



Action on Removal of Churches from the Roster of the Evangelical Covenant Church

COVENANT REGIONAL CONFERENCE	CHURCH NAME	REASON FOR REMOVAL
Central	Lost Lake Covenant Church	Closed
Central	Ninth Hour Covenant Church/New Creation Covenant Church	Closed
East	The Evangelical Covenant Church	Closed
East	Trinity Covenant Church	Merger
Great Lakes	Faith Community Covenant Church	Closed
Great Lakes	Redeemer Evangelical Covenant Church	Closed
Midsouth	The Vine Covenant Church	Withdrawn
Midwest	Evangelical Covenant Church (Centerville)	Closed
Midwest	New Day Covenant Church	Closed
Northwest	Abbey Way Covenant Church	Withdrawn
Northwest	Genesis West Covenant Church	Withdrawn
Northwest	Grace Outreach Covenant Church	Closed
Northwest	Monticello Covenant Church	Closed
Pacific Southwest	Escalon Covenant Church	Withdrawn
Pacific Southwest	The Creek Covenant Church	Closed
Pacific Southwest	Visalia Community Covenant Church	Closed

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: DANNY MARTINEZ

Lost Lake Covenant Church

Location: Stephenson, Michigan

Reason for removal: Closed

Number of members (when church closed): 4

Year joined the Covenant: 1947

Peak membership (approximately): 48

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

On May 25, 2020, a congregational meeting was held to discuss the future of the church. The reasons for closing were a decline in membership and the lack of financial resources. The church had already been closed since March due to COVID-19 pandemic. With no viable path forward, the congregation voted to close the church.

Ninth Hour Covenant Church/New Creation Covenant Church

Location: Chicago, IL

Reason for removal from roster: Closed

Number of members (when church closed): 20

Year joined the Covenant: 2015

Peak membership(approximately): 50

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Inadequate funding and support for this church replant. Church voted unanimously to close.

EAST COAST CONFERENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: HOWARD K. BURGOYNE

Trinity Covenant Church

Location: Lexington, Massachusetts

Reason for deletion from roster: Merger

Number of members: 120

Year joined the Covenant: 1897 (year organized)

Peak membership (approximately): 200+

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Trinity Covenant Church was originally planted in Cambridge and moved northwest to Lexington in 1966. The congregation voted in 2020 to merge into Highrock Covenant Church of Arlington, in order to be relaunched as a campus satellite congregation, Highrock Lexington. The merger was approved by both congregations in June 2020.

The Evangelical Covenant Church

Location: New Haven, Connecticut

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of members: 12

Year joined the Covenant: 1887 (year organized)

Peak membership (approximately): 100+

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

The congregation's last credentialed minister retired in 2005 and the congregation voted to close, but then rescinded that decision. A lay pastor within the congregation was asked to serve part time and has done since 2006. In 2020, the pastor announced his plans to relocate and to retire, and the congregation voted in February to conclude and dissolve by June of 2021.

The Covenant Church of Quincy

Location: Quincy, Massachusetts

Reason for deletion from roster: Merger

Number of members: 12

Year joined the Covenant: 1885 (year organized)

Peak membership (approximately): 150

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

The Covenant Church of Quincy (formerly Covenant Congregational Church of Quincy) voted to merge into the Highrock Covenant Church of Quincy, MA in 2018, and completed that legal process in 2019.

GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: GARTH MCGRATH

Faith Community Church

Location: Youngstown, OH

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of members: 42

Year joined the Covenant: 2009

Peak membership (approximately): 191

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Despite intentional efforts to regain missional traction, after years of gradual decline and the 2020 transition away of the pastor of the church, the congregation determined that the ministry was no longer viable and voted to close on August 30, 2020.

Redeemer Evangelical Covenant Church

Location: Caledonia, Michigan

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of members: 29

Year joined the Covenant: 1991

Peak membership (approximately): 250

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Redeemer had slowly spiraled down in worship attendance, membership, and mission over the last 25 years, and since the departure of the founding pastor. Despite valiant attempts at revitalizing the congregation, and the pandemic becoming a storm they could not weather, they discerned that the mission was best served by becoming a legacy church. They sold their building to a Burmese refugee congregation and rejoiced to see God bring new life to their church family through this final act of mission of becoming a “Legacy Church”. Redeemer had a heart for their neighborhood and will be remembered as a congregation whose spiritual gifts were Spirit-led hospitality and worship.

MIDSOUTH CONFERENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: GARTH T. BOLINDER

The Vine Covenant Church

Location: Austin, TX

Reason for deletion from roster: Withdrawn

Number of members: 35

Year joined the Covenant: 2019

Peak membership: N/A

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Congregational vote to voluntarily disaffiliate from the Midsouth Conference and the Evangelical Covenant Church.

MIDWEST CONFERENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: TAMMY SWANSON-DRAHEIM

New Day Covenant Church

Location: Boulder, CO

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of members:32

Year Joined the Covenant: 2008

Peak membership (approximately): 60

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

We give thanks for the many years of fruitful ministry under the leadership of the planting pastor. New Day was planted in 2005 through the generosity of the Front Range church planting group and Fellowship Covenant Church. Though attendance never reached beyond 75, this was a church that “fought way above her weight class” with food ministry to the homeless that equaled similar work by large churches in the area. In recent years, the church began a steady decline in attendance. Upon the retirement of the planting pastor the church voted to close.

Evangelical Covenant Church

Location: Centerville, IA

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of Members: 8

Year joined the Covenant: organized 1880, joined Covenant 1939

Peak membership(approximately): 65

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Originally organized in 1880 by Swedish immigrants, Centerville became a member church of the Iowa Conference and the denomination in 1939. In recent years, the Centerville church declined in attendance to fewer than 10 faithful congregants who continued to meet without a pastor. A group of long-time members cared for the building until the passing of the church matriarch, at which time the remaining members determined it was time to close. Centerville became a living legacy church and will be remembered in the church plants that are birthed from her generosity.

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: MARK STROMBERG

Grace Outreach Covenant Church

Location: Coon Rapids, MN

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of members:

Year joined the Covenant: 2018

Peak membership(approximately): 60

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

With the departure of its founding pastor, the church made the decision that it was not sustainable to move forward.

Monticello Covenant Church

Location: Monticello, MN

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Numbers of members:

Year joined the Covenant: 1991

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

The church made the painful decision to close as a result of diminishing numbers and the resignation of the most recent pastor. The pandemic was also a contributing factor.

Abbey Way Covenant Church

Location: Minneapolis, MN

Reason for deletion from roster: Withdrawn

Number of members: 13

Year joined the Covenant: 2010

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

The church continued to have concerns regarding the Covenant's position on human sexuality. The congregation made the decision to graciously leave the Covenant for the sake of integrity.

Genesis West Covenant Church

Location: Robbinsdale, MN

Reason for deletion from roster: Withdrawn

Number of members:

Year joined the Covenant: 2018

Peak membership (approximately): 250

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

The church continued to have concerns regarding the Covenant's position on human sexuality. The congregation made the decision to graciously leave the Covenant for the sake of integrity.

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

SUPERINTENDENT: PAUL WILSON

Escalon Covenant Church

Location: Escalon, CA

Reason for deletion from roster: Withdrawn

Number of members: 143

Year joined the Covenant: 1919

Peak Membership(approximately): 180

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Escalon Covenant has chosen to withdraw from the Evangelical Covenant Church.

The Creek Covenant Church

Location: Pleasant Hill, CA

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of members: 41

Year joined the Covenant: 2000

Peak membership (approximately): 91

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Reduced missional energy led to the close of the church in June 2019.

Community Covenant Church

Location: Community Covenant Church

Reason for deletion from roster: Closed

Number of members: 34

Year joined the Covenant: 1979

Peak membership (approximately): Not available

Reason leading to removal from the roster and comments:

Reduced missional energy led to the close of the church in January 2020.