

South Africa

Republic of South Africa

Jerry R. Richardson, Area Coordinator

Jannie A. Smith, National Superintendent, UPC of South Africa

Karl H. Smith, Missionary Superintendent

Population: 47,300,000

Area: 471,444 sq. mi.

Capital: Pretoria

Languages: IsiZulu, IsiXhosa, Afrikaans, Sepedi, English, Setswana, Sesotho, Xitsonga

Religions: Zion Christian, 11%; Pentecostal/Charismatic, 8.2%; Catholic, 7%; Methodist, 6%; Dutch Reformed, 7%; Anglican, 4%; other Christian, 36%; Islam, 2%

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Missionaries appointed to South Africa: Dan and Sherry Davis, David and Donna Flowers, and Karl and Mary Smith

The Republic of South Africa occupies the southern portion of the African continent. The economy of South Africa is the largest and best developed on the continent, with modern infrastructure common throughout the country.

The country's 1994 constitution paved the way for the first all inclusive democratic elections, thus eliminating apartheid. South Africa is often referred to as "The Rainbow Nation," a term coined by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and later adopted by then-President Nelson Mandela. Mandela used the term "Rainbow Nation" as a metaphor to describe the country's newly-developing multicultural diversity in the wake of segregationist apartheid ideology.

South Africa is one of the oldest United Pentecostal Church mission fields, having been opened by E. L. and Nona Freeman in 1948. The nationalized church now has 14,394 constituents, 244 licensed national ministers, and 183 churches and preaching points. Jannie A. Smith, is the elected national superintendent.