



The Reverend Ernesto Badillo
July 1961 - April 2015

It was with deep sadness that we recently learned of the passing of Ernesto Badillo, Jr. Ernesto served The Synod of the Trinity, and its member Presbyteries, as our Board of Pensions representative. He touched thousands of lives throughout his career, always with a warm smile and genuine compassion and concern.

The Synod will be honoring the life of this humble servant of God during Assembly worship on Monday evening June 22 and will be taking a collection to be given to Ernesto's recently established "*Rev. Ernesto Badillo Fund for Church Administration*". **In addition, the Synod has moved to match funds received during this collection up to the amount of \$1000.00.** Please be aware that, although there is the opportunity to donate to his fund on the Presbyterian Foundation website, we are unable to track those donations and would not have the information to generate the matching funds. Your dollars have the opportunity to mean even more if make out your check to "*The Synod of the Trinity*" and give during our worship collection. We will make sure that your dollars are matched and sent to Ernesto's fund.

A letter from Ernesto received earlier this year describing the fund follows:

For over 30 years of church service – in the parish, for the denomination, and as a member representative for the Board of Pensions – my passion and commitment has been with excellence in planning, strategic development and sound administration for the church. I wish to enable the leadership skills of pastoral candidates during their seminary studies. It is with this in mind that I join the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico and the Presbyterian Foundation in the formation of the Rev. Ernesto Badillo Fund for Church Administration. These endowed funds will provide the resources for:

- An annual course in Church Administration. This course will be given by a professor appointed by the Seminary with the necessary academic and practical preparation for an experience in theological reflection fostered by creativity, leadership and entrepreneurship. The Rev. Ernesto Badillo Fund will provide the stipend for this professor.*
- An annual Church Administration Award to be awarded by the faculty of the Seminary to a student with a grade of excellence in the class who would have also developed a project that demonstrates creativity, entrepreneurship, biblical and theological reflection, good practices, and contextual application.*

Both, the course and the award, will begin in the academic year 2015-16.

My wife, María de los Ángeles Rodríguez, gave the initial funding. The Boriquén Synod (PCUSA) also gave a generous gift to the fund. I want to invite you to join this initiative for pastoral, administrative, and leadership excellence by giving to this fund.

The Church of the 21st century, and its pastors, is facing new and diverse challenges in being a relevant presence in the world. Join us to encourage creativity and excellence in the formation of pastoral leadership for Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, and the world.

In service to God and the Church, The Rev. Ernesto Badillo Gerena

