



ADELBERT BRUNKE

~ God Bless His Soul ~

Cape-Orange Diocese (ELCSA)

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Full Names

Adelbert Leopold Max Brunke

The following synopsis was retrieved from a book titled "*The Berlin Missionaries in South Africa and their Descendants*" (1984).

Adelbert Leopold Max, * Alt-Czapel, Karthaus dist., Germany 16.5.1912, s.o. Georg Brunke and Else Noffze, x by proxy in Andalusia Internment Camp 15.2.1943, in the church in Pietersburg, Tvl. 15.2.1949, Johanna Brigitte KLAMROTH, * Blösien, Uerseburg dist., Germany 14.11.1917, d.o. Erich Otto Bernhard Klamroth and Ida Paula Elisabeth Schürer.

Adelbert completed his schooling at the Gymnasium at Stolp in Pommere and began his training as a missionary in 1934. He was sent to East Africa as a missionary in 1934 where he studied under Krelle at the mission station Morogoro. When the Second World War broke out he was interned and sent to South Africa, first to Leeukop, near Pretoria, and then to Andalusia, near Kimberley. Fortunately he was able to further his theological studies in the internment camp. After the war in 1945 Adelbert was sent to the internment camp Norton in Salisbury, Zimbabwe. When the camp closed down in 1947, he was sent to Cape Town with a view to repatriation to Germany. Shortly before the ship was due to sail from Cape Town, however, he obtained permission to remain in South Africa and work here as a missionary.

Adelbert was first sent to Edendale near Pretoria where he had to learn Afrikaans from Leue. In 1948 he went to Pietersburg where Jäckel taught him Northern Sotho. In 1949 he was appointed missionary of Blauberg; his wife, whom he had already married by proxy in 1943, was able to come out from Germany to join him. In addition to the mission station Blauberg, he also had to take care of the mission station Matlala, as well as twenty-five outstations and fourteen schools. This meant a great deal of administrative work. After Jäckel's death in 1957, Adelbert succeeded him as superintendent and moved to Pietersburg.

For health reasons Adelbert was transferred to Riversdale in 1960, where he also became superintendent of the Cape Synod. When the synods of the Cape and Orange Free State churches of the Berlin Mission merged in 1963, Adelbert was transferred to Cape Town as superintendent and was elected dean of the Cape Town church circuit. When Zittlau retired as bishop in 1972, Adelbert succeeded him in Kimberley. During his term of office the four regional churches — North, West, South-East and Cape-Orange — merged in 1975 to form ELCSA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa). Adelbert retired in the middle of 1978 and now (1982) lives in Cape Town.

- b1 Ernst-Gunther Erich, * Pietersburg 3.1.1950, geologist, research officer in air pollution, x Pretoria 30.12.1977, Ingrid Elisabeth TÖNSING, * Rustenburg 31.5.1949, librarian, d.o. Erik Heinz Tönsing and Grete Luise Amine Röhrs.
- c1 Renate Linda, * Bellville 9.11.1979.
- b2 Irmhild Else, * Duiwelskloof 28.9.1952, teacher, x Vechta, West Germany 30.9.1977, Heinrich Anton BÖSKE, * Vechta, West Germany 29.7.1943, teacher.
- [c1] Karina BÖSKE, * Oldenburg, West Germany 12.8.1978.
- [c2] Winfried BÖSKE, * Oldenburg, West Germany 17.8.1980.