

PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

(FORMERLY INTERNATIONAL APOSTOLIC HOLINESS CHURCH)

STATISTICS

Summary for the United States, with urban-rural classification.—A general summary of the statistics for the Pilgrim Holiness Church for the year 1926 is presented in Table 1, which shows also the distribution of these figures between urban and rural territory.

Members are enrolled in the Pilgrim Holiness Church upon evidence of regeneration and belief in the doctrine of entire sanctification. The mode of baptism is left wholly to individual option.

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

ITEM	Total	In urban territory ¹	In rural territory ¹	PER CENT OF TOTAL ²	
				Urban	Rural
Churches (local organizations).....	441	166	275	37.6	62.4
Members	15,040	8,189	6,851	54.4	45.6
Average per church.....	34	49	25		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	5,414	2,965	2,449	54.8	45.2
Female.....	9,226	4,932	4,294	53.5	46.5
Sex not reported.....	400	292	108	73.0	27.0
Males per 100 females.....	58.7	60.1	57.0		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....	523	291	232	55.6	44.4
13 years and over.....	12,717	6,713	6,004	52.8	47.2
Age not reported.....	1,800	1,185	615	65.8	34.2
Per cent under 13 years ³	4.0	4.2	3.7		
Church edifices:					
Number.....	380	148	232	38.9	61.1
Value—Churches reporting.....	356	137	219	38.5	61.5
Amount reported.....	\$1,416,519	\$937,327	\$479,192	66.2	33.8
Average per church.....	\$3,979	\$6,842	\$2,188		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	161	88	73	54.7	45.3
Amount reported.....	\$266,215	\$204,165	\$62,050	76.7	23.3
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	151	42	109	28.0	72.0
Parsonages:					
Value—Churches reporting.....	108	48	60	44.4	55.6
Amount reported.....	\$301,128	\$195,800	\$105,328	65.0	35.0
Debt—Churches reporting.....	68	36	32	73.8	26.2
Amount reported.....	\$90,911	\$67,058	\$23,853		
Churches reporting "no debt" on parsonage.....	28	8	20		
Expenditures during year:					
Churches reporting.....	415	158	257	38.1	61.9
Amount reported.....	\$572,164	\$345,741	\$226,423	60.4	39.6
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$415,368	\$250,055	\$165,313	60.2	39.8
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$132,351	\$78,554	\$53,797	59.4	40.6
Not classified.....	\$24,445	\$17,132	\$7,313	70.1	29.9
Average expenditure per church.....	\$1,379	\$2,188	\$881		
Sunday schools:					
Churches reporting.....	388	150	238	38.7	61.3
Officers and teachers.....	2,964	1,357	1,607	45.8	54.2
Scholars.....	23,467	12,203	11,264	52.0	48.0

¹ Urban territory includes all cities and other incorporated places which had 2,500 inhabitants or more in 1920, the date of the last Federal census; rural territory comprises the remainder of the country.

² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

³ Based on membership with age classification reported.

The data given herewith for the year 1926 represent 441 active Pilgrim Holiness churches, with 15,040 members. The classification of membership by sex was reported by 432 churches, and the classification by age was reported by 377 churches, including 134 which reported members under 13 years of age.

Comparative data, 1906-1926.—Table 2 presents, in convenient form for comparison, a summary of the available statistics of the Pilgrim Holiness Church for the censuses of 1926, 1916, and 1906. Several small groups of churches, not reported at any of the preceding censuses of religious bodies, have been consolidated with this denomination at various dates since 1916. This fact probably accounts in part for the considerable increase in all the items reported.

TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1906 TO 1926: PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

ITEM	1926	1916	1906
Churches (local organizations)	441	169	74
Increase over preceding census:			
Number.....	272	95	
Per cent.....	160.9	(1)	
Members	15,040	5,276	2,774
Increase over preceding census:			
Number.....	9,764	2,502	
Per cent.....	185.1	90.2	
Average membership per church.....	34	31	37
Church edifices:			
Number.....	380	116	44
Value—Churches reporting.....	356	116	44
Amount reported.....	\$1,416,519	\$200,468	\$80,150
Average per church.....	\$3,979	\$1,728	\$1,822
Debt—Churches reporting.....	161	43	23
Amount reported.....	\$266,215	\$33,463	\$13,246
Parsonages:			
Value—Churches reporting.....	108	10	10
Amount reported.....	\$301,128	\$9,900	\$7,125
Debt—Churches reporting.....	68		
Amount reported.....	\$90,911		
Expenditures during year:			
Churches reporting.....	415	156	
Amount reported.....	\$572,164	\$73,639	
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$415,368	\$55,165	
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$132,351	\$17,899	
Not classified.....	\$24,445	\$575	
Average expenditure per church.....	\$1,379	\$472	
Sunday schools:			
Churches reporting.....	388	145	66
Officers and teachers.....	2,964	1,052	503
Scholars.....	23,467	7,923	3,276

¹ Per cent not shown, base being less than 100.

State tables.—Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 present the statistics for the Pilgrim Holiness Church by States. Table 3 gives for each State the number and membership of the churches classified according to their location in urban or rural territory and the total membership classified by sex. Table 4 gives for selected States the number and membership of the churches for the three censuses from 1906 to 1926, together with the membership for 1926 classified as under 13 years of age and 13 years of age and over. Table 5 shows the value of church property and the debt on such property, for 1926 alone. Table 6 presents, for 1926, the church expenditures, showing separately the amounts expended for current expenses and improvements, and for benevolences, etc., and also gives the data for Sunday schools. Separate presentation in Tables 5 and 6 is limited to those States in which three or more churches reported the principal items shown (values or expenditures), in order to avoid disclosing the financial statistics of any individual church. The States omitted from these tables can be determined by referring to the complete list which appears in Table 3.

TABLE 3.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, AND TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX, BY STATES, 1926: PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX			
	Total	Ur- ban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Sex not re- ported	Males per 100 females (¹)
United States.....	441	166	275	15,040	8,189	6,851	5,414	9,226	400	58.7
Middle Atlantic:										
New York.....	19	7	12	486	269	217	178	308		57.8
New Jersey.....	3	2	1	68	36	32	20	48		
Pennsylvania.....	32	13	19	907	514	393	305	540	62	56.5
East North Central:										
Ohio.....	56	23	33	1,941	1,232	709	675	1,206	60	56.0
Indiana.....	91	44	47	3,653	2,248	1,405	1,319	2,281	53	57.8
Illinois.....	16	8	8	348	164	184	114	234		48.7
Michigan.....	32	14	18	1,205	841	424	502	721	42	69.6
West North Central:										
Missouri.....	5	2	3	139	89	50	49	90		
Nebraska.....	11		11	252		252	99	153		64.7
Kansas.....	20	6	14	602	255	347	221	381		58.0
South Atlantic:										
Delaware.....	5	2	3	308	81	227	122	186		65.6
Maryland.....	14	3	11	455	86	369	178	277		64.3
Virginia.....	16	4	12	459	188	271	143	286	30	50.0
West Virginia.....	10	5	5	422	282	140	87	182	153	47.8
North Carolina.....	41	13	28	1,570	827	743	581	989		58.7
East South Central:										
Kentucky.....	31	6	25	954	312	642	347	607		57.2
West South Central:										
Oklahoma.....	4	1	3	103	16	87	44	59		
Mountain:										
Idaho.....	5	1	4	93	36	57	32	61		
Wyoming.....	1		1	15		15	8	7		
Colorado.....	18	6	12	384	221	163	138	246		56.1
Arizona.....	1	1		12	12		5	7		
Pacific:										
Washington.....	1		1	9		9	5	4		
Oregon.....	1	1		26	26		9	17		
California.....	8	4	4	569	454	115	233	336		69.3

¹ Ratio not shown where number of females is less than 100.

HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION ¹

DENOMINATIONAL HISTORY

The International Apostolic Holiness Union was organized in 1897, at Cincinnati, Ohio, in the home of the Rev. Martin W. Knapp. Rev. Seth C. Rees was the first general superintendent, and Rev. Mr. Knapp was the first general secretary. Rev. Mr. Knapp had previously been a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church but withdrew from that denomination because of his belief that there was need for more earnest efforts than that church was making for the spread of a "full Gospel" through all the world. The Methodist Church, in his view, was no longer completely Wesleyan in teaching or practice, and the Holiness movement in America was becoming theoretical and manifesting a growing tendency to rule out of camp meetings, conventions, and work generally such doctrines as the healing of the sick, the premillennial coming of Christ, and the evangelization of the world.

¹ This statement, which is, in part, the same as that published in the Report on Religious Bodies, 1916, was revised by Rev. W. C. Stone, general secretary, and approved by him in its present form.

TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, 1906 TO 1926, AND MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926, BY STATES: PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches in either 1926, 1916, or 1906]

STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926			
	1926	1916	1906	1926	1916	1906	Under 13 years	13 years and over	Age not reported	Per cent under 13 ¹
United States.....	441	169	74	15,040	5,276	2,774	523	12,717	1,800	4.0
New York.....	19	1		486	35		3	454	29	0.7
New Jersey.....	3		1	68		20		32	36	
Pennsylvania.....	32	13	3	907	385	164	7	787	113	0.9
Ohio.....	56	21	8	1,941	750	412	60	1,806	75	3.2
Indiana.....	91	21	11	3,653	539	370	203	2,666	784	7.1
Illinois.....	16			348			17	303	28	5.3
Michigan.....	32	16	16	1,265	619	518	40	1,033	192	3.7
Iowa.....			3			55				
Missouri.....	5			139			7	77	55	
Nebraska.....	11			252			3	249		1.2
Kansas.....	20	6	2	602	105	51	33	558	11	5.6
Delaware.....	5	1	1	308	30	168	13	295		4.2
Maryland.....	14	11	10	455	440	406	10	367	78	2.7
Virginia.....	16	9		459	301		7	439	13	1.6
West Virginia.....	10	8	3	422	368	82	3	237	182	1.3
North Carolina.....	41	36	9	1,570	1,010	339	39	1,453	78	2.6
Kentucky.....	31	15	5	954	463	142	25	826	103	2.9
Oklahoma.....	4	3	1	103	63	7	7	96		6.8
Idaho.....	5	5		93	100		3	78	12	
Colorado.....	18			384			22	351	11	5.9
California.....	8			569			15	554		2.6
Other States.....	4	3	1	62	68	40	6	56		

¹ Based on membership with age classification reported; not shown where base is less than 100.

While not more than a dozen persons were identified with Mr. Knapp in the initial organization, many were waiting for some such definite action, and the membership of the Union increased rapidly. The word "apostolic" as used by them simply implies a desire to approach as nearly as possible to apostolic practices, methods, power, and success. Between 1906 and 1916 the form of organization was changed considerably, and the term "church" was substituted for "union"; and since 1916, several smaller bodies with similar views have been admitted, without, however, affecting the general type or purpose of the denomination.

In 1919 the Holiness Christian Church united with the International Apostolic Holiness Church, and the name was changed to International Holiness Church.

In 1922 the Pentecostal Rescue Mission, consisting of congregations located chiefly in the State of New York, united with the International Holiness Church, becoming the New York District. At the General Assembly of the International Holiness Church in 1922 the Pilgrim Church, with churches located largely in California, united with the International Holiness Church, and the name Pilgrim Holiness Church was chosen for the combined bodies. In 1924 a small number of congregations known as the Pentecostal Brethren in Christ united with the Pilgrim Holiness Church and became a part of the Ohio District. In 1925 the Peoples Mission Church, with churches and missions in Colorado and other surrounding States, united with the Pilgrim Holiness Church, becoming known as the Rocky Mountain District.

TABLE 5.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY, AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926: PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting value of edifices]

STATE	Total number of churches	Number of church edifices	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		DEBT ON CHURCH EDIFICES		VALUE OF PARSONAGES		DEBT ON PARSONAGES	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount
United States...	441	380	356	\$1,416,519	161	\$266,215	108	\$301,128	68	\$90,911
New York.....	19	18	17	100,710	10	20,220	10	40,940	8	7,664
New Jersey.....	3	3	3	24,500	3	6,900	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Pennsylvania.....	32	26	26	105,920	11	27,186	12	43,480	10	17,245
Ohio.....	56	44	41	162,160	18	36,724	6	11,400	4	3,980
Indiana.....	91	79	74	236,210	29	41,558	18	32,420	11	11,545
Illinois.....	16	14	13	28,800	8	6,234	4	6,700	2	2,875
Michigan.....	32	31	28	133,327	17	28,261	13	44,000	9	17,304
Missouri.....	5	4	4	8,000	3	5,555	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Nebraska.....	11	8	8	17,000	5	2,345	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Kansas.....	20	15	15	36,153	7	8,148	8	10,500	2	1,262
Delaware.....	5	5	5	30,500	2	6,600	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Maryland.....	14	14	14	31,400	6	4,416	4	9,500	2	1,375
Virginia.....	16	16	14	49,700	5	16,010	4	13,250	2	5,500
West Virginia.....	10	10	9	116,000	4	8,498	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
North Carolina.....	41	42	38	162,600	10	10,994	7	20,000	2	275
Kentucky.....	31	28	25	78,102	12	14,661	5	14,450	5	6,105
Idaho.....	5	4	4	6,100	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Colorado.....	18	7	7	27,387	7	6,505	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
California.....	8	8	8	54,700	3	13,500	4	13,050	2	2,756
Other States ²	8	4	3	7,250	1	1,900	13	41,438	9	13,625

¹ Amount included in figures shown for "Other States," to avoid disclosing the statistics of individual churches.

² The figures for parsonages (value and debt) include data for 12 churches in New Jersey, Missouri, Nebraska, Delaware, West Virginia, Idaho, and Colorado.

DOCTRINE

The doctrine of the organization emphasizes the sanctification of believers as a definite second work of grace instantaneously received by faith, the healing of the sick through faith in Christ, the premillennial return of Christ, and the evangelization of the world as a step in hastening the coming of the Lord. All persons desiring to become members are first brought before the advisory board of the local church to ascertain whether they are in full harmony with the church manual as regards doctrine and practice. On acceptance by the board, the applicant is questioned in the presence of the church in a public meeting as to the renunciation of all worldliness; the possession of a clear witness of the Spirit to the experience of regeneration; and belief in the doctrine of entire sanctification as a second, definite, instantaneous work of grace subsequent to regeneration. The covenant is then read and entered into and the candidate given the right hand of fellowship.

The articles of faith emphasize also belief in the Trinity and faith in the Holy Scriptures as divinely and supernaturally inspired, infallibly true as originally given, and as the only divinely authorized rule of faith and practice.

The Lord's Supper, to which admission is general, is observed as often as the local congregation deems proper. The mode of baptism is left wholly to individual option.

TABLE 6.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:
PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting expenditures]

STATE	Total number of churches	EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR				SUNDAY SCHOOLS			
		Churches reporting	Total amount	For current expenses and improvements	For benevolences, missions, etc.	Not classified	Churches reporting	Officers and teachers	Scholars
United States.....	441	415	\$572, 164	\$415, 368	\$132, 351	\$24, 445	388	2, 964	23, 467
New York.....	19	19	37, 879	28, 489	9, 390	-----	17	104	542
Pennsylvania.....	32	31	67, 829	46, 030	18, 513	3, 286	29	262	1, 720
Ohio.....	56	50	56, 832	42, 900	10, 357	3, 575	53	391	2, 670
Indiana.....	91	86	100, 085	76, 259	17, 420	6, 406	76	617	4, 813
Illinois.....	16	14	11, 359	9, 420	1, 939	-----	11	75	514
Michigan.....	32	31	55, 063	38, 416	14, 133	2, 514	29	246	1, 939
Missouri.....	5	5	3, 564	902	162	2, 500	5	33	233
Nebraska.....	11	11	14, 609	12, 326	2, 283	-----	10	71	464
Kansas.....	20	19	23, 176	19, 743	3, 433	-----	17	132	761
Delaware.....	5	5	17, 057	15, 575	1, 482	-----	5	46	428
Maryland.....	14	14	15, 812	13, 341	2, 471	-----	13	101	625
Virginia.....	16	16	22, 849	14, 088	8, 481	280	14	105	861
West Virginia.....	10	10	20, 230	9, 812	7, 780	2, 638	10	91	1, 126
North Carolina.....	41	36	40, 521	27, 047	11, 528	1, 946	35	233	2, 965
Kentucky.....	31	28	34, 011	25, 415	7, 296	1, 300	29	201	1, 959
Oklahoma.....	4	3	2, 811	1, 377	1, 434	-----	4	32	240
Idaho.....	5	5	3, 574	2, 733	841	-----	4	22	168
Colorado.....	18	18	10, 868	9, 178	1, 690	-----	13	89	608
California.....	8	8	22, 820	13, 013	9, 807	-----	7	80	613
Other States.....	7	6	11, 215	9, 304	1, 911	-----	7	33	183

ORGANIZATION

The form of organization included, at first, both unions and churches, the former being local bands where the number of members did not seem to warrant the organization of a regular church. With the growth of the denomination this was changed, and by vote of the General Assembly it was decided to organize churches only. The unions were accordingly notified, and they accepted the action and changed their form of organization. The government is a combination of the Episcopal and Congregational forms. The local church elects a clerk, a treasurer, and not more than five elders and five deacons. If there is not a sufficient number of men competent to hold the office of deacon, women may be elected thereto and are known as deaconesses. The above officers, with the pastor, assistant pastor, and Sunday-school superintendent, are the governing officers of the local church and constitute the advisory board.

There is a State or district organization which meets annually, whose membership is composed of lay delegates from the local churches and all the ordained or licensed ministers and deaconesses. This organization elects a district council of not less than seven persons, which consists of the district superintendent, an assistant district superintendent, a district secretary, a district treasurer, and three additional members. This council has oversight of the churches and ministers within the district.

There is also a General Assembly composed of all general officers, members of the General Council and general boards, the superintendents, assistant superintendents, and secretaries of the districts, and a ministerial delegation and a lay delegation selected at the district assemblies. The General Assembly meets quadrennially and elects three general superintendents, two for the home and

one for the foreign field; two assistant general superintendents, one for the home and one for the foreign field; a general secretary; a general treasurer; and two additional members who, together with the above-named officers, constitute the General Council, to which all disputed questions of government and discipline can be referred for settlement. But from its decisions appeal may be made to the General Assembly. The General Assembly also elects boards of education, publication, home and foreign missions, etc.

Ministers are ordained by a council of five or more ministers called for that purpose. Each candidate must have been licensed at least two years and must be recommended by some local church. The churches choose their own pastors, calling them by vote of their membership upon nomination of their advisory boards, and the pastor continues to serve the church so long as the relation is mutually agreeable. Pastors are supported by freewill offerings or given a stipulated amount as decided upon by the church. The elders have special care for the spiritual interests of the church. The deacons receive the offerings, prepare the sacraments, and care for the poor. Deaconesses may be ordained for special missionary work, and women are admitted to the ministry on equality with men.

Camp meetings under the charge of the State and local organizations are held annually, during the summer season in the North and during the winter season in the South.

WORK

The missionary work of the church is carried on through the missionary boards. The Foreign Missionary Board employed, at last report, 60 missionaries and 160 native workers and has stations in Africa (3 districts), India (2 districts), West Indies (3 districts), and Jamaica, South America, Central America, Mexico, and Alaska (each 1 district); 3,660 members are reported in these fields. Missionaries are also supported in Japan, Chosen, and China under the supervision of the Oriental Missionary Society.

Home missionary work is carried on in the mountains of West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, in the Rocky Mountains, and in other neglected sections.

The educational work in this country includes three colleges, four Bible schools, and several schools of lesser grade.

Two rescue homes, one orphanage, and one old people's home are maintained.