

Media Contact:

Kathleen Brandau

601.664.2010

Kathleen@Cirlot.com

The Historic Rise of The Global Church

Christianity's Dynamic Expansion and Continued Evangelism

The spiritual spark lit by Martin Luther and his 95 Theses on October 30, 1517, has continued to intensify in strength and reach over the last 500 years. Today, Christianity is the fastest growing religion on Earth, as people across the world continue to hear Word of God and accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. The groundbreaking religious movement that began with one Reformer and his faith has grown into 1.5 billion Protestant Christians – one denomination, Lutheran, has expanded to nearly 43,000 denominations worldwide! From the Gutenberg Bible, printed only in Latin, to billions of Bibles available in thousands of languages today, the Gospel has become increasingly accessible over the last five centuries. The Bible is the most popular resource ever printed in the world.

“The mission field has become a mission force!” said Dr. James O. Davis, founder and president of the Global Church Network and co-host of The Wittenberg 2017 Congress. “This generation is the first in which the Church’s evangelical effort has moved from ‘the West going to the Rest, to the Best around the world going to the Rest of the world.’”

In many regions of the globe, the size of the global Church is growing even faster than population. Christians are so geographically widespread that no single continent can indisputably claim to be the center of global Christianity.

Over the past century, Africa has been the most stunning area of Christian growth. In 1900, there were 8.7 million African Christians. Today, there at least 350 million Christ-followers in Africa – and numbers are projected to reach 670 million by 2025. Christianity is growing faster than the populations of India and Asia. In China, an average of 45,000 people come to Christ each day. Currently, there are more Chinese Christians than there are card-carrying communists, numbering approximately 100 million.

In Latin America, there are more than 100 million Christians. That number is projected to increase to 640 million by the year 2025. There are more than 50 million followers of Christ in North America. The total combined Protestant Christian population consists of approximately 1.5 billion people, 10 million churches, and 43,000 denominations.

The Global Church Network, formerly known as the Billion Souls Network, was formed with the mission of bringing a bible, a believer, and a Body of Christ to the remaining unreached peoples across the world. Since 2002, the organization has provided excellent leadership training, [online resources](#), and networking opportunities for pastors and Christian leaders across the world. The Global Church Network will gather leaders together in Germany on October 30-November 1 for The Wittenberg 2017 Congress. Hosted by the Global Church Network, the summit is part of *Finish 2030*, a movement to complete the Great Commission by 2030.

“Leaders attending this one-in-a-lifetime event will return home with a unique understanding of the global Church,” said Dr. Leonard Sweet, co-host of The Wittenberg 2017

Congress. “Now, more than any other time in history, it is possible to synergize the entire Body of Christ towards the completion of the Great Commission.”

The Wittenberg 2017 Congress will be livestreamed on Luther.tv. For more information about this historic event, visit Luther2017.tv.

About the Global Church Network:

The Global Church Network began in 2002 as a resource for meeting the Church’s need for trained and equipped pastors. Dr. James O. Davis, Founder/President, along with many world leaders, wanted to provide pastoral leaders around the world with efficient and affordable Christian leadership training, in order to complete Finish 2030.