

List of Names

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For the Two by Two Church

Revised May 14, 2026

List of Names

Used by the Church Without a Name

NOTE: Since the sect claims they take no name or title for their beliefs, it has been given many nicknames, the most common being: *"the truth."*

Some other designations are: The Way, The Friends and Workers Fellowship, Two-by-Twos, Two by Twos, Cooneyites, The Fold, No-Name Church, Christian Conventions, Assemblies of Christians, The Testimony, Testimony of Jesus, Nameless House Church, Tramp Preachers, Go-Preachers, Alberta Society of Christian Assemblies, Dippers, The Black Stockings, Black Sox, The Jesus-Way, The New Testament Church, White Mice (Rathmolyon, Ire), Bluelights (Tasmania, Australia).

Eponyms: Cooneyites, Irvinites, Gillites, Reidites, Carrollites, McClungites, Fraserites.

International Names

They are or have been REGISTERED with various government agencies under the names of:

USA: Christian Conventions Representing Assemblies of Christians Assuming This Name Only
See below for earliest known use of designation: Christian Convention

United Kingdom: The Testimony of Jesus

England: Christian Church in England on copyright for Hymns Old & New

Canada: *We, in Canada, had been registering in Ottawa (Canada's capital City) during WWII. A search was made there to retrieve such a document, but all in vain* (Letter by Willis Propp, Overseer of Alberta, Nov. 9, 1996 To All of concern)

The Christian Church in Africa – registered by Louis van Dyk, General Overseer (2007?)

France: The Christian Church in France

Sweden: "Kristna i Sverige" (Christians in Sweden) Registered in 1992 with Swedish government as this organization.

Australia & New Zealand:

Australia 2023: The Non-denominational Christians (The Truth)

Church registered with the Australian Redress scheme for institutional CSA survivors.

National Redress Scheme LINK

New Zealand: Testimony of Jesus and Fraserites in WWI

Evening Post, July 25, 1917

Free Lance, November 2, 1917

The United Christian Conventions of Australasia and New Zealand (in 1938)

In WWI, they used **Testimony of Jesus** in hearings applying for military exemption or CO status (See Nov. 21, 1916 Register, Adelaide, Nov. 24, 1916 Barrier Miner (Broken Hill))

Christian Conventions of Victoria – Established 1928 – Revoked November 15, 2019

ABN: 33833155319 – Basic Religious Charity Status; Purpose: Advancing Religion

"...they adopted the name CAA (Christian Assemblies of Australia) in the second World War in order to get petrol coupons, etc."
(from Margaret Vogt's Testimony).

"Mr. W. C. Carroll of the **Christian Assemblies of Australia**" officiated at the funeral of Angus McKenzie (Camperdown Chronicle, Victoria – April 30, 1940).

RE: Solicitor James Huntley Frederick charged for 7 counts of fraud. *"The people named in the charges included a number of investors, and the **Christian Assemblies of Australia.**" (The Age, Melbourne, Vic, Aust, Nov 4, 1975)*

Christian Conventions Representing Assemblies of Christians and Christian Missionaries (Australia)

Letter of Recommendation and Testimonial Character for Rachel Taylor by Allan Kitto dated September 30, 2019

Canada: Alberta Society of Christian Assemblies (dissolved)

View: Letter by Willis Propp

Central America (7 countries):

Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama: *Conventiones Cristianas* (Christian Conventions in Central America)

South America (12 countries):

Argentina: *Iglesia Biblia Cristiana* (Christian Bible Church)

Bolivia:

Brazil: *Igreja Crista* (Christian Church) registered Feb. 15, 1978

Chile: Christian Church of San Felipe

Columbia:

Ecuador: *Sociedad Misionera de la Iglesia Cristiana en el Educador* (Missionary Society of the Christian Church in Ecuador)

Guyana:

Paraguay: Christian Church of Paraguay or Friends in Paraguay

Peru: *Iglesia Primitiva del Peru* (Primitive Christian Church of Peru)

Suriname:

Uruguay: *Iglesia Cristiana* (Christian Church)

Venezuela: *Iglesia Cristiana* (Christian Church)

Asian Countries:

India: Christian Church in India, Trust No. 017265 incorporated Nov. 2, 2010.

Vietnam: Christian Mission Vietnam registered in 1967 by Fred Allen

Sri Lanka: Undenominational Christian Mission

Hong Kong: Registered as **Christian** (simply that) at least 20 years ago. Willis Propp Transcript: "It was registered as Christian in Hong Kong. It's registered in Christian in some of the other countries. (Source: Case No. 9703-16174, Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta, Judicial District of Edmonton, February 8, 1999. BETWEEN: Duncan P. Dorey and Margaret J. Dorey, Plaintiffs – and – Janice L. Steingard, Defendant)

Philippines: Registered in WW2, but the church name is not known. **From Herman K. Beaber's diary:** "...See by the paper that we must register our denomination—five pesos if you please...We have been asked to register our 'sect', ourselves as missionaries, and oh, so many more questions."

Cuba registered in 1993, but the church name is not known. Walter Pollock said, "Our doctrine is on file in Havana, Cuba because we were investigated because the Cuban government could not understand how or why this was held together."

When did the term "Two by Two" (often abbreviated to Two by Two) come into use?

Mark 6:7: *And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two;*

Luke 10:1: *After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two*

"Two by Twos" is not a newly coined name. The descriptive term is often shortened to "Two by Twos" and has become a very commonly used name for this church which claims it does not assume an official name. It was coined by outsiders and using one of the Church's notable practices; that of its preachers traveling in pairs, "two and two" as Jesus sent his disciples. There are many other nicknames applied to the Church also, and this is the most common one in North America.

Some church members consider the term condescending, derisive or derogatory. The term is favored by many due to its ease and convenience—with no intention to be offensive. "Two by Twos" works well for identification purposes, uses the fewest number of words, and can even be shortened to three keystrokes: 2×2, which will arrest the attention of almost anyone who has ever been associated with that Church.

Wikipedia contains a page about this church titled "Two by Twos." Wiki requires that articles be titled with the name most often used in third-party references, and the name "Two by Twos" met their requirement.

The Library of Congress maintains a database of terms used in library records for authors, corporate bodies and subject headings. The authorized form of the name for the Two-by-Two sect in this authority file is "Two-by-Two's (Christian sect)." So, if you are looking for materials in a library's catalog by subject headings, use this term, rather than "Christian Conventions" "Cooneyites," "Go-Preachers" or "Nameless Ones."

The Encyclopedia of American Religions states: "The group of Christians called 'Two-by-Twos' in this text are also referred to as 'Cooneyites,' 'Go Preachers,' and 'Tramp Preachers,' but they claim no name but Christian. All of these names have been placed upon this somewhat anonymous group by outsiders." The author goes on to state: "The distinctive feature of the movement has been sending forth, Two by Two, unmarried teams of preachers who, 'as they go, preach' (Matt. 10:7)." (Dr. J. Gordon Melton (2003), "The Two-by-Two's," Encyclopedia of American Religions, Gale Research, Inc., p. 611)

BOOKS: The earliest printed mention in books of the term is found to date is in a book printed in 1925 titled *Through Western Canada in a Caravan*. Subsequent books used the term in 1938, 1941, 1952, 1952 and 1955 and *The Apostles' Doctrine & Fellowship* in 2003. An encyclopedia about various Christian Fellowships used the term in: *Profiles in Belief – The Religious Bodies of the US and Canada* in 1979 by Arthur C. Piepkorn.

Books written exclusively about the Two by Twos were first printed in 1968 with the booklet titled *They Go About Two by Two*, followed by *The Secret Sect* in 1982. *The Church Without a Name*, published in 1990 was the first book in which the author referred to the church as Two by Twos throughout the entire book. *Has the Truth Set you Free* was published in 1991, three books were published by Research & Information Services 1993 to 1996 (*Reflections, Reinventing the Truth and Search for the Truth*); *The Church with No Name* in 1996 and *In Vain They Do Worship* in 2000. The last book using the term "Two by Two" in its title was published in Ireland in 2012 titled: "Two by Two" *The Shape of a Shapeless Movement*.

Newspaper articles used the term in articles published in 1941, 1983, 1992, 1994, 2000 and 2001. The term was applied as recently as November 4, 2010 in a printed announcement placed by Tommie Gamble, Overseer of Ireland, in the Church Notice section of the *Tyrone County Constitution* (a Northern Ireland weekly newspaper) regarding Gospel Meetings held by "The Present Day 2 by 2 Apostles T. Gamble and H. McKnight."

Footnotes to above media using the term Two by Two, 2 x 2, Two by Two, 2 and 2 or 2 by 2:

BOOKS:

1925: The earliest mention in a book I've found to date is Frances Hatton Eva Hasell's 1925 "Through Western Canada in a Caravan" (I have this on order).

1938: The Lutheran journal "Concordia Theological Monthly" (published by the Concordia Theological Seminary) was using the term by at least 1938 with reference to conventions.

1941: Nervig's "Christian Truth and Religious Delusions" uses the term in 1941, page 136

1952: Marcus Bach's "Of Faith and Learning: The Story of the School of Religion at the State University of Iowa" uses the term in 1952.

1955: "Sometime between 1910 and 1914, the curious and little-known Cooneyites, popularly called the "Two by Two's" on the prairies were started in Alberta." [Canada] (Source: *Sect, Cult and Church in Alberta*, by University of Toronto Press, 1955, pp.15-16).

1968: William E. Paul's booklet was first printed with the title: "The 'Two by Twos': Who Are They? What Do They Believe?" (published by News and Truths in 1968 according to Google).

1971: Concordia Theological Monthly published by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO; Vol. XLIII January 1972, No. 1; Pp 36-41; "Brief Studies: Christian Fellowship (People on the Way, Disciples of Jesus, Friends, Two-by-Twos)" By Arthur Carl Piepkorn (author deceased in 1970's)——see *Profiles in Belief* by Piepkorn also

Book: 1982 *Secret Sect*: Chapter 3 – Page 32: Travelling in pairs (they were called the Two-by-Two's in some places) they lived in sheds, or rented old houses or halls where other accommodation was unavailable. Preachers conducted missions

NEWSPAPERS:

1941: Letter to Editor of *Impartial Reporter*, Enniskillen, N. Ireland by Walter M'Naughton, Peace River Bible Institute, Sexsmith, AB Canada – wanting more info re Irvine & Cooney: "There is a cult of people out here who are commonly known as the 'Two by Twos' or the Cooneyites."

June 5, 1983, Pg 1 – *Spokesman Review* (Spokane, Washington)

RE: Convention at Post Falls, ID

Two by Twos: Victims of Anonymous Cult? By Bart Preecs

June 5, 1983 – *Nameless Congregation Holds Strong Grip on Faithful*; By Bart Preecs

May 18, 1992 *Christianity Today* article, page 62:

But cult researchers say the group is actually known by several names, including the "Nameless House Sect," the "Two-by-Twos" (so named because their lay leaders always travel in pairs), "The Way" (not to be confused with The Way International), and "The Cooneyites" (from an early founder). "Very little has been written about this obscure worldwide church," says Westmont College professor and cult expert Ronald Enroth in his new book, *Churches that Abuse*. But Enroth says the group has gained a reputation for potentially aberrant Christian behavior. "The Two-by-Two's impose a restrictive and rigorous lifestyle on the membership," Enroth

says. Children are physically disciplined from the time they are a few months old; women shun makeup and dress modestly; only the King James Version of the Bible is accepted. By Jody R. Snider.

1994: THE CALGARY HERALD – Saturday, July 30, 1994: Such outsiders often term the group the "Two by twos," because its unmarried, propertyless and itinerant preachers, known as workers, go forth "by two and two" as Jesus sent out his apostles, according to St. Mark. "But we don't call ourselves that," explained Knipe last weekend on a beautifully shaded private farm near Didsbury, where more than 800 followers had gathered to worship and break bread together. Adherents say they are simply followers of "the way," "friends," or "saints" serenely untroubled that an outsider might confuse them with the Society of Friends (Quakers) or the Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons), two very different groups.

Sept. 13, 2000 – Victoria Times Colonist

by Holly McKenna (Reuters)

RE: Convention at Altamont, NY

Christian Two by Twos Worship quietly in U.S.

April 28, 2001 – Regina Leader (Regina, Saskaschewan, Canada)

Guilderland N.Y. (Reuters) – Christian Two by Twos Worship Quietly in U.S.

August 14, 2003 – Schenectady Daily Gazette

By Jill Bryce, Gazette Reporter

RE: Convention at Altamont, NY

'Two by Twos' plan to sing and to pray

2005: Dutch Periodical: "The Challenge" A Dutch Evangelical Magazine ["Uitdaging"]

By Jildert de Boer

Two by Two Movement with Sectarian Characteristics

Issue: December 2005

2010: 28th October 2010 and 4th November 2010

GOSPEL MEETING ADVERTISEMENTS:

The following advertisement appeared in the **Church Notices of Tyrone Constitution**

a Northern Ireland provincial weekly newspaper:

Are you feeling tired of life,

Depressed or disappointed

With religion? If so...

COME TO OUR

BIBLE SERVICES

Now being held in

Blacksessiagh Orange Hall

Lough Muck Road

Omagh

Every Sunday

7.00pm – 8pm

Services are being conducted by

THE PRESENT DAY

2 BY 2 APOSTLES

(St Luke's Gospel 10 verse 1)

We have a message from

God for you – All welcome

Tel: 07592123485

T. Gamble*

H. McKnight

*Tommie Gamble is acknowledged as the head worker in Ireland.

Earliest Known use of designation as: Christian Convention

c/o Mrs. Miller

1098 E. 21st Street

Portland, Ore.

Dec. 3rd 1910

Dear Bro. and Sister, (Henry & Cordia White)

Thanks for your very welcome letter of a few days ago. Glad you have some nice times together and also that you enjoy talking of the Way to outsiders when you get the chance. Nothing is so productive of good qualities in our lives as this is.

The true secret (if it can be called such) of obtaining power from God is in keeping going on and doing the little that lies within our reach for Him. There is very often the tendency within us to "cool off" and restrain from going forward. This is the easiest way to lose joy and all else that now makes life well worth living.

This last week I've visited the Saints at Canby, Aurora, Needy, Mountaindale and Thatcher. They are all longing for Conv. and most of them are trying to get out to stay as long as possible. Think we will all enjoy the time together and be helped thereby. There will be plenty need of bedding if you have any to spare for the purpose, and also knives, forks and spoons. All the dishes we will have to rent here.

You can get reduced fares from R. R. there. **Tell the Agent you are going to Christian Convention and ask for a Certificate with your ticket to prove you are going to attend the Conv. and this one being presented to Agent here when you go home will allow you to return for 25 cts. Give your Agent there my name as Secretary of the Conv. if he asks you for it.** Let the others know about it who intend to come. We are getting the work well done here now, only making beds, etc.

Hope you may all be able to spend a good part of the time at Conv. Anything you may not understand ask about.

Yours in haste,

Willie Jamieson

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Compiled by Cherie Kropp-Ehrig