

Church Membership

Member Families

The number of member families as defined by synod: (a) a husband and wife are confessing members; or (b) a husband or wife is a confessing member and the marriage partner is a member by baptism only or one or more children are members by profession or by baptism only; or (c) a single head of household is a confessing member and one or more children are members by profession or by baptism only.

Baptized Members

All members by baptism who have not yet made public profession of faith.

Total Professing Members

All members who have made public profession of faith.

Professing Members Under 18

The total number of confessing members who are under 18 years of age.

Inactive Professing Members 18 and Older

Members who have made public profession of faith who are inactive. Note: The term 'inactive' refers to those members 18 and over who are declared by the consistory to have a relationship to the congregation which has ceased for one year or who for one year have not made faithful use of the means of grace, especially the hearing of the Word and the Lord's Supper, unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g., military service, residence in a nursing home), that make such faithful use impossible. The final clause ('unless there are') means that no member who is too frail to attend worship in your congregation (e.g. nursing home residents) and no member who lives too far away to attend (e.g., military, etc.) may be declared 'inactive.'

Council Members

The total number of elders and deacons, excluding the pastor(s), serving on the church council.

Public Professions of Faith

The number of baptized members who have made public profession of faith during the past year.

Child Baptisms

The number of infants or small children of confessing members who were baptized during the past year, excluding those reported in the New Members Through Evangelism section below.

Membership Growth

New Members Through Evangelism

The number of people who were received into membership, including the following: (a) public profession of faith and adult baptism of previously 'unchurched' youth and adults, (b) public reaffirmation of faith of previously 'unchurched' youth and adults who were dropped from membership or who had resigned or neglected their membership, (c) baptism of infants or small children of those defined in (a) and (b).

New Members From Other CRCs

The total number of children, youth, and adults from other Christian Reformed churches who became members of your church.

New Members From non-CRCs

The total number of children, youth, and adults from non-Christian Reformed churches who became members of your church.

Membership Decline

Members Leaving for Other CRCs

The total number of confessing and baptized members who transferred their membership to other Christian Reformed churches.

Members Leaving for non-CRCs

The total number of confessing and baptized members who left your church and became members of non-Christian Reformed churches.

Deaths

The number of confessing and baptized members who died during the past year.

Other Membership Losses – Erased

Disciplinary removal of a baptized member.

Other Membership Losses – Resigned.

Number not included in reported members leaving for other CRCs.

Other Membership Losses – Lapsed

Non-disciplinary removal of a member.

Other Membership Losses - Excluded / Excommunicated

Disciplinary removal of a confessing member.