Condolences-HurricaneHelene/FS-CHL/ch

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