

CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

STATISTICS

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

In the Christian and Missionary Alliance persons are enrolled as members who subscribe to the doctrine and fellowship of the Alliance. The form of baptism is not prescribed.

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

ITEM	Total	In urban territory ¹	In rural territory ¹	PER CENT OF TOTAL ²	
				Urban	Rural
Churches (local organizations)	332	221	111	66.6	33.4
Members	22,737	18,968	3,749	83.5	16.5
Average per church.....	68	86	34		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	8,539	7,075	1,464	82.9	17.1
Female.....	14,043	11,848	2,195	84.4	15.6
Sex not reported.....	155	65	90	41.9	58.1
Males per 100 females.....	60.8	59.7	66.7		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....	743	592	151	79.7	20.3
13 years and over.....	21,874	18,331	3,543	83.8	16.2
Age not reported.....	120	65	55	54.2	45.8
Per cent under 13 years ³	3.3	3.1	4.1		
Church edifices:					
Number.....	268	187	81	69.8	30.2
Value—Churches reporting.....	254	176	78	69.3	30.7
Amount reported.....	\$3,565,375	\$3,263,775	\$301,600	91.5	8.5
Average per church.....	\$14,037	\$18,544	\$3,867		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	153	121	32	79.1	20.9
Amount reported.....	\$859,635	\$815,703	\$43,932	94.9	5.1
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	88	48	40		
Parsonages:					
Value—Churches reporting.....	102	73	24	76.5	23.5
Amount reported.....	\$566,225	\$496,425	\$70,800	85.9	14.1
Debt—Churches reporting.....	47	39	8		
Amount reported.....	\$130,535	\$115,835	\$14,700	88.7	11.3
Churches reporting "no debt" on parsonage.....	50	35	15		
Expenditures during year:					
Churches reporting.....	320	215	105	67.2	32.8
Amount reported.....	\$1,345,434	\$1,217,324	\$128,110	90.5	9.5
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$837,063	\$753,517	\$84,146	90.0	10.0
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$490,075	\$446,111	\$43,964	91.0	9.0
Not classified.....	\$17,696	\$17,696		100.0	
Average expenditure per church.....	\$4,204	\$5,662	\$1,220		
Sunday schools:					
Churches reporting.....	301	206	95	68.4	31.6
Officers and teachers.....	3,117	2,364	753	75.8	24.2
Scholars.....	25,930	20,711	5,219	79.9	20.1

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 332 churches or branches of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, with 22,737 members. The classification of membership by sex was reported by 328 churches, and the classification by age was reported by 329 churches, including 116 which reported members under 13 years of age.

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

TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1926 AND 1916: CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

ITEM	1926	1916
Churches (local organizations)	332	163
Increase over preceding census:		
Number.....	169	
Per cent.....	103.7	
Members	22,737	9,625
Increase over preceding census:		
Number.....	13,112	
Per cent.....	136.2	
Average membership per church.....	68	59
Church edifices:		
Number.....	268	126
Value—Churches reporting.....	254	126
Amount reported.....	\$3,565,375	\$590,150
Average per church.....	\$14,037	\$4,684
Debt—Churches reporting.....	153	72
Amount reported.....	\$859,635	\$137,657
Parsonages:		
Value—Churches reporting.....	102	31
Amount reported.....	\$566,225	\$78,000
Debt—Churches reporting.....	47	
Amount reported.....	\$130,535	
Expenditures during year:		
Churches reporting.....	329	147
Amount reported.....	\$1,345,434	\$232,029
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$837,663	\$108,897
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$490,075	\$110,471
Not classified.....	\$17,696	\$12,661
Average expenditure per church.....	\$4,204	\$1,578
Sunday schools:		
Churches reporting.....	301	153
Officers and teachers.....	3,117	1,342
Scholars.....	25,930	10,735

State tables.—Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 present the statistics for the Christian and Missionary Alliance 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 censuses of 1926 and 1916, 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: CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX			
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Male	Fe- male	Sex not re- ported	Males per 100 females (1)
United States.....	332	221	111	22,737	18,988	3,749	8,539	14,043	155	60.8
New England:										
Maine.....	5	2	3	168	92	76	51	117	-----	43.6
New Hampshire.....	1	1	-----	29	29	-----	12	17	-----	-----
Massachusetts.....	9	9	-----	622	622	-----	189	433	-----	43.6
Rhode Island.....	2	2	-----	124	124	-----	47	77	-----	-----
Connecticut.....	2	1	1	206	152	54	70	136	-----	51.5
Middle Atlantic:										
New York.....	35	29	6	2,567	2,455	112	992	1,510	65	65.7
New Jersey.....	10	8	2	560	494	66	202	358	-----	56.4
Pennsylvania.....	96	55	41	6,062	4,317	1,745	2,234	3,793	35	58.9
East North Central:										
Ohio.....	26	21	5	2,612	2,428	184	996	1,616	-----	61.6
Indiana.....	4	4	-----	228	-----	-----	75	153	-----	49.0
Illinois.....	4	4	-----	265	265	-----	87	178	-----	48.9
Michigan.....	15	13	2	1,025	992	33	410	615	-----	66.7
Wisconsin.....	3	1	2	69	30	39	27	42	-----	-----
West North Central:										
Minnesota.....	20	5	15	609	201	408	246	363	-----	67.8
Iowa.....	7	3	4	275	161	114	123	152	-----	80.9
Missouri.....	2	1	1	319	264	55	103	161	55	64.0
North Dakota.....	4	1	3	108	19	89	47	61	-----	-----
South Dakota.....	5	1	4	98	20	78	31	67	-----	-----
Nebraska.....	1	1	-----	93	93	-----	39	54	-----	-----
South Atlantic:										
Delaware.....	1	1	-----	150	150	-----	56	94	-----	-----
Maryland.....	1	1	-----	80	80	-----	37	43	-----	-----
Dist. of Columbia.....	2	2	-----	39	39	-----	14	25	-----	-----
Virginia.....	3	2	1	255	230	25	104	151	-----	68.9
West Virginia.....	4	3	1	152	146	6	47	105	-----	44.8
North Carolina.....	5	4	1	375	350	25	123	252	-----	48.8
Georgia.....	2	1	1	361	248	113	136	225	-----	60.4
Florida.....	7	4	3	1,488	1,366	122	617	871	-----	70.8
East South Central:										
Kentucky.....	1	1	-----	200	200	-----	75	125	-----	60.0
Tennessee.....	2	1	1	75	42	33	22	53	-----	-----
Alabama.....	2	-----	2	62	-----	62	28	34	-----	-----
West South Central:										
Oklahoma.....	3	1	2	96	50	46	40	56	-----	-----
Texas.....	4	4	-----	155	155	-----	59	96	-----	-----
Mountain:										
Montana.....	2	1	1	37	24	13	19	18	-----	-----
Colorado.....	1	1	-----	40	40	-----	10	30	-----	-----
Nevada.....	1	1	-----	42	42	-----	12	30	-----	-----
Pacific:										
Washington.....	19	11	8	982	802	180	399	583	-----	68.4
Oregon.....	7	6	1	606	535	71	241	365	-----	66.0
California.....	14	14	-----	1,503	1,503	-----	519	984	-----	52.7

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

HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION ¹

DENOMINATIONAL HISTORY

The Christian and Missionary Alliance originated in a somewhat informal movement started by the Rev. A. B. Simpson, D. D., in the year 1881. At that time Doctor Simpson was pastor of a Presbyterian church in New York City, but left the pastorate, and also withdrew from the presbytery of New York, for the purpose of conducting a wider evangelistic movement among the unchurched masses. For several years he held services in public halls, theaters, and in the summer in gospel tents. Shortly after the movement was started an independent church was organized in New York City with an independent charter, still known

¹This statement, which is substantially the same as that published in Part II of the Report on Religious Bodies, 1916, has been revised by Mr. W. S. Poling, general secretary of the Alliance, and approved by him in its present form.

TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, 1926 AND 1916, AND MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926, BY STATES: CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

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

STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES		NUMBER OF MEMBERS		MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926			
	1926	1916	1926	1916	Under 13 years	13 years and over	Age not reported	Per cent under 13 ¹
United States.....	332	163	22,737	9,625	743	21,874	120	3.3
Maine.....	5		168			168		
Massachusetts.....	9	5	622	247	7	615		1.1
New York.....	35	28	2,587	1,274	24	2,478	65	1.0
New Jersey.....	10	7	560	308	10	550		1.8
Pennsylvania.....	96	65	6,062	3,857	192	5,870		3.2
Ohio.....	26	16	2,612	1,344	162	2,450		6.2
Indiana.....	4	6	228	130	1	227		0.4
Illinois.....	4	2	265	195	9	256		3.4
Michigan.....	15		1,025		7	1,018		0.7
Wisconsin.....	3		69		2	67		
Minnesota.....	20	4	609	133	24	585		3.9
Iowa.....	7	1	275	41	33	242		12.0
North Dakota.....	4	1	108	30	15	93		13.9
South Dakota.....	5		98			98		
Virginia.....	3		255		19	236		7.5
West Virginia.....	4	1	152	25		152		
North Carolina.....	5	3	375	314	1	374		0.3
Florida.....	7	1	1,488	15	61	1,427		4.1
Oklahoma.....	3		96		11	85		
Texas.....	4		155		5	150		3.2
Washington.....	19	5	982	290	51	931		5.2
Oregon.....	7	2	606	90	12	594		2.0
California.....	14	8	1,503	749	64	1,439		4.3
Other States.....	23	8	1,857	613	33	1,769	55	1.8

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

as the Gospel Tabernacle Church. The work became more widely known and affiliated throughout the country through many calls for evangelistic services and religious conventions in popular centers, such as Old Orchard Beach, Me., and various other resorts, and a number of local organizations were formed. From the beginning a strong missionary tone characterized the conferences, and in 1887 two societies were organized, respectively, for home and foreign missionary work—one known as the Christian Alliance (incorporated in 1890), for home work, especially among the neglected classes in towns and cities of the United States; the other, the International Missionary Alliance (incorporated in 1889), was for the purpose of planting missions among neglected communities in non-Christian lands. In 1897 the two societies were united in the Christian and Missionary Alliance and since then have labored in the double function of home and foreign evangelism.

DOCTRINE

The Christian and Missionary Alliance is strictly evangelical in its doctrine. It stands firmly for the inspiration of the Scriptures, the atonement of Christ, the supernaturalism of religious experience, and a life of separation and practical holiness. It has no strict creed, but expresses the great essential features of its testimony in a simple formula known as the fourfold Gospel of Christ, as Saviour, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming Lord. It is not a sectarian body, but allows liberty in the matter of baptism and church government, and is in fraternal union with evangelical Christians of all denominations, accepting missionaries from the various churches, provided they are in full sympathy with the evangelical standards of the Alliance.

**TABLE 5.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY, AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926:
CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE**

[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.	332	268	254	\$3,565,375	153	\$859,635	102	\$566,225	47	\$130,535
Massachusetts.....	9	9	8	88,500	5	11,200	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
New York.....	35	33	32	691,625	21	167,785	14	63,825	7	14,625
New Jersey.....	10	9	9	158,600	5	39,175	6	71,000	4	26,535
Pennsylvania.....	96	71	67	856,100	32	134,875	35	207,400	15	39,250
Ohio.....	26	22	20	405,600	15	124,102	10	61,000	4	10,500
Indiana.....	4	4	4	61,500	3	12,250				
Illinois.....	4	4	4	51,000	2	24,000		(1)		(1)
Michigan.....	15	13	11	144,500	10	47,511	5	14,000	3	5,150
Wisconsin.....	3	3	3	10,500	3	3,125		(1)		(1)
Minnesota.....	20	18	18	56,800	8	6,590		(1)		(1)
Iowa.....	7	6	6	22,250	1	5,250		(1)		(1)
Virginia.....	3	4	3	43,500	2	37,900				
West Virginia.....	4	3	3	7,200						
North Carolina.....	5	3	3	42,600				(1)		(1)
Florida.....	7	7	7	289,300	6	101,125	3	33,000	2	17,000
Texas.....	4	5	3	19,800	2	3,050		(1)		(1)
Washington.....	19	14	14	98,300	11	23,994	7	14,200	5	3,300
Oregon.....	7	7	7	40,400	5	8,400		(1)		(1)
California.....	14	12	12	290,350	10	61,900	3	15,500		
Other States ¹	40	21	20	186,950	12	47,403	19	86,300	7	14,175

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 Massachusetts, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Carolina, Texas, and Oregon.

ORGANIZATION

There is no close ecclesiastical organization, though the society has in the United States and Canada about a dozen organized districts with between three and four hundred regular branches. Only a small proportion of these are organized churches, as the society seeks always to avoid a sectarian aspect and therefore is somewhat averse to the establishment of independent churches. Each local branch is entirely self-directing and in most cases is primarily evangelistic in character and a center of missionary conference. An annual council meets in the spring, to which reports are submitted from all branches and fields, and which passes such legislation as may be needed concerning the government and administration of the work. It is to be noted that many of the most liberal and active supporters of this work are still in active membership in various Protestant churches, giving their support to the Alliance in its evangelistic work.

WORK

The territory covered by the home and foreign work of the Alliance embraces the United States, Canada, some of the West Indian Islands, the Republics of Chile, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, and Argentina in South America, the Philippine Islands, Belgian Congo, French West Africa, and Western Sudan in Africa, the interior of Japan, several provinces in China, French Indo-China, three provinces in India, and several stations in Palestine.

TABLE 6.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:
CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

[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..	332	320	\$1,345,434	\$837,663	\$490,075	\$17,696	301	3,117	25,930
Maine.....	5	5	6,637	2,306	4,331	—	4	23	214
Massachusetts.....	9	9	49,380	27,458	21,922	—	8	82	558
New York.....	35	34	168,008	96,492	71,516	—	31	285	1,828
New Jersey.....	10	10	66,915	44,922	21,993	—	10	97	557
Pennsylvania.....	96	89	264,471	156,884	107,587	—	83	888	7,304
Ohio.....	26	26	139,539	88,335	51,204	—	25	348	3,563
Indiana.....	4	4	17,534	12,298	5,236	—	3	42	315
Illinois.....	4	4	18,294	10,507	7,787	—	4	55	400
Michigan.....	15	15	59,791	43,958	15,833	—	14	150	1,570
Wisconsin.....	3	3	3,926	3,406	520	—	3	22	98
Minnesota.....	20	20	43,114	21,135	21,979	—	19	149	1,061
Iowa.....	7	5	6,650	5,250	1,400	—	7	53	346
North Dakota.....	4	4	3,460	2,480	980	—	4	29	180
South Dakota.....	5	5	8,940	7,538	1,402	—	5	30	155
Virginia.....	3	3	8,793	7,780	1,013	—	3	27	203
West Virginia.....	4	4	7,232	4,051	3,181	—	4	32	223
North Carolina.....	5	5	19,176	5,260	13,916	—	4	44	412
Florida.....	7	7	162,226	133,900	28,326	—	6	68	1,020
Oklahoma.....	3	3	5,676	2,601	3,075	—	3	24	155
Texas.....	4	4	6,453	4,700	1,753	—	4	35	282
Washington.....	19	18	52,345	35,115	17,230	—	17	183	1,371
Oregon.....	7	7	18,404	11,327	7,077	—	7	63	486
California.....	14	13	110,865	50,078	43,091	17,696	13	152	1,643
Other States.....	23	23	97,605	59,882	37,723	—	20	236	1,986

The home missionary work consists of a general evangelism, carried on chiefly among those destitute of church privileges, and results frequently in the organization of local branches and in some cases of churches. A feature of the work, also, is, as noted above, the holding of evangelistic services and religious conventions in popular resorts, all of these being characterized by a strong missionary tone. The report for 1925 shows contributions for this work estimated at \$219,427. This includes administration expenses of the foreign missionary work.

The foreign missionary activities are more fully organized than those in the United States. They are under the administration of a large and representative board of 24 members, with various committees and heads of departments. The chief executives are 4 foreign secretaries who devote their whole time to the supervision of the missionary work. The report for 1926 shows 157 mission stations and 704 outstations in 20 different mission fields where 36 different languages are employed. The missionary staff is composed of 515 American and British missionaries, with 1,025 native workers. There are 216 organized churches with 18,717 members; numerous day schools and Bible training schools are established; approximately 15,772 pupils are enrolled in 302 Sunday schools. The total amount expended for foreign work exclusive of expenses of administration and including amounts received and expended on the field was, in 1925, \$547,895.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance maintains a number of training schools in the United States where workers are equipped for home and foreign service. The Missionary Training Institute at Nyack, N. Y., is the leading institute, and there are district schools at St. Paul, Minn.; Toccoa, Ga.; Seattle, Wash.; Vermilion, Ohio; Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Boston, Mass. There are schools also at Toronto and Edmonton, Canada.