

# CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

(FORMERLY PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE)

## STATISTICS

**Summary for the United States, with urban-rural classification.**—A general summary of the statistics for the Church of the Nazarene 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 Church of the Nazarene consists of those persons who have been publicly received, after having declared their experience of salvation, belief in the doctrines of the church, and willingness to submit to its government. Baptism by sprinkling is generally accepted, though no special form is emphasized.

**TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

ITEM	Total	In urban territory <sup>1</sup>	In rural territory <sup>1</sup>	PER CENT OF TOTAL	
				Urban	Rural
<b>Churches (local organizations)</b> .....	1,444	640	804	44.3	55.7
<b>Members</b> .....	63,558	40,823	22,735	64.2	35.8
Average per church.....	44	64	28		
<b>Membership by sex:</b>					
Male.....	22,106	14,267	7,839	64.5	35.5
Female.....	38,111	24,444	13,667	64.1	35.9
Sex not reported.....	3,341	2,112	1,229	63.2	36.8
Males per 100 females.....	58.0	58.4	57.4		
<b>Membership by age:</b>					
Under 13 years.....	3,077	1,888	1,189	61.4	38.6
13 years and over.....	55,991	36,213	19,778	64.7	35.3
Age not reported.....	4,490	2,722	1,768	60.6	39.4
Per cent under 13 years <sup>2</sup> .....	5.2	5.0	5.7		
<b>Church edifices:</b>					
Number.....	1,173	548	625	46.7	53.3
Value—Churches reporting.....	1,113	522	591	46.9	53.1
Amount reported.....	\$7,323,718	\$5,776,575	\$1,547,143	78.9	21.1
Average per church.....	\$6,580	\$11,066	\$2,618		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	584	375	209	64.2	35.8
Amount reported.....	\$1,611,274	\$1,397,771	\$213,503	86.7	13.3
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	365	103	262	28.2	71.8
<b>Parsonages:</b>					
Value—Churches reporting.....	483	250	233	51.8	48.2
Amount reported.....	\$1,238,006	\$888,121	\$349,885	71.7	28.3
Debt—Churches reporting.....	213	128	85	60.1	39.9
Amount reported.....	\$324,797	\$250,892	\$73,905	77.2	22.8
Churches reporting "no debt" on parsonage.....	179	76	103	42.5	57.5
<b>Expenditures during year:</b>					
Churches reporting.....	1,340	599	741	44.7	55.3
Amount reported.....	\$3,124,444	\$2,265,199	\$859,245	72.5	27.5
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$2,434,513	\$1,792,630	\$641,883	73.6	26.4
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$693,263	\$434,040	\$199,223	68.5	31.5
Not classified.....	\$56,668	\$38,529	\$18,139	68.0	32.0
Average expenditure per church.....	\$2,332	\$3,782	\$1,160		
<b>Sunday schools:</b>					
Churches reporting.....	1,233	599	634	48.6	51.4
Officers and teachers.....	13,015	7,663	5,352	58.9	41.1
Scholars.....	109,287	71,195	38,042	65.2	34.8

<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> Based on membership with age classification reported.

The data given for 1926 represent 1,444 active organizations of the Church of the Nazarene, with 63,558 members. The classification of membership by sex was reported by 1,329 churches and the classification by age was reported by 1,288 churches, including, however, only 653 which reported any 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 this denomination for the censuses of 1926, 1916, and 1906.

TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1906 TO 1926: CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

ITEM	1926	1916	1906
Churches (local organizations).....	1,444	866	100
Increase over preceding census:			
Number.....	578	766	-----
Per cent.....	66.7	766.0	-----
Members.....	63,558	32,259	6,657
Increase over preceding census:			
Number.....	31,299	25,602	-----
Per cent.....	97.0	384.6	-----
Average membership per church.....	44	37	67
<b>Church edifices:</b>			
Number.....	1,173	506	69
Value—Churches reporting.....	1,113	506	69
Amount reported.....	\$7,323,718	\$1,719,822	\$393,990
Average per church.....	\$6,580	\$2,886	\$5,710
Debt—Churches reporting.....	584	266	40
Amount reported.....	\$1,611,274	\$308,525	\$97,224
<b>Parsonages:</b>			
Value—Churches reporting.....	483	82	7
Amount reported.....	\$1,238,006	\$107,683	\$22,500
Debt—Churches reporting.....	213	-----	-----
Amount reported.....	\$324,797	-----	-----
<b>Expenditures during year:</b>			
Churches reporting.....	1,340	712	-----
Amount reported.....	\$3,124,444	\$588,706	-----
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$2,434,513	\$350,409	-----
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$633,263	\$154,345	-----
Not classified.....	\$56,668	\$83,952	-----
Average expenditure per church.....	\$2,332	\$827	-----
<b>Sunday schools:</b>			
Churches reporting.....	1,233	727	80
Officers and teachers.....	13,015	6,029	824
Scholars.....	109,237	40,575	5,039

**State tables.**—Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 present the statistics for the Church of the Nazarene 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.

**Ecclesiastical divisions.**—Table 7 presents, for each district in the Church of the Nazarene, the more important statistical data shown by States in the earlier tables, including number of churches, membership, value of church edifices, debt on church edifices, expenditures, and Sunday schools.

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

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX			
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Sex not reported	Males per 100 females (1)
United States.....	1,444	640	804	63,558	40,823	22,735	22,106	38,111	3,341	58.0
New England:										
Maine.....	12	4	8	409	203	206	104	195	110	53.3
New Hampshire.....	2	2		68	68		24	44		
Vermont.....	6		6	118		118	36	82		
Massachusetts.....	22	20	2	1,438	1,418	20	488	882	68	55.3
Rhode Island.....	3	3		137	137		20	55	62	
Connecticut.....	5	4	1	256	156	100	89	167		63.3
Middle Atlantic:										
New York.....	29	20	9	1,150	963	187	390	760		51.3
New Jersey.....	6	3	3	156	86	70	64	92		
Pennsylvania.....	27	17	10	1,340	1,009	331	462	878		52.6
East North Central:										
Ohio.....	83	49	34	4,990	3,964	1,026	1,810	2,905	275	62.3
Indiana.....	99	51	48	5,302	3,874	1,428	1,932	3,215	155	60.1
Illinois.....	81	48	33	3,463	2,734	729	1,243	2,109	111	58.9
Michigan.....	44	20	24	1,767	1,203	564	645	1,049	73	61.5
Wisconsin.....	15	7	8	409	218	191	160	237	12	67.5
West North Central:										
Minnesota.....	14	5	9	468	272	196	183	285		64.2
Iowa.....	29	17	12	1,350	926	424	469	847	34	55.4
Missouri.....	48	21	27	1,986	1,225	761	625	1,216	145	51.4
North Dakota.....	33	6	27	857	250	607	324	533		60.8
South Dakota.....	17	2	15	463	85	378	200	263		76.0
Nebraska.....	25	10	15	823	531	292	289	534		54.1
Kansas.....	62	29	33	2,475	1,660	815	902	1,544	29	58.4
South Atlantic:										
Delaware.....	2		2	63		63	22	41		
Maryland.....	8	2	6	294	166	128	115	150	29	76.7
District of Columbia.....	2	2		100	100		33	67		
Virginia.....	5	3	2	268	197	71	92	176		52.3
West Virginia.....	8	4	4	352	201	151	122	230		53.0
North Carolina.....	2	1	1	117	93	24	50	67		
South Carolina.....	1	1		16	16		2	14		
Georgia.....	19	5	14	442	94	348	124	231	87	53.7
Florida.....	8	4	4	324	227	97	139	185		75.1
East South Central:										
Kentucky.....	36	12	24	1,405	753	652	440	782	183	56.3
Tennessee.....	44	13	31	2,596	1,395	1,201	850	1,516	230	56.1
Alabama.....	47	11	36	1,299	496	803	431	786	82	54.8
Mississippi.....	10	7	3	227	142	85	73	154		47.4
West South Central:										
Arkansas.....	60	17	43	2,024	818	1,206	517	1,098	409	47.1
Louisiana.....	12	5	7	471	317	154	162	287	22	56.4
Oklahoma.....	126	42	84	5,594	2,505	3,089	1,878	3,486	230	53.9
Texas.....	134	48	86	4,956	2,543	2,413	1,584	3,045	327	62.0
Mountain:										
Montana.....	9	1	8	202	92	110	83	119		69.7
Idaho.....	22	8	14	1,342	799	543	513	791	38	64.9
Wyoming.....	2	2		68	68		27	41		
Colorado.....	39	17	22	1,728	1,223	505	588	1,095	45	53.7
New Mexico.....	23	6	17	450	122	328	157	293		53.6
Arizona.....	7	3	4	399	210	189	140	259		54.1
Utah.....	2	2		32	32		10	22		
Pacific:										
Washington.....	42	16	26	1,742	1,044	698	552	812	378	68.0
Oregon.....	36	16	20	1,507	912	595	564	943		59.8
California.....	76	54	22	6,115	5,276	839	2,379	3,529	207	67.4

1 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: CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

[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 <sup>1</sup>
United States.....	1,444	866	100	63,558	32,259	6,657	3,077	55,991	4,490	5.2
Maine.....	12	11	3	409	297	94	4	295	110	1.3
New Hampshire.....	2	4	2	68	171	53	2	66	-----	-----
Vermont.....	6	5	4	118	132	112	1	117	-----	0.8
Massachusetts.....	22	20	11	1,438	1,319	926	10	1,132	296	0.9
Rhode Island.....	3	4	2	137	198	133	-----	75	62	-----
Connecticut.....	5	6	3	256	183	81	-----	256	-----	-----
New York.....	29	21	10	1,150	1,011	539	58	1,092	-----	5.0
New Jersey.....	6	5	1	156	93	20	-----	156	-----	-----
Pennsylvania.....	27	20	6	1,340	858	378	58	1,282	-----	4.3
Ohio.....	83	29	1	4,990	1,418	13	239	4,408	343	5.1
Indiana.....	99	24	2	5,302	1,141	141	154	4,825	323	3.1
Illinois.....	81	27	11	3,463	1,756	797	132	3,165	166	4.0
Michigan.....	44	18	-----	1,767	746	-----	65	1,629	73	3.8
Wisconsin.....	15	6	-----	409	122	-----	26	371	12	6.5
Minnesota.....	14	1	-----	468	13	-----	15	436	17	3.3
Iowa.....	29	20	1	1,350	765	23	68	1,248	34	5.2
Missouri.....	48	23	-----	1,986	903	-----	84	1,778	124	4.5
North Dakota.....	33	8	-----	857	201	-----	29	822	6	3.4
South Dakota.....	17	3	-----	463	112	-----	19	444	-----	4.1
Nebraska.....	25	15	-----	823	556	-----	22	801	-----	2.7
Kansas.....	62	46	2	2,475	1,390	119	89	2,353	33	3.6
Maryland.....	8	8	3	294	217	82	16	249	29	6.0
Virginia.....	5	4	-----	268	135	-----	3	253	12	1.2
West Virginia.....	8	3	-----	352	98	-----	23	329	-----	6.5
Georgia.....	19	12	-----	442	230	-----	49	306	87	13.8
Florida.....	8	4	-----	324	116	-----	5	212	107	2.3
Kentucky.....	36	18	-----	1,405	728	-----	56	1,166	183	4.6
Tennessee.....	44	48	-----	2,596	1,903	-----	154	2,180	262	6.6
Alabama.....	47	22	-----	1,299	589	-----	103	1,103	93	8.5
Mississippi.....	10	15	-----	227	233	-----	13	214	-----	5.7
Arkansas.....	60	53	-----	2,024	1,613	-----	126	1,372	526	8.4
Louisiana.....	12	7	-----	471	214	-----	41	380	50	9.7
Oklahoma.....	126	100	-----	5,594	2,831	-----	307	5,027	260	5.8
Texas.....	134	129	2	4,956	3,821	47	353	4,069	534	8.0
Montana.....	9	4	-----	202	69	-----	10	192	-----	5.0
Idaho.....	22	12	1	1,342	325	30	111	1,193	38	8.5
Colorado.....	39	11	1	1,728	370	50	96	1,528	104	5.9
New Mexico.....	23	3	-----	450	69	-----	23	406	21	5.4
Arizona.....	7	1	-----	399	93	-----	26	373	-----	6.5
Washington.....	42	26	7	1,742	976	285	46	1,318	378	3.4
Oregon.....	36	20	3	1,507	773	135	71	1,436	-----	4.7
California.....	76	46	23	6,115	3,380	2,433	361	5,547	207	6.1
Other States.....	11	4	1	396	91	166	9	387	-----	2.3

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

TABLE 5.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY, AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926: CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

[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.....	1,444	1,173	1,113	\$7,323,718	584	\$1,611,274	483	\$1,238,006	213	\$324,797
Maine.....	12	9	9	55,300	6	9,150	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Vermont.....	6	5	5	10,140	1	350	3	2,160	2	1,225
Massachusetts.....	22	17	15	269,500	8	17,575	9	60,400	2	5,300
Rhode Island.....	3	3	3	25,850	2	3,600	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Connecticut.....	5	5	4	43,000	2	12,000	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
New York.....	29	26	24	286,400	17	95,855	11	81,900	7	40,851
New Jersey.....	6	5	5	28,500	4	14,187	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Pennsylvania.....	27	24	22	278,900	9	44,125	10	67,100	7	26,875
Ohio.....	83	68	66	633,700	45	197,900	25	95,950	17	39,091
Indiana.....	99	91	89	713,830	60	183,107	35	98,600	20	27,525
Illinois.....	81	66	61	525,185	31	104,882	17	50,200	7	7,068
Michigan.....	44	39	37	229,250	28	66,645	16	32,250	11	12,835
Wisconsin.....	15	7	7	63,000	4	4,140	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Minnesota.....	14	4	4	45,750	3	22,000	3	6,200	(1)	(1)
Iowa.....	29	23	21	129,300	11	18,311	15	41,400	8	18,228
Missouri.....	48	41	41	196,250	28	39,121	16	25,700	10	10,370
North Dakota.....	33	14	13	32,550	5	5,370	6	8,800	2	2,250
South Dakota.....	17	14	13	41,100	7	7,424	7	14,200	4	6,250
Nebraska.....	25	21	20	92,200	11	19,820	12	29,400	5	9,020
Kansas.....	62	54	52	323,464	23	80,057	34	66,310	14	12,315
Maryland.....	8	9	6	60,300	3	14,500	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Virginia.....	5	6	5	62,000	4	13,973	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
West Virginia.....	8	7	7	30,600	4	5,750	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Georgia.....	19	15	15	21,750	6	2,013	3	3,700	1	100
Florida.....	8	8	8	121,300	5	13,690	4	10,000	1	660
Kentucky.....	36	27	27	86,950	13	18,701	5	4,100	2	1,150
Tennessee.....	44	41	39	209,300	8	27,648	9	17,450	2	3,108
Alabama.....	47	32	31	55,400	5	4,300	6	10,800	3	2,700
Mississippi.....	10	6	6	13,900	4	1,894	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Arkansas.....	60	49	46	93,306	15	19,664	17	28,600	6	3,300
Louisiana.....	12	8	7	43,000	2	6,400	6	19,500	2	3,910
Oklahoma.....	126	106	101	399,238	48	75,705	61	106,715	21	21,868
Texas.....	134	108	97	309,175	32	54,091	40	64,871	13	9,054
Montana.....	9	6	6	18,100	3	6,225	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Idaho.....	22	17	17	60,930	12	13,901	11	25,100	4	4,700
Colorado.....	39	30	27	149,560	17	24,775	11	22,700	5	10,196
New Mexico.....	23	14	14	39,100	5	8,262	6	4,000	(1)	(1)
Arizona.....	7	7	7	57,500	3	7,790	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Washington.....	42	35	34	170,050	21	45,966	18	36,100	7	9,527
Oregon.....	36	31	28	177,900	15	60,645	16	26,750	8	3,975
California.....	76	66	66	1,041,680	47	208,012	32	110,450	14	15,486
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	13	9	8	79,500	7	31,750	19	66,000	8	15,860

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

<sup>2</sup> The figures for parsonages (value and debt) include data for 15 churches in Maine, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Montana, and Arizona.



TABLE 6.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:  
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

[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.....	1,444	1,340	\$3,124,444	\$2,434,513	\$633,263	\$56,668	1,233	13,015	109,237
Maine.....	12	12	27,938	23,599	4,339	-----	12	110	663
Vermont.....	6	6	6,445	4,979	1,466	-----	6	46	201
Massachusetts.....	22	21	82,672	56,689	25,983	-----	20	282	2,034
Rhode Island.....	3	3	18,787	16,161	2,626	-----	3	41	223
Connecticut.....	5	5	25,347	21,771	3,576	-----	5	63	373
New York.....	29	27	119,083	98,187	20,896	-----	26	259	1,772
New Jersey.....	6	6	13,296	10,932	2,364	-----	6	50	286
Pennsylvania.....	27	27	86,909	66,533	20,376	-----	25	316	2,518
Ohio.....	83	79	247,982	199,491	48,149	292	78	957	10,288
Indiana.....	99	94	287,053	209,468	62,285	15,300	91	1,116	10,708
Illinois.....	81	73	181,576	128,288	49,675	3,613	72	712	6,299
Michigan.....	44	43	116,158	96,069	20,089	-----	44	483	3,670
Wisconsin.....	15	13	15,884	11,620	4,264	-----	11	77	506
Minnesota.....	14	9	20,263	15,181	5,082	-----	11	89	635
Iowa.....	29	28	72,369	45,592	14,563	12,214	26	272	1,937
Missouri.....	48	46	91,970	66,383	23,287	2,300	45	471	3,849
North Dakota.....	33	31	43,039	32,830	10,209	-----	28	239	1,608
South Dakota.....	17	17	22,774	17,506	5,268	-----	13	120	620
Nebraska.....	25	24	44,508	35,407	8,401	700	22	237	1,426
Kansas.....	62	60	142,456	111,162	25,826	5,468	60	688	5,180
Maryland.....	8	8	22,641	20,263	2,378	-----	6	50	421
Virginia.....	5	5	15,355	7,024	2,189	6,142	3	38	240
West Virginia.....	8	8	14,007	11,996	2,011	-----	7	74	755
Georgia.....	19	18	10,022	8,606	1,416	-----	12	78	598
Florida.....	8	7	32,822	26,536	6,286	-----	7	79	590
Kentucky.....	36	24	42,059	36,838	5,221	-----	21	215	2,264
Tennessee.....	44	43	71,280	51,826	19,454	-----	38	300	3,237
Alabama.....	47	37	30,188	23,889	6,299	-----	34	243	2,055
Mississippi.....	10	6	8,825	8,144	681	-----	7	46	345
Arkansas.....	60	57	61,217	51,203	9,829	185	44	375	3,558
Louisiana.....	12	9	23,525	19,987	2,317	1,221	8	84	620
Oklahoma.....	126	120	229,649	181,768	47,401	480	110	1,081	9,574
Texas.....	134	122	171,108	143,112	26,855	1,141	88	743	6,596
Montana.....	9	8	10,190	7,787	2,403	-----	7	58	354
Idaho.....	22	21	62,039	47,213	12,162	2,664	22	294	2,323
Colorado.....	39	38	89,553	73,567	14,324	1,662	38	450	3,527
New Mexico.....	23	21	17,885	14,066	3,819	-----	12	75	631
Arizona.....	7	7	16,444	12,239	4,205	-----	6	68	690
Washington.....	42	38	85,080	68,967	16,113	-----	38	463	3,095
Oregon.....	36	35	74,305	56,968	14,051	3,286	35	360	2,562
California.....	76	72	341,811	270,897	70,914	-----	74	1,082	9,567
Other States.....	13	12	27,980	23,769	4,211	-----	12	131	839

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

### DENOMINATIONAL HISTORY

Near the close of the nineteenth century, a movement for the spread and conservation of scriptural holiness, corresponding somewhat to that historically known as the Wesleyan revival of the previous century, developed almost simultaneously in various parts of the United States, everywhere with a spontaneous drawing, in the unity of the Spirit, toward closer affiliation of those of like precious faith, and finally culminating in the organization of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

<sup>1</sup> This statement, though it contains a part of the statement published in Part II of the Report on Religious Bodies 1916, has been rewritten by E. J. Fleming, general secretary of the Church of the Nazarene.

TABLE 7.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, VALUE OF EDIFICES, DEBT, EXPENDITURES, AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY DISTRICTS, 1926: CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

DISTRICT	Total number of churches	Number of members	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		DEBT ON CHURCH EDIFICES		EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR		SUNDAY SCHOOLS	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Number of scholars
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>1,444</b>	<b>63,558</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>\$7,323,718</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>\$1,611,274</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>\$3,124,444</b>	<b>1,233</b>	<b>109,237</b>
Alabama.....	48	1,307	32	56,600	6	4,750	37	30,188	34	2,055
Arizona.....	7	399	7	57,500	3	7,790	7	16,444	6	690
Arkansas.....	60	2,024	46	93,306	15	19,664	57	61,217	44	3,588
California, Northern.....	20	1,510	24	201,980	22	74,462	27	85,018	28	2,562
California, Southern.....	46	4,605	42	839,700	25	133,550	45	256,793	46	7,005
Carolina Home Mission.....	3	133	3	31,500	3	12,500	3	7,910	2	240
Chicago, Central.....	96	3,872	68	588,185	35	100,022	86	197,460	83	6,805
Colorado-Wyoming.....	41	1,796	28	158,560	18	26,075	40	93,419	40	3,710
Dallas.....	51	2,139	35	115,350	13	28,751	46	53,691	38	2,787
Florida.....	7	316	7	120,100	4	13,240	7	32,822	7	590
Georgia.....	19	442	15	21,750	6	2,013	18	10,021	12	598
Hamlin.....	51	1,907	39	125,825	12	13,013	47	69,589	31	2,648
Idaho-Oregon.....	24	1,365	18	54,700	12	14,350	23	51,980	24	2,240
Indiana, Northern.....	38	2,282	34	317,430	23	85,825	36	132,637	36	4,613
Indianapolis.....	61	3,020	55	396,400	37	97,282	58	154,416	55	6,095
Iowa.....	29	1,360	21	129,300	11	18,311	28	72,369	26	1,937
Kansas.....	42	1,657	35	210,700	12	44,310	40	94,522	40	3,148
Kansas City.....	37	1,665	32	205,164	22	55,790	36	87,611	36	3,635
Kentucky.....	39	1,487	30	97,050	14	18,751	27	45,324	23	2,408
Louisiana.....	12	471	7	43,000	2	6,400	9	23,525	8	620
Michigan.....	44	1,767	37	229,250	28	66,645	43	116,153	44	3,670
Minneapolis.....	56	1,589	29	122,210	17	40,419	49	75,519	46	2,385
Mississippi.....	10	227	6	13,900	4	1,894	6	8,825	7	345
Missouri.....	31	1,139	26	103,850	17	19,078	30	52,294	29	2,246
Nebraska.....	25	823	20	92,200	11	19,820	24	44,508	22	1,426
New England.....	49	2,406	36	399,790	19	41,625	48	156,541	47	3,549
New Mexico.....	21	438	11	35,100	5	8,262	19	19,074	10	649
New York.....	31	1,206	25	296,400	18	98,855	20	130,824	28	1,859
North Dakota.....	17	401	7	15,300	1	600	16	20,747	13	832
North Pacific.....	46	1,981	40	249,750	23	70,948	44	102,562	45	3,527
Northwest.....	32	1,277	22	109,430	14	38,714	28	69,082	28	2,290
Ohio.....	56	2,629	44	318,700	28	83,925	53	116,201	52	4,626
Oklahoma, Eastern.....	58	2,445	43	166,590	25	31,129	54	87,462	46	4,360
Oklahoma, Western.....	68	3,149	58	232,648	23	44,576	66	142,187	64	5,214
Pittsburgh.....	52	3,596	45	534,900	28	144,800	51	204,142	49	8,132
San Antonio.....	31	875	23	68,000	7	12,327	28	45,818	18	1,091
Southwest.....	3	47	3	4,000	—	—	3	821	3	52
Tennessee.....	44	2,596	39	209,300	8	27,648	43	71,280	38	3,237
Washington-Philadelphia.....	29	1,220	21	258,300	13	74,160	29	83,443	25	1,803

The great impulse of this movement has been the emphasis placed by the Scriptures upon the fact that, in the atonement, Jesus Christ has made provision not only to save men from their sins, but also to perfect them in love.

In January, 1894, William Howard Hoople, a business man in New York City, founded a mission in Brooklyn, which, in the following May, was organized as an independent church, with a membership of 32, and called "Utica Avenue Pentecostal Tabernacle." A church edifice was afterward erected, and Mr. Hoople was called to the pastorate. The following February the Bedford Avenue Pentecostal Church was organized, in an abandoned church building, and a little later, the Emmanuel Pentecostal Tabernacle. In December, 1895, delegates from these three churches formed the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America, adopting a constitution, a summary of doctrines, and by-laws. This association was duly incorporated. Associated with Rev. William Howard Hoople in this work were Rev. H. B. Hosley, Rev. John Norberry, Rev. Charles BeVier, and Rev. H. F. Reynolds.

In the meantime, several independent churches had been organized for the same purpose in New England, and a ministerial organization had been effected, known as the Central Evangelical Holiness Association. Prominently connected with this work were Rev. F. A. Hillery, Rev. C. Howard Davis, and Rev. F. L. Sprague. In November, 1896, upon invitation of the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America, a joint committee of these two associations and other independent churches met in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y. This meeting resulted in several of these churches uniting with the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America.

In October, 1895, at Los Angeles, Calif., a number of persons, under the leadership of Rev. Phineas F. Bresee, D. D., and Rev. J. P. Widney, LL. D., formed the First Church of the Nazarene, with 135 charter members. They adopted statements of belief, and agreed to such general rules as seemed proper and needful for their immediate guidance, leaving to future conferences the making of such provisions as the work and its conditions might necessitate. As a result of this organization, a number of churches sprang into existence, reaching as far east as Chicago.

As these two bodies came to know more of each other, it was felt that they should unite, and after consultation by delegates from one body to the other a basis of union was prepared and unanimously adopted by both bodies. The first union assembly was held in Chicago, in October, 1907.

There were several other Holiness movements in the South and Southwest, resulting in the organization of independent Holiness churches which carried on for a time but finally merged into the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

In 1894, the first organization of the Church of Christ was effected by Rev. R. L. Harris, at Milan, Tenn., with 14 members. This church was deemed necessary to conserve the work of Holiness, and soon spread throughout western Texas and Arkansas.

In 1898, the first Holiness churches were organized in Texas, by Rev. Thomas Rogers and Rev. Dennis Rogers, who came from California.

In 1900, the first Independent Church of Christ was organized, by Rev. C. B. Jernigan, at Van Alstyne, Tex., and the denomination grew and prospered until, in 1903, there were 20 church organizations.

In 1904, at Rising Star, Tex., the Independent Holiness Church and the Church of Christ were united in one body, called the Holiness Church of Christ.

At the general assembly of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, at Chicago, in 1907, in response to an invitation, several persons were present from the Holiness Church of Christ. Some of these were appointed to attend, but were not authorized to take any action with reference to organic union. The assembly invited them into counsel, and provisional arrangements were made for incorporating this church into the general body, upon proper action on their part; and this was finally consummated in the meeting of the general assembly, at Pilot Point, Tex., October 8, 1908.

In the year 1898, Rev. J. O. McClurkan and others called a meeting of the Holiness people of Tennessee and adjacent States, to be held in Nashville. At this convention an association was formed known as the Pentecostal Alliance, which name was afterward changed to Pentecostal Mission. From the beginning these people were evangelistic in spirit, having a burning desire to disseminate the doctrine and experience of sanctification; hence there came together in different sections of the Southland groups of Holiness people, known as bands of the Pentecostal Mission. They were decidedly missionary in spirit, and soon were sending their representatives to "the regions beyond." Throughout their career they have been characterized by this missionary zeal.



At different times the question of the union of the Pentecostal Mission with the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene had been discussed, and on February 13, 1915, this union was effected at Nashville, Tenn., thus uniting both the home and the foreign work of the Pentecostal Mission and the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

In November, 1901, the first stage in the present Holiness Church movement in the British Isles began, when the Rev. George Sharpe, after a strenuous, successful, and glorious ministry of 13 months at the Parkhead Congregational Church, Glasgow, was evicted for preaching Bible holiness.

On September 30, 1906, the first services of the first distinctively Holiness Church were held in Glasgow. The charter members numbered 80. Other churches were organized and became the Pentecostal Church of Scotland. Visits of Dr. E. F. Walker and Dr. H. F. Reynolds to Scotland, and a visit of Rev. George Sharpe and Mrs. Sharpe to the Fourth General Assembly, at Kansas City, Mo., led the way to affiliation with the Church of the Nazarene, which was consummated in November, 1915.

The general assembly of 1919, in response to memorials from 35 district assemblies, changed the name of the organization to Church of the Nazarene.

#### DOCTRINE

In doctrine the Church of the Nazarene is essentially in accord with historic Methodism. It stands for apostolic purity of doctrine, primitive simplicity of worship, and pentecostal power in experience, it being generally regarded that the primary dispensational truth is that Jesus Christ baptizes believers with the Holy Spirit, cleansing them from all sin and empowering them to witness the grace of God to men. This church stands particularly for this truth and experience, giving prominence to this great truth.

The general assembly has expressed the same in the following terms:

Entire sanctification is that act of God, subsequent to conversion, by which regenerate believers are made free from inbred sin, and brought into the state of entire devotement to God and the holy obedience of love made perfect. It is provided for through the precious blood of Jesus and is wrought instantaneously by the baptism with the Holy Spirit, the conditions being entire consecration and appropriating faith; and to this work and state of grace the Holy Spirit bears witness.

This experience is also known by various terms, representing its different phases, such as "Christian perfection," "perfect love," "heart purity," "the baptism with the Holy Spirit," "the fullness of the blessing," and "Christian holiness." There is a marked distinction between a perfect heart and a perfect character. The former is obtained in an instant, but the latter is the result of growth in grace. It is one thing to have the heart all yielded to God and occupied by Him; it is quite another thing to have the entire character, in every detail, harmonize with His Spirit, and the life become "conformable to his image."

The Church of the Nazarene recognizes that the right and privilege of men to church membership rests upon their being regenerate, and would require only such statements of belief as are essential to Christian experience and the maintenance of that condition. Whatever is not essential to life in Jesus Christ may be left to individual liberty of Christian thought. That which is essential to Christian life lies at the very basis of their associated life and fellowship in the church, and there can be no failure to believe this without forfeiting Christian life itself, and thus the right of all church affiliation.

While emphasizing the baptism with the Holy Spirit as a definite experience of divine grace, the Church of the Nazarene never has taught, nor does it now teach, or countenance teaching, that speaking in tongues is a manifestation attendant upon, or an evidence of, the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

While standing especially for the great dispensational truth that Jesus Christ baptizes believers with the Holy Spirit, cleansing them from all sin, the Church of the Nazarene also emphasizes the great cardinal doctrines of Christianity. Briefly stated, the Church of the Nazarene believes:

(1) In one God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; (2) in the divine inspiration of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, and that they contain all truth necessary to faith and Christian living; (3) that man is born with a fallen nature and is, therefore, inclined to evil, and that continually; (4) that the finally impenitent are hopelessly and eternally lost; (5) that the atonement through Christ is for the whole human race, and that whosoever repents and believes on the Lord Jesus Christ is justified and regenerated and saved from the dominion of sin; (6) that believers are to be sanctified wholly subsequent to conversion through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; (7) that the Holy Spirit bears witness to the new birth and also to the entire sanctification of believers; (8) in the return of our Lord, in the resurrection of the dead, and in the final judgment.

Applicants for membership in the church are received on the confession of their faith in Christ and of their acceptance of the doctrines which the church holds essential to salvation, and their agreement to observe the rules and regulations that mark the conscience of the church.

The Church of the Nazarene believes in the Bible doctrine of divine healing, and urges its people to offer the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick. Providential means and agencies when necessary are not to be refused.

Its position upon temperance and prohibition is stated in the following terms:

The Holy Scriptures and human experience alike condemn the use, as a beverage, of intoxicating drinks. The manufacture and sale of such liquors for such purposes is sin against God and the human race. Total abstinence from all intoxicants is the Christian rule for the individual, and total prohibition of the traffic is the duty of the civil government. It can not be licensed without sin, and voters are largely responsible for the acts of the government. No voter can vote for license, or for a party favoring it, without becoming a partaker of this crime against humanity. To rent or lease property to be used for such business, or to be a bondsman for persons engaged in the traffic of intoxicating drinks, can but be considered a misdemeanor.

#### ORGANIZATION

The ecclesiastical organization is representative, thus avoiding the extremes of episcopacy on the one hand and the unlimited congregationalism on the other. Each local church is governed through a church board elected by the congregation. The churches are associated for such general purposes as belong to all alike, particularly for a world-wide missionary program. The churches in a particular area are united to form an assembly district, each local church being entitled to representation in the district assembly. There are 42 such districts which hold annual assemblies and elect district superintendents and district boards, license and ordain ministers, commission evangelists, and conduct such other work as may be connected with their area. The 42 districts elect both ministerial and lay delegates to the general assembly, which meets once in four years. The general assembly elects general superintendents and other general officers and boards to have oversight of general denominational activities.

Persons are licensed to the gospel ministry after having been examined by a district assembly regarding their spiritual, intellectual, and other fitness for such work. Further ordination is by a council of the pastors and delegates, upon the completion of a four years' course of study, or its equivalent in college work. Ministers from other denominations may be received on the vote of the district assembly to which the application has been referred.

## WORK

The general work in which the 42 districts unite with the churches composing them is carried on under the head of home missions, foreign missions, publication, church extension, ministerial relief, education, young people's societies, and Sunday schools.

The total amount of contributions for all purposes in 1926 is estimated at \$3,233,172, distributed as follows: Local interests, \$2,692,694; district interests, \$256,814; general interests, \$283,664.

The work conducted by the department of foreign missions includes missions in southern Africa, eastern and western India, Palestine, China, Japan, Argentina and Peru, Central America, Mexico, and Cape Verde Islands. The report for 1926 shows 33 stations occupied by 55 American missionaries and 300 native workers; 54 organized churches with 3,400 members; 79 schools with 1,740 pupils; and 18 hospitals and dispensaries treating during the year about 21,500 patients. The value of property in the foreign field is estimated at \$220,000.

The educational work is combined under six colleges and two junior colleges in the United States, a Bible school in Scotland, and a Bible school in Alberta, Canada. The schools have property valued at \$1,043,178.

The denominational headquarters are located at Kansas City, Mo.