

Appendix

U.S. Churches that Ordain Women, Their Stance Towards Homosexuality, and Their Growth Patterns

Church¹	Ordain Women	Accept Homosexual Practice?	Growth – North America²
United Church of Christ (Mainline Congregationalists)	Yes – 1853 (though not widespread until the 1920s)	Since 1985, generally, yes. ³	About 1 million and declining – 2 million at time of merger in 1957 ⁴
Conservative Congregational Christian Conf.	Some – Left to local church.	No	About 50,000 and growing – split from Mainline in 1945
Advent Christian Church	Yes - 1860	No	About 25,000 and static since 1925
Universalist Church of America	Yes – 1863	Yes	About 160,000
Christian Church (General Convention)	Yes - 1867	Yes – since 1985 as merged with UCC in 1957	Part of UCC
Salvation Army	Yes – 1870 (though women serve in positions subject to husband)	No	400,000 in U.S.; 1.4 million worldwide – regular growth
American Unitarian Association	Yes - 1871	Yes – 1984	About 215,000 decline from about 500,000 in 1970s

¹ The listed churches are based on the list found in Chavez, *Ordaining Women*, 16-17.

² Accept where otherwise noted, church size statistics taken from The Association of Religious Date Archives at http://www.thearda.com/Denoms/D_1425.asp

³ <http://www.ucc.org/lgbt/>; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_denominational_positions_on_homosexuality#United_Church_of_Christ

⁴ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Church_of_Christ#Membership (viewed on 6/2013)

Church of God (Anderson)	Yes – 1885	No ⁵	About 250,000, steady growth except last 10 years
Disciples of Christ	Yes – 1888	Some - Decided regionally and , locally ⁶	About 660,000; declining from a high of nearly 2 million in 1950s
Church of the United Brethren in Christ	Yes - 1889	Not church wide, but a number of congregations endorse ⁷	23,000 – no meaningful growth over last century or so.
Weslyan Methodist Church	Yes – 1891	Formally, no, but practice appears to vary with locality. ⁸	Some growth; merger in 1968 with Wesleyan Church
Methodist Protestant Church	Yes – 1892	Formally, no, but practice appears to vary with locality. ⁹	Merged into United Methodist Church – declined by nearly 50% in last 50 years
National Baptist Convention, USA (historically black)	Yes - 1895	Generally not ¹⁰	5 million – mostly steady growth through 20 th century
Pentecostal Holiness Church	Yes – 1895, preaching and teaching, but women not to hold all leadership positions	No.	330, 000 in U.S.; 3.4 million worldwide – steady growth
Pilgrim Holiness	1897 - preaching	No.	About 32,000

⁵http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_denominational_positions_on_homosexuality#Summary_of_denominational_positions_in_North_America_and_Europe

⁶ <http://www.accsd.org/site/page/christian-church-disciples-of-christ>

⁷http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_denominational_positions_on_homosexuality#Mennonite_Churches

⁸ <http://www.unitedmethodistreporter.com/2012/08/conferences-react-to-umc-stance-on-gay-issues/>

⁹ <http://www.unitedmethodistreporter.com/2012/08/conferences-react-to-umc-stance-on-gay-issues/>

¹⁰ <http://www.nbc12.com/story/19809729/baptist-church-ordains-gay-man-asked-to-leave-baptist-group>

Church	and teaching, but women not to hold all leadership positions		when merged with Wesleyan Church in 1968
AME Zion Church	1898 –formally, yes, but in practice, very limited, less than 3% female clergy in historically Black churches	No.	1.4 million – dramatic growth through 20 th century, but decline over last decade
Friends United	1902	Generally Opposed ¹¹	About 35,000, decline of 50% since early 1900s
Northern Baptist Convention aka American Baptist Churches in USA	1907 ¹² - Mixed, decided locally	No ¹³	1.3 million – declined by 200,000 over the last fifty years.
Church of the Nazarene (Pentecostal)	1908	No	640,000 in US; steady growth
Baptist General Conference	1918 – mixed, decided locally	No	195,000; steady growth
Cumberland Presbyterian Church	1921	Generally Opposed ¹⁴	About 65,000; 40% decline over last 40 years.
Churches of God, General	1923	?	32,000; stagnation over last century

¹¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homosexuality_and_Quakerism#North_America

¹² <http://www.abc-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/ordain.pdf>

¹³ <http://www.abc-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/homosexuality.pdf>

¹⁴ <http://johnvest.com/2010/07/26/what-the-pcusa-could-learn-from-cumberland-presbyterians/>

Conference			
Community Churches, Int. Council	1923	Yes ¹⁵	69,000; decline of 60% over last 30 years.
General Association of General Baptists	1925 - Mixed, decided locally – About 8% in 2002 ¹⁶	Generally Not ¹⁷	45,000; decline of 40% in last 20 years
International Church of the Foursquare Gospel	1927	No ¹⁸	350,000 in U.S.; 8 million worldwide; dramatic growth
Assemblies of God	1935 ¹⁹	No ²⁰	About 3 million in the U.S.; 65 million worldwide; dramatic growth
Open Bible Standard Churches (Pentecostal)	1935	No	45,000 – steady growth
Evangelical and Reformed Church aka United Church of Christ	1948	Yes	About 1 million and declining –2 million at time of merger in 1957 ²¹
Presbyterian Church in the USA (North)	1956	Yes.	Part of Presbyterian Church, USA – 2.7

¹⁵ <http://www.holierthanthou.info/denominations/community.html>

¹⁶ <http://www.christianethicstoday.com/cetart/index.cfm?fuseaction=Articles.main&ArtID=777>

¹⁷ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_denominational_positions_on_homosexuality#Baptists

¹⁸ <http://www.hrc.org/resources/entry/stances-of-faiths-on-lgbt-issues-pentecostals>

¹⁹ http://ag.org/top/Beliefs/Position_Papers/pp_downloads/PP_The_Role_of_Women_in_Ministry.pdf

²⁰ <http://www.hrc.org/resources/entry/stances-of-faiths-on-lgbt-issues-pentecostals>

²¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Church_of_Christ#Membership

			million and dramatically declining
Methodist Church	1956	Officially not, but there is meaningful division in American Methodism ²²	7.7 million – United Methodist Church – dramatic decline of 50% in 40 years
Church of the Brethren	1958 – formally, but in practice limited. 15% women by 2000	Not formally, but some exceptions. ²³	About 125,000 – 70% decline in 40 years
United Presbyterian Church, North America	1958	Yes.	Part of Presbyterian Church, USA – 1.9 million and dramatic decline
AME Episcopal	1960 - formally, yes, but in practice, very limited, less than 3% female clergy in Black churches	No ²⁴	2.5 million – decline of 1/3 in last 20 years
Christian Congregation	1961	No	About 1 million and declining – 2 million at time of merger in 1957 with United Church of Christ ²⁵
Presbyterian Church, US (South)	1964	Yes	Part of Presbyterian Church, USA – 1.9 million and declining

²² <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/06/nyregion/caught-in-methodisms-split-over-same-sex-marriage.html?pagewanted=all&r=0>

²³ <http://www.brethren.org/news/2011/committee-announces-decisions-for-2012-annual-conference.html>;

<http://www.peacecob.org/aboutourchurchpastor.html>

²⁴ <http://www.hrc.org/resources/entry/stances-of-faiths-on-lgbt-issues-african-methodist-episcopal-church>

²⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Church_of_Christ#Membership

Southern Baptist Convention	1964, but reversed in 1990s	No	16 million; dramatic growth in 20 th century, stagnation over last 10 years
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church	1966 - formally, yes, but in practice, very limited, less than 3% female clergy in black churches	No ²⁶	850,000; strong growth, though stagnant in last decade
Evangelical United Brethren Church	1968	Officially not, but there is meaningful division in Methodism ²⁷	Merged with United Methodists in 1968
American Lutheran Church aka Evangelical Lutheran Church since 1987	1970	Yes – formally adopted ordination of openly gay clergy in 2009 ²⁸	In 1987 Became Evangelical Lutheran Church in America with about 5.2 million members – rapid loss with about 4 million recently
Lutheran Church in America aka Evangelical Lutheran Church since 1987	1970	Yes – formally adopted ordination of openly gay clergy in 2009 ²⁹	In 1987 became Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - 4 million members- but rapid loss with a decline of 500,000 since 2009

²⁶ <http://www.christianpost.com/news/african-methodist-episcopal-church-rejects-gay-147-marriage-148-blessing-rights-2783/>

²⁷ <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/06/nyregion/caught-in-methodisms-split-over-same-sex-marriage.html?pagewanted=all&r=0>

²⁸ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelical_Lutheran_Church_in_America#Ordination_of_lesbian.2C_gay.2C_bisexual.2C_and_transgendered_clergy

²⁹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelical_Lutheran_Church_in_America#Ordination_of_lesbian.2C_gay.2C_bisexual.2C_and_transgendered_clergy

Mennonite Church	1973	Generally opposed, but some variation allowed in local congregations and conferences. ³⁰	About 105,000 – stagnant for the last 30 years
Free Methodist Church, North America	1974	No ³¹	75,000 – stagnant for last 30 years
Evangelical Covenant Church (Swedish Lutheran)	1976	No.	About 114,000 – general growth since the 1920s
Episcopal Church	1976 – may ordain 1994 – may oppose 1997 – may not oppose, ordination of women is mandatory	Yes in 2000, ordination in 2009	About 2 million, down from a high of 3.5 million in the 1960s
Reformed Church in America	1979 1980 – conscience clause for those not wanting to participate 2012 – conscience clause stricken	No, but official recognition of division within church ³²	240,000 and declining – down from a high of 380,00- in the 1960s, but still at about 350,000 in 1979
Worldwide Church of God <i>aka</i> Grace Communion International	Yes – 2006, after giving up Sabbath in 1995 ³³	No	38,000 worldwide - dramatically declining in recent years

³⁰http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mennonite#Sexuality.2C_marriage.2C_and_family_mores; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_denominational_positions_on_homosexuality#Mennonite_Churches

³¹http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homosexuality_and_Methodism#Free_Methodist_Church

³² <https://www.rca.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=492>

³³ <https://www.gci.org/church/ministry/women11>.