

## EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATIONS

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### GENERAL STATEMENT

Under this head are included various associations of churches which are more or less completely organized and have one general characteristic, namely, the conduct of evangelistic or missionary work.

In a few cases they are practically denominations, but for the most part, while distinct from other religious bodies, they are dominated by the evangelistic conception rather than by doctrinal or ecclesiastical distinctions. None of them is large, and some are very small and local in their character.

Since 1916 there have been some changes. The Church of God (Apostolic) has been added but the Lumber River Mission is now known as the Holiness Methodist Church and listed with the Methodist bodies. The Church Transcendent and the Voluntary Missionary Society in America have ceased to exist, and no report was received from the Peniel Missions. Two bodies are listed under new names—Apostolic Faith Mission, reported in 1916 and 1906 as Apostolic Faith Movement, and Missionary Bands of the World, formerly reported as Pentecost Bands of the World.

The bodies grouped under the head "Evangelistic Associations" in 1926, 1916, and 1906 are listed as follows, with the principal statistics as reported for the three censuses.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATIONS, 1926, 1916,  
AND 1906

DENOMINATION AND CENSUS YEAR	Total number of churches	Number of members	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR		SUNDAY SCHOOLS	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Number of scholars
1926								
<b>Total for the group</b> .....	<b>257</b>	<b>15,763</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>\$1,821,043</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>\$378,034</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>11,839</b>
Apostolic Christian Church.....	53	5,709	48	476,800	49	36,072	48	2,581
Apostolic Faith Mission.....	14	2,119	4	273,500	11	60,622	7	578
Christian Congregation.....	2	150	1	1,000	1	250	2	165
Church of Daniel's Band.....	4	129	3	4,500	4	667	2	78
Church of God as Organized by Christ.....	19	375	2	1,400				
Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association.....	14	495	9	18,500	10	5,363	10	414
Metropolitan Church Association.....	40	1,113	4	201,650	34	107,580	33	1,618
Missionary Church Association.....	34	2,498	30	262,343	33	105,326	29	3,822
Missionary Bands of the World.....	11	241	9	20,000	10	6,588	8	248
Pillar of Fire.....	48	2,442	23	537,000	32	50,080	36	1,994
Church of God (Apostolic).....	18	492	8	24,350	14	5,486	13	341
1916								
<b>Total for the group</b> .....	<b>207</b>	<b>13,933</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>854,435</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>265,167</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>10,067</b>
Apostolic Church.....	2	112	2	6,400	2	650	1	60
Apostolic Christian Church.....	54	4,766	49	265,325	51	29,893	47	3,068
Apostolic Faith Movement.....	24	2,196	8	40,950	22	38,380	16	711
Christian Congregation.....	7	645	5	11,500	5	1,650	5	376
Church of Daniel's Band.....	6	303	4	7,800	4	895	1	22
Church of God as Organized by Christ.....	17	227	3	1,500	1	50		
Church Transcendent.....	3	91	1	4,500	1	700	3	84
Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association.....	12	352	11	21,100	12	3,887	12	502
Lumber River Mission.....	6	434	6	6,425	4	323	6	358
Metropolitan Church Association.....	7	704	1	100,000	4	80,635	3	423
Missionary Church Association.....	25	1,554	20	84,700	21	37,930	21	3,022
Peniel Missions.....	9	257	2	111,600	8	5,765	4	66
Pentecost Bands of the World.....	10	218	10	18,500	10	4,420	10	430
Pillar of Fire.....	21	1,129	8	171,555	21	57,790	12	559
Voluntary Missionary Society in America.....	4	855	4	2,580	4	2,199	4	386
1906								
<b>Total for the group</b> .....	<b>179</b>	<b>10,842</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>532,185</b>			<b>136</b>	<b>7,615</b>
Apostolic Christian Church.....	41	4,558	38	141,550			31	1,932
Apostolic Faith Movement.....	6	538	1	450			5	245
Christian Congregation.....	9	395	5	7,200			7	332
Gospel Mission.....	8	195	4	3,100			7	245
Church of Daniel's Band.....	4	92	2	2,400			1	50
Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association.....	10	293	9	11,300			9	402
Lumber River Mission.....	5	265	5	3,000			5	256
Metropolitan Church Association.....	6	466	4	118,300			4	360
Missionary Church Association.....	30	1,256	19	33,135			28	1,916
Peniel Missions.....	11	703	1	40,250			7	308
Pentecost Bands of the World.....	16	487	15	69,550			13	477
Pentecostal Union Church.....	3	230	3	90,600			2	175
Voluntary Missionary Society in America (Colored).....	3	425	2	2,400			3	390
Heavenly Recruit Church.....	27	938	7	8,950			14	527

# HEPHZIBAH FAITH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

## STATISTICS

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

The membership of the Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association comprises those persons who give evidence of a new life, conforming to the teachings of the Scriptures, and who subscribe to the fellowship and the rules of the church.

**TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: HEPHZIBAH FAITH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION**

ITEM	Total	In urban territory <sup>1</sup>	In rural territory <sup>1</sup>	PER CENT OF TOTAL <sup>2</sup>	
				Urban	Rural
<b>Churches</b> (local organizations).....	14	2	12		
<b>Members</b> .....	495	118	377	23.8	76.2
Average per church.....	35	59	31		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	204	41	163	20.1	79.9
Female.....	291	77	214	26.5	73.5
Males per 100 females <sup>3</sup> .....	70.1		76.2		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....	48	3	45		
13 years and over.....	336	65	271	19.3	80.7
Age not reported.....	111	50	61	45.0	55.0
Per cent under 13 years <sup>4</sup> .....	12.5		14.2		
<b>Church edifices:</b>					
Number.....	9	2	7		
Value—Churches reporting.....	9	2	7		
Amount reported.....	\$18,500	\$6,200	\$12,300	33.5	66.5
Average per church.....	\$2,056	\$3,100	\$1,757		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	3	1	2		
Amount reported.....	\$1,140	\$400	\$740	35.1	64.9
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	5	1	4		
<b>Expenditures during year:</b>					
Churches reporting.....	10	2	8		
Amount reported.....	\$5,363	\$2,629	\$2,734	49.0	51.0
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$1,691	\$971	\$720	57.4	42.6
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$3,672	\$1,658	\$2,014	45.2	54.8
Average expenditure per church.....	\$536	\$1,315	\$342		
<b>Sunday schools:</b>					
Churches reporting.....	10	1	9		
Officers and teachers.....	89	6	83		
Scholars.....	414	30	384	7.2	92.8

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

<sup>3</sup> Ratio not shown where number of females is less than 100.

<sup>4</sup> Based on membership with age classification reported; not shown where base is less than 100.

The data given for 1926 represent 14 active organizations of the Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association, with 495 members. The classification of membership by sex was reported by all of the 14 churches and the classification by age was reported by 9 churches, including 7 which reported members under 13 years of age. No parsonages were reported in 1926, although 1 valued at \$4,000 was reported as owned in 1916.

**Comparative data, 1906-1926.**—Table 2 presents, in convenient form for comparison, a summary of the available statistics of this denomination for the censuses of 1926, 1916, and 1906.

**TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1906 TO 1926: HEPHZIBAH FAITH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION**

ITEM	1926	1916	1906
<b>Churches (local organizations)</b> .....	14	12	10
Increase over preceding census:			
Number.....	2	2	.....
Per cent <sup>1</sup> .....	.....	.....	.....
<b>Members</b> .....	495	352	293
Increase over preceding census:			
Number.....	143	59	.....
Per cent.....	40.6	20.1	.....
Average membership per church.....	35	29	29
<b>Church edifices:</b>			
Number.....	9	11	9
Value—Churches reporting.....	9	11	9
Amount reported.....	\$18,500	\$21,100	\$11,300
Average per church.....	\$2,056	\$1,918	\$1,256
Debt—Churches reporting.....	3	2	1
Amount reported.....	\$1,140	\$350	\$175
<b>Expenditures during year:</b>			
Churches reporting.....	10	12	.....
Amount reported.....	\$5,363	\$3,887	.....
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$1,691	\$2,267	.....
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$3,672	\$1,620	.....
Average expenditure per church.....	\$536	\$324	.....
<b>Sunday schools:</b>			
Churches reporting.....	10	12	9
Officers and teachers.....	89	81	75
Scholars.....	414	502	402

<sup>1</sup> Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

**State tables.**—Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 present the statistics for the Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association 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 separate figures for the State of Iowa and combined figures for other States, showing 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 also limited to the State of Iowa, the only State 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: HEPHZIBAH FAITH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION**

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Males per 100 females ( <sup>1</sup> )
United States.....	14	2	12	495	118	377	204	291	70.1
Middle Atlantic: New York.....	1	1	-----	50	50	-----	15	35	-----
West North Central: Iowa.....	10	-----	10	332	-----	332	137	195	70.5
Kansas.....	2	1	1	100	68	32	42	58	-----
Mountain: Wyoming.....	1	-----	1	13	-----	13	10	3	-----

<sup>1</sup> Ratio not shown where number of females is less than 100.

**TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, 1906 TO 1926, AND MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926, BY STATES: HEPHZIBAH FAITH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION**

[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 re- ported	Per cent under 13 <sup>1</sup>
United States.....	14	12	10	495	352	293	48	336	111	12.5
Iowa.....	10	6	2	332	179	135	37	234	61	13.7
Other States.....	4	6	8	163	173	158	11	102	50	9.7

<sup>1</sup> Based on membership with age classification reported.

**TABLE 5.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY, AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926: HEPHZIBAH FAITH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION**

[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	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount
United States.....	14	9	9	\$18,500	3	\$1,140
Iowa.....	10	5	5	10,100	2	740
Other States.....	4	4	4	8,400	1	400

TABLE 6.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:  
HEPHZIBAH FAITH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

[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.	Churches reporting	Officers and teachers	Scholars
United States.....	14	10	\$5,363	\$1,691	\$3,672	10	89	414
Iowa.....	10	6	2,263	509	1,754	7	64	329
Other States.....	4	4	3,100	1,182	1,918	3	25	85

HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION<sup>1</sup>

## DENOMINATIONAL HISTORY

A number of independent churches were organized under the name of Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association, at Glenwood, Iowa, in 1892, for the threefold purpose of preaching the doctrine of holiness, developing missionary work both at home and abroad, and promoting philanthropic work, especially the care of orphans and needy persons. They have no formal creed and no general church organization; each local body, called an assembly, keeps its own records; but there is a central committee, located at Tabor, Iowa, which superintends the general activities of the churches.

A communicant is considered to be one who gives evidence of a new birth, who is willing to conform to the teaching of the Scriptures, walking in love and fellowship, amenable to the church and to those who have its spiritual oversight or rule. Those who reside in isolated communities may, if they wish, retain their church affiliation.

Ministers usually receive no salaries, most of them being engaged also in other occupations.

## WORK

The number of persons engaged in home missionary work is 150, including ordained and licensed ministers, evangelists, deaconesses, etc. No salaries are paid. Complete figures for this work are not available, but the superintendent reports that "sufficient food and clothing and traveling expenses for about 150 persons were supplied during the year." The denomination supports 1 school with 110 students, for which \$3,000 was contributed during the year. The value of property is \$65,000.

Foreign missionary work has been carried on since 1894. The fields occupied at present are Japan, India, Africa, and China. In 1926 there were 10 stations, with 12 missionaries and 16 native helpers. The total number of organized churches and Sunday schools in the foreign field was 19, with 1,350 communicant members and Sunday school scholars. The amount contributed in the United States for work in the foreign field was \$9,430, and the value of property was estimated at \$18,200. The amount of endowment for institutions of all kinds is \$20,000.

<sup>1</sup> This statement, which is substantially the same as that published in Part II of the Report on Religious Bodies, 1916, has been revised by Elder J. M. Zook, president of the Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association, and approved by him in its present form.