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SOUTH AFRICAN  
**CHRISTIAN  
HANDBOOK** 1986/87

Edited by MARJORIE FROISE

Foreword by Prof. David J. Bosch



# South African CHRISTIAN HANDBOOK 1986/87

"A directory of this nature is long overdue. Busy church administrators and others, have easy access to a veritable treasure-house of information relating to the Christian community in South Africa and its multi-faceted activities"

*from the foreword by Prof. David J. Bosch*

Do you want a telephone number? An address? A contact person? You'll find it in the S A Christian Handbook. Organisations listed include:

- Missionary societies
- Children's Homes
- Denominations & Church Groups
- Rehabilitation Centres
- Bookshops
- Conference Centres
- Theological Colleges
- Publishers & Printers

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**South African  
CHRISTIAN  
HANDBOOK  
1986/87**

**Marjorie Froise  
Editor**

**World Vision of Southern Africa**



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## FOREWORD

The **South African Christian Handbook** is, to my knowledge, a first for South Africa in nearly 50 years. As a matter of fact, a directory of this nature is long overdue. Now, busy church administrators, and others, have easy access to a veritable treasure-house of information relating to the Christian community of South Africa and its multi-faceted activities. For this Marjorie Froise deserves our sincerest appreciation and, in fact, our admiration. Behind the **Handbook** lie countless hours of painstaking research and collection of data, and equally countless letters, telephone calls and interviews. The result is a book which contains references to virtually the entire spectrum of Christian activity in South Africa: denominations, missionary and evangelistic agencies, theological colleges, Christian bookshops, Christian periodicals, service agencies for relief and development, institutions for the aged, for orphans and unmarried mothers, rehabilitation centres and reconciliation groups, leadership training facilities, youth and student organizations, campsites, etc., etc. Basic information about all these activities is conveniently arranged so as to become easily accessible.

The net result of it all is a valuable tool for facilitating contacts and relationships among churches, Christian agencies, youth groups and the like. It is to be hoped that the **Handbook** will be a modest instrument in facilitating contact and perhaps even cooperation between various Christian agencies. As a matter of fact, the **Handbook** itself is a tangible testimony to the unity that is already given us in Christ; it will be the privilege of those who use it to foster the awareness of that unity and to give an ever more real expression to it.

The unity we have in Christ is, of course, very little in evidence. And if the **Handbook** proceeds from the assumption that we all belong together, it also lays bare the tragic reality of our dividedness and dramatizes the way in which we duplicate facilities and actually waste resources entrusted to our stewardship by God and by his people. It raises the question whether Christian groups may continue doing "their own thing" as though other Christians do not exist. This question is particularly pertinent in a country already divided in so many other ways. The heart of the question seems to be: do we, Christians, further contribute to the division in our society? Are we, in fact, part of the South African problem, rather than of the solution?

I believe Christians are both: part of the problem and of the solution. And if this book reveals – on the one hand – the haphazardness of much of what Christians do as well as an almost total lack of coordinated planning and concerted action, it also portrays – on the other hand – something of the enterprising character of Christianity, of the myriad ways in which the gospel has been incarnated in different contexts, of the church's ready response to needs in the community, in summary: of the gospel's coming alive in witness and service, touching many aspects of human life, from the individual heart to the needs of the nation.

Statistically at least, South Africa is a Christian country – one of the most Christian countries in the world, in fact. It also occupies centre-stage in the attention of the outside world, not least of the international Christian community. It is my fervent prayer that the network of services and relationships listed in cold print in this **Handbook** will reveal to our brothers and sisters elsewhere, but above all to ourselves, that South African Christians can – under God – stretch out their hands to others in different "camps" and allow themselves to be bound together with cords of love, fellowship and dedicated action.

David J Bosch



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A project of this nature can never be said to be the work of a single person, and I am indebted to the many people who have assisted in this enormous task. Ed Dayton, Vice President of World Vision International has been my mentor in this project, giving me the guidance and encouragement needed to get me started and keep me going. The assistance of Peter Brierley, Director of the MARC Europe, has been invaluable and the UK Christian Handbook, edited by Peter Brierley has been used as a model for the format of this book. How could such a volume have been compiled were it not for the co-operation of every organisation and person who has obligingly completed questionnaires and answered telephone queries? Then back in the library, Jeanette Samson has assisted me in so many ways and Gladys Pettifer has cheerfully typed and retyped the computer lists. Pieter de Kock in the data processing department has gone the 'extra mile'. Not only has he compiled the software but he has assisted and encouraged when machines don't oblige! Thank you to Joan Coppin for undertaking the arduous task of proof-reading. I am deeply grateful to Prof David Bosch for not only writing the foreword but for assisting and encouraging me. Prof Hofmeyer of the Dept of Church History at UNISA has been a great help in locating earlier works which have been invaluable in compiling this handbook. Lastly, I am grateful to my long suffering family, especially to Harald and my daughter Linda who have allowed me to work long hours in research over a long period.

Marjorie Froise  
September 1986

## CONTENTS

Foreword	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Contents	v
Introduction	vii
Abbreviations	ix
<b>1. CHURCHES</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Census statistics	1
1.2 Church headquarters	4
1.3 Listing of churches & missions no longer in existence	19
<b>2. EVANGELISTIC AGENCIES</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>3. MISSIONARY SOCIETIES</b>	<b>25</b>
3.1 Working in South Africa with overseas headquarters	25
3.2 Working in South Africa with local headquarters and origin	28
3.3 Societies with representation in South Africa for recruitment and fundraising	34
3.4 Funding agencies	39
3.5 Catholic religious orders	39
<b>4. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>	<b>46</b>
4.1 Seminaries, Theological and Bible Colleges	46
4.2 Training Colleges and part-time Bible Colleges	60
4.3 Correspondence Colleges	63
<b>5. MEDIA</b>	<b>67</b>
5.1 Bookshops	67
5.2 Wholesalers, publishers and printers	90
5.3 Literature distributors	97
5.4 Periodicals and newsletters	98
5.5 Recording services and audio-visual	110
5.6 Film and video hire	112
5.7 Media training	113
5.8 Music ministries and Christian artists	114
<b>6. SERVICE AGENCIES</b>	<b>117</b>
6.1 Relief and development agencies	117
6.2 Homes and special schools for handicapped	121
6.3 Homes for unmarried mothers	126
6.4 Organisations involved in alcohol and drug rehabilitation, and caring centres for the destitute	128
6.5 Reconciliation and justice	131
6.6 Personnel placing	132
6.7 Air support	133
6.8 Literacy & training centres	133
6.9 Research centres	135
<b>7. LEADERSHIP</b>	<b>137</b>
7.1 Co-ordinating agencies	137
7.2 Leadership training	140
7.3 Professional and recreational Christian groups	141
7.4 Youth and student ministries	143
7.5 Children's work	148



## 8. ACCOMMODATION

8.1 Campsites and conference centres	150
8.2 Daily conference centres	162
8.3 Missionaries' and ministers' homes	164
8.4 Holiday accommodation and guest houses	165
8.5 Homes for the aged	166
8.6 Children's homes	188
8.7 Residences for young adults	201
8.8 Men's and women's homes	206

## ALPHABETICAL INDEX

## PERSONNEL INDEX

208

## INTRODUCTION

Compiling this Christian Handbook has been a thrilling and fulfilling venture. As I have delved into the past in an attempt to understand the present, I have been excited to see what God has done in our country.

Andrew Murray, in his survey of missions in 1906, listed 31 missionary societies in South Africa. An extensive survey conducted in 1938 under the banner of the Christian Council noted some 130 churches, missions and Christian organisations. Over this period of three decades, the evolution from 'mission' to 'churches of the mission' became apparent.

Now nearly fifty years later, the number of entries listed in this Hand-book has exceeded 1500 giving an indication that the church is again reaching out into mission. The 700 or so South Africans involved in Protestant missionary work in our country and 270 working abroad bear testimony to this. Yet even these figures do not tell the whole story, for where is the distinction between mission and church?

Even so, the day of missions in South Africa is not over and a study of the 1960-1980 census reports offers interesting insights. No less than 24% of the Black population had no religion, or were uncommitted while 4.5% of the White population fell into the same category, an increase over the 1.8% in 1970. And what of the 43% of the Black population who claim allegiance to syncretistic independent churches? In the Asian population, 83% were either Hindu or Muslim in their beliefs.

There appears to be a trend developing away from the mainline denominations. This is particularly noticeable in the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk which records 3% decline per decade. Declines are also evident in the Gereformeerde Kerk, the Nederduitsch Herformde Kerk, the Anglican Church, Lutheran Church and others. Exceptions are the Roman Catholic Church, and the Apostolic and Pentecostal churches which are showing growth. Subsequent census reports will undoubtedly indicate a move toward the new charismatic churches which are growing at the rate of a new church every 2.1 days.

I commend to the users of the Handbook the words of Andrew Murray written in 1906, "The responsibility resting upon our ministers is a solemn one, not to leave our people content to let the Christians of other lands do the work, but to rouse Christians to feel that they have a special calling to care for those among whom they live."

## NOTES ON THE HANDBOOK

### How information was collected

Information on missions, churches and service organisations was collected by the Resource Library over a period of 3-4 years until it became evident that we needed to share this data with others who would find it useful. Questionnaires were sent out to which we received a 48% response. Reminders by mail or telephonic requests for information followed. Whilst every effort has been made to verify entries, there will undoubtedly be inaccuracies and we would welcome notification of omissions and errors.

### Criteria for inclusion

Organisations adhering to a Trinitarian doctrine is the basis for inclusion, however, an entry in the Handbook does not necessarily mean concurrence of beliefs or activities. A



number of organisations have declined to participate in the handbook whilst others have been reluctant to provide detail. The 4000 African Independent Churches have not been included.

### Cross-references

Many organisations have activities in more than one category. The basic information is listed under the most appropriate section and cross references are made at the end of each section.

### Explanation of entry

Full Title	Mailing Address	Chief Officer or Contact Person and Designation	
<p>↓</p> <p>Date of Foundation</p> <p>↓</p> <p><b>Baynes Memorial Boy's Home</b> 1923</p> <p>↑</p> <p>S/Army 011 00001 000 3</p> <p>↑</p> <p>Fundraising No.</p> <p>↑</p> <p>Denominational or Other Affiliations</p>	<p>↓</p> <p>PO Box 946 3200 Pietermaritzburg 89 Trelawney Road Pentrich 3201 Pietermaritzburg Telephone: (0331) 6-2326</p> <p>↑</p> <p>Telephone No.</p> <p>↑</p> <p>Street Address</p>	<p>↓</p> <p>Maj I H Sercombe Superintendent</p>	<p>↑</p> <p>White 55 Boys</p> <p>↑</p> <p>Relevant Information</p>

Marjorie Froise

## SYNONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AACC	All Africa Council of Churches
ACSA	The Alliance Church in SA
AEAM	Association of Evangelicals in Africa and Madagascar
AEB	Africa Evangelistic Band
AEF	Africa Evangelical Fellowship
AFM	Apostolic Faith Mission
AGS	Apostoliese Geloofsending van SA
AICA	Africa Independent Church Association
AKDB	Algemene Kommissie vir die Diens van Barmhartigheid
AME	African Methodist Episcopal Church
AOG	Assemblies of God
AOGF	Assemblies of God Fellowship
Bapt	Baptist
Bret	Christian Brethren
BUSA	Baptist Union of SA
CESA	Church of England in SA
CGK	Christelike Gereformeerde Kerk
CMA	Christian Motorcyclists Association
CofC	Church of Christ
CofN	Church of the Nazarene
CPSA	Church of the Province of SA
CUC	Church Unity Commission
D/M	Dorothea Mission
EBC	Evangelical Bible Church
EBSEMSA	Evangelical Bible Seminary of SA
ECSA	Evangelical Church of SA
EFSA	Evangelical Fellowship of SA
ELCSA	Evangelical Lutheran Church of SA
F/Bapt	Free Baptist Church
FEBA	Far East Broadcasting Association
FELCSA	Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches of SA
FGCOG	Full Gospel Church of God
FPC	Fellowship of Pentecostal Churches
GES	Reformed Ecumenical Synod
GKSA	Gereformeerde Kerk in SA
HUM	Holiness Union Mission
IFCC	International Fellowship of Christian Churches
Int/AOG	International Assemblies of God
LEC	Lesotho Evangelical Church
Luth	Lutheran
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
MAF	Mission Aviation Fellowship
Meth	Methodist Church of SA
Mor	Moravian Church in SA
N/Bapt	National Baptist
NHK	Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk
NGK	Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk
NGKA	Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk in Afrika
NGSK	Nederduitse Gereformeerde Sendingkerk
OM	Operation Mobilisation
PCSA	Presbyterian Church of SA