



IAMS MATTERS OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2017

Dear IAMS Members,

I am sending you here issue 22 of IAMS Matters, the newsletter for the International Association for Mission Studies. Below follows some important news from the Exec, as well as some new about interesting new books, upcoming conferences and job opportunities. If you have any information that you think might be of interest to IAMS members please email me at iams@missionstudies.org.

I would also like to remind you all that it is possible to read *Mission Studies* online by login in to the database at missionstudies.org. While there, it would also be good if you look over your personal page, and if necessary, update your personal details. Since Brill's distribution of *MS* follows the details that you have included in our database, it is necessary that this information is correct and updated in order for you to receive your physical copy of *Mission Studies*.

Finally this will be the last IAMS Matters in 2017 so I would like to take the opportunity to remind you all to pay your membership fees for next year if you have not yet done so. You can pay your membership fees here: <http://missionstudies.org/index.php/payments/>

I hope you will enjoy this issue of IAMS Matters.

Sincerely,

Aron Engberg

IAMS Secretary

NEW STUDY GROUPS

In the last issue of IAMS Matters I forgot to mention that during the Exec meeting in Notre Dame during the summer two new study groups were accepted by the Exec.

PENTECOSTAL/CHARISMATIC EXPRESSIONS IN GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY

The IAMS study-group *Pentecostal/Charismatic Expressions in Global Christianity* is concerned with a wide variety of subjects that in different ways relate to the current "charismatization" of Global Christianity. This global trend has been going on for quite some time especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and charismatic forms of worship and piety (and to some extent doctrine) today is widespread across Christian denominations. Research on this phenomenon is booming as well, not least in anthropology and sociology. In theology the interest has been more moderate. However, it is the understanding of the study group that many of the relevant questions in Pentecostal/Charismatic Christianity cannot be understood unless theology – both in the strict sense of doctrine and in a wider sense of Christian faith – is taken into account. In this area the IAMS study-group seeks to be a relevant missiological forum to discuss the phenomenon and to contribute with theological perspectives.

Conveners: Prof. Auli Vähäkangas & Martina Prosén

<http://missionstudies.org/index.php/study-groups/pentecostal-charismatic-expressions-global-christianity/>

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES AND MISSION

Christian Communities and Mission study group understand local Christian communities as; a) the hermeneutic of the gospel and; b) meeting God's future as it comes towards us in the shape of the reign of God within the particular time and place that each finds itself. This requires these communities to be in a constant level of change as they orient themselves towards God's preferred and promised future for them in a rapidly changing world. We believe study and research in how local churches change to be increasingly faithful in their everyday apostolicity is urgently needed.

We understand Christian communities broadly to include traditional 'parish' churches and independent local churches, religious communities and congregations, new church plants, so-called 'fresh expressions' of church and 'new monastic' communities.

Convener: Dr Nigel Rooms

<http://missionstudies.org/index.php/study-groups/ecclesial-futures-local-christian-communities-in-mission/>

IAMS FACEBOOK PAGE

IAMS has a new Facebook page available at <https://www.facebook.com/International-Association-for-Mission-Studies-IAMS-345324249216792/>. Please sign up in order to get updates on what happens in IAMS, and to interact with other scholars. The Facebook page is administered by Oceania regional representative Darren Cronshaw.

ANNOUNCING NEW DACB WEBSITE



The screenshot shows the homepage of the DACB website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for HOME, STORIES, ABOUT, RESOURCES, NEWS, and CONTACT. Below the navigation is a banner with the text: "The mission of the DACB is to collect, preserve, and make freely accessible biographical accounts and church histories - from oral and written sources - integral to a scholarly understanding of African Christianity." Below the banner are three featured items: "The Art of Engelbert Mveng SJ" (with a thumbnail of a book cover), "BU African Studies library" (with a thumbnail of a library interior), and "New Journal Issue" (with a thumbnail of a woman). Below these are sections for "Browse Stories by" (with thumbnails for Name, Tradition, Century, Country, Author, Institution, and Language) and language statistics: English (Total Articles: 2113), French (Total Articles: 500), Portuguese (Total Articles: 172), and Kowash (Total Articles: 8).

The *Dictionary of African Christian Biography* (www.dacb.org), established in 1995, is an online, open source publication committed to documenting, collecting, preserving, and making freely accessible biographical accounts and church histories of African Christianity. The project showcases the stories of the African pioneers chiefly responsible for the birth and explosive growth of Christianity across the continent.

This summer, the *DACB* website underwent a complete redesign using a flat-file CMS system

conceived by leading software development platform Github. The new site has a lightweight digital footprint, loads fast, and can be distributed on USB drive in areas without Internet access. In addition, multiple indexes and a powerful standalone search engine that works offline make it easy to do in-depth research on the site. Indexing is scheduled to be completed by November 2017.

You are invited to visit the new site at www.dacb.org, explore its content and features, and offer feedback either directly via email (dacb@bu.edu) or on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/DictionaryofAfricanChristianBiography).

CALL FOR PAPERS – SPECIAL EDITION OF *MISSION STUDIES*

MISSION STUDIES 36.1. SPECIAL ISSUE: MISSION AND DEVELOPMENT

Christian mission is closely linked to international development. Since Harry Truman proposed a “program of development” in 1949, Christian bodies have been among the largest Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) delivering it. There is a growing recognition of the contribution that Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) make to development—as shown, for example, by their inclusion in the United Nations consultation process that shaped the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals. And long before the “era of development”, Christian missions were delivering education, health care, and other activities that are now included in the development agenda. However, there is tension among mission practitioners and missiologists about whether or not Christian mission should include participation in development activities.

In some contexts mission and development are closely intertwined but in others there is a divide between Christian organizations working with the international development agenda and other bodies that are focused on evangelism and church development. Development itself is challenged on grounds that it is a political tool, creates dependency, distorts local economies, and fails to challenge unjust structures.

The editors of *Mission Studies* invite contributions to a special issue (36.1, April 2019) that explore the relationship between mission and development historically, theologically, and in practice, and the issues it raises from a mission studies perspective. Articles drawing on case studies are welcome. Topics that could be explored include:

- How compatible is “good news to the poor” with the agenda of international development?
- What is a missional assessment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals?
- To what extent is there historical continuity between international development and colonial missions?
- What is the theology of development in different traditions?
- How do Christian development organisations relate to other development agencies?
- What role(s) do/should churches play in development?
- How do mission agencies negotiate the secular nature of development programs and their funding?

By the usual process of double-blind peer review, five or 6 of the submitted articles will be selected for publication in the special issue. We are delighted that Bryant L. Myers, Professor of Transformational Development at Fuller Theological Seminary, USA, and previously Vice President for International Program Strategy at World Vision International, has agreed to write the lead article.

Mission Studies is the journal of the International Association for Mission Studies (IAMS) and is published by Brill Publishers, Leiden, Netherlands. For further information about the journal, see www.brill.com/mission-studies, and IAMS, see www.missionstudies.org. Articles for the special issue should be submitted at www.editorialmanager.com/MIST/default.aspx. They must be between 6,000 and 10,000 words (including references) and must follow the Author Instructions. Please add a note to your submission requesting consideration for the special issue. The deadline for submissions is **31 March 2018**.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

ANSWERING THE CALL: HEARING GOD'S VOICE IN METHODIST MISSION PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church and Candler School of Theology of Emory University will co-sponsor a conference entitled “Answering the Call: Hearing God's Voice in Methodist Mission Past, Present, and Future,” April 8-10, 2019, in Atlanta, GA. A call for papers is available at <http://bit.ly/2rAMEQw>.

VACANCY

CCCW SEEKING NEW DIRECTOR FOR 2018.

The Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide is seeking to appoint a Director from 1 January 2018. Applications are invited from candidates who wish ***to promote the understanding of and engagement with Christian mission and World Christianity.*** This is an excellent opportunity for a creative and enterprising individual with a strong academic record to discern contemporary needs and develop the Centre's educational role.

For further info on this position please go to our website at www.cccw.cam.ac.uk or contact the administrator, Polly Keen at centre@cccw.cam.ac.uk

BOOK RELEASE

L'ALLEMAGNE MISSIONNAIRE D'UNE GUERRE À L'AUTRE (1914-1939): EFFONDREMENT ET RÉSILIENCE (Edited by Gilles Vidal, Marc Spindler & Annie Lenoble-Bart.)

Les commémorations de la Première Guerre mondiale ont réveillé l'intérêt pour des pans négligés de l'histoire du xx^e siècle. C'est ainsi que l'Allemagne missionnaire entre 1914 et 1939 a été redécouverte, comme cet ouvrage en témoigne. L'empire colonial allemand détruit, les missionnaires allemands qui y étaient installés durent céder la place à d'autres. Globalement les deux-tiers du personnel furent « éloignés ». Mais l'effondrement des missions allemandes facilita l'émergence d'Églises autochtones enracinées dans leurs terroirs et leurs cultures. Ces communautés locales gardent non seulement le souvenir mais encore les héritages matériels et spirituels des missions allemandes. Au travers de réorganisations profondes, les relations internationales entre Églises du Sud et Églises allemandes se sont maintenues. Quelques exemples sont étudiés ici par des universitaires du Togo, du Cameroun, et du Congo. Des chercheurs européens complètent le tableau pour l'Afrique de l'Est, la Papouasie Nouvelle-Guinée, la Chine ainsi que l'Australie. Un épilogue synthétique démontre la résilience des missions et des sciences missionnaires allemandes. Quinze auteurs de nationalités différentes ont participé à ce projet, représentant leurs universités ou leurs organisations de rattachement à Paris, Rome, Kara et Lomé (Togo), Douala (Cameroun), Jinan (Chine), Londres, Montpellier, Greifswald (Allemagne), Brisbane (Australie), Utrecht (Pays-Bas), Bordeaux.

Paris: Karthala, 2017. Collection: Histoire des mondes chrétiens. 350 pages, 28 euros.

Proceedings of a consultation held at Neuendettelsau in September 2015.

The book is set in French but all chapters have an abstract in English and in French. Two chapters are published in English.