

LUTHERANS

GENERAL STATEMENT¹

History.—The Evangelical Lutheran Church is the organized form or expression of Biblical Christianity republished during the Reformation in the sixteenth century, under the conservative leadership of Martin Luther. The restoration was on the basis that only what was contrary to the Scriptures was to be rejected in the church. The Scriptures thus became the standard by which to judge all religious institutions and all doctrine, as well as a sufficient source of Christian truth. Since Luther's day the church which bears his name has been planted in practically every country of the world, and falls into three main groups: First, Evangelical Germany, with her neighbors—Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia, France, and Holland; second, a group of other nations which have established the Lutheran Church as the state church—Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Esthonia, and Latvia; third, the United States of America and Canada. The Evangelical Lutherans in the other parts of the world bring the total of Lutheran population to between 80,000,000 and 100,000,000, with about 70,000 congregations and 49,000 pastors, thus comprising the largest confessional group in the non-Roman Evangelic Christendom.

The history of the Lutheran Church in America is largely the story of migrations from Lutheran countries, and the beginnings of the church in the Americas, North and South, bears out the statement that the "blood of the martyrs becomes the seed of the church." In South America the Welsers from Augsburg sponsored a settlement in Venezuela in 1529, one year before the Augsburg Confession, and according to Von Kloden the entire colony had accepted the Lutheran faith as early as 1532. The colony, however, went the way of Spanish conquest. Likewise, in North America, Lutherans from the French colonies under General Ribaut and General Rene de Laudonniere in the Carolinas in 1562 and 1564 met Spanish conquest under Menendez, who boasted that he had come to the Americas to hang and behead all Lutherans.

The Danes were in North America on the shores of Hudson Bay from September, 1619, until February, 1620; and here Rasmus Jensen, the first Lutheran pastor in North America, held services and was buried at his death on February 20, 1620. Among the earliest settlers on Manhattan Island were Lutherans from the Scandinavian countries, Germany, and Holland. The very man who is credited by some historians with having built in 1613 the first habitation for white men on Manhattan Island, Henrich Christiansen, from the German town of Cleve, on the lower Rhine, historical research reveals was a Lutheran. The first white child born north of Virginia was John Vinje, a Norwegian Lutheran, born on Manhattan Island in 1614. The earliest Lutherans to settle permanently in North America came from Holland to Manhattan Island in 1623. Jonas Bronck, whose name is perpetuated in Bronx Borough, is credited by historians as having been a "pious Lutheran." He arrived in 1639. For years they had great difficulty in establishing their own forms of worship because of

¹ This statement, which is somewhat longer than that published in Part II on the Report of Religious Bodies, 1916, has been furnished by the Rev. J. A. Morehead, D. D., LL. D., Th. D., executive director, National Lutheran Council, who states that the body of the article was compiled by the Rev. G. L. Kieffer, D. D., Litt. D., and the section on church polity was composed by the Rev. M. G. G. Scherer, D. D.

instructions issued by the authorities of Holland to the Governor of New Amsterdam "To encourage no other doctrine in New Netherlands than the true Reformed." The Lutherans banded together in 1648 and formed a congregation of the "Unaltered Augsburg Confession of Faith." The Lutherans on Manhattan Island in October, 1653, numbered 50 families. When Stuyvesant denied them permission to call a Lutheran pastor, they appealed to the authorities overseas, but persisted in their demand and held religious services in houses without a minister. On February 1, 1656, Stuyvesant's "Ordinance against Conventicles" was posted, imposing penalties of £100 Flemish for preaching and £25 for every attendant at the service. As a result a number were cast into prison. Because of the edict and all his harsh treatment of the Lutherans, Stuyvesant was rebuked by the authorities in Holland. This resulted in the appeal to the Lutheran Consistory of Amsterdam for a minister. In July, 1657, Rev. John Ernest Gutwasser arrived to minister to the two congregations in New Amsterdam (New York) and Fort Orange (Albany). Gutwasser began to preach, although he was not allowed to assume charge of the congregations, and was finally compelled to yield and to return to Holland in 1659.

The second Lutheran pastor to arrive on Manhattan Island while the Dutch were in power was Abenius Zetskorn, whom Stuyvesant directed to the Dutch settlement of New Amstel (New Castle on the Delaware). When the Dutch, however, were called upon, in 1664, to surrender Manhattan to the English, according to the proclamation of the Duke of York, the Lutherans were granted religious liberty along with the Reformed colonists, and a charter was issued by the English on December 6, 1664, to the congregation of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession of Faith, formed in 1648. This congregation has a continued history down to the present time in the congregation of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, New York City, the charter being in their possession to-day. In 1669, Jacob Fabricius was sent over by the Lutheran Consistory of Amsterdam, and, in 1671, Bernhard Arensius, to minister to the Lutherans of New York and Albany. In 1702 Pastor Rudman, a Swede from Pennsylvania, cared for these congregations, being succeeded by Justus Falckner, who was the first Lutheran minister ordained in America, November 24, 1703, in the Swedish Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Wicaco, Philadelphia, Pa.

The migration of the Germans to New York was led by Rev. Joshua Kocherthal with 51 Palatines in December, 1708. They formed a third Lutheran congregation at Quassick or Newburg, where they settled in the spring of 1709. Kocherthal returned to London in July, 1709, and came back to America in January, 1710, with a multitude of immigrants in 11 ships, 2,200 Palatines being thus settled on the Hudson at East and West Camp. The leader of this colony was John Conrad Weiser, sr., a Lutheran, who became a captain in the French and Indian Wars. His son, John Conrad Weiser, jr., became the head of the Indian bureau of the English Government in Pennsylvania in 1732, and no treaty was made with the Indians from that date until the time of his death in 1760 that did not have his signature. He was largely instrumental in causing the Iroquois nation to throw their allegiance to the English colonies in the French and Indian Wars.

The Swedish migration began with a colony founded on the Delaware River March 19, 1638. The primary consideration of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, in the founding of a colony in America was the planting of the Christian religion among the wild inhabitants of the country. While the commercial interests of his subjects and the extension of his power were elements inherent in the purpose of the King, the movement was inspired by Christian zeal and Christian humanity, as with prophetic eye, to provide an asylum for the defenseless of every land and particularly to promote the common interests of the

Protestant world, and this was one of these conceptions which did not die with the author. Finally, a ship of war and another small vessel laden with people, with provisions, and with merchandise for traffic with the Indians, and with manuals of devotion and instruction in the holy faith, set sail in August, 1637, to found a New Sweden on the banks of the Delaware. Here the first Lutheran congregation in America was assembled in Fort Christina in 1638. This was the first colony to forbid slavery in America, the edict being issued in 1638, and in 1642 they issued the first edict of religious toleration in America.

Pastor Reorus Torkillus was the second Lutheran pastor to serve in North America and the first in the United States. He arrived in the Swedish colony in 1640 and held Lutheran services in Fort Christina. His work was continued by John Campanius, who arrived in America February 16, 1643. Three years later, 1646, he dedicated the first Lutheran Church building in America at Christina (Wilmington). Campanius learned the language of the red men and became the first Protestant missionary among the North American Indians. Here he translated "Luther's Small Catechism" into the Delaware language some years before the appearance of Eliot's Indian Bible, completing the manuscript in 1646. Eliot's Bible was not printed until 1661, and Campanius' was not put into print until 1696; however, written copies were used up to that time. Campanius returned to Sweden in 1648, leaving his church of 200 people in charge of Lars Lock, who was succeeded by Jacob Fabricius. In 1669 a block church was erected by the Swedes at Wicaco, now a part of Philadelphia, and about 1694 the first English Lutheran services were held in Germantown and in Philadelphia by Heinrich Bernhard Koester. The block church at Wicaco was superseded in 1700 by Gloria Dei Church, which is still standing, as is also the Trinity Church at Wilmington, Del., the corner stone of which was laid in 1698. The Raccoon Swedish Church at Swedesboro, N. J., was also organized in 1698.

The German migration to the Middle Atlantic States began in the last quarter of the seventeenth century and continued through the eighteenth century. Various congregations were organized in and around Philadelphia, with here and there an organization in New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland from 1643 to 1710. The earliest ministers who visited the Germans in Pennsylvania were the Swedish pastors on the Delaware. The first Lutheran service held in Pennsylvania was held in Wicaco (Philadelphia) June 9, 1667. Among the pioneer German ministers working in Pennsylvania was Daniel Falckner. He labored in Pennsylvania from 1700 to 1708, organizing in 1703 the Lutheran congregation at New Hanover, Pa., this being the first point of record where permanent organization was formed among the German Lutherans in Pennsylvania. Another pioneer in Pennsylvania was Anthony Jacob Henkel, who came to America in 1717. He is supposed to have traveled on horseback to the Germans in Virginia and also to have visited all the Lutheran settlements near his home in New Hanover.

Pastor Henkel was succeeded by John Casper Stoever, sr., and John Casper Stoever, jr. To the latter most of the missionary work is attributed. He was in America 14 years before Muhlenberg came.

In the South the Saltzburger migration to Georgia occurred, and the German migration to Virginia and the Carolinas, and there was a second migration of Germans to these colonies from the Middle Atlantic colonies. In Georgia the Lutheran Church was planted by a group of 1,200 Saltzburgers, who landed at Savannah March 10, 1734. This colony was led by Pastors John Martin Bolzius and Israel Christian Gronau. Governor Oglethorpe led the immigrants 23 miles northwest of Savannah, where they erected a monument of stones where now stands the Ebenezer Church. In 1736 the first orphanage in America was established by the Lutheran Saltzburgers in Georgia. Five years later, in 1741, the

Jerusalem Church of Effingham County was built. The descendants of these Saltzburgers still maintain flourishing churches in that county. In the Carolinas and Virginia the descendants of the German colonists in the early eighteenth century also maintain flourishing congregations to this day.

Up to the middle and, indeed, the latter part of the eighteenth century, the history of the Lutherans in America is not alone the history of migration of peoples but the history of the individual congregations and pastors primarily. Even before the middle of the eighteenth century steps were taken looking toward the organization of pastors and churches into conferences and synods.

John Christian Schultz arrived in America in 1732 and as a pastor showed his organizing ability and business-like methods of doing his work. In some respects he did more to prepare the way for Muhlenberg than any one else. As the result of letters written by the congregations at Philadelphia, New Providence, and New Hanover, Pastor Henry Melchior Muhlenberg was called to America, arriving September 23, 1742. He landed at Charleston and visited Bolzius and the Saltzburgers at Ebenezer and arrived in Philadelphia November 25, 1742. His name is linked forever with the beginning of organized Lutheranism in America; in fact, he became the patriarch of Lutheranism in America. He brought the primitive congregations into order, infused into them a strong piety and true church life, provided them with good pastors, introduced schools for the education of children, and established and preserved the Christian home. Muhlenberg's activities included the Lutheran churches in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. By the middle of the eighteenth century, Pennsylvania contained about 60,000 Lutherans, four-fifths being German and one-fifth Swedes. On August 26, 1748, Muhlenberg, with six other ministers and lay delegates of three organizations, organized the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania and Adjacent States (now a constituent synod in the United Lutheran Church in America), the first Lutheran synod in this country. This was the most important event in the history of American Lutheranism in the eighteenth century. It was followed by the organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of the State of New York and Adjoining States and Lands in 1786 and the Synod of North Carolina in 1803, both of which are now constituent synods in the United Lutheran Church.

The extraordinary growth of the Lutherans in America must be attributed largely to Lutheran immigration and to the effort on the part of the different synods to reach all Lutheran immigrants. During the nineteenth century these immigrants in large numbers came to America, forming German, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Icelandic, Finnish, and other language settlements, largely in the central, northwestern, and western parts of America. At the same time they established their churches and schools for religious instruction and worship. A number of synods were formed, each adapted to the peculiar conditions of language, previous ecclesiastical relation, and geographical location. However, as the churches came into a closer fellowship the distinctive features tended to fade out and the small synods became absorbed in others. The movements for union have resulted in the organization of (1) the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America at St. Paul, in 1917, by the merger of the United Norwegian Church in America (organized in 1890), Hauge's Evangelical Lutheran Synod (organized in 1875), and the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (organized in 1853); (2) the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Wisconsin and other States, in 1917, by the merger of the Joint Synod of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, and other States (organized in 1892), the German Synod of Minnesota and other States (organized in 1860), the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Michigan and other States (organized in 1860), and the District Synod of Nebraska (organized in 1904); (3) the United Lutheran Church in America, in New York, in 1918, by

the merger of the General Synod (organized at Hagerstown, Md., in 1920), the General Council (organized at Fort Wayne, Ind., in 1867), and the United Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the South (organized in 1886). Definite steps have also been taken toward organic union of the Joint Ohio, Iowa, and Buffalo Synods, full doctrinal agreement having been reached subsequent to the report for 1926; a similar movement has been instituted in regard to the Norwegian Lutheran Church and the United Danish Church.

Unity of faith and work of the Lutheran Church in America has further manifested itself in the organization of (1) the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America at Milwaukee, Wis., in 1872, a federation now in effect of the following general Lutheran church bodies or synods: The Missouri Synod, the Joint Wisconsin Synod, the Slovak Synod, and the Norwegian Synod—organized to meet for discussion and to carry on common work, such as Negro missions, foreign missions, inner missions, etc.; (2) the National Lutheran Commission for Soldiers and Sailors' Welfare in 1917, by all of the general Lutheran church bodies—organized to coordinate the many Lutheran efforts to serve the "men with the colors" during the World War; (3) the National Lutheran Council—organized in 1918 as an agency for general Lutheran church bodies for regular work of representation, statistical and reference library service, publicity service, and emergency work of European relief and foreign mission relief; (4) the Lutheran World Convention movement at Eisenach, Germany, in 1923, representing the Lutheran Church in all the countries of the world.

The Immanuel Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of North America, organized in 1885, has disbanded since 1916, most of the pastors and congregations uniting with other general Lutheran church bodies. The Evangelical Lutheran Jehovah Conference, which was reported for 1926, subsequently went out of existence.

The Lutheran Church in the United States and Canada in 1926 expresses itself through the following general Lutheran church bodies or synods, the date of organization being given in parentheses: United Lutheran Church in America (1918); Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America (1860); Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States (1847); Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States (1850); Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Synod of the United States of America (1902); Norwegian Synod of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church (1918); Norwegian Lutheran Church of America (1917); Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States; (1818); Lutheran Synod of Buffalo (1845); Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (Eielsen Synod) (1846); Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States (1854); Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (1872); Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod in North America (1885); Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, or Suomi Synod (1890); Lutheran Free Church (1897); United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (1896); Finnish Evangelical Lutheran National Church of America (1900); Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church (1872); Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America (1900); Evangelical Lutheran Jehovah Conference (1893); Independent Lutheran Congregations.

Doctrine.—The Lutherans of the United States and Canada receive and hold the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and as the only infallible rule and standard of faith and practice. They accept the three ecumenical creeds—namely, the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian. They receive and hold the Unaltered Augsburg Confession as a correct exposition of the faith and doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, founded upon the Word of God. All of the bodies accept and use Luther's Small Catechism. None reject any of the other symbolical books of the Evangelical

Lutheran Church—namely, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Large Catechism of Luther, and the Formula of Concord. Many accept all of these.

The cardinal doctrine of the Lutheran system is justification by faith alone in Jesus Christ. It acknowledges the Word of God as the only source and the infallible norm of all church teaching and practice. The Word of God reaches man through preaching the law and the Gospel, which begets daily repentance and faith, the true marks of a Christian life. The sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper are not regarded as mere signs and memorials, but as channels through which God bestows His grace. The Lutheran faith does not center in the doctrine of the sovereignty of God or in the church, but it centers in the Gospel of Christ for fallen men. The Lutheran Church is conservative in spirit and holds to all the teachings and customs of the ancient church which are not in conflict with the Scriptures. The church's unity is a unity of doctrine, and its independence is an independence in regard to government. Organic unity in the church is a secondary matter to Lutherans, since the true unity is that of the true church, to which belong all in every land and church who are true believers, and these are known to God alone. The visible church exists in its work and office and for the defense of the truth, but not as an object in itself. Lutherans reject both transubstantiation, as held by the Roman Catholic Church, and consubstantiation, as attributed to them by some writers. Lutherans believe that the real body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ are present in, with, and under the earthly elements in the Lord's Supper, and that these are received sacramentally and supernaturally. The Lutheran Church believes in infant baptism, and baptized persons are regarded as having received from the Holy Spirit the potential gift of regeneration, and are members of the church, though active membership follows confirmation. To the Lutherans the mode of baptism is considered of secondary importance. The Lutheran Church emphasizes Christian education, thorough catechetical instruction preparatory to confirmation being the custom.

Organization.—In order to understand the polity of the Lutheran Church it is necessary to keep in mind the definition of what the church is: "The church is the congregation of saints, in which the Gospel is rightly taught and the sacraments rightly administered." Among Lutherans the distinction between the laity and the clergy or ministry rests solely upon the orderly exercise of a function which is necessary to the being and continuing life of the church—namely, the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments. This is committed to the ministry, and in reference to the exercise of this function all ministers are equals; and besides this there is no power which the minister as such can claim the right to exercise, whether he be called bishop, priest, minister, or pastor. All of these are designations of office, not of necessary orders in the ministry or among the faithful.

In Europe, Lutheran Church polity has followed more or less definitely the forms of political government in the several countries, and that not always freely. Accordingly, organization has hitherto functioned through the exercise of authority from the head downward; that is, through bishops, general superintendents, and the like. With the establishment of more democratic forms of government the process has been in many instances reversed.

In the United States and Canada the Church has its own free life, independent of the State. Nevertheless, organization has taken place in all Lutheran bodies, whatever the parent country whence they came, along lines having at least general resemblance to the arrangements adopted for the conduct of political government. There are (1) congregations, corresponding to the local or municipal government; (2) synods, corresponding to the State government (in some in-

stances called districts and in still others conferences); and (3) general organizations variously named, corresponding to the National Government.

The congregation is composed of the people and the pastor. The pastor is elected and called by the voting members of the congregation, usually without any time limit. The congregation has the power, however, to terminate the relationship, but it may not depose the pastor from the ministry of the church.

In the Lutheran Church ordination to the ministry is, as a rule, an act of the synod at its annual meeting. It is done with prayer and the laying on of hands by the president of the synod, other ministers usually assisting in the rite. In exceptional cases it may be done at another time and place by a committee appointed by the synod for the purpose. It follows examination of the candidate by a committee of the synod, which covers his scholastic attainments, his fitness for the office, and his loyalty to the Lutheran confessions, particularly the Augsburg Confession. Each minister is a member of the synod which ordained him or of the synod in which he is a pastor, and is subject to its discipline.

In practically every Lutheran Church body in America the congregation is acknowledged as the primary body and the unit of organization. All authority belongs to the congregation together with the pastor, except such as is delegated by constitutional covenant to the larger organization. The internal affairs of the congregation are administered by a church council consisting of the pastor and lay officers. These officers are elected by the congregation, and in many instances a number of them are called elders and others deacons; where this is the case the elders together with the pastor have charge of the spiritual concerns and the deacons of the temporal affairs of the church. In other cases there are no elders, but deacons only. There is a growing tendency toward this form. There are also trustees who have charge of the property. These are usually laymen and may or may not be members of the church council.

To every congregation belongs inherently the right of representation and also the right of entering into relations with other congregations one with it in faith for the purpose of promoting common interests and activities. From these principles result wider organizations.

Organization above the congregation assumes various forms in the several church bodies. In some cases the next higher judicatory is the synod. The synods are composed of the pastors of the congregations and of lay representatives, one for each congregation or each pastoral charge, and they have only such powers as are delegated to them by the congregations under the provisions of the synodical constitution. In other cases there are districts or conferences which are territorial, which are similarly composed and exercise within their respective bounds the rights and duties constitutionally assigned to them. Some of these have limited powers of legislation, while others are chiefly consultative and advisory.

Still more comprehensive than these intermediate organizations are the general bodies which are national or international in scope. These general organizations are variously named, as church, synod, or conference. The authority exercised by these bodies also varies; some have legislative authority committed to them, and their actions within constitutional limitations are recognized as authoritative by the constituent synods, districts, or conferences, and by the congregations. Others have little or no such authority, but are simply conferences of synods or of congregations for purposes of consultation. The interests entrusted mainly to the general bodies are those pertaining to worship, education, publication, and to eleemosynary and missionary activities.

There is general agreement that the seat of authority and power is primarily in the congregation. The differences which are found as between the districts of the several bodies and as between the general bodies themselves in regard to the

powers exercised by them are to be explained, in part at least, by the processes of organization. In some cases the intermediate organizations (synods, districts, conferences) were first organized and later the general bodies, the process being from below upward; in such cases the powers of the intermediate bodies are relatively larger. In other instances the general bodies were organized with a small beginning, and as they grew were divided, thus forming the intermediate organizations from above downward. In instances of this kind the powers of the intermediate organizations are relatively less. Congregations meet in business session at least annually; constituent synods, districts, and conferences in convention, annually; general bodies, annually, biennially, or triennially.

The Lutheran churches have a liturgical form of worship and observe the various general festivals of the Christian church year.

Statistics.—The bodies grouped under the name Lutherans in 1926, 1916, and 1906 are listed in the table below with the principal statistics as reported for the three periods. The most important organic changes since 1916 have already been noted.

The 1926 figures for membership, including all baptized members, must be considered as not entirely comparable with those of earlier censuses, when communicants only were reported by the great majority of churches.

The movement which has gained considerable headway in other evangelical bodies, toward the federation of local churches, has not gained any great importance among the Lutherans; the membership figures reported, however, are exclusive of six federated churches, each consisting of a Lutheran unit combined more or less closely with a unit of some other denomination. These six federated churches reported in 1926 a total membership of 882, of whom somewhat more than one-third were Lutherans.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE LUTHERANS, 1926, 1916, AND 1906

LUTHERAN BODY 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								
Total for the group.....	15,102	3,966,003	13,400	\$273,409,748	14,721	\$59,500,845	11,472	1,249,998
United Lutheran Church in America.....	3,650	1,214,340	3,516	114,526,248	3,577	21,162,961	3,415	619,781
Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America.....	1,180	311,425	1,118	22,781,698	1,165	5,369,446	1,036	100,775
Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of America.....	4,752	1,292,620	3,878	78,755,894	4,601	19,487,432	3,028	212,071
Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States.....	3,917	1,040,275	3,148	65,318,781	3,789	16,350,315	2,485	179,868
Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States.....	709	229,242	631	11,828,013	695	2,743,164	490	28,948
Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Synod of the United States of America.....	55	14,759	43	1,083,000	53	285,341	24	1,826
Norwegian Synod of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church.....	71	8,344	55	526,100	64	108,612	29	1,429
Norwegian Lutheran Church of America.....	2,554	496,707	2,278	24,822,215	2,497	5,786,977	1,660	131,147
Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States.....	872	247,783	832	15,646,708	865	3,702,259	769	88,822
Lutheran Synod of Buffalo.....	41	9,267	41	873,500	40	143,726	34	2,649
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (Eielsen Synod).....	15	1,087	10	42,500	14	6,415	10	217
Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States.....	873	217,873	799	8,657,486	867	2,223,888	778	50,878

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE LUTHERANS, 1926, 1916, AND 1906—Contd.

LUTHERAN BODY 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—Continued								
Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.....	96	18,921	84	\$728,200	95	\$178,222	69	3,362
Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod in North America.....	14	2,186	14	56,475	14	14,157	11	458
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, or Suomi Synod.....	185	32,071	126	1,018,021	183	234,139	134	9,028
Lutheran Free Church.....	303	46,366	336	2,303,365	377	528,993	236	12,849
United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.....	190	29,198	172	1,491,348	185	382,344	162	10,556
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran National Church of America.....	70	7,788	48	220,050	64	28,316	39	1,414
Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church.....	138	24,016	78	226,090	100	39,728	35	1,924
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America.....	26	1,700	21	102,100	24	37,889	19	929
Evangelical Lutheran Jehovah Conference.....	3	851	3	31,000	3	6,602	3	368
Independent Lutheran Congregations.....	50	11,804	46	1,126,250	50	169,351	34	2,770
1916								
Total for the group.....	13,921	2,467,516	12,431	109,415,163	13,276	22,827,047	9,446	998,339
General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States of America.....	1,846	370,715	1,811	24,271,797	1,810	4,342,251	1,766	311,501
United Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the South.....	492	56,656	485	2,572,245	467	446,283	438	43,697
General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America.....	2,336	540,642	2,274	32,108,091	2,343	5,630,234	2,179	307,595
Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of America.....	3,620	777,701	3,151	25,973,538	3,339	6,721,599	1,370	110,300
Norwegian Lutheran Church of America.....	2,740	318,650	2,259	11,501,919	2,579	2,539,552	1,504	82,366
Hauge's Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod.....	362	29,893	253	1,128,488	284	270,914	269	14,011
Synod for the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.....	987	112,673	798	4,383,151	939	836,923	429	24,313
United Norwegian Lutheran Church in America.....	1,391	176,084	1,208	5,990,280	1,356	1,431,715	806	44,042
Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States.....	826	164,968	776	5,718,462	806	1,258,673	687	66,773
Lutheran Synod of Buffalo.....	42	6,128	39	244,163	41	68,952	23	1,524
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Etelsen Synod.....	20	1,206	8	23,500	15	7,030	10	245
Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States.....	977	130,793	847	4,057,635	957	1,080,874	769	38,120
Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.....	101	14,544	90	394,809	97	105,356	65	2,981
Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod in North America.....	14	1,830	12	35,450	12	4,720	10	435
Immanuel Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America.....	15	2,978	8	78,000	13	13,905	9	669
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, or Suomi Synod.....	134	18,881	89	368,771	128	73,977	112	9,752
Lutheran Free Church (Norwegian).....	376	28,180	309	1,116,780	361	287,986	243	10,285
United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.....	192	17,324	173	696,780	186	193,593	165	7,777
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran National Church.....	64	7,933	41	125,091	59	15,017	49	2,077
Apostolic Lutheran Church (Finnish).....	47	6,664	34	64,942	36	8,459	23	1,109
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America (Norwegian).....	23	892	19	45,410	21	14,837	20	641
Evangelical Lutheran Jehovah Conference.....	6	831	6	17,800	6	6,749	4	462

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE LUTHERANS, 1926, 1916, AND 1906—Contd.

LUTHERAN BODY 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
1906								
Total for the group	12,642	2,112,494	10,768	\$74,826,389			8,682	782,786
General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States of America	1,734	270,221	1,680	16,875,429			1,628	225,948
United Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the South	449	47,747	429	1,509,760			380	30,039
General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America	2,133	462,177	2,008	22,394,618			1,914	254,882
Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of America	3,284	648,529	2,731	18,916,407			1,434	94,009
United Norwegian Lutheran Church in America	1,167	185,027	956	3,668,588			842	43,714
Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and Other States	772	123,408	694	3,606,285			601	47,609
Lutheran Synod of Buffalo	33	5,270	32	130,000			13	626
Hauge's Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod	265	33,268	222	682,135			194	8,995
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Eielsen Synod	26	1,013	6	15,900			6	112
German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Texas	24	2,440	18	30,050			17	808
Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa and Other States	828	110,254	676	2,327,093			614	27,642
Synod for the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	917	107,712	648	2,469,713			370	18,714
Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Michigan and Other States	55	9,697	49	184,700			38	2,462
Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	92	12,541	66	248,700			58	2,983
Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod in North America	14	2,101	14	32,350			12	498
Immanuel Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of North America	11	3,275	11	89,300			11	1,125
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, or Suomi Synod	105	12,907	44	151,345			77	4,515
Norwegian Lutheran Free Church	317	26,928	219	660,310			211	7,479
United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	198	16,340	138	418,450			142	6,116
Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Synod of America	59	12,141	31	219,300			12	585
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran National Church	66	10,111	43	95,150			62	2,144
Apostolic Lutheran Church (Finnish)	68	8,170	35	62,856			22	1,038
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America (Norwegian)	16	482	10	16,400			15	393
Evangelical Lutheran Jehovah Conference	9	735	8	21,550			9	350

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNODICAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICA

STATISTICS

Summary for the United States, with urban-rural classification.—A general summary of the statistics for the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of America 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 each of the constituent bodies in the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference includes all baptized members of the local churches, both adults and infants, under pastoral care.

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNODICAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICA

ITEM	Total	In urban territory ¹	In rural territory ¹	PER CENT OF TOTAL	
				Urban	Rural
Churches (local organizations).....	4,752	1,537	3,215	32.3	67.7
Members.....	1,292,620	692,307	600,313	53.6	46.4
Average per church.....	272	450	187		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	571,602	285,695	285,907	50.0	50.0
Female.....	621,261	395,692	225,569	54.0	46.0
Sex not reported.....	99,757	70,920	28,837	71.1	28.9
Males per 100 females.....	92.0	85.1	100.1		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....	370,685	193,869	176,816	52.3	47.7
13 years and over.....	860,021	456,881	403,140	53.1	46.9
Age not reported.....	61,914	41,557	20,357	67.1	32.9
Per cent under 13 years ²	30.1	29.8	30.5		
Church edifices:					
Number.....	4,003	1,354	2,649	33.8	66.2
Value—Churches reporting.....	3,878	1,278	2,600	33.0	67.0
Amount reported.....	\$78,755,894	\$53,088,523	\$25,667,371	67.4	32.6
Average per church.....	\$20,308	\$41,540	\$9,872		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	1,226	667	559	54.4	45.6
Amount reported.....	\$9,920,128	\$8,333,826	\$1,586,302	84.0	16.0
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	2,450	551	1,899	22.5	77.5
Parsonages:					
Value—Churches reporting.....	2,833	1,010	1,823	35.7	64.3
Amount reported.....	\$15,520,237	\$8,294,187	\$7,226,050	53.4	46.6
Debt—Churches reporting.....	581	282	299	48.5	51.5
Amount reported.....	\$1,545,542	\$1,027,044	\$518,498	66.5	33.5
Churches reporting "no debt" on parsonage.....	2,081	667	1,414	32.1	67.9
Expenditures during year:					
Churches reporting.....	4,601	1,488	3,113	32.3	67.7
Amount reported.....	\$19,487,432	\$12,367,383	\$7,120,049	63.5	36.5
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$16,071,756	\$10,382,267	\$5,689,489	64.0	35.4
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$3,409,866	\$1,982,635	\$1,427,231	58.1	41.9
Not classified.....	\$5,810	\$2,481	\$3,329	42.7	57.3
Average expenditure per church.....	\$4,235	\$8,311	\$2,287		
Sunday schools:					
Churches reporting.....	3,028	1,260	1,768	41.6	58.4
Officers and teachers.....	21,432	14,576	6,856	68.0	32.0
Scholars.....	212,071	144,112	67,959	68.0	32.0

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 Based on membership with age classification reported.

This body represents the federation of four separate synods, namely, the Evangelical Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States, the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Synod of the United States of America, and the Norwegian Synod of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The data given for 1926 represent 4,752 active organizations of the Synodical Conference, with 1,292,620 members. The classification of membership by sex was reported by 4,546 churches and the classification by age was reported by 4,555 churches, including 4,405 which reported members under 13 years of age.

Comparative data, 1890-1926.—Table 2 presents, in convenient form for comparison, a summary of the available statistics of the combined general bodies for the censuses of 1926, 1916, 1906, and 1890. In connection with the 1916 census, and probably for earlier censuses as well, the membership reported for most of the churches, particularly of the Missouri Synod, included only the confirmed members. As a result the membership figures for earlier censuses are somewhat too small for fair comparison with the 1926 figures, which include all baptized persons on the church rolls.

TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1890 TO 1926: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNODICAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICA

ITEM	1926	1916	1906 ¹	1890
Churches (local organizations)	4,752	3,620	3,398	1,999
Increase over preceding census:				
Number.....	1,132	222	1,399	
Per cent.....	31.3	6.5	70.0	
Members	1,292,620	777,701	670,367	368,635
Increase over preceding census:				
Number.....	514,919	107,334	301,732	
Per cent.....	66.2	16.1	82.1	
Average membership per church.....	272	215	197	184
Church edifices:				
Number.....	4,003	3,301	2,952	1,584
Value—Churches reporting.....	3,878	3,151	2,811	
Amount reported.....	\$78,755,894	\$25,973,538	\$19,320,407	\$7,969,083
Average per church.....	\$20,308	\$8,243	\$6,873	
Debt—Churches reporting.....	1,226	1,078	901	
Amount reported.....	\$9,920,128	\$3,261,637	\$2,424,141	
Parsonages:				
Value—Churches reporting.....	2,833	2,220	1,858	
Amount reported.....	\$15,520,237	\$5,792,672	\$3,671,910	
Debt—Churches reporting.....	581			
Amount reported.....	\$1,545,542			
Expenditures during year:				
Churches reporting.....	4,601	3,339		
Amount reported.....	\$19,487,432	\$6,721,599		
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$16,071,756	\$5,206,267		
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$3,409,866	\$1,219,229		
Not classified.....	\$5,810	\$296,103		
Average expenditure per church.....	\$4,235	\$2,013		
Sunday schools:				
Churches reporting.....	3,028	1,370	1,484	
Officers and teachers.....	21,432	10,237	6,420	
Scholars.....	212,071	110,300	97,056	

¹ Statistics for 1906 include data for the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Michigan and Other States reported separately for that year.

State tables.—Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 present the statistics for the Synodical Conference 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

TABLE 3.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, AND TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX, BY STATES, 1926: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNODICAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICA

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..	4,752	1,537	3,215	1,292,620	692,307	600,313	571,602	621,261	99,757	92.0
New England:										
Maine.....	2	1	1	178	156	22	77	101		76.2
New Hampshire.....	1	1		129	129		47	82		
Massachusetts.....	19	17	2	7,190	7,118	72	2,834	3,506	850	80.8
Rhode Island.....	5	3	2	932	842	90	360	572		62.9
Connecticut.....	29	21	8	9,609	8,086	1,523	3,537	4,101	1,971	86.2
Middle Atlantic:										
New York.....	170	114	56	61,248	50,341	10,907	25,238	30,875	5,135	81.7
New Jersey.....	47	36	11	13,254	10,707	2,547	5,495	7,096	663	77.4
Pennsylvania.....	72	59	13	20,027	18,563	1,464	8,141	9,453	2,433	86.1
North Central:										
Ohio.....	122	74	48	48,231	38,157	10,074	21,381	23,891	2,959	89.5
Indiana.....	132	63	69	55,797	39,206	16,591	25,553	27,008	3,236	94.6
Illinois.....	417	184	233	186,722	123,292	63,430	78,991	87,493	20,238	90.3
Michigan.....	329	130	199	111,743	69,762	41,981	51,928	56,203	3,612	92.4
Wisconsin.....	751	168	583	271,956	141,279	130,677	118,076	124,841	29,039	94.6
North Central:										
Minnesota.....	549	81	468	139,454	42,127	97,327	62,474	65,687	11,293	95.1
Iowa.....	218	40	178	51,706	11,563	40,143	24,044	24,840	2,822	96.8
Missouri.....	228	83	145	74,520	41,361	33,159	34,646	38,074	1,800	91.0
North Dakota.....	166	10	156	17,385	1,310	16,075	8,487	8,185	713	103.7
South Dakota.....	204	10	194	24,131	1,970	22,161	11,544	11,407	1,180	101.2
Nebraska.....	265	34	231	57,473	11,572	45,901	26,804	27,071	3,598	99.0
Kansas.....	153	38	115	25,308	6,517	18,791	12,221	12,367	720	98.8
South Atlantic:										
Delaware.....	2	1	1	71	50	21	42	29		
Maryland.....	29	15	14	9,083	7,164	1,919	3,127	3,933	2,023	79.5
Dist. Columbia.....	2	2		916	916		398	518		76.8
Virginia.....	16	6	10	1,729	987	742	828	901		91.9
West Virginia.....	2	1	1	87	75	12	41	46		
North Carolina.....	38	17	21	4,653	1,959	2,694	1,767	2,078	808	85.0
South Carolina.....	1	1		95	95		44	51		
Georgia.....	2	2		77	77		32	45		
Florida.....	13	7	6	1,521	1,249	272	757	764		99.1
South Central:										
Kentucky.....	8	8		1,451	1,451		645	806		80.0
Tennessee.....	11	7	4	1,763	1,387	376	748	1,015		73.7
Alabama.....	38	7	31	3,533	1,127	2,406	1,645	1,823	65	90.2
Mississippi.....	5	4	1	307	295	12	133	174		76.4
South Central:										
Kansas.....	24	9	15	3,551	2,014	1,537	1,544	1,764	243	87.5
Louisiana.....	41	30	11	10,519	9,945	574	4,141	6,378		64.9
Oklahoma.....	63	25	38	7,016	2,662	4,354	3,119	3,111	786	100.3
Texas.....	143	45	98	22,339	6,515	15,824	10,524	11,064	751	95.1
Mountain:										
Montana.....	92	12	80	6,267	2,100	4,167	2,613	2,974	680	87.9
Idaho.....	20	9	11	1,686	667	1,019	844	842		100.2
Wyoming.....	19	4	15	1,941	646	1,295	950	991		95.9
Colorado.....	65	23	42	6,616	3,658	2,958	3,010	3,606		83.5
New Mexico.....	10	4	6	397	265	132	180	217		82.9
Arizona.....	11	3	8	920	376	544	416	504		82.5
Nevada.....	1	1		250	250		100	150		66.7
Utah.....	2	1	1	497	94	403	247	250		98.8
North West:										
Washington.....	66	28	38	6,789	4,441	2,348	3,023	3,406	360	88.8
Oregon.....	44	21	23	4,637	3,027	1,610	2,199	2,438		90.2
California.....	105	77	28	16,916	14,757	2,159	6,607	8,530	1,779	77.5

⁽¹⁾ Not shown where number of females is less than 100.

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 4.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, 1906 TO 1926, AND MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926, BY STATES: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNODICAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICA

[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 ¹	1926	1916	1906 ¹	Under 13 years	13 years and over	Age not reported	Per cent under 13 ²
United States.....	4,752	3,620	3,398	1,292,620	777,701	670,367	370,685	860,021	61,914	30.1
Massachusetts.....	19	17	19	7,190	4,971	3,966	2,090	4,250	850	33.0
Rhode Island.....	5	3	2	932	487	357	209	723	-----	22.4
Connecticut.....	29	21	21	9,609	5,588	4,981	2,806	6,173	630	31.3
New York.....	170	131	130	61,248	36,819	32,723	18,261	37,279	5,708	32.9
New Jersey.....	47	31	20	13,254	5,616	2,895	4,357	8,039	858	35.1
Pennsylvania.....	72	59	84	20,027	14,490	16,890	6,125	11,916	1,985	34.0
Ohio.....	122	96	90	48,231	30,233	27,106	13,354	31,564	3,313	29.7
Indiana.....	132	123	124	55,797	33,309	34,105	15,339	37,742	2,716	28.9
Illinois.....	417	366	344	186,722	121,342	115,304	53,864	128,146	4,712	29.6
Michigan.....	329	261	257	111,743	67,001	57,832	32,389	74,202	5,152	30.4
Wisconsin.....	751	654	610	271,956	177,547	153,753	70,422	186,625	14,909	27.4
Minnesota.....	549	403	371	139,454	75,726	61,630	41,040	91,059	7,355	31.1
Iowa.....	218	178	163	51,706	27,550	25,528	15,016	34,827	1,863	30.1
Missouri.....	228	184	178	74,520	45,313	41,508	20,508	51,176	2,836	28.6
North Dakota.....	166	118	95	17,385	8,972	5,854	6,142	10,458	785	37.0
South Dakota.....	204	132	123	24,131	11,544	8,285	7,845	15,202	1,084	34.0
Nebraska.....	265	239	206	57,473	31,234	25,730	17,292	38,128	2,053	31.2
Kansas.....	153	118	117	25,308	15,081	12,036	7,961	17,041	306	31.8
Maryland.....	29	28	20	9,083	4,792	4,062	3,422	5,402	259	38.8
Virginia.....	16	13	12	1,729	1,117	860	544	1,185	-----	31.5
West Virginia.....	2	5	6	87	239	286	11	76	-----	-----
North Carolina.....	38	32	32	4,653	2,558	1,966	1,306	2,411	846	36.7
Florida.....	13	6	7	1,521	590	372	430	1,091	-----	28.3
Kentucky.....	8	6	6	1,451	1,381	1,511	347	1,104	-----	23.9
Tennessee.....	11	5	5	1,763	733	725	604	1,159	-----	34.3
Alabama.....	38	12	15	3,533	1,334	895	1,165	2,368	-----	33.0
Mississippi.....	5	1	8	307	211	198	93	214	-----	30.3
Arkansas.....	24	17	22	3,551	2,516	1,886	1,177	2,374	-----	33.1
Louisiana.....	41	25	22	10,519	7,429	5,253	3,070	7,436	13	29.2
Oklahoma.....	63	52	72	7,016	3,899	2,907	2,012	4,754	250	29.7
Texas.....	143	87	81	22,339	10,294	7,983	7,346	14,046	947	34.3
Montana.....	92	32	7	6,267	4,033	690	1,937	3,634	696	34.8
Idaho.....	20	12	12	1,686	902	206	562	1,124	-----	33.3
Wyoming.....	19	10	4	1,941	704	172	757	1,184	-----	39.0
Colorado.....	65	26	26	6,616	2,738	1,651	2,008	4,608	-----	30.4
New Mexico.....	10	2	-----	397	301	-----	132	265	-----	33.2
Arizona.....	11	2	-----	920	96	-----	208	712	-----	22.6
Washington.....	66	30	19	6,789	2,740	1,060	1,966	4,463	360	30.6
Oregon.....	44	16	15	4,637	2,337	1,080	1,323	3,314	-----	28.5
California.....	105	57	46	16,916	7,582	5,247	4,437	11,051	1,428	28.6
Other States.....	13	10	7	2,213	1,352	879	717	1,496	-----	32.4

¹ Includes figures for the Slovak and Michigan Synods.

² 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:
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNODICAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICA

[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.....	4,752	4,003	3,878	\$78,755,894	1,226	\$9,920,128	2,833	\$15,520,237	581	\$1,545,542
Massachusetts.....	19	17	16	533,500	3	55,200	11	81,500	5	18,780
Connecticut.....	29	22	21	712,500	12	109,825	16	121,700	4	16,100
New York.....	170	153	147	7,011,088	70	1,246,531	103	960,650	27	154,560
New Jersey.....	47	37	36	1,332,688	25	345,885	31	355,479	17	92,767
Pennsylvania.....	72	61	61	2,105,500	23	165,672	41	397,100	9	36,135
Illinois.....	122	110	107	4,008,913	40	667,115	76	592,400	13	60,916
Indiana.....	132	129	124	4,449,100	39	419,294	104	645,050	17	42,670
Ohio.....	417	393	384	13,366,800	133	1,574,965	334	2,341,800	56	187,565
Michigan.....	329	305	294	6,765,705	96	974,794	216	1,258,323	42	133,720
Wisconsin.....	751	725	664	13,868,807	190	1,479,221	466	2,796,038	100	255,670
Minnesota.....	549	453	443	5,722,547	122	618,591	318	1,483,200	69	149,073
Missouri.....	218	200	197	2,541,700	54	218,244	151	696,922	21	32,602
North Dakota.....	228	213	209	4,686,409	71	716,215	160	834,850	37	92,135
South Dakota.....	166	117	115	517,820	35	55,050	69	197,825	18	23,646
Nebraska.....	204	145	144	736,480	34	46,200	86	294,050	22	25,407
Montana.....	265	234	234	2,844,935	48	234,760	194	742,360	22	39,688
Wyoming.....	153	118	116	965,262	23	104,425	97	331,265	10	16,600
Florida.....	29	28	27	797,800	12	119,830	20	135,500	3	4,800
Georgia.....	16	12	11	174,000	3	15,500	8	43,500	3	17,140
North Carolina.....	38	35	34	210,550	4	19,000	10	37,300	2	2,675
Virginia.....	13	9	9	287,800	3	53,810	5	47,000	-----	-----
Tennessee.....	8	5	5	108,500	1	1,800	4	33,500	-----	-----
Alabama.....	11	8	8	130,240	3	10,730	4	28,000	-----	-----
Arkansas.....	38	26	26	187,150	2	6,300	14	41,700	2	4,500
Louisiana.....	24	22	22	196,100	2	4,970	12	42,600	3	5,540
Mississippi.....	41	31	30	426,700	11	40,416	16	73,900	4	11,200
Alabama.....	63	45	45	375,100	10	44,184	37	84,600	4	5,950
Alabama.....	143	107	107	803,500	38	147,274	86	240,300	22	32,935
Alabama.....	92	23	23	136,400	10	13,380	11	41,200	2	4,000
Alabama.....	20	11	11	48,550	7	14,500	8	17,375	4	2,478
Alabama.....	19	11	11	50,900	6	8,286	5	16,800	3	5,880
Alabama.....	65	30	30	233,040	18	31,935	21	77,100	10	14,410
Alabama.....	10	4	4	15,500	1	1,750	3	7,500	1	2,000
Alabama.....	11	9	9	52,800	-----	-----	7	28,700	1	1,000
Alabama.....	66	42	41	275,150	17	53,413	23	64,000	6	13,175
Alabama.....	44	24	24	193,500	14	31,480	16	41,800	4	5,100
Alabama.....	105	72	72	1,526,300	38	244,653	39	210,350	14	26,335
Alabama.....	25	17	17	356,600	8	24,930	11	77,000	4	8,390

HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION ¹

HISTORY

The early history of the Lutheran Church in America was marked by the organization of numerous independent synods. In the sixties, however, efforts were made to unite various synods into larger bodies. One of these organizations was the General Council, organized in 1866. The synods holding the stricter doctrine and close adherence to the historical confessions of the Lutheran Church, although invited to the new union, could not accept the position of the new body.

¹ This statement was furnished by Dr. E. Eckhardt, statistician, Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of America.

TABLE 6.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNODICAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICA

[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.....	4,752	4,601	\$19,487,432	\$16,071,756	\$3,409,866	\$5,810	3,028	21,432	212,071
Massachusetts.....	19	17	88,585	69,101	19,484	-----	16	223	1,464
Rhode Island.....	5	5	7,775	5,890	1,885	-----	3	21	176
Connecticut.....	29	25	208,712	191,218	17,494	-----	24	177	1,698
New York.....	170	166	1,291,222	1,108,440	182,618	164	141	1,744	16,908
New Jersey.....	47	47	441,307	412,894	28,263	150	39	500	4,250
Pennsylvania.....	72	69	330,532	281,801	48,731	-----	57	535	5,842
Ohio.....	122	119	848,659	680,272	168,295	92	87	996	10,259
Indiana.....	132	128	1,019,661	791,609	227,992	-----	79	741	8,425
Illinois.....	417	412	3,321,950	2,771,875	549,613	462	287	3,115	31,100
Michigan.....	329	316	1,683,786	1,361,597	322,087	102	214	1,502	16,417
Wisconsin.....	751	736	3,091,205	2,555,740	534,257	1,208	421	2,579	28,122
Minnesota.....	549	518	1,658,815	1,386,657	272,158	-----	319	1,783	17,171
Iowa.....	218	218	774,054	605,108	168,946	-----	143	732	6,733
Missouri.....	228	227	1,202,253	946,726	255,527	-----	145	1,783	15,240
North Dakota.....	166	157	159,860	132,934	26,676	250	99	308	2,663
South Dakota.....	204	200	242,750	194,843	47,907	-----	150	438	4,202
Nebraska.....	265	263	814,058	641,364	172,694	-----	145	643	6,466
Kansas.....	153	152	409,713	327,042	82,671	-----	89	398	4,109
Maryland.....	29	29	227,702	203,135	24,567	-----	23	410	3,695
Virginia.....	16	15	63,447	57,680	5,767	-----	9	60	542
North Carolina.....	38	36	27,266	21,673	4,558	1,035	31	184	2,370
Florida.....	13	13	127,607	121,326	6,252	29	10	63	576
Kentucky.....	8	8	35,258	29,300	5,958	-----	3	27	304
Tennessee.....	11	11	33,233	29,162	4,071	-----	10	71	814
Alabama.....	38	37	39,524	32,902	5,468	1,154	34	129	1,745
Mississippi.....	5	5	4,719	4,346	373	-----	4	12	83
Arkansas.....	24	23	60,207	50,039	10,168	-----	12	74	789
Louisiana.....	41	37	89,070	77,054	12,016	-----	31	269	2,558
Oklahoma.....	63	58	145,195	127,837	17,358	-----	38	160	1,649
Texas.....	143	136	314,995	252,001	62,994	-----	83	378	4,008
Montana.....	92	87	44,355	37,112	7,243	-----	34	127	1,157
Idaho.....	20	20	30,662	25,852	4,810	-----	15	53	368
Wyoming.....	19	19	15,224	12,852	2,372	-----	12	38	456
Colorado.....	65	58	81,569	64,734	16,835	-----	42	147	1,260
New Mexico.....	10	10	5,693	4,785	908	-----	3	12	95
Arizona.....	11	9	20,053	18,659	1,394	-----	6	16	339
Washington.....	66	59	80,595	67,569	13,026	-----	47	201	1,738
Oregon.....	44	41	59,135	47,496	10,475	1,164	27	112	988
California.....	105	102	356,972	297,104	59,868	-----	86	588	4,557
Other States.....	15	13	30,054	23,967	6,087	-----	10	83	735

The next few years emphasized anew the advantage of some form of union, and in 1872, in Milwaukee, Wis., the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of America was formed. Representatives of the Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, the Synod of Ohio, the Synod of Wisconsin, the Synod of Minnesota, the Synod of Illinois, and the Norwegian Synod were present and effected the organization. The Synod of Illinois was later absorbed by the Missouri Synod; the Synod of Ohio and the Norwegian Synod withdrew in 1881, because of doctrinal differences; but two other synods were added, so that at present the Synodical Conference comprises the Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States—by far the largest and strongest of the Conference—the Synod of Wisconsin and Other States (which now includes the former Synods of Michigan, Minnesota,

and Nebraska), the Slovak Synod, and the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Each one of these synods conducts its own synodical and church work independently of the others. Their basis of union is not so much a matter of a common ecclesiastical organization as of a common church life, and particularly of doctrinal purity.

Separate statistics for 1926 are given in the following pages for each of the separated bodies united in the Synodical Conference. The Synod of Missouri, which includes the Negro mission, is much the largest. Comparable data for earlier censuses are not available for these four bodies, by reason of numerous changes in organization within themselves.

WORK

The home missionary work of the Synodical Conference is conducted by the Board of Colored Missions, which is doing successful work in the Southern States among the colored people. In 1926 it had 63 organized congregations and 8 mission stations, served by 14 white and 19 colored pastors; 65 Sunday schools, with 3,396 scholars; 2 colleges; and 51 parochial schools, with 3,103 scholars. The amount expended for this work was \$211,431. Two colleges are controlled by the Synodical Conference, the Immanuel Lutheran College at Greensboro, N. C., and the Alabama Luther College at Selma, Ala.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND OTHER STATES

STATISTICS

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL
TERRITORY, 1926: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND
OTHER STATES

ITEM	Total	In urban territory ¹	In rural territory ¹	PER CENT OF TOTAL	
				Urban	Rural
Churches (local organizations)	3,917	1,335	2,582	34.1	65.9
Members	1,040,275	567,569	472,706	54.6	45.4
Average per church.....	266	425	183		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	458,209	231,664	226,545	50.6	49.4
Female.....	502,205	275,406	226,799	54.8	45.2
Sex not reported	79,861	60,499	19,362	75.8	24.2
Males per 100 females.....	91.2	84.1	99.9		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....	303,050	161,090	141,960	53.2	46.8
13 years and over.....	686,688	369,371	317,317	53.8	46.2
Age not reported	50,537	37,108	13,429	73.4	26.6
Per cent under 13 years ²	30.6	30.4	30.9		
Church edifices:					
Number.....	3,193	1,131	2,062	35.4	64.6
Value—Churches reporting.....	3,148	1,090	2,058	34.6	65.4
Amount reported.....	\$65,318,781	\$45,326,763	\$19,992,018	69.4	30.6
Average per church.....	\$20,749	\$41,584	\$9,714		
Debt—Churches reporting	1,012	567	445	56.0	44.0
Amount reported.....	\$8,556,000	\$7,274,049	\$1,281,951	85.0	15.0
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	1,970	469	1,501	23.8	76.2
Parsonages:					
Value—Churches reporting.....	2,327	844	1,483	36.3	63.7
Amount reported.....	\$12,449,574	\$6,886,137	\$5,563,437	55.3	44.7
Debt—Churches reporting	472	240	232	50.8	49.2
Amount reported.....	\$1,253,519	\$859,478	\$394,041	68.6	31.4
Churches reporting "no debt" on parsonage.....	1,708	549	1,159	32.1	67.9
Expenditures during year:					
Churches reporting.....	3,789	1,293	2,496	34.1	65.9
Amount reported.....	\$16,350,315	\$10,576,218	\$5,774,097	64.7	35.3
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$13,405,593	\$8,811,811	\$4,593,782	65.7	34.3
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$2,940,104	\$1,761,926	\$1,178,178	59.9	40.1
Not classified.....	\$4,618	\$2,481	\$2,137	53.7	46.3
Average expenditure per church.....	\$4,315	\$8,180	\$2,313		
Sunday schools:					
Churches reporting.....	2,485	1,098	1,387	44.2	55.8
Officers and teachers.....	18,393	12,941	5,452	70.4	29.6
Scholars.....	179,868	126,110	53,758	70.1	29.9

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 Based on membership with age classification reported.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, AND TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX, BY STATES, 1926: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND OTHER STATES

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..	3,917	1,335	2,582	1,040,275	567,569	472,706	458,209	502,205	79,861	91.2
New England:										
Maine.....	2	1	1	178	156	22	77	101		76.2
New Hampshire.....	1	1		129	129		47	82		
Massachusetts.....	18	16	2	7,065	6,993	72	2,804	3,411	850	82.2
Rhode Island.....	5	3	2	932	842	90	360	572		62.9
Connecticut.....	26	19	7	8,965	8,006	959	3,259	3,815	1,891	85.4
Middle Atlantic:										
New York.....	168	113	55	60,785	49,916	10,869	25,018	30,632	5,135	81.7
New Jersey.....	44	33	11	11,855	9,308	2,547	4,805	6,387	663	75.2
Pennsylvania.....	62	51	11	16,731	15,431	1,300	6,496	7,802	2,433	83.3
East North Central:										
Ohio.....	106	64	42	42,985	34,091	8,894	19,235	21,641	2,109	88.9
Indiana.....	130	62	68	54,870	38,692	16,178	25,097	26,537	3,236	94.6
Illinois.....	400	172	228	182,034	119,977	62,057	77,137	85,448	19,449	90.3
Michigan.....	247	96	151	90,851	57,056	33,795	41,873	45,757	3,221	91.5
Wisconsin.....	370	80	290	123,346	66,809	56,537	51,791	55,752	15,803	92.9
West North Central:										
Minnesota.....	403	57	346	92,538	21,375	71,163	41,801	43,131	7,606	96.9
Iowa.....	197	38	159	48,782	11,301	37,481	22,580	23,380	2,822	96.6
Missouri.....	225	81	144	73,749	40,716	33,033	34,281	37,668	1,800	91.0
North Dakota.....	144	9	135	16,265	1,298	14,967	7,916	7,636	713	103.7
South Dakota.....	137	8	129	16,813	1,179	15,634	8,086	7,962	765	101.6
Nebraska.....	246	32	214	53,397	10,617	42,780	25,005	25,242	3,150	99.1
Kansas.....	153	38	115	25,308	6,517	18,791	12,221	12,367	720	98.8
South Atlantic:										
Delaware.....	2	1	1	71	50	21	42	29		
Maryland.....	29	15	14	9,083	7,164	1,919	3,127	3,933	2,023	79.5
Dist. Columbia.....	2	2		916	916		398	518		76.8
Virginia.....	14	6	8	1,528	987	541	720	808		89.1
West Virginia.....	2	1	1	87	75	12	41	46		
North Carolina.....	38	17	21	4,653	1,959	2,694	1,767	2,078	808	85.0
South Carolina.....	1	1		95	95		44	51		
Georgia.....	2	2		77	77		32	45		
Florida.....	12	7	5	1,463	1,249	214	722	741		97.4
East South Central:										
Kentucky.....	8	8		1,451	1,451		645	806		80.0
Tennessee.....	11	7	4	1,763	1,387	376	748	1,015		73.7
Alabama.....	38	7	31	3,533	1,127	2,406	1,645	1,823	65	90.2
Mississippi.....	5	4	1	307	295	12	133	174		76.4
West South Central:										
Arkansas.....	24	9	15	3,551	2,014	1,537	1,544	1,764	243	87.5
Louisiana.....	41	30	11	10,519	9,945	574	4,141	6,378		64.9
Oklahoma.....	63	25	38	7,016	2,662	4,354	3,119	3,111	786	100.3
Texas.....	142	45	97	22,292	6,515	15,777	10,500	11,041	751	95.1
Mountain:										
Montana.....	85	12	73	5,933	2,100	3,833	2,440	2,813	680	86.7
Idaho.....	20	9	11	1,686	667	1,019	844	842		100.2
Wyoming.....	19	4	15	1,941	646	1,295	950	991		95.9
Colorado.....	65	23	42	6,616	3,653	2,953	3,010	3,606		83.5
New Mexico.....	10	4	6	397	265	132	180	217		82.9
Utah.....	1	1		250	250		100	150		66.7
Nevada.....	2	1	1	497	94	403	247	250		98.8
Pacific:										
Washington.....	53	25	28	5,594	3,836	1,758	2,464	2,770	360	89.0
Oregon.....	40	19	21	4,522	2,979	1,543	2,140	2,382		89.8
California.....	104	76	28	16,856	14,697	2,159	6,577	8,500	1,779	77.4

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

TABLE 3.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, AND MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, BY STATES, 1926: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND OTHER STATES

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

STATE	Number of churches	Number of members	MEMBERSHIP BY AGE			
			Under 13 years	13 years and over	Age not reported	Per cent under 13 ¹
United States.....	3,917	1,040,275	303,050	686,688	50,537	30.6
Massachusetts.....	18	7,065	2,065	4,150	850	33.2
Rhode Island.....	5	932	209	723	.....	22.4
Connecticut.....	26	8,965	2,599	5,816	550	30.9
New York.....	168	60,785	18,094	36,983	5,708	32.9
New Jersey.....	44	11,855	3,875	7,122	858	35.2
Pennsylvania.....	62	16,731	4,949	9,797	1,985	33.6
Ohio.....	106	42,985	11,534	28,138	3,313	29.1
Indiana.....	130	54,870	14,990	37,164	2,716	28.7
Illinois.....	400	182,034	52,561	124,786	4,687	29.6
Michigan.....	247	90,851	26,707	59,093	5,051	31.1
Wisconsin.....	370	123,346	32,847	83,402	7,097	28.3
Minnesota.....	403	92,538	27,748	59,127	5,663	31.9
Iowa.....	197	48,782	14,211	32,708	1,863	30.3
Missouri.....	225	73,749	20,239	50,674	2,836	28.5
North Dakota.....	144	16,265	5,681	9,799	785	36.7
South Dakota.....	137	16,813	5,414	10,634	765	33.7
Nebraska.....	246	53,397	16,525	36,167	705	31.4
Kansas.....	153	25,308	7,961	17,041	306	31.8
Maryland.....	29	9,083	3,422	5,402	259	38.8
Virginia.....	14	1,528	466	1,062	.....	30.5
North Carolina.....	38	4,653	1,396	2,411	846	36.7
Florida.....	12	1,463	408	1,055	.....	27.9
Kentucky.....	8	1,451	347	1,104	.....	23.9
Tennessee.....	11	1,763	604	1,159	.....	34.3
Alabama.....	38	3,533	1,165	2,368	.....	33.0
Mississippi.....	5	307	93	214	.....	30.3
Arkansas.....	24	3,551	1,177	2,374	.....	33.1
Louisiana.....	41	10,519	3,070	7,436	13	29.2
Oklahoma.....	63	7,016	2,012	4,754	250	29.7
Texas.....	142	22,292	7,329	14,016	947	34.3
Montana.....	85	5,933	1,792	3,445	696	34.2
Idaho.....	20	1,686	562	1,124	.....	33.3
Wyoming.....	19	1,941	757	1,184	.....	39.0
Colorado.....	65	6,616	2,008	4,608	.....	30.4
New Mexico.....	10	397	132	265	.....	33.2
Washington.....	53	5,594	1,664	3,570	360	31.8
Oregon.....	40	4,522	1,287	3,235	.....	28.5
California.....	104	16,856	4,422	11,006	1,428	28.7
Other States.....	15	2,300	728	1,572	.....	31.7

¹Based on membership with age classification reported.

HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION¹

HISTORY

In the early part of the nineteenth century an effort was made by King Frederick William III of Prussia to unite the Lutheran and Reformed churches. To him it seemed an easy matter to combine "the two divergent confessions," but with the study of the sources of confessional divergence which naturally followed, and particularly in the attempt to furnish a uniform liturgy for both bodies, old

¹This statement, which is substantially the same as that published in Part II of the Report on Religious Bodies, 1916, has been revised by Dr. E. Eckhardt, statistician, Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of America, and approved by him in its present form.

TABLE 4.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY, AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926:
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND OTHER STATES

[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	3,917	3,193	3,148	\$65,318,781	1,012	\$8,556,000	2,327	\$12,449,574	472	\$1,253,519
Massachusetts	18	16	15	518,500	3	55,200	11	81,500	5	18,780
Connecticut	26	21	20	692,500	11	108,825	15	106,700	4	16,100
New York	168	152	146	6,986,038	69	1,243,531	102	959,150	27	154,560
New Jersey	44	34	34	1,122,698	23	265,385	28	318,979	17	92,767
Pennsylvania	62	52	52	1,790,500	16	78,272	33	310,600	7	26,735
Ohio	106	97	94	3,600,713	33	601,270	66	521,100	10	54,650
Indiana	130	127	122	4,419,100	39	419,294	102	629,050	17	42,670
Illinois	400	376	369	12,975,300	128	1,539,465	323	2,223,800	51	169,965
Michigan	247	224	219	5,262,755	69	818,926	160	944,123	29	92,420
Wisconsin	370	312	305	5,977,500	92	736,725	212	1,149,475	47	101,695
Minnesota	403	310	310	3,843,361	90	475,807	226	979,300	55	111,862
Iowa	197	179	178	2,404,200	46	206,494	144	659,422	17	26,952
Missouri	225	210	206	4,601,409	70	714,615	159	821,850	37	92,135
North Dakota	144	103	103	468,100	30	44,930	63	178,525	16	19,950
South Dakota	137	98	98	559,280	18	24,385	60	204,850	12	12,082
Nebraska	246	219	219	2,671,885	48	234,760	179	684,360	20	37,188
Kansas	153	118	116	965,262	23	104,425	97	331,265	10	16,600
Maryland	29	28	27	797,800	12	119,830	20	135,500	3	4,800
Virginia	14	9	9	169,500	2	15,000	7	42,000	3	17,140
North Carolina	38	35	34	210,550	4	19,000	10	37,300	2	2,675
Florida	12	8	8	287,500	3	53,810	5	47,000		
Kentucky	8	5	5	108,500	1	1,800	4	33,500		
Tennessee	11	8	8	130,240	3	10,730	4	28,000		
Alabama	38	26	26	187,160	2	6,300	14	41,700	2	4,500
Arkansas	24	22	22	196,100	2	4,970	12	42,600	3	5,540
Louisiana	41	31	30	426,700	11	40,416	16	73,900	4	11,200
Oklahoma	63	45	45	375,100	10	44,184	37	84,600	4	5,950
Texas	142	107	107	803,500	38	147,274	86	240,300	22	32,935
Montana	85	23	23	136,400	10	13,380	11	41,200	2	4,000
Idaho	20	11	11	48,550	7	14,500	8	17,375	4	2,478
Wyoming	19	11	11	50,900	6	8,286	5	16,800	3	5,880
Colorado	65	30	30	233,040	18	31,935	21	77,100	10	14,410
New Mexico	10	4	4	15,500	1	1,750	3	7,500	1	2,000
Washington	53	31	31	201,650	14	49,463	19	51,500	6	13,175
Oregon	40	22	22	189,700	14	31,480	15	40,300	4	5,100
California	104	72	72	1,526,300	38	244,653	39	210,350	14	26,335
Other States	25	17	17	356,600	8	24,930	11	77,000	4	8,390

convictions were intensified and lines of demarcation which had been gradually fading out of sight were revived. Many of the Lutherans refused absolutely to recognize the union, formed separate congregations, and carried on an active controversy against what they believed to be a gross form of ecclesiastical tyranny.

During the following 20 years the situation grew more strained, and as Lutheran immigration to the United States began several of these communities removed to this country under the leadership of the Rev. Martin Stephan, of Dresden, landed at New Orleans in 1839, and soon after established themselves in Missouri. Another, under the leadership of the Rev. J. A. A. Grabau, of Erfurt, settled at or near Buffalo, N. Y., in 1839.

One of the six clergymen who came over with the Missouri colony, the Rev. C. F. W. Walther, proved as effective a leader in the West as Muhlenberg had

**TABLE 5.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND OTHER STATES**

[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	3,917	3,789	\$16,350,315	\$13,405,593	\$2,940,104	\$4,618	2,485	18,393	179,868
Massachusetts.....	18	16	85,185	60,001	19,184	-----	15	215	1,429
Rhode Island.....	5	5	7,775	5,890	1,885	-----	3	21	176
Connecticut.....	26	24	203,025	186,328	16,697	-----	22	172	1,527
New York.....	168	164	1,286,178	1,103,866	182,148	164	140	1,743	16,893
New Jersey.....	44	44	356,322	329,124	27,048	150	39	600	4,250
Pennsylvania.....	62	59	248,319	203,979	44,340	-----	51	602	5,160
Ohio.....	106	103	771,414	614,174	157,148	92	84	950	9,797
Indiana.....	130	126	1,011,703	784,432	227,271	-----	77	732	8,138
Illinois.....	400	395	3,261,433	2,721,458	539,513	462	273	2,979	29,738
Michigan.....	247	236	1,341,580	1,060,743	280,735	102	154	1,189	13,040
Wisconsin.....	370	361	1,439,366	1,167,896	271,454	16	172	1,124	12,206
Minnesota.....	403	379	1,047,134	872,497	174,637	-----	220	1,162	10,875
Iowa.....	197	197	737,018	575,109	161,909	-----	132	672	6,342
Missouri.....	225	224	1,196,493	941,763	254,730	-----	143	1,754	15,031
North Dakota.....	144	138	145,448	120,361	24,837	250	85	281	2,411
South Dakota.....	137	134	181,807	148,065	33,742	-----	91	251	2,525
Nebraska.....	246	244	765,589	603,675	161,914	-----	138	610	6,230
Kansas.....	153	152	409,713	327,042	82,671	-----	89	398	4,109
Maryland.....	29	29	227,702	203,135	24,567	-----	23	410	3,695
Virginia.....	14	13	62,331	56,764	5,567	-----	9	60	542
North Carolina.....	38	36	27,266	21,673	4,558	1,035	31	184	2,370
Florida.....	12	12	127,237	121,026	6,182	29	9	62	554
Kentucky.....	8	8	35,258	29,300	5,958	-----	3	27	304
Tennessee.....	11	11	33,233	29,162	4,071	-----	10	71	814
Alabama.....	38	37	39,524	32,902	5,468	1,154	34	129	1,745
Mississippi.....	5	5	4,719	4,346	373	-----	4	12	83
Arkansas.....	24	23	60,207	50,039	10,168	-----	12	74	789
Louisiana.....	41	37	89,070	77,054	12,016	-----	31	269	2,558
Oklahoma.....	63	58	145,195	127,837	17,358	-----	38	160	1,649
Texas.....	142	135	314,635	251,701	62,934	-----	83	378	4,008
Montana.....	85	80	44,015	37,032	6,983	-----	33	126	1,132
Idaho.....	20	20	30,662	25,852	4,810	-----	15	53	368
Wyoming.....	19	19	15,224	12,852	2,372	-----	12	38	456
Colorado.....	65	58	81,569	64,734	16,835	-----	42	147	1,260
New Mexico.....	10	10	5,693	4,785	908	-----	3	12	95
Washington.....	53	46	66,999	56,056	10,943	-----	34	146	1,314
Oregon.....	40	37	58,058	46,529	10,365	1,164	26	109	963
California.....	104	101	356,162	296,444	59,718	-----	86	588	4,567
Other States.....	15	13	30,054	23,967	6,087	-----	10	83	735

earlier proved in the East. Among the important questions that came up before the community were: Did the colonists constitute Christian congregations, with authority to call ministers; what was the relation of the clergy to the church, and did the ultimate authority rest with the ordained clergy or with the congregations; what was the relation of acceptance of the confessions to the personal piety and church standing of the individual? Walther held firmly to the rights of the congregation, both in the ordination of its clergy and in its authority over them. He emphasized also the necessity of absolute accord to the Confessions of the Lutheran Church. To meet the peculiar needs of the situation, one of the first steps was the establishment of Concordia Seminary in a log house at Altenburg Mo., its teachers receiving as compensation only their board and working with

TABLE 6.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, VALUE OF EDIFICES, DEBT, EXPENDITURES, AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY DISTRICTS, 1926: EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND OTHER STATES

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
Total	3,917	1,040,275	3,148	\$65,318,781	1,012	\$8,556,000	3,789	\$16,350,315	2,485	179,868
Atlantic.....	160	60,966	132	6,578,698	66	1,073,471	153	1,350,982	141	16,879
California and Nevada.....	96	16,205	69	1,493,800	35	224,903	92	329,659	78	4,069
Central.....	227	91,684	207	7,163,913	62	696,064	219	1,626,871	148	15,146
Central Illinois.....	108	34,797	98	1,988,500	18	147,785	107	624,554	80	6,543
Colorado.....	67	6,906	31	253,040	18	31,935	60	84,599	43	1,275
Eastern.....	160	45,516	137	4,102,808	50	549,522	158	804,039	119	12,045
English.....	145	62,848	126	6,247,442	87	1,592,400	141	1,531,519	136	24,243
Iowa.....	196	48,693	177	2,402,200	46	206,494	196	736,267	131	6,334
Kansas.....	161	25,748	119	976,262	24	106,175	160	415,602	92	4,151
Michigan.....	218	80,743	197	4,499,785	54	630,886	211	1,178,520	131	9,383
Minnesota.....	403	89,239	310	3,720,961	87	374,892	379	925,153	229	9,688
North Dakota and Montana.....	230	22,254	126	610,500	40	58,310	219	183,773	117	3,459
Northern Illinois.....	185	107,539	171	8,256,700	79	893,115	182	1,992,866	127	15,213
Northern Nebraska.....	130	28,385	109	1,463,285	29	140,596	129	365,650	74	3,735
North Wisconsin.....	232	49,146	178	1,994,900	49	168,125	224	531,652	106	4,132
Oklahoma.....	62	6,946	45	375,100	10	44,184	57	144,934	38	1,649
Oregon and Washington.....	112	11,792	64	439,300	35	95,443	103	155,719	75	2,645
South Dakota.....	131	16,072	93	530,780	16	23,900	128	176,277	88	2,479
Southern.....	63	12,981	42	855,950	18	106,166	58	236,675	45	2,990
Southern Illinois.....	84	25,324	78	1,124,900	13	87,715	83	308,879	44	2,728
Southern Nebraska.....	134	26,938	121	1,250,500	25	97,250	133	413,525	74	2,891
South Wisconsin.....	149	70,705	130	3,555,100	41	407,540	144	846,279	70	6,692
Texas.....	144	21,922	107	761,000	37	132,774	137	307,330	82	3,821
Western.....	251	71,055	226	4,324,707	68	652,565	249	1,106,794	156	14,364
Negro missions.....	69	5,871	55	339,650	5	13,790	67	72,197	61	3,314

the people for the enlargement of the church. In 1844 Walther began to publish a religious periodical, the *Lutheraner*, which became the exponent of the stricter interpretation of Lutheran doctrine and ritual.

Meanwhile the Fort Wayne community had grown, and Wyneken, on a trip to Europe for his health, had secured the cordial interest and support of Pastor Löhle, of Neuendettelsau. On returning to America he became acquainted with the *Lutheraner*, and the two communities entered into hearty mutual relations. Other congregations also manifested their sympathy, and in 1847, 12 congregations, 22 ministers, and 2 candidates for the ministry united in forming the "German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States." Under the constitution adopted only those ministers whose congregations had entered into membership with the synod and the lay delegates representing those congregations were entitled to suffrage. All the symbolical books were regarded as "pure and uncorrupted explanation and statement of the Divine Word." All mingling of churches and faiths was disapproved. Purely Lutheran books were to be used in churches and schools. A permanent, not a temporary or licensed, ministry was affirmed, and at the same time freedom of the individual church was recognized, the synod having no authority over it.

DOCTRINE

In doctrine the Missouri Synod recognizes one standard, to which there must be absolute accord, namely, the Holy Scriptures as interpreted by the Formula of Concord of 1580, including a text and commentary upon the three ecumenical creeds—the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian—and upon the six Lutheran Confessions—the Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Larger and Smaller Luther Catechisms, and the Formula of Concord. This unwavering confessionalism is the most treasured possession of the Synod, and to its faithful adherence to this policy it attributes its remarkable growth.

ORGANIZATION

In polity the Missouri Synod is pronouncedly congregational, the central representative body not being intended primarily for purposes of government. Thus it happens that congregations, though fully acknowledged as members of the ecclesiastical denomination, are not yet members of the conference, which concerns itself distinctively with the establishment and maintenance of colleges, normal schools, and charitable institutions and with the administration of missions. Its foremost duty is, however, the preservation of the Word of God in its purity.

In the Missouri Synod the greater part of the congregations are bilingual. In quite a number of congregations the English language only is used and in a few German only. It has always taken an antagonistic stand against the State Church of Germany.

WORK

The Missouri Synod carries on home mission work independently in the 24 districts of the United States composing the Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States. In 1926 it had 802 pastors and assistants engaged in this work in 1,259 mission stations, at an expense of \$631,600. In addition, it maintains missions among the Esthonians, Finns, Letts, Poles, Lithuanians, and Italians, at a cost during the year 1926 of \$18,369. Other missionary activities are city missions in 14 large cities, a mission among the Jews of New York, a deaf and dumb mission, missions among the Indians in Wisconsin, and the immigrant missions.

Foreign missionary work is carried on by the Missouri Synod mainly in India and China; in Brazil and the Argentine Republic, South America; and in Cuba. The report for 1926 shows for these countries a total of 123 stations and 391 preaching places; 109 missionaries, and 170 native helpers; 120 schools, with 4,221 pupils; 1,378 baptized Christians; and contributions to the amount of \$265,843. The synod contributes also about \$63,213 annually toward the support of the work of the Saxon Free Church in Germany. The total amount contributed by the Missouri Synod toward various missions is \$1,294,638.

The educational interests of the Synodical Conference are represented by 31 schools. Of these, 2 theological seminaries, 11 colleges, 4 high schools, 1 university, 2 teachers' seminaries, and 1 deaf-mute institute are under the control of the Missouri Synod; one of these, the Concordia Seminary of St. Louis, Mo., has just moved to its new 72-acre site with buildings costing approximately \$3,000,000. The total number of students and pupils reported for these schools in 1926 was 4,188. In addition, there are 1,390 parochial schools with 81,082 pupils, which are conducted directly by the congregations of the Missouri Synod. The value of property devoted to educational purposes, not including the parochial schools, is estimated at \$13,953,000.

The charitable institutions within the Synod include 16 hospitals and health retreats, 8 orphanages, and 8 homes for the aged. There are also 10 children's home-finding societies, and in 13 cities—Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Evanston, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New York, Omaha, St. Louis, St. Paul, San Francisco, Sioux City, and Washington, D. C.—hospices are conducted by a young people's organization called the Walther League. The report for 1926 shows a total of 32,186 patients treated in the hospitals and 1,089 inmates in the orphanages and homes for the aged. The value of property for all charitable institutions was \$7,482,240.

The Missouri Synod has one large publishing concern, the Concordia Publishing House, at St. Louis, Mo., which employs 150 persons and publishes 22 periodicals, with a total of 260,000 subscribers. The value of Concordia Publishing House is estimated at \$1,200,000.

The number of young peoples societies is 1,560, with a membership of 55,000.