

View this email in your browser



www.vulnerablemission.org

Open Access

Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin February 2023 Volume 15, Number 2

(Archived back-copies here Subscribe for free here)

Editor: Jim Harries, PhD, Chairman of the AVM.



Table with 3 columns: AVM Board, Name, and Advisory Board. Rows include Dr. Jim Harries (chair), Peter Slagg (finance), Dr. Nick Henwood (communications), Dr. Daniel Albert, Frank Paul, Deborah Bernhard, Rev. Dr. John Macdonald, and Jean Johnson.

The Alliance for Vulnerable Mission encourages some missionaries from the West to engage in their ministries using local languages and resources.



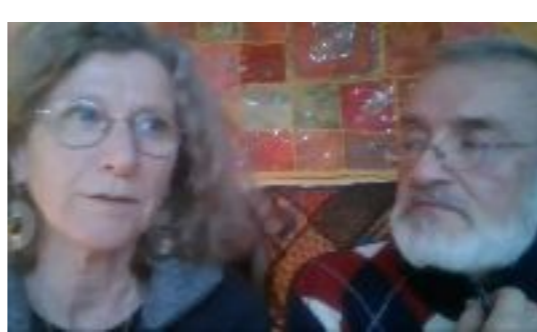
Please suggest contributions to this Bulletin to info@vulnerablemission.org. This month's contents: Our next quarterly AVM webinar: "We're not the Hero... Common missionary traps and ways to avoid them, in order to share Christ, not a culture of dependency." Sowing Hope in Incarnational Mission: Living as neighbours in an unchurched multicultural quarter in East Germany. Challenged by Coloniality: How white people imagine and practice reconciliation in a culturally diverse church in Cape Town. The Church Planting Movement Debate: Getting to the Heart of the Matter. Hinein, nicht Hinaus. Helping without Hurting in Africa. Nigerian schools: Flogged for speaking my mother tongue. Theological Education with an Indigenous Gait, Africa.



Join us at our next quarterly AVM webinar: "We're not the Hero... Common missionary traps and ways to avoid them, in order to share Christ, not a culture of dependency."

Speaker: Jean Johnson, of Five Stones Global. When: Thursday 20th April 2023 Time: 14:00 (London Time (BST)) Sign up using this form for free and we will send you a Zoom link. https://forms.gle/8HDajoHY8HaLDugn6

..ooOoo..



Sowing Hope in Incarnational Mission: Living as neighbours in an unchurched multicultural quarter in East Germany (50 minute video of our most recent AVM Webinar)

https://youtu.be/N8BWBnagm_Q Alliance for Vulnerable Mission board members Frank and Ute Paul tell us about the ministry and work they do in an unchurched area in East Germany. This humble but fascinating account showcases how people can be reached without vast financial resources. The humility required to work together with others, determination, and an orientation to learning language and to loving people, can be used by God for his glory.

..ooOoo..



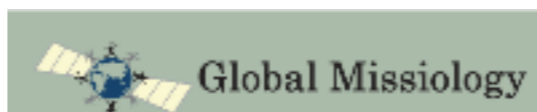
Challenged by Coloniality: How white people imagine and practice reconciliation in a culturally diverse church in Cape Town.

https://www.transformative-religion.de/ (you may have to click on archive events)

A recently completed PhD project sought to understand how white people in a reformed church congregation in Cape Town worked for the realisation of a multicultural community while they continued to dominate in many areas. The research participants' understanding of 'racial' reconciliation was found to emphasise the increasing of equality and racial integration, both between individuals and groups.

This guest lecture by Marcus Grohmann, on 13th Feb, 16:00 London time, arranged by a coalition of universities, will be accessible over zoom. Write to: bettina.schoen@hu-berlin.de

..ooOoo..



The Church Planting Movement Debate: Getting to the Heart of the Matter http://ojs.globalmissiology.org/index.php/english/article/view/2720/6776

J A Iron articulates a simple explanation for disagreements between proponents of mission movements, as against what we might call 'traditional mission'. That is; movements prioritise success, whereas traditionally churches have prioritised the Bible. He tells us that: "Among North American missionaries today, it is easier to fit in as a movement proponent, not a critic." Amongst his conclusions is that: "In truth, I believe we would all be better off if we complemented rather than opposed one another," Vulnerable mission tends to fall on the side of critiquing movements, this article helps to explain otherwise hard-to-understand opposition to vulnerable mission.

..ooOoo..



Hinein, nicht Hinaus

https://www.zeit.de/2023/01/afghanistan-hilfe-frauen-taliban

"Was also tun? Das Land isolieren, mehr Sanktionen? Die Taliban würden sich in der Isolation einrichten, so wie das Regime in Nordkorea. Nein, es wäre dringend an der Zeit, unsere Entwicklungshilfe umzustrukturieren. Damit wir wieder lernen zu helfen. Wir brauchen Akademien, auf denen Entwicklungshelfer ausgebildet werden, die sich auf Jahre für dieses Land verpflichten, nicht bloß auf Monate. Wir brauchen wieder deutsche Diplomaten vor Ort, so wie das der ehemalige deutsche Botschafter gefordert hat."

..ooOoo..



Helping without Hurting in Africa

https://africa.thegospelcoalition.org/reviews/recommended-resource-helping-without-hurting-in-africa/ https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/56790034-helping-without-hurting-in-africa

"In addressing the problem of poverty in Africa, many foreign governments and organisations have done more harm than good. This is primarily because of a poor diagnosis of the phenomenon of poverty. We know that medically, a poor diagnosis of an illness will lead to a wrong treatment" (p52) say the authors. Thus, the book argues that wrong diagnosis is a serious challenge to properly responding to poverty. A right diagnosis of poverty will lead to the correct treatments. What we believe to be the cause of poverty will determine the treatments we offer to address it (p52). Unfortunately, use of indigenous languages, and even building on indigenous resources, are under-considered in this text.

..ooOoo..



Nigerian schools: Flogged for speaking my mother tongue

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-63971991

This short article by the BBC discusses a recent political move in Nigeria in favour of use of local languages in early years of primary schooling. It is a typically-biased BBC article! The fact that Nigeria has over five hundred languages is mentioned five times, emphasising the ridiculousness of a move away from English. The major reasons I would suggest for moving away from English are not mentioned – in short that ongoing use of English will prevent Nigerian people from making linguistic sense of their own lives, or if they do make sense of their own lives using English, it will garble comprehension of what they say by foreigners. Yet, despite this, the article at least raises the language issue.

..ooOoo..



Advance notice: Theological Education with an Indigenous Gait, Africa https://www.emsweb.org/conferences/northeast-region/

Jim Harries, chair of the Alliance for Vulnerable Mission, has prepared a paper to present at the above conference, to be held 18th March 2023, with an online option. His paper looks at the vital importance of there being engagement, in theological education, with African people on their own terms, something that is very rarely practiced by the West today. (At time of going to press registration is not yet open.)

..ooOoo..

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.