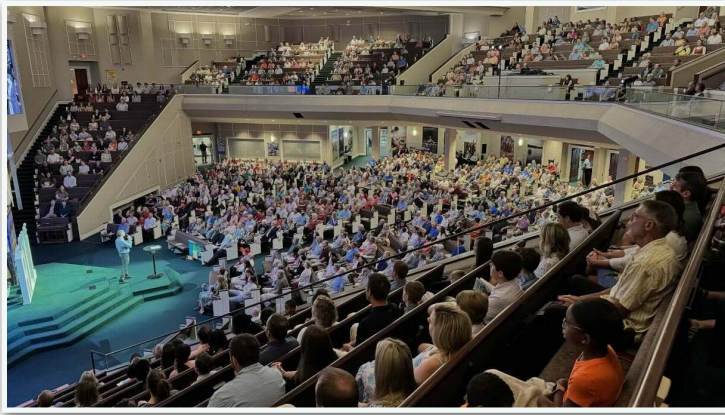


Insight Report

Our Largest Churches: A Study of Contraction

By Dr. Stanley E. Granberg, President



Mayfair: Hunstville, AL

MEGACHURCHES

I didn't know it at the time, but the first church I worked for, as a youth minister, was a megachurch. In 1979 the East Frayser Church of Christ in Memphis, TN had Sunday attendance that hovered around 1,200. But the idea of "megachurch" had not come into being yet (Bird 2016). The term megachurch was first used by a news reporter in 1983, referring to churches that were over 1,000 in attendance. Today, megachurch refers to churches with attendance above 2,000 (Greenblatt & Powell 2007).

Churches of Christ have not grown megachurches; we only have three or four megachurches in our fellowship. But, we do have a number of large churches. Large churches are a special type of church. Large churches operate differently from churches in the smaller size categories, even the neighborhood size churches that have 200 to 300 attendees. This report focuses on our largest congregations, those which have 500 or more in attendance. This report is



THE "TWEENER" CHURCHES

Observant readers will notice that the 500 number falls in the middle of the churches described in the size distribution of Churches of Christ as Large Program Churches (250-749). Think of the Large Program Churches as our awkward middle. They bridge the distinction between the small churches and the large churches. They are "tweeners."

There are two reasons for choosing to focus on the upper end of these Large Program Churches that average attendance of 500 or more in this report.

The first reason is for practicality. Churches of Christ have a much larger number of churches in the Large Program Church category than the Very Large Corporate and Mega Churches. Trying to bring all those Large Program Churches into this study was too time intensive at this point.

The second reason is because of the in-between nature of the Large Program Churches. Those churches at the lower attendance end of this size group, 250-500, tend to function more like a Large Neighborhood Church, which are generalist in nature. Their structure, programming, staffing, etc. all look and act like a Large Neighborhood Church. Those churches at the higher end of this group tend to act more like the Corporate Church in those same areas. They have a more complex structure, they offer more programming, and their staffing has begun to specialize. For these reasons, I focus here on our largest churches, those averaging 500 or more attendees.

intended to help us understand the importance of these larger churches and what is happening in them.

HOW WE GATHERED THIS DATA

Our largest churches play a critical role in the context of a movement. Almost from our earliest beginnings we have spoken of ourselves as a movement, the Restoration Movement. We have used this idea of a movement, a dynamic confederation of like-minded people and churches, as a distinctive which differentiates us from the hierarchically defined



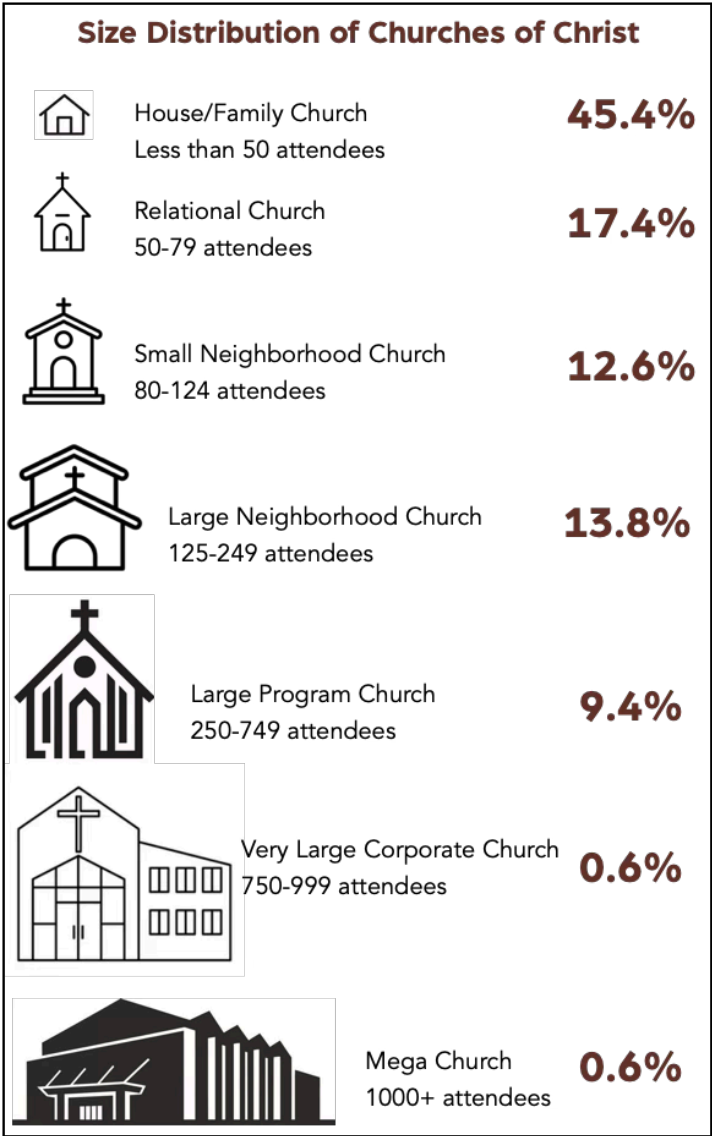
Harpeth Hills: Nashville, TN

denominations that proliferated in the 1800s. Just as these largest churches occupy an over-sized numerical position, they also exert an over-sized influence on the directions and shape of the movement. These large churches are signals, windsocks, bell cows for us. These largest churches are harbingers of our future.



Because of the “super-sized” importance of our largest churches, I spent extra time gathering data from them. The general data gathering began with the three mailings sent out in 2025 to every congregation listed in the 2018 edition *Churches of Christ in the United States*. Then I

enlisted a variety of people who have personal contacts with many of these largest churches to encourage their leaders to complete a survey. Finally, I sent personal emails to the preaching or executive



ministers of all the churches in the three size categories which had yet to complete a survey. Ultimately, I called the offices of every church asking for their average Sunday worship attendance. For this study we only counted in-person attendance, even if the church made online counts. At the time this report was prepared, I had an updated attendance number for 187 of the 200 churches (93.5%) listed in the 2018 edition as having an average Sunday attendance of 500 or more.

HOW ARE LARGE CHURCHES DIFFERENT?

The simplistic answer is: they have more people! But the reality is that churches on the upper end of the size distribution think and act differently than do churches on the smaller end of the distribution. Their



The Park: Tulsa, OK

large size is both the result and the condition of these learned differences. There are an extensive number of differences that have been identified as characterizing large churches. Tim Keller (2024) lists ten differences in his paper on "Leadership and Church Size Dynamics." Here, let's focus on five items that characterize larger churches that are not characteristic of smaller churches.

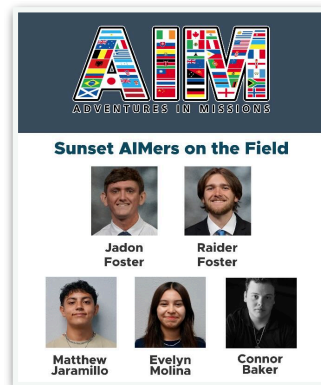
Driven by mission. Walk into almost any large church and somewhere on a wall, on a tv screen, or on a worship handout, you will see their mission. While there was a time when having a mission statement was "the thing to do," today, what I observe is that large churches believe their mission and live it. They have moved beyond a mission of existence or to answer the question, "if we weren't here, where would people go?" These churches look for and create ways to live out their mission. Their sense of kingdom mission defines who they are and drives what they do.



Have eyes on their communities. Larger churches see a bigger playing field than is typical of smaller churches. Large churches want to make a visible, measurable impact in their community. To do this, they work to learn from their community, their schools, their politicians, their first responders so they are aware of the needs and challenges within their community. Research by two of the most knowledgeable people on megachurches, Warren Bird and Scott Thumma (2020), report that 89% of large churches agree that their church is actively engaged in partnerships with other churches and social service providers, specifically to impact their communities.

Specialized staffing. Both because of and to gain their size, these largest churches have large ministry and support staffs. Where smaller churches may maintain a single minister until they approach 200-250 people, larger churches may have a minister for fewer than every 100 people. And these ministers work in specialized areas. Large churches may have ministers specifically designated for preaching/teaching, worship, family, youth, children, benevolence, outreach, visual arts, technology, and other roles. In the smaller church, the preaching minister must be a generalist, who serves and manages the variety of roles for which large churches have dedicated specialists.

Program developers. The larger the church, the more likely it is to develop its own signature ministry, a ministry which arises from its mission and helps resource other churches in large metropolitan, regional, or national arenas. Churches become known by these ministries. For instance, millions of people have been positively impacted by Celebrate Recovery, an international ministry that grew out of Saddleback Church. Among Churches of Christ, the Adventures In Mission (AIM) program of the Sunset Church of Christ in Lubbock, TX has trained and deployed thousands of





young people for one- and two-year mission experiences around the world. The New Day conferences are an outreach by the North

Boulevard Church of Christ in

Murfreesboro, TN, that holds multiple seminars across the nation each year. Larger churches have the expertise and focus within their staffs to develop and implement programs that may help hundreds or thousands of other churches.

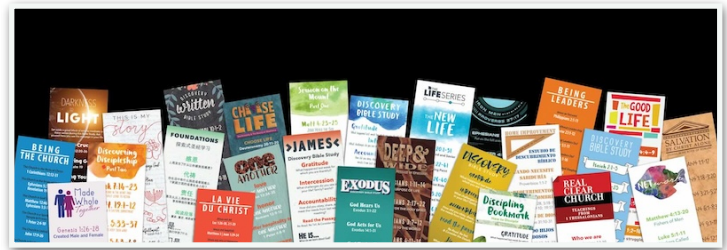
Leadership shift. Among Churches of Christ the biblical expectation is that church elders lead the church. This expectation is most visible on church websites where the volunteer, lay elders are designated the church "leaders" and the trained, full time ministers are "staff." Tim Keller (2024) describes how in larger churches, the decision-making center shifts away from lay leadership towards the professional ministers while the business of pastoral ministry moves away from the professional ministers into the hands of the lay leaders, i.e., the elders. These large churches have made that leadership shift to staff led and elder supported.

WHY ARE LARGE CHURCHES CRITICAL?

Large churches are essential entities for the health and advancement of a movement. Yet, for many Christians in smaller churches, the larger church, often a local, non-denominational community church down the road, is viewed with suspicion and sometimes a bit of envy. Those large churches feel like the "competition" that prevents the smaller church from growing as the large church attracts people looking for something that better meets their needs.

Here are six points that explain, in part, why large churches are critical for a movement. Large churches provide the following:

They are generative entities. Large churches create energy. They develop new ideas, ways of doing something, that they often support with training



Discovery Bible Study
North Blvd: Murfreesboro, TN

initiatives. Large churches become training centers for other churches and organize activities that feed and support the smaller churches. Larger churches also see with bigger eyes. Leaders in small churches often do not see beyond their church. They lead from this "keyhole" perspective. Leaders in larger churches see whole communities, regions, even states and the world. With this larger vision, they seek to extend their kingdom influence and activity into these larger geographic areas.

They are the spark plugs for growth in geographic regions. When a region lacks large churches it tends to experience a lack of impetus and resources for new growth. The result may be that the region begins to suffer a slow collapse as the smaller churches are not able to sustain the energy level of the movement. I saw this happen in the Pacific Northwest. In the 1960s through 1980s there were at

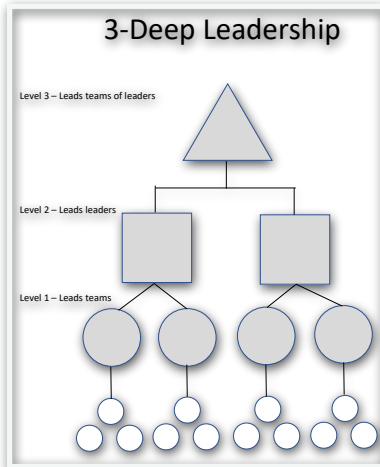


Seattle Campus Ministry Plant

least a half dozen larger, generative Churches of Christ in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. These churches generated the Great Northwest Evangelism Workshop (GNEW), modeled after the great Tulsa Soul Winning Workshop. In the 1980s, 2,000 to 3,000 fellow believers would gather annually for encouragement and training. Today, GNEW would be impossible. There are only two churches

remaining in the Northwest in the large church category, not enough to generate the type of energy necessary to sustain and advance the movement. The Northeast is in an even more dire situation. With no large churches and the closing of nearby Ohio Valley University, the region lacks the capacity for growth. New growth will require something from the outside, new church plants or even something that might resemble the Exodus Movements of the 1960s.

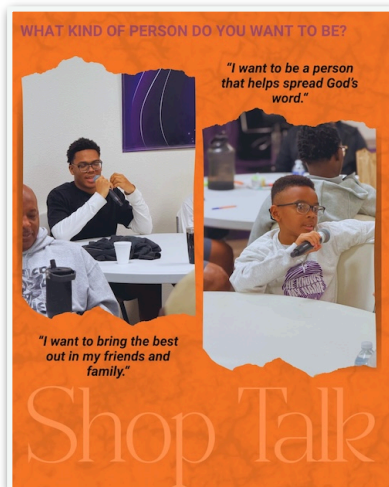
They provide a different level of leadership. While



smaller churches do provide entry-level opportunities for new leaders, these leaders operate at the lowest levels of leadership. They are tactical leaders; they do the tasks. Larger churches, by necessity, require a depth of leaders, beginning with what I call “three-deep

leadership,” leaders that lead team leaders to provide the operational and strategic leadership needed by the larger body. The largest churches develop a matrix leadership structure as they move to deeper leadership models. These strategic leaders see with a broad vision, they know what is needed, what can be done today, and they have a keen sense of what they need to do to prepare for the future. Smaller churches are not able to use or model these higher level leader skills.

They are important entry points for younger, talented ministers. Despite the growing need for ministers among



Central Pointe: Dallas, TX

so many churches, smaller churches often cannot afford full time ministers or their need for experienced generalists is not

a good fit for our younger, talented ministers. Youth and children minister positions have long been the entry point for young ministers graduating from our Christian schools. Worship and education ministers seldom have a place in smaller churches. When we lack larger churches, people who might fill specialty ministry roles lack the opportunities that would get them into ministry with their specialty skills.

They support our foreign mission and domestic church planting. One only needs to thumb through

a few websites of our large churches to grasp that the larger churches support our missionary corps. These churches often will support four to a dozen

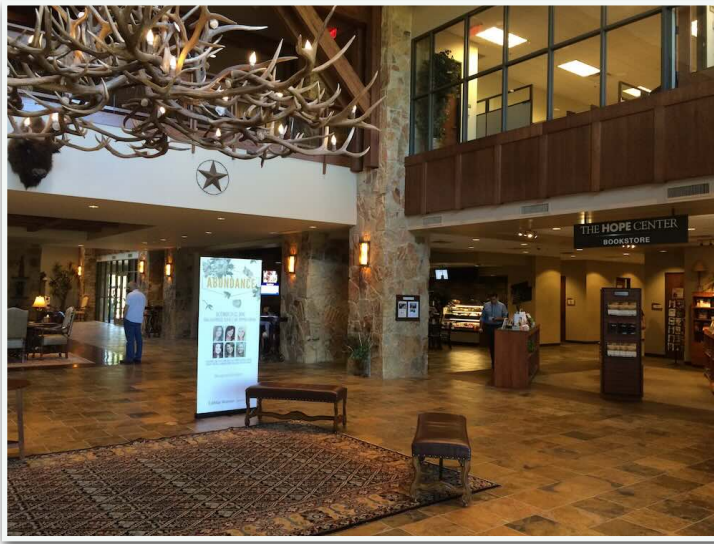


different mission works. Many new churches today are the result of the activity of large churches launching new multi-site campuses in their city or seeding new churches into distant regions by church planting. Smaller churches do not have the resources for such critical kingdom expanding activity.

Large churches support our specialized ministries.

[African Christian Schools](#), [Mission Resource Network](#), [Healing Hands International](#), [Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort](#), and many more specialty ministries would not survive without the long-term financial support of large churches. Large churches have the capacities to support specialized ministries. While individuals are asked to contribute, their support tends to fill the gaps not funded by the larger churches. Small churches typically do not have the financial capacity to fund specialized ministries. Also, smaller churches are time-consuming to





A megachurch "mall"

cultivate and manage. As one director of an international ministry stated, *"small churches are too hard to find and take too much effort to engage."*

WHAT IS HAPPENING AMONG OUR LARGEST CHURCHES?

This report looks at our largest churches in three size categories according to attendance: 1) those above 1,000, our Megachurches, 2) 750-999, the Very Large Corporate Church, and 3) 500-749, the largest of the Large Program Churches. I compare the data from what was published in the *Churches of Christ in the United States*, 2018 edition, to the numbers reported in the 2025 survey.

The 2018 edition of *Churches of Christ in the United States* reported 11,983 congregations with an attendance of 1,107,425. At the time of this report, the 2025 survey had received survey information from 2,793 churches, 23.31% of the churches reported in 2018. The 2025 survey reports attendance of 312,728, 28.24% of the 2018 reported attendance.

With this background, let's look at our largest churches, beginning with churches whose attendance was 1,000 and above.

Churches 1,000+

These churches of 1,000+ are megachurches for Churches of Christ, even though they may not reach the 2,000-person level defined as megachurches in the research literature. These largest churches have large staffs with ministers in multiple specialty areas. Their leadership system is sometimes described as staff-led and elder supported. Their leaders are specialists with the skills necessary to manage their church's activities and programs. These churches have well defined internal structure and ministry systems. Their very size is often the reason for growth as people are attracted to their ministry offerings.

Churches 1,000+	2018 Edition	
Count	38	
Attendance	49,582	
Largest church 2018	3,554	
Mean	1,305	Average
Median	1,200	Middle
Mode	1,200	Most (8)
Percent of churches to the total	0.32%	
Percent of attendance to the total	4.48%	

Chart 1. Churches of 1,000+ reported in 2018.

Chart 1 shows the data of the 1,000+ attendance churches in 2018. There were 38 churches of 1,000+ with a total reported attendance of 49,582. The largest was The Hills church in North Fort Worth with 3,554 average attendance. The mean (average) attendance of these 38 churches was 1,305. The median (middle) was 1,200 as was the mode (the most reported number) with 8 churches reporting 1,200. (Note: when a church is multi-site, all their sites were combined for their total attendance).

Chart 2 looks at the 36 of these 38 churches that reported their



Churches Reporting in Both 2018 & 2026			
Churches reporting 2026	36		
Total reported attendance 2026	41,541		
Largest	5,500		
Closed	0		
Mean	1,154	Average	
Median	950	Middle	
Mode	900	Most (5)	
Increases			
Churches Increased	8		
Churches no change	2		
Attendance increase	4,123		
Largest Increase	1,946		
Decreases			
# churches decrease	26		
Reported losses 2018-2026	(9,464)		
Largest Decrease	(975)		
Mean	(364)	Average	
Median	(236)	Middle	
Mode	(200)	Most (4)	
Cumulative Losses	(5,341)		
% Change in Reporting Churches	-16.22%		

Chart 5. Churches of 1000+ in 2018 and in 2026.

attendance in 2026. The Hills church and its satellites remain the largest with an attendance of 5,500. The mean dropped from 1,305 to 1,154. The median dropped from 1,200 to 950 and the mode dropped from 1,200 to 900 (5 churches). It is significant that the median and the mode dropped below the 1,000 number.

Of the 36 churches reporting in 2025, 8 had gains and 2 remained the same while 26 churches reported attendance losses totaling -9,464. The largest loss was -975 people with an average loss of -364, median of -236, and 4

churches reported losses of -200. The cumulative loss (sum of gains and losses) was -5,341. This was a -16.22% loss from 2018.

Churches 1000+ reporting in 2026	2018 Edition	2026 Survey	Change
# churches reporting	38	21	(17)
Total attendance reported 2018	49,582	31,128	(18,454)
Mean	1,305	1,482	Average
Median	1,200	1,150	Middle
Mode	1,200	1,000	Most (4)
Largest	3,554	5,500	
% Attendance Change		-37.22%	

Chart 3. Comparing churches of 1,000+ in 2018 and 2026.

Chart 3 compares the 38 churches of 1,000+ reporting in 2018 with those 21 churches reporting 1,000+ in 2026.

The number of congregations reporting attendance 1,000+ dropped from 38 to 21. 18 churches listed as having 1,000+ in 2018 fell out of this largest size category, three dropped below 500. Only one church grew into the 1,000+ category. The attendance difference from 2018 to 2026 in this category is -18,454 people. It would take 370 more of our most numerous, House/Family, size churches to make up this loss.

The rise in the mean is the result of the largest church being much larger and a smaller number of churches in the pool. This skews the mean upwards. The median provides a truer sense of the size of these largest churches, dropping from 1,200 to 1,150.

An observational caveat, I believe that

at least one of the two non-reporting churches still has attendance over 1,000. This would give a count of 22 churches in this largest size category.



Mayfair: Hunstville, AL

Churches 750-999

Churches in the 750-999 attendance range are described as Very Large Corporate Churches. These churches also have multiple staff members in specialty ministry roles. They have well defined internal structures and systems operating to support their variety of age and need-based programs. Their growth is by marketing, invitation, and attraction.

Chart 4 shows the numbers reported in the 2018 edition of *Churches of Christ in the United States*. In 2018 41 churches reported attendance averages between 750 and 999, with a reported total attendance of 34,587. The largest averaged 980 in attendance. The mean attendance was 844 with a median of 848; 7 churches reported 850 for the mode. These churches accounted for only 0.34% of the total reported congregations in 2018 while their attendance accounted for 3.12% of the total attendance.

Churches 750-999 2018 Edition	2018 Edition	
Count	41	
Attendance	34,587	
Largest church 2018	980	
Mean	844	Average
Median	848	Middle
Mode	850	Most (7)
Percent of churches to the total	0.34%	
Percent of attendance to the total	3.12%	

Chart 4. Churches 750-999 in 2018.

In 2026 these numbers changed drastically. Out of the 41 churches of 2018 we received attendance information from 40 of them, 95%. This means we have a good picture of what has occurred within these churches in the last 8 to 10 years.

Chart 5 reports the numbers from these 40 churches that were 750-999 in 2018. The total reported attendance for 2026 was 22,230, compared to 34,587 in 2018. Only 3 of these churches grew. Of these 3 that grew, one church grew above the 1,000 mark, adding 200 people, the other two churches grew marginally by 100 and 25 attenders. The

Churches 750-999 Reporting in Both 2018 & 2026		
Churches reporting 2026	40	
Total reported attendance 2026	22,230	
Largest	1,150	2 churches
Closed	0	
Mean	556	Average
Median	523	Middle
Mode	800	Most (5)
Increases		
Churches Increased	3	
Churches no change	0	
Average Attendance	2700	
Largest Increase	200	
Decreases		
# churches decrease	37	
Reported change 2018-2026	(11,847)	
Largest Decrease	(665)	
Mean	(288)	Average
Median	(323)	Middle
Mode	(100)	Most (3)
Cumulative Losses	(11,522)	
% Change in Reporting Churches	-35.73%	

Chart 5. Churches of 750-999 in 2018 and in 2026.

average Sunday attendance dropped from 844 in 2018 to 556 in 2026 while the median dropped from 848 to 523. Most of these 40 churches have either dropped into the next lower category or they are in danger of doing so.

Among the 40 reporting churches, the reported losses totaled -11,847. The largest loss was -665 people with an average loss of -288. The cumulative loss (sum of gains and losses) was -11,522 people. This is a -36% drop in attendance from 2018 to 2026.



Churches 750-999 reporting	2018 Edition	2026 Survey	Change
# churches reporting	41	23	(18)
Total attendance reported	34,587	19,043	(15,544)
Mean	844	825	Average
Median	848	825	Middle
Mode (7)	850	825	Most (5)
Largest	980	950	

Chart 6. Comparing churches of 750-999 in 2018 and 2026.

Finally, Chart 6 compares the churches in the 750-999 size range in 2018 to those reporting that size in 2026. The number of these churches dropped from 41 with attendance of 34,587 to 23 with 19,043 attending. The mean, median, and mode all dropped. Among the 18 churches reporting losses between 2018 and 2026, their attendance dropped from 31,277 to 19,430. The means, medians, and modes were smaller, with the average size dropping from 844 to 825. Nine churches of this size in 2018 remained in the category in 2026. Six churches dropped out of the 1,000+ category in 2018 into this category in 2026. Two churches grew from the 500-749 size category into this 750-999 category. While there are probably other congregations in this 750-999 size category that did not report any details for 2026, it would be speculation to expect that there would be many more of this size, particularly since they would most likely grow from the final size

category of this report, those churches of 500-749 in attendance.

Churches 500-749

Churches in the 500-749 size category are the largest of the Large Program Churches (those with 250-749 attendees). The important shift that occurs as churches grow through this stage is the shift from leaders as generalists to specialists. The churches at the larger end of this category have multiple ministers who are specializing to manage their essential systems, which they operate through a variety of programs. Their leadership often displays a 4-deep leadership structure. These specializations of programs and leadership distinguish them from the smaller churches of 250-500 that are more generalist in nature, where one or two ministers are responsible for everything.

Churches 500-749 2018	2018 Edition	
Count	121	
Attendance	70,990	
Largest church 2018	740	2 churches
Mean	587	Average
Median	575	Middle
Mode	500	Most (28)
Percent of churches to the total	1.01%	
Percent of attendance to the total	6.41%	

Chart 7. Churches 500-749 in 2018.

In 2018 there were 121 churches in this 500-749 size category with a reported attendance of 70,990 (Chart 7). The two largest churches in this category had attendance of 740. The average size was 587 with a slightly lower median of 575. The mode, the most common attendance number, was 500 reported by 28 churches. This size church represented 1% of the total number of churches, yet 6.4% of the total Church of Christ national attendance.

By April 2026 we received attendance information from 105 of the 121 churches (87%) reported in 2018. Chart 8 shows what has happened among these 105 churches in the intervening eight years.



Renaissance: Atlanta, GA

Churches 500-749 Reporting in Both 2018 & 2026			
Churches reporting 2026	105		
Total reported attendance 2026	42,803		
Largest	1,025		
Mean	510	Average	
Median	630	Middle	
Mode	625	Most (5)	
Increases			
Churches Increased	10		
Churches no change	3		
Largest Increase	462		
Decreases			
# churches decrease	92		
Closed	(2)		
Disaffiliated	(3)		
Reported losses 2018-2026	(20,312)		
Largest Decrease	(700)		
Mean	(221)	Average	
Median	(198)	Middle	
Mode	(250)	Most (9)	
Cumulative Change	(18,741)		
% Change in Reporting Churches	-39.71%		

Chart 8. Churches of 500-749 in 2018 and in 2026.

The attendance they reported in 2026 was 42,803. Three churches grew into larger size categories, one into the Very Large Corporate churches of 750-999 and two into the Megachurch size above 1,000. Two churches appear closed; there was no evidence available to show they are still meeting. Three churches disaffiliated themselves from Churches of Christ, claiming a non-denominational status. Only ten churches increased in attendance. There were two churches whose increase was 462 and 460 attendees. The other eight were much lower. Three churches held their attendance steady.

The remaining 92 churches all reported decreases. The largest decrease was -700. The average loss was -221, the median was -198 and 9 churches had the mode of -250. These reported losses totaled -20,312 people, including the losses of those five churches that had closed or disaffiliated. Cumulatively, the

attendance changes of these 105 churches totaled -18,741, -40% of their 2018 attendance.

Churches 500-749 reporting	2018 Edition	2026 Survey	Change
# churches reporting	121	44	(77)
Total attendance reported	70,990	25,322	(45,668)
Mean	587	576	Average
Median	575	560	Middle
Mode (28)	500	600	Most (9)
Largest	740	715	
% attendance change			-64.33%

Chart 9. Comparing churches of 500-749 in 2018 and 2026.

Finally, chart 9 compares the churches reporting an attendance of 500-749 in 2018 to those reporting in the same size category in 2026. The number of these churches dropped from 121 to 44, a loss of 77 churches. The attendance dropped from 70,990 in 2018 to 25,322 in 2026. A caveat is that 16 churches in this size category in 2018 did not provide any attendance numbers. The average size dropped to 576 and the median to 560, while the mode rose to 600. The largest reporting church was 715 compared to the largest reporting church in 2018 of 740. The percent attendance change in this group from 2018 to 2026 was a staggering -64% loss.

Where Do These Largest Churches Exist?



The Hills: Dallas/Fort Worth, TX

The final question to answer is where do these largest churches exist? This helps us identify the geographic center of our movement as well as those regions of the country that we should be praying over and looking at for opportunities for expansion.

Church Size	States 2018	States 2026	Church Size	States 2018	States 2026	Church Size	States 2018	States 2026
1000+	GA-1		750-999	CA-1		500-749	IL-1	
	MI-1			CO-1			KS-1	KS-1
	AL-2	AL-2		KS-1			KY-1	
	AR-3	AR-2		KY-1			LA-1	LA-1
	OK-3	OK-3		LA-1			MD-1	
	TN-10	TN-5		MO-1			NY-1	
	TX-18	TX-9		NC-1			OR-1	
				OK-1			SC-1	
				AR-2	AR-4		VA-1	
				GA-2				WA-1
				AL-6	AL-3		AL-2	AL-2
				TN-7	TN-6		IN-2	
				TX-16	TX-10		MI-2	
							MO-2	MO-1
							MS-2	
							CA-4	CA-1
							FL-4	FL-2
							GA-5	GA-3
							OK-7	OK-2
							AR-15	AR-5
							TN-26	TN-8
							TX-39	TX-17
Totals	38	21	Totals	42	23	Totals	121	44

SUMMARY

Large churches are vital for a movement's health and growth. They are generative entities. They generate ministers, ministries, mission, and money. They provide models and resources from which smaller congregations can draw for their health and growth.

This report is titled *Our Largest Churches: A Study of Contraction* because of what the numbers show has happened in the first quarter of this 21st century:

Chart 10 identifies where the churches are in the three size categories covered in this report, comparing the location numbers in 2018 to those in 2026. This shows the contraction not only in numbers of churches in each size category, but also how we have contracted geographically. Our Bible

belt runs from Tennessee to Texas. Our top states are Texas, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Alabama. If a fifth were to be identified it would be Oklahoma. When looking at the



Ethos: Nashville, TN

distribution of these churches by cities, the Nashville and Dallas/Fort Worth metroplexes are our twin capitals. They house the largest number of our larger churches.



The Hills "mall"

- The number of our largest churches has dropped from 201 to 88, with 18 possible large churches not reporting.
- The typical Sunday attendance in these churches dropped from 155,159 to 75,493, a loss of -79,666. Our largest churches have lost more people than they now gather.
- Geographically, we have lost the effective presence of large churches in every region of the country except the South Central and South East.

From my perspective as a missiologist, these losses mean the Churches of Christ have lost their effective movement making capacity in the Northeast, Upper Midwest, Pacific Northwest, and the Southwest as our movement has contracted into the Southern regions of the country.

Many will ask, "Why are we contracting?" That is a question for a future *Insight Report*. My prayer is that our movement of Churches of Christ will be alarmed and that this wakeup call will bring us together and drive us to the Lord of Heaven's Armies in humility. God has used Churches of Christ in some significant, magnificent kingdom ways in our history. Let us pray He uses us again in the future.

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