

United Church of Canada Trends

The following charts show the history up to 2008 of selected United Church of Canada data, and, based on the previous 10 years (1999-2008), projects what the data might be in 2025.

United Church Pastoral Charges

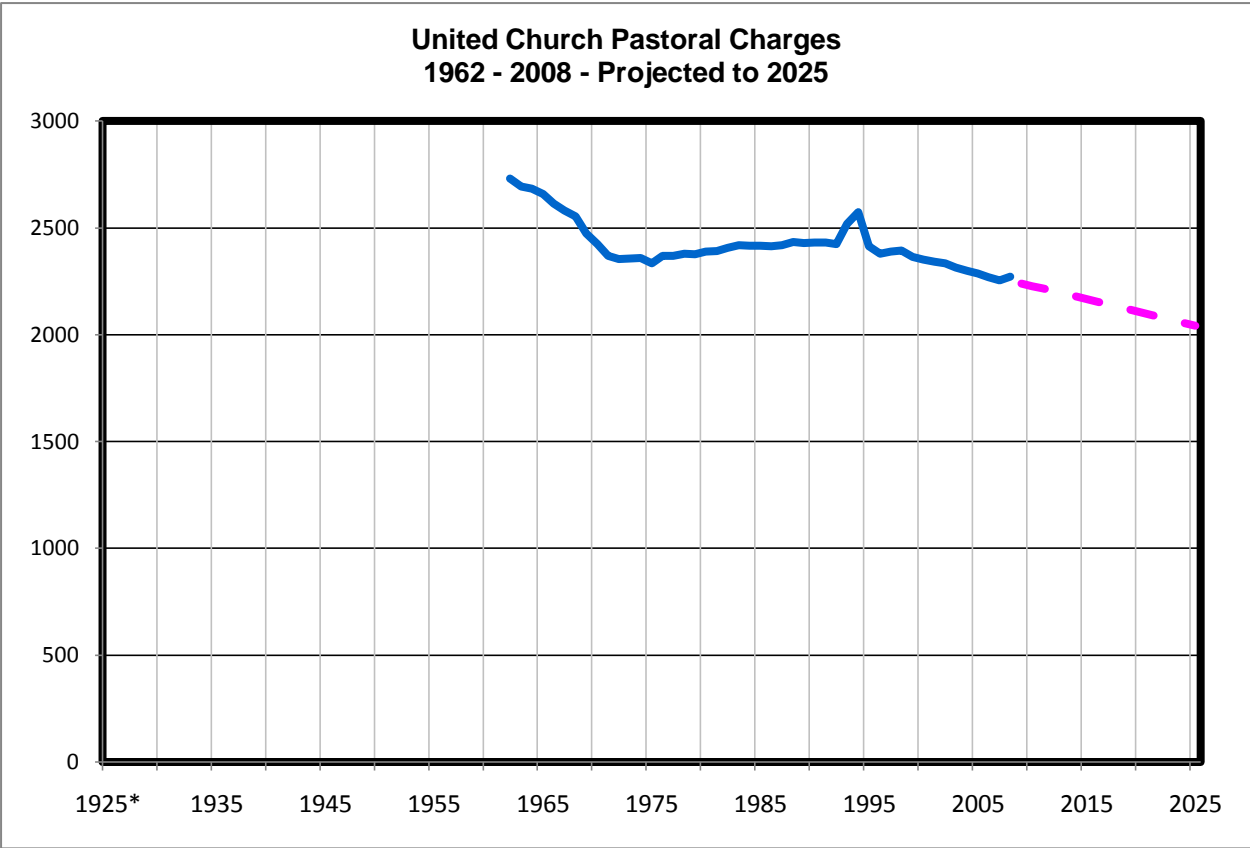
As of December 31, 2008 the number of United Church Pastoral Charges was 2,271.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, the number of Pastoral Charges in 2025 will be 2,043.

This will be a loss of 228 or 10% of 2008 Congregations.

Note: This data indicates the resilience of Pastoral Charges, especially when compared with the other data that follows. Urban and suburban areas where amalgamations are more feasible may experience higher rates of decline.

Note: I have only been able to record data for the number of Pastoral Charges beginning in 1962.



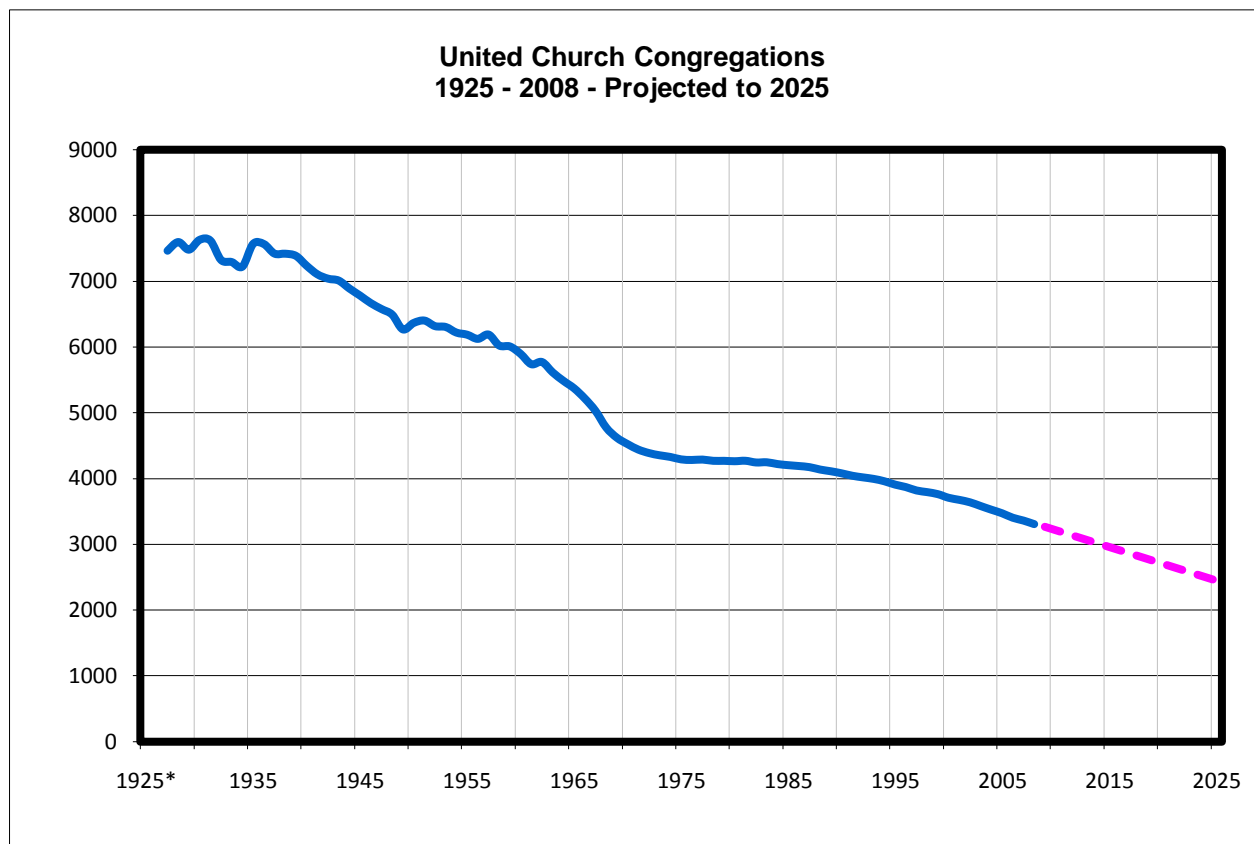
United Church Congregations

As of December 31, 2008 the number of United Church Congregations (or Preaching Places) was 3,308.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, the number of Congregations in 2025 will be 2,444.

This will be a loss of 864 or 26% of 2008 Congregations.

Note: The rate of decline of Congregations is much higher than that for Pastoral Charges. The result is that more Pastoral Charges have fewer Congregations, and more Pastoral Charges have part-time Ministers.



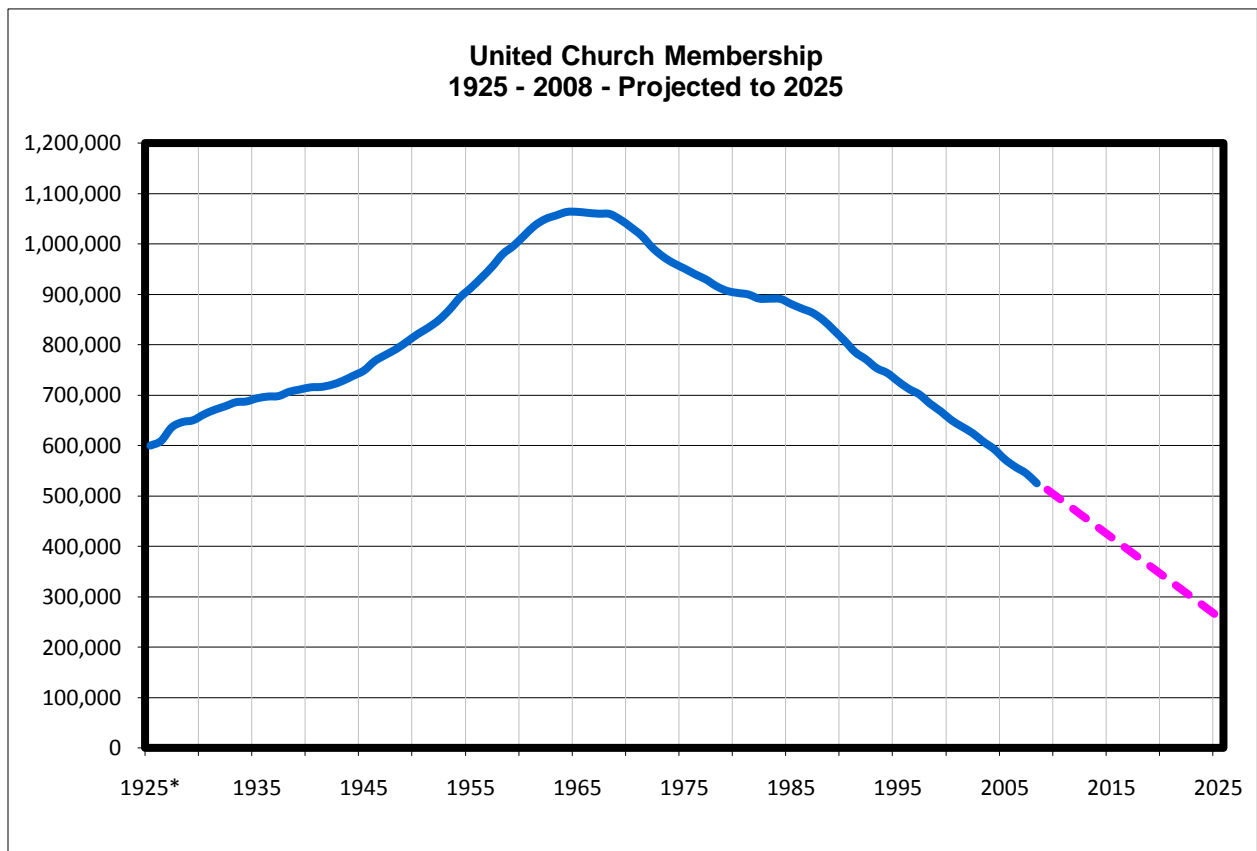
United Church Membership

As of December 31, 2008 United Church Total Membership (Resident and Non-Resident) was 525,673.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, Membership in 2025 will be 260,779.

This will be a loss on average of 264,894 or 50% of 2008 Members.

Note: The decline of Membership is much higher than the decline of Pastoral Charges and Congregations. This results in many Congregations having significantly fewer Members.



United Church Average Weekly Attendance

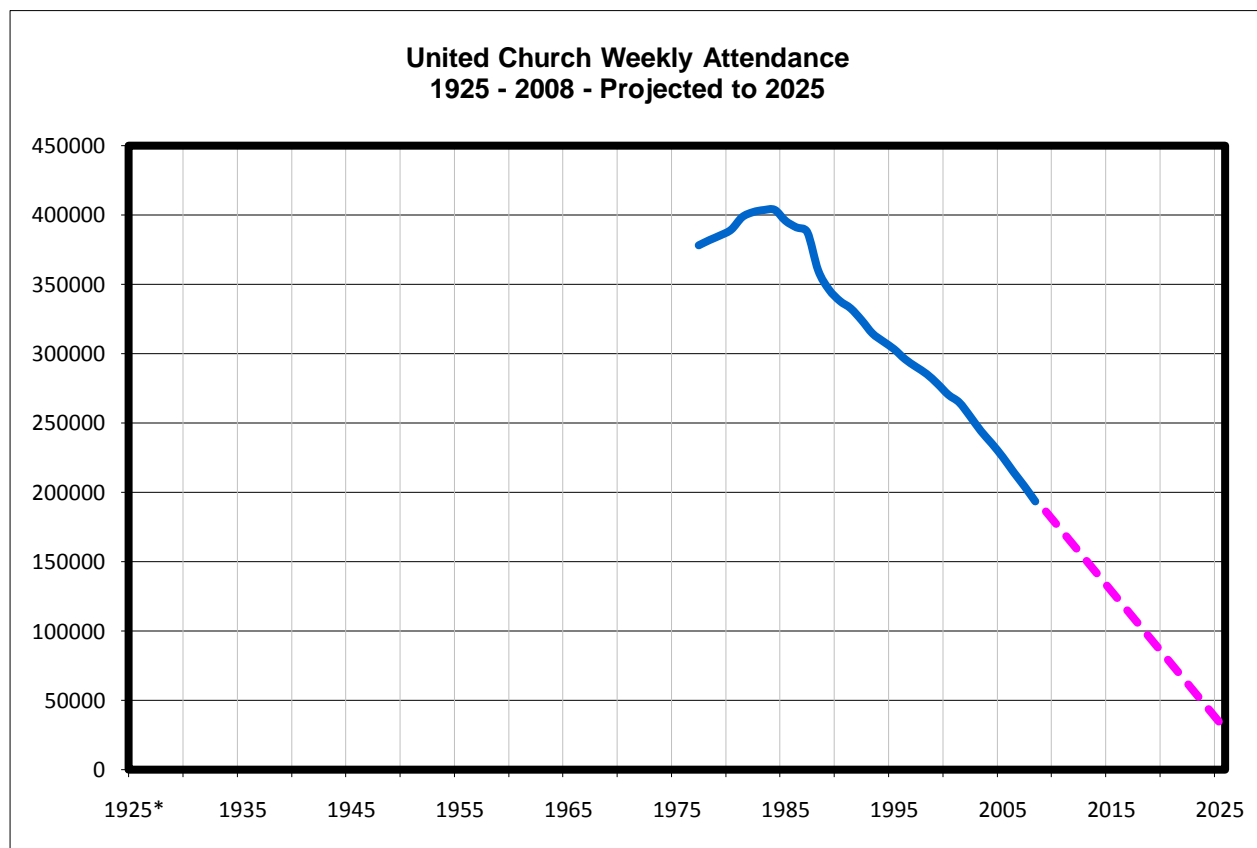
As of December 31, 2008, the Average Weekly Attendance was 193,512.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, Attendance in 2025 will be 33,705.

This will be a loss of 159,807 or 83% of the number attending church in 2008.

Note: Average Weekly Attendance is declining much faster than the number of Congregations. This results in many Congregations having significantly lower Attendance.

Note: The Average Weekly Attendance was nationally recorded beginning in 1977.



United Church Financially Supporting Households

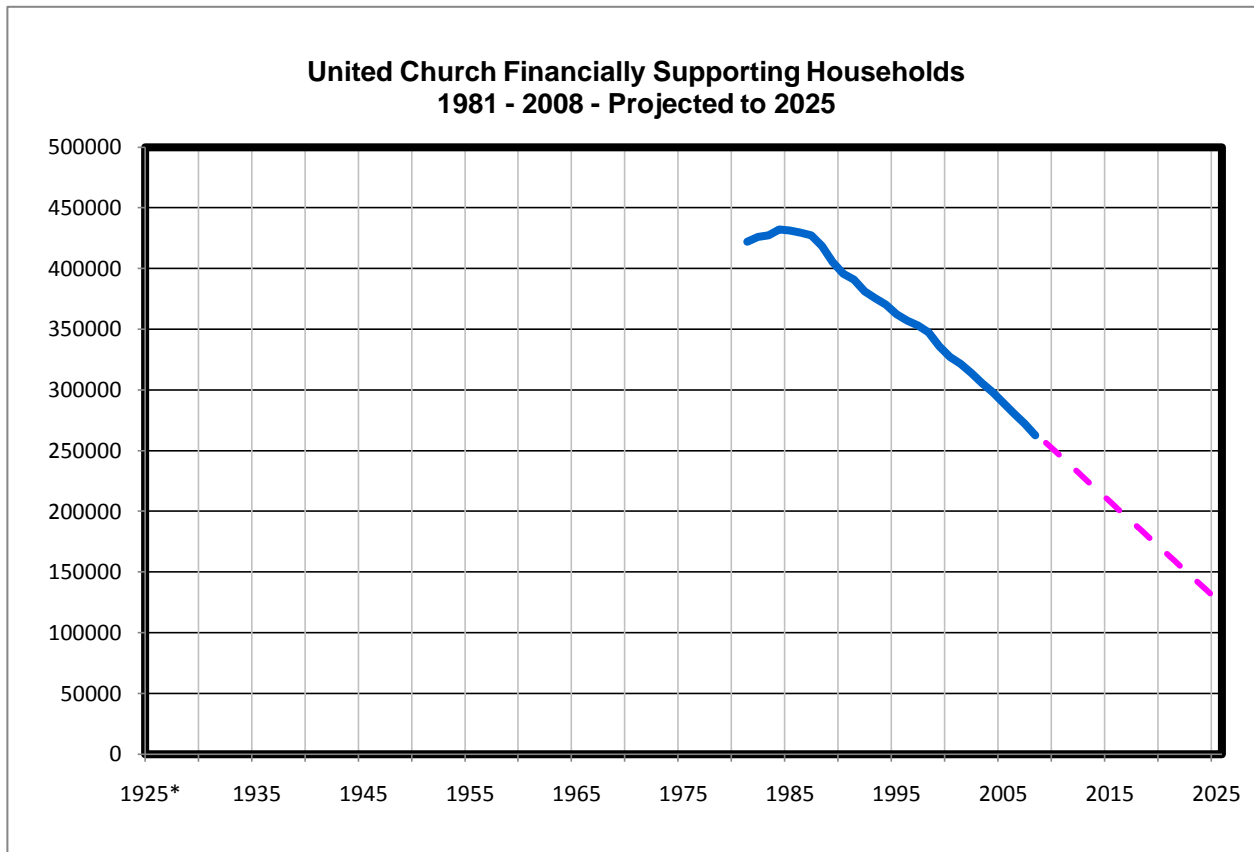
As of December 31, 2008, the number of Financially Supporting Households was 262,789.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, the number of Supporting Households in 2025 will be 127,332.

This will be a loss of 135,457 or 52% of the number of Supporting Households in 2008.

Note: The number of Financially Supporting Households is declining much faster than the number of Congregations. This results in Congregations having significantly lower Supporting Households.

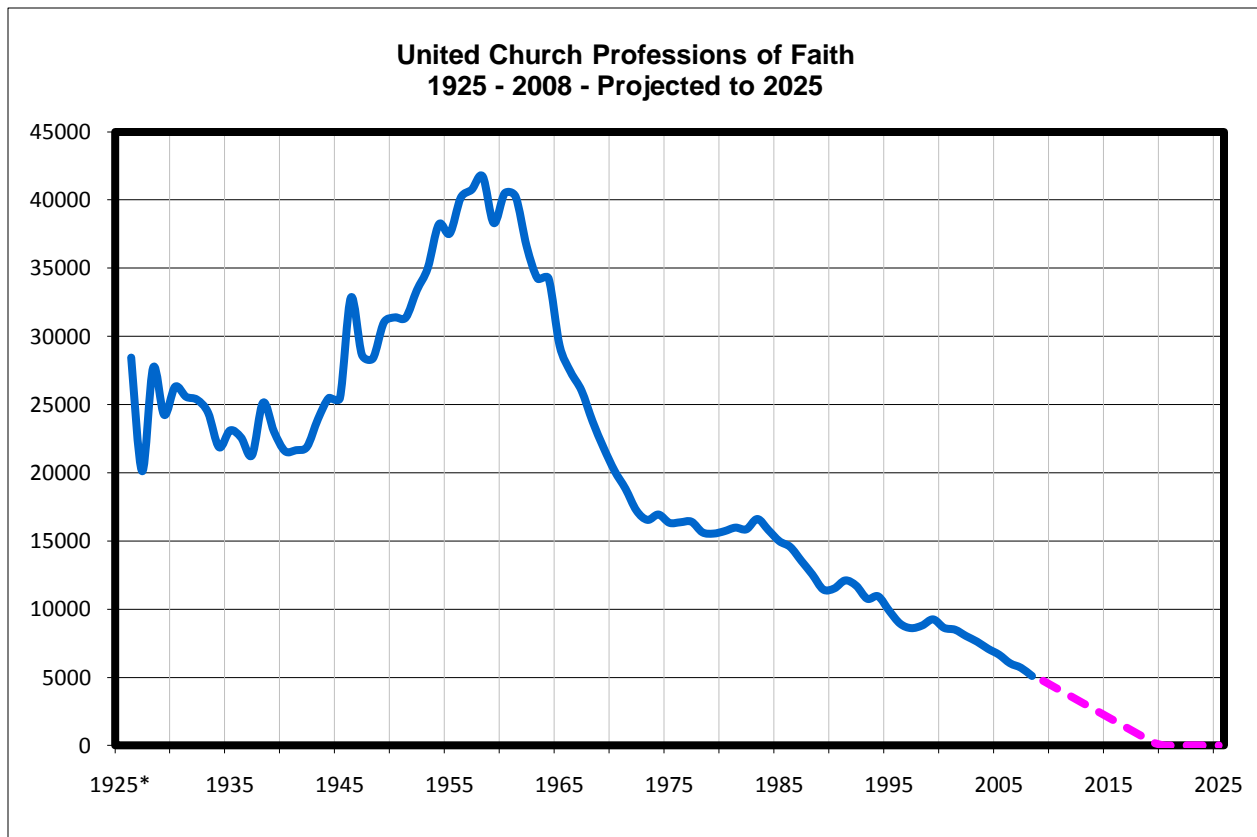
Note: The number of Financially Supporting Households was nationally recorded beginning in 1981.



United Church New Members Received by Profession of Faith

As of December 31, 2008, the total New Members received by Profession of Faith (that is, those who have never been members of any church before) was 5,083.

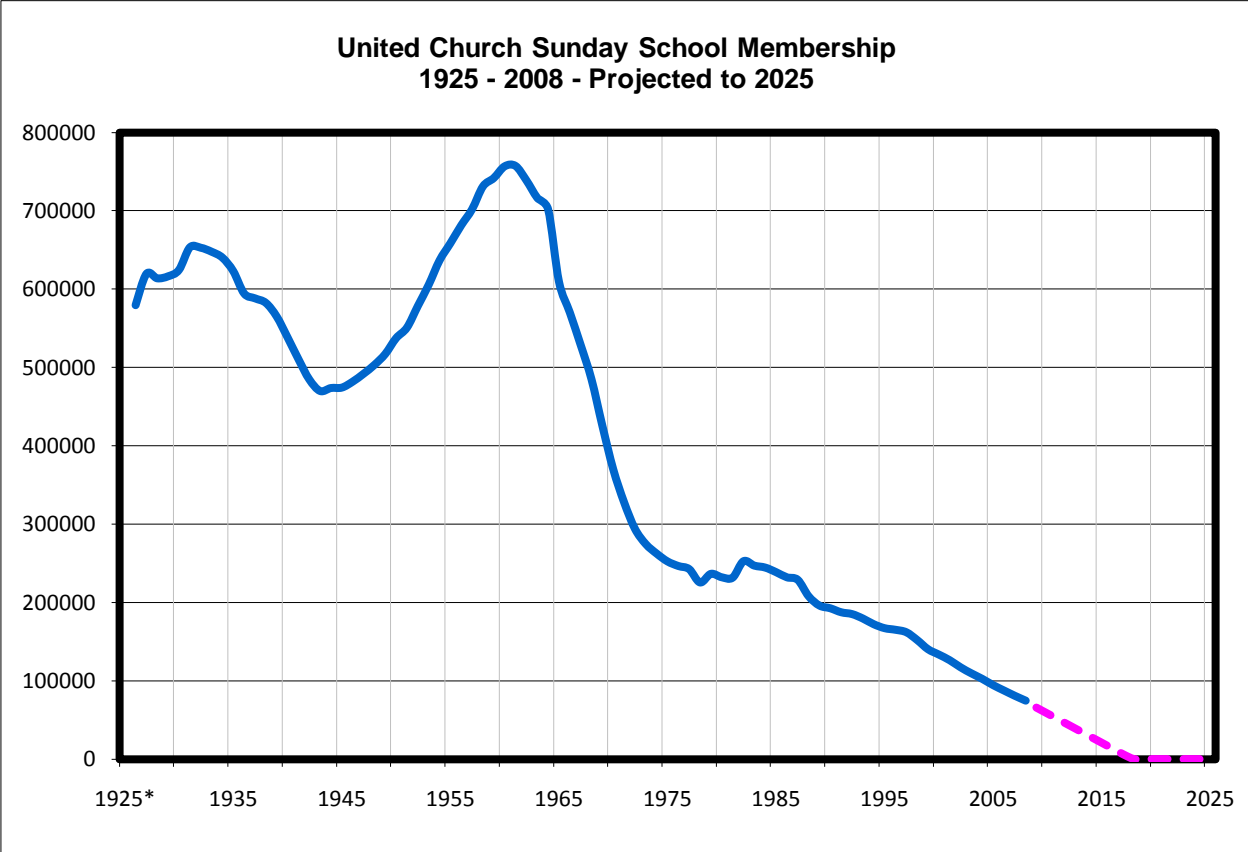
If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, the number of New Members in 2020 will be zero.



United Church Sunday School Membership

As of December 31, 2008, United Church Sunday School Membership was 74,453.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, Sunday School Membership will be zero in 2018.

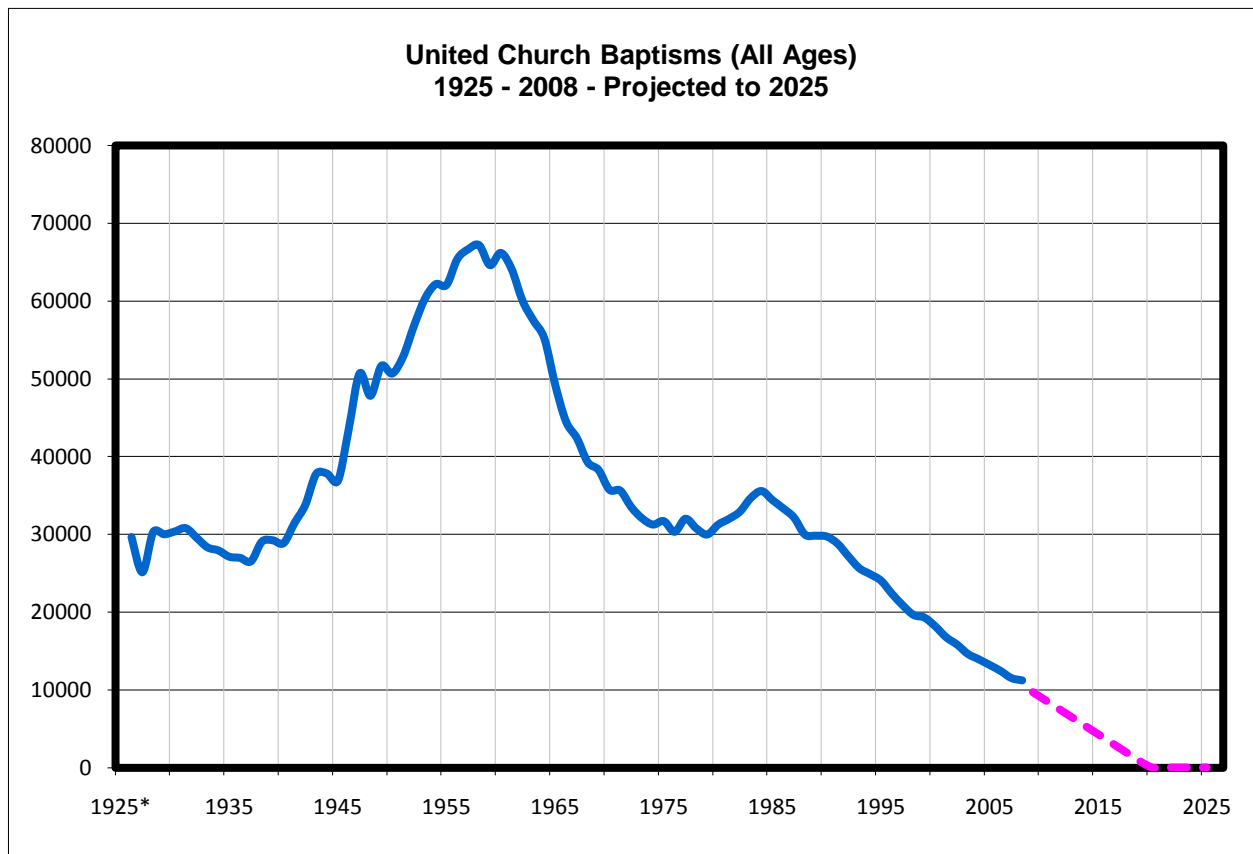


United Church Baptisms (All Ages)

As of December 31, 2008, the total of all Baptisms was 11,239.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, the total of all Baptisms will be zero in 2020.

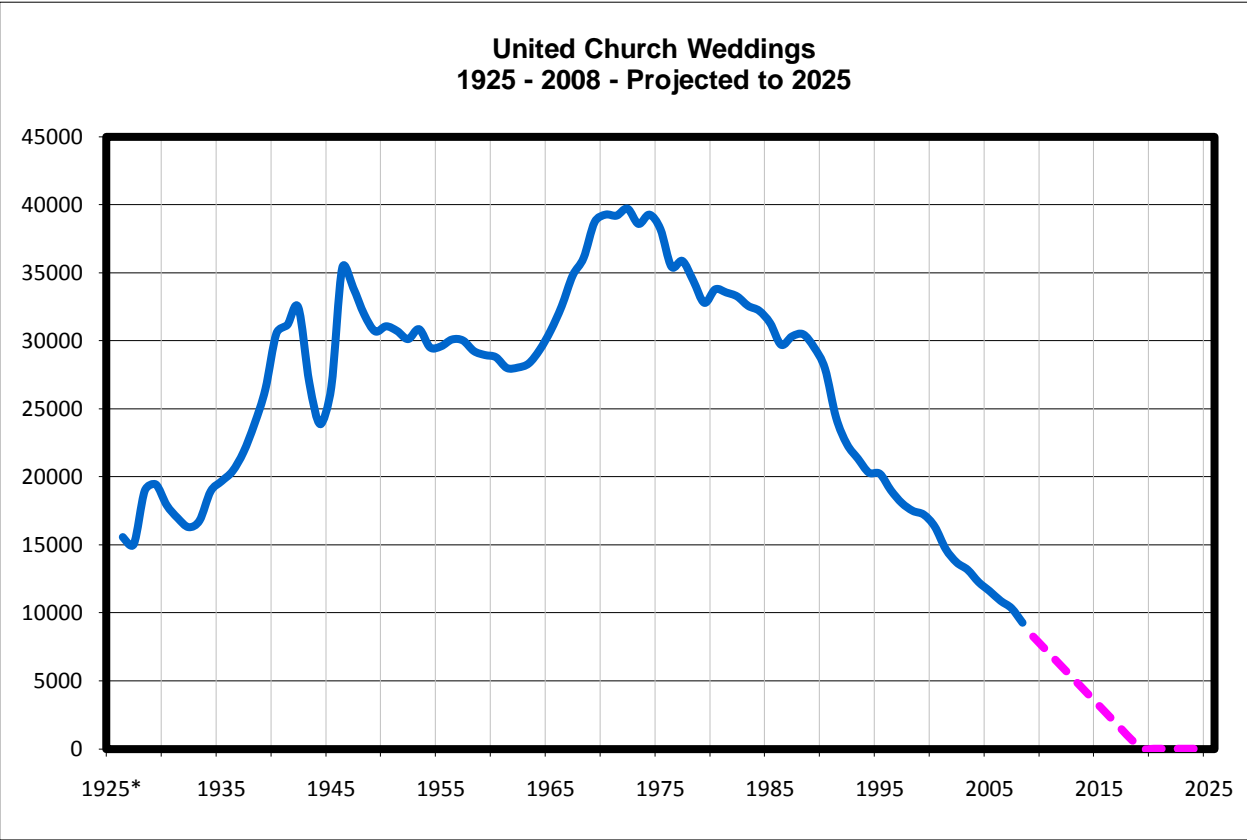
Note: The number of adults baptized each year is about 10% of the total.



United Church Weddings

As of December 31, 2008, the total number of United Church Weddings performed was 9,225.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, the total number of Weddings will be zero in 2019.



United Church Funerals

As of December 31, 2008, the total number of United Church Funerals performed was 21,292.

If the trend for the past 10 years continues unchanged, the number of Funerals performed will be 9,728 in 2025.

This will be a decline of 11,564 or 54% of the number of Funerals in 2008.

