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:


(3) PROLADES (Latin American Socio-religious Studies Program), international headquarters in San José, Costa Rica: [www.prolades.com](http://www.prolades.com)

