

Stephen ANDERSON

SPAIN

Location: Torre del Mar

Mission: Pastoral Ministry & Outreach

The past few months have brought a major change here in Torre del Mar Presbyterian Church (TDMPC). In November I was informed by the Spanish Evangelical Church (IEE) of their decision to bring an end to the Torre del Mar Mission Church Project in which PCI had been partnering with them.

PCI confirmed this and decided that, as a result, I will officially leave Torre del Marr at the end of June 2018. In the remaining 21 weeks, I have the challenges of seeking out another church connection for the small community here, and doing some basic training with members to allow them to prepare material themselves for Sunday mornings. It is a challenge on both fronts, but the congregation have expressed a desire to stay together (there are no other real options for Sunday mornings) and, once the initial shock of the IEE and PCI decisions subsided, there has been an assessment of what is required and some moves towards the goal.

On another level opportunities have opened up. We have been approached and asked to be involved in a homeless project, to provide a team to prepare and serve lunches, as well as provide some basic items. It has been a very humbling experience as their gratitude is so evident. I have maintained my contact with the Evangelical Presbyterian congregation in Malaga and also met with some local SERGE missionaries, both with a view as to how to work together and how this might impact TDMPC. I have also commenced, with five members of the core group, a 12-week Renovare



Spiritual Formation Programme entitled 'Connecting with God' with the objective of exploring and deepening their walk with/experience of God. With the potential of some funds from my home congregation, as well as several books from my own library, I am also working towards establishing a small resource library for the congregation.

Overall, I am trusting that the next 21 weeks will be a time of development and formation for the congregation, but I'm not unaware of the tight timeframe and the size of the challenge.



Photo: Some of the materials provided to the homeless project

Prayer Points

- Pray that the congregation will continue to bind and have a positive view of the adventure that lies ahead of them.
- Pray for wisdom and gentleness as I seek to encourage and develop skills in a new leadership team.
- Give thanks for the local contacts and for the possibility of a small resource library. Pray that these will be fruitful and utilised for networking and learning.
- 21 weeks is a short period of time with much to be done. Pray that I will be able to prioritise and use the time well and have wisdom and understanding as the balance of involvement slowly changes.

Monthly Bulletins are available for all PCI Global Mission Workers. For more information, or to receive this Bulletin by email, please contact:

Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Mission Department, Assembly Buildings, 2-10 Fisherwick Place, Belfast, BT1 6DW

Tel: +44 (0)28 9032 2284 Email: global@presbyterianireland.org Web: www.presbyterianireland.org/mission

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