Independent Christian Churches and Churches of Christ Today









Unity and Truth in Restoration Movement



2020 US Religion Census

- Independent Christian Churches and Churches of Christ
 - 1.4 million members, trending slightly up
 - 4,787 congregations
 - average church size 288
 - #1 per capita mega churches
- Churches of Christ (non-instrumental)
 - 1.4 million members, trending down
 - 11,881 congregations
 - average church size 120
- Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ)
 - 0.4 million members, trending sharply down
 - 3,135 congregations
 - average church size 127

The New York Times

Conservative Churches Grew Fastest in 1990's, Report Says



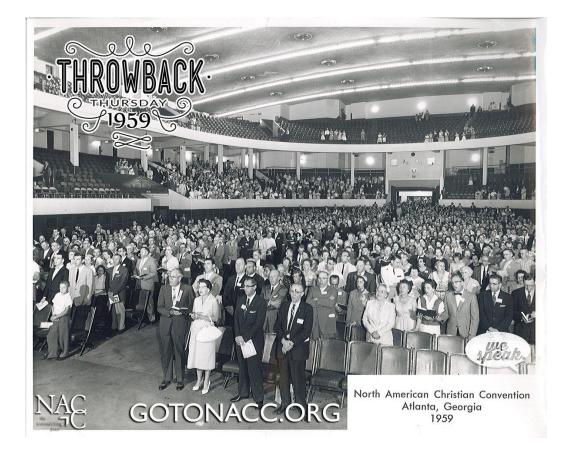
By Laurie Goodstein

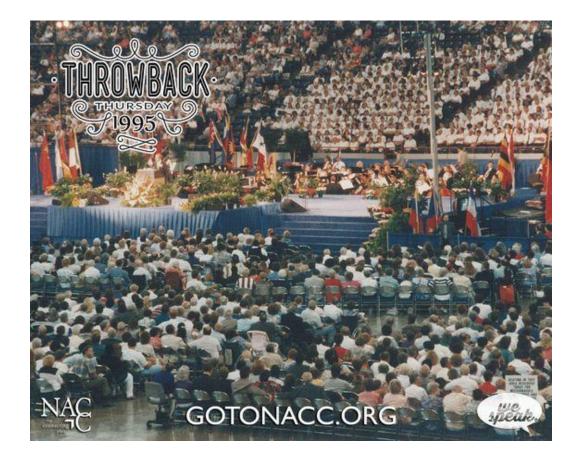
Sept. 18, 2002

The study, "Religious Congregations and Membership: 2000," found that the fastest-growing religious denomination in the last 10 years was the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which enlists thousands of young Mormon missionaries to recruit door to door and boosted its membership in the United States by 19.3 percent to a total of 4.2 million since the last survey in 1990.

The denominations that recorded the next highest growth were the conservative Christian Churches and Churches of Christ, with 18.6 percent; the Assemblies of God, a major Pentecostal denomination, with 18.5 percent; and the Roman Catholic Church, with 16.2 percent.

Key Events of the Independent Christian Churches and Churches of Christ





North American Christian Convention 1927-2018



Bible College Movement: 1920s+

Peak in 1980 with 40 colleges, now less than 20.



U.S. News' List Includes Several Christian Colleges (Plus News Briefs)

by Christian Standard | 14 September, 2022

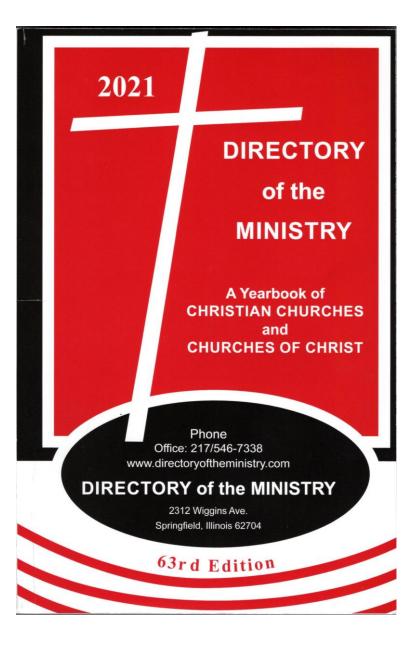
U.S. News & World Report's annual "**Best Colleges**" issue was released Monday. Among the colleges affiliated with Christian churches and churches of Christ to make the list:

• Milligan University (Milligan, Tenn.)—No. 12 in Regional Universities South; No. 2 in Best Value Schools in the South; No. 32 in Top Performers in Social Mobility ("for enrolling and graduating large proportions of disadvantaged students")

- · Johnson University Tennessee (Knoxville, Tenn.)—No. 26 in Regional Universities South; No. 13 in Top Performers in Social Mobility
- William Jessup University (Rocklin, Calif.)—No. 46 in Regional Colleges West; No. 23 in Best Colleges for Veterans; No. 44 for Top Performers in Social Mobility
- Point University (West Point, Ga.)—No. 68 in Regional Colleges South; No. 63 in Top Performers in Social Mobility
- Hope International University (Fullerton, Calif.)—No. 85 in Regional Colleges West; No. 64 for Top Performers in Social Mobility
- Kentucky Christian University (Grayson, Ky.)—No. 76–99 in Regional Colleges South; No. 71 in Top Performers in Social Mobility
- Bushnell University (Eugene, Ore.)—No. 83 in Regional Colleges West; No. 86 in Top Performers in Social Mobility.

Key Events

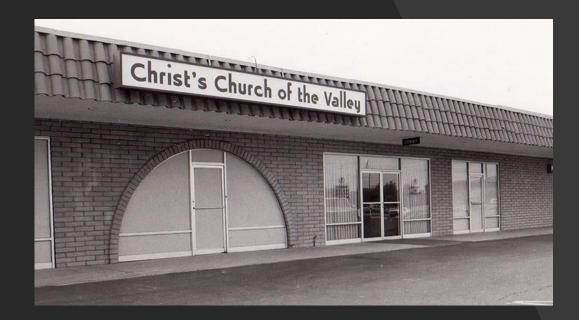
- 1955 Directory of the Ministry
- 1968 Disciples restructuring
 - form denomination



CHURCH	ATTENDANCE	BAPTISMS	LOCATION
Christ's Church of the Valley	32,065	3,729	Phoenix AZ
Southeast Christian Church	25,940	1,197	Louisville KY
Shepherd Church	10,586	986	Porter Ranch CA
The Crossing ²³	10,156	791	
Northview Church ¹²	9,408	484	Indianapolis IN
Parkview Christian Church ¹	8,942	688	Orland Park IL
Central Christian Church	8,795	750	Mesa AZ
Traders Point Christian Church	8,334	532	Whitestown IN
Compassion Christian Church	8,201	692	Savannah GA
Eastside Christian Church	7,976	890	Anaheim CA
Crossroads Christian Church ³	7,830	689	Corona CA
2 42 Community Church	7,075	424	Brighton MI
Crossroads Christian Church	6,785	532	Grand Prairie TX
Canyon Ridge Christian Church ³⁴ —	6,700	558	Las Vegas NV
Christ's Church of the Valley	6,687	527	San Dimas CA
Mountain Christian Church ³	6,276	604	Joppa MD
Eastview Christian Church ³	6,238	290	Normal IL
Real Life Church ¹³	5,729	490	Valencia CA
Compass Christian Church ³	5,537	356	Colleyville TX
The Crossing, a Christian Church ¹ –	5,438	608	Las Vegas NV
Northside Christian Church	5,384	310	New Albany IN

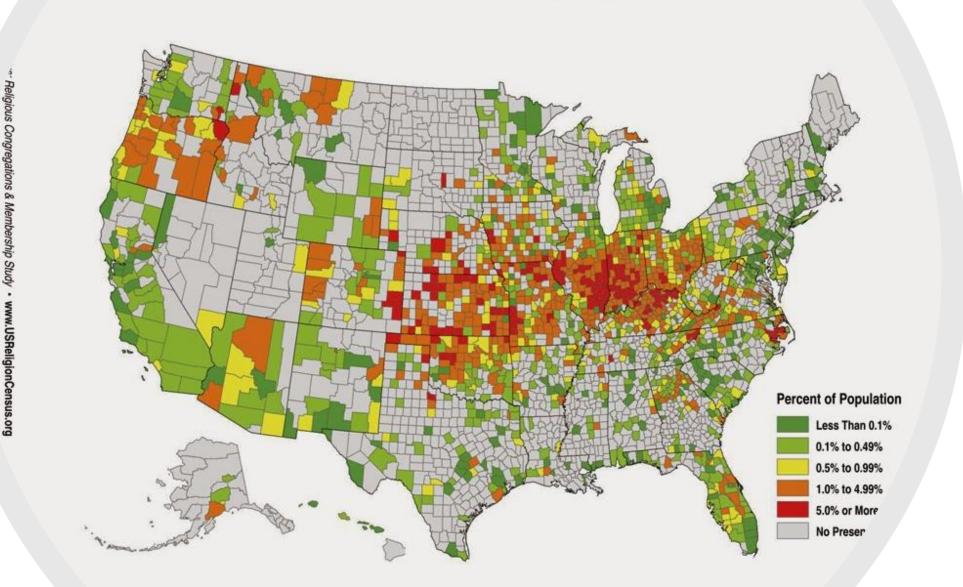
Christ's Church of the Valley (CCV)

- Founded 1982 in Phoenix
- Men and Church (61/39)
- Family engagement
 - if a child is the first person in a household to become a Christian, there is a 3.5% probability everyone else in the household will follow.
 - Mother: 17%
 - Father: 93%
- Largest Christian Church





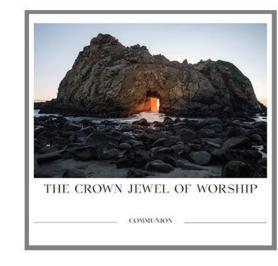
Christian Churches and Churches of Christ Adherents as a Percentage of Total Population, 2010



Distinctives

- Baptism
- Communion
- Scripture
- Church governance / autonomy
- Balance (gospel, social, missions, scripture, non-sectarian)
- Entrepreneurial
 - Good at seeing new opportunities and willing to take initiative and risk





COMMUNION: THE CROWN JEWEL OF WORSHIP

By Victor Knowles

The Lord's Supper is the crown jewel of worship. It should be the central act of our Christian worship. Please consider four vital truths from the inspired writings of Paul in regard to Communion.

In 1 Corinthians 11:23-25, Paul recounted how Christ himself passed along this teaching about Communion to him. The words "do this in remembrance of me" are Jesus' own words, spoken at the Last Supper (Luke 22:19). Augustine called the Lord's Supper the verbum visible—the visible word at the action of the Lord's Table. The visible Word of God (the bread and the cup) belong with the *audible* Word of God (Jesus' words of institution)....

+ READ MORE

Foreign Missions

- Over 1,000 missionaries
- Raising their own support











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Amplifying Christ's call to be Kingdom workers.

Christ In Youth (CIY)

- Conferences for different age groups:
 - High School: Move
 - Middle School: Believe
 - Grade School: Super Start
 - 60,000+ teenagers per year
- Missions: Engage
- Multimedia
- http://www.ciy.com/MOVE







BIRTHING: STADIA

NE OF LIDE P

BUILDING: VISIONEERING

GROWING: CDF CAPITAL

- -

SLINGSHOT





STAFFING: SLINGSHOT GROUP STRENGTHENING: CO:MISSION

REPURPOSING: KAIROS



HOME SHOP Y ABOUT Y CONTACT

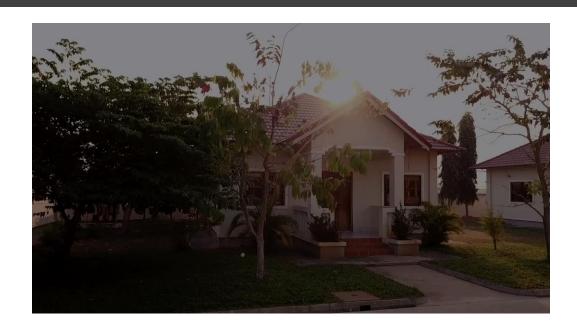
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SHOP BY TYPE











Christian City Homes: Children, Retirement, Disabilities

- 1000 residents
- 96 buildings on 500 acres



Live. Thrive. Get Involved. Serve. Give.



Vibrant Senior Life

- Active Senior Living
- Assisted Living
- Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation



Hope For Children

- Children's Village Residential Program
- Crossroads Foster Care & Adoption Program
- Safe Place Runaway and Homeless Youth Program
- Thrive Graduate Transition Program



I.D.E.S.: International Disaster Emergency Fund





Transformed Lives through God's Word in Every Language

Verse by Verse by Verse by Verse by Verse

ILAD promotes human flourishing through educational, economic, and social development in language communities that are underresourced.





International Literacy and Development @ILADNGO · Nonprofit organization

Financial Resources: *CDF and CFR*



INVESTMENTS LOANS CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS RETIREMENT ABOUT CUSTOMER SERVICE DONATE LEGACY GIVING VIEW RATES

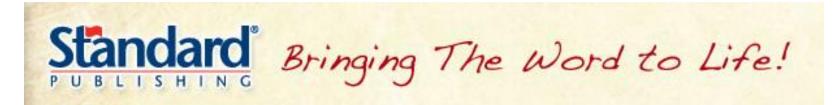
Funding Ministry... Changing Lives

Туре	Annual Yield (APY)	Minimum Investment	
15 Month Certificate	3.1%	\$15,000	

Team Expansion



- More than 300 full-time adult workers
- Serving in over 40 countries
- 70 distinct church planting projects
- Attendance: 27,700 per week
- More than 23,000 baptisms



Christian Standard (1866)

CHRISTIAN AUGUST 28.1020

Milligan Will Dedicate New Buildings

- The Lookout (1888)
- Sunday School and VBS best selling in U.S.





About Us

At Woodlawn, we want to see lives changed for Christ so that everyone reflects the image of God and the church truly represents the Kingdom of God. We strive to be a place of fully devoted disciples, each using their gifts to influence others (both inside and outside the church) to grow closer to Christ through relational discipleship.

Woodlawn is historically and theologically connected to the American Restoration Movement, also called the Stone-Campbell Movement. The movement began on the American frontier in the early 19th century and sought to unify all Christians into a single body patterned after the New Testament church. For more information on the Restoration Movement, click <u>here</u>. We are an independent, self-supporting, and self-governing body of Christ followers whose board of elders is elected annually by the congregation.





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QUESTIONS?

Next week: In essentials, unity