
A CHRONOLOGY OF PROTESTANT BEGINNINGS IN CHILE: 1811-2003

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Historical Overview of Chile:

Independence from Spain declared:	1810
Independent Republic established:	1818
Religious liberty permitted:	1865 (1925)

Number of North American Agencies in 1989:	58
Number of North American agencies in 1996:	48
Indicates European society*	

Significant Protestant Beginnings or Events:

- 1811 - *British and Foreign Bible Society work
- 1821 - *British and Foreign Bible Society colporteur, James Thomson, invited by President Bernardo O'Higgins to Chile to establish the Lancastrian system of mutual education.
- 1825 - *Anglican chapel services begin among foreign immigrants in Valparaiso, led by laymen and Anglican chaplains from British vessels.
- 1837 - Anglican chaplain John Rowlandson arrives in Valparaiso and begins English-speaking worship services in a private house among foreign residents and aboard ships in the harbor.
- 1838 - *Allen Gardiner (a former officer in the British Royal Navy) begins a missionary outreach to the Araucanian Indians on the Bío Bío River in southern Chile; in 1844, Gardiner establishes the Patagonian Missionary Society in England to aid his efforts in launching mission work among the Indians of the Patagonian region of southern Argentina and Chile; Gardiner and his missionary companions arrived in Tierra del Fuego in 1850 but all died of starvation there in September 1851; this mission was later reorganized as the South American Missionary Society (SAMS), in the 1890s.
- 1845 - David Trumbull (a New England Congregationalist) arrives in Valparaiso to serve as chaplain to English-speaking sailors and foreign residents, under the sponsorship of the Foreign Evangelical Society and the American Seaman's Friend Society of New England.
- 1846 - *Lutheran services begin among German immigrants in southern Chile; German Lutheran Church established.
- 1847 - Union Church established in Valparaiso by Trumbull among foreign residents in this important port city.
- 1855 - A chapel was built for Union Church in Valparaiso, which was the first Protestant-built church building on the West Coast of South America.

- 1858 - St. Peter's Anglican Church built in Valparaiso.
- 1860 - Anglican missionary Allen W. Gardiner, the son of Captain Allen Gardiner who began pioneer mission work in Tierra del Fuego in 1850, arrives to begin work among the Araucanian Indians in southern Chile; however, due to hostilities between the Chilean army and the Araucanians, Gardiner accepted a chaplaincy in Lota for a small English colony established near a coal mine.
- 1868 - Trumbull and his missionary colleagues, under the auspices of the American and Foreign Christian Union (previously known as the Foreign Evangelical Society, sponsored by New England Congregationalists), establishes the first Spanish-speaking church in Santiago de Chile.
- 1873 - Presbyterian Church in the USA, Board of Foreign Missions (1895), sends Mr. & Mrs. Robert McLean to Chile at the request of Trumbull.
- 1878 - Methodist Episcopal Church, Board of Foreign Missions; William Taylor (1884, now affiliated with United Methodist Church)
- 1884 - *Baptist missionary work began among German immigrants in Victoria, near Temuco; from 1894 to 1897 a religious revival occurred within the German settlements; services held in German and Spanish.
- 1892 - *The first Baptist church is established among German immigrants.
- 1895 - *The South American Missionary Society (SAMS) – Anglican/Episcopal tradition – begins work under Charles A. Sadleir, a clergyman from Canada, among the Araucanian Indians near Temuco.
- 1895 - The Seventh-day Adventist Mission Board begins work under elder G. H. Baber in Valparaiso; the Austral Conference Union was established in 1906)
- 1897 - The Christian and Missionary Alliance arrived to develop the work begun in 1895 by independent missionaries.
- 1907 - The Southern Baptist Convention, Foreign Mission Board (1917, now International Mission Board)
- 1909 - The Salvation Army, USA
- 1907-1910: Pentecostal awakening within the Methodist Episcopal Church in Valparaiso under the Rev. Willis C. Hoover.**
- 1910 - Methodist Pentecostal Church established by Willis C. Hoover and his Chilean associates (a split from the Methodist Episcopal Church).
- 1912 - YMCA, International Foreign Department
- 1913 - Church of the Lord – Iglesia del Señor (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1923 - Gospel Mission of South America (M. Strong)
- 1925 - Evangelical Church of the Brethren (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1930 - Apostolic Church of the Lord (a split from The Church of the Lord)
- 1933 - Pentecostal Evangelical Church (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1933 - Evangelical Corporation of Vitacura (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1933 - Pentecostal Church of Southern Chile (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1933 - Evangelical Army of Chile (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1934 - Christian Church of the Apostolic Faith (a split from the Pentecostal Evangelical Church)
- 1936 - Christian Church Won with His Blood (a split from the Pentecostal Evangelical Church)
- 1936 - Christian Evangelical Church (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1938 - *Swedish Pentecostals arrive

- 1938 - Apostolic Pentecostal Church (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1938 - Apostolic Christian Mission (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1940 - International Church of the Foursquare Gospel (1947)
- 1941 - Assemblies of God Foreign Missions (1914)
- 1941 - Church of the Lord that was Won with His Blood (a split from the Church of the Lord)
- 1941 - Evangelical Council of Chile formed
- 1942 - Child Evangelism Fellowship
- 1942 - Pentecostal Christian Church (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1943 - The Humble Manger of Christ Evangelical Church (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1943 - Free Apostolic Pentecostal Church (a split from Apostolic Pentecostal Church)
- 1945 - Independent Board for Presbyterian Missions
- 1946 - Pentecostal Church of Chile (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1946 - National Evangelical Church of Christ (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1949 - Christian Church and Churches of Christ
- 1950 - Pentecostal Evangelical Methodist Church that Meets in the Name of Jesus (a split from the Methodist Pentecostal Church)
- 1951 - Pentecostal Church of God (a split from the Pentecostal Evangelical Church)
- 1952 - Pentecostal Church Mission (a split from the Pentecostal Evangelical Church)
- 1953 - Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (ABWE)
- 1953 - Pentecostal Evangelical Christian Mission (a split from Pentecostal Evangelical Methodist Church that Meets in the Name of Jesus)
- 1954 - Baptist Bible Fellowship International
- 1954 - Church of God World Missions (Cleveland, TN)
- 1956 - Pentecostal Evangelical Corporation (a split from the Pentecostal Evangelical Church)
- 1957 - Mission to the World, Presbyterian Church of America
- 1958 - Independent Christian Churches and Churches of Christ
- 1962 - Church of the Nazarene
- 1963 - Campus Crusade for Christ
- 1963 - Maranatha Baptist Mission
- 1963 - Gospel Fellowship
- 1963 - Mennonite Mission Network Association
- 1964 - United Pentecostal Church International
- 1964 - World-Wide Missions
- 1967 - International Pentecostal Holiness Church – World Missions Ministry
- 1970 - Mennonite Board of Missions
- 1972 - LOGOI Ministries
- 1973 - International Gospel Outreach
- 1973 - Spanish World Gospel Mission
- 1975 - Church of God of Prophecy
- 1977 - Mission to the World (PCA)
- 1979 - Source of Light Ministries
- 1979 - South American Missionary Society, SAMS-USA
- 1981 - Christian Church of North America

- 1982 - Open Bible Standard Churches
- 1982 - World Team
- 1985 - Greater Grace World Outreach
- 1985 - The Navigators
- 1986 - Free Methodist World Missions
- 1988 - SIM USA
- 1988 - Interdenominational Corporation of Pastors established
- 1988 - CMF International
- 1989 - Global Outreach, Ltd.
- 1990 - Operation Blessing International
- 1990 - International Gospel Outreach
- 1991 - International Partnership Ministries
- 1992 - Evangelical Lutheran Synod
- 1992 - Baptist Mid-Missions
- 1993 - American Baptist Churches in the USA
- 1994 - Canadian Convention of Southern Baptists
- 1994 - Evangelical Covenant Church – Covenant World Mission
- 1996 - Baptist International Missions
- 1998 - Global Partners / Wesleyan World Missions
- 1999 - Macedonian World Baptist Missions
- 1999 - New Mission Systems International
- 2000 - Friendship International Ministries, Inc.
- 2000 - World Harvest Mission
- 2001 - Global Outreach International
- 2001 - Grace Brethren International Missions
- 2003 - Global Fellowship International

Date of Origin Unknown:

- Brethren Assemblies, USA and Canada
- Christian Aid Mission
- Gospel Fellowship Association
- Latin America Mission
- Operation Mobilization
- Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship
- Reformed Baptist Mission Services
- Spanish World Ministries
- United Church of Christ – Wider Church Ministries
- Word of Life Fellowship, Inc. – International Ministries
- World Baptist Fellowship Mission Agency, Inc.
- Youth With A Mission (YWAM)



NOTES:

- (1) Dates listed indicate the earliest recorded ministry or in case of discrepancies, the date most frequently indicated.
- (2) North American Agencies include U.S. and Canadian.

SOURCES:

- (1) Daryl L. Platt, "Who Represents the Evangelical Churches in Latin America? A Study of the Evangelical Fellowship Organizations." Pasadena, CA: an unpublished Doctor of Missiology Dissertation, School of World

Mission, Fuller Theological Seminary, June 1991. Used by permission of the author.

- (2) Jean B. A. Kessler, ***A Study of the Older Protestant Missions and Churches in Peru and Chile*** (Goes, Netherlands: Oosterbaan & le Cointre N.V., 1967)
- (3) PROLADES (Latin American Socio-religious Studies Program), international headquarters in San José, Costa Rica: www.prolades.com
- (4) Dayton Roberts and John Siewert, editors: ***Mission Handbook of U.S. and Canadian Christian Ministries Overseas*** (MARC 1989).
- (5) John A. Siewert and Edna G. Valdez, editors: ***Mission Handbook of U.S. and Canadian Christian Ministries Overseas*** (MARC 1997).
- (6) Linda J. Weber and Dotsey Welliver, editors: ***Mission Handbook of U.S. and Canadian Christian Ministries Overseas, 2007-2009*** (EMIS-Billy Graham Center, 2007).