



ALLIANCE FOR VULNERABLE MISSION

www.vulnerablemission.org

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

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• The Buckwalters’ ‘got it’ way back in 1963!

Reading through Frank Paul’s book, I have been most amazed by the chapters written by the late Albert Buckwalter. Albert explains how, more than 50 years ago now, the Mennonite missionaries in the Chaco realised that they needed to make a direction change in their missions’ policy. This was following receipt of advice from Dr. William Reyburn. “It was a momentous decision for us to announce that we were no longer in charge of their churches” Albert shares (*Mission without Conquest*, p174).

“Reyburn “helped us to understand that every people has its history, its way of coping with reality, and that any new concept that comes to them is received and interpreted in term of all the experience this people has had up to that moment, and that it is impossible that they respond to God in any other way that is not their own” (*Mission without Conquest* p158).

For more on the Buckwalters see:

http://www.micahnetwork.org/sites/default/files/doc/page/accompaniment_in_the_argentine_chaco_paul.pdf

and

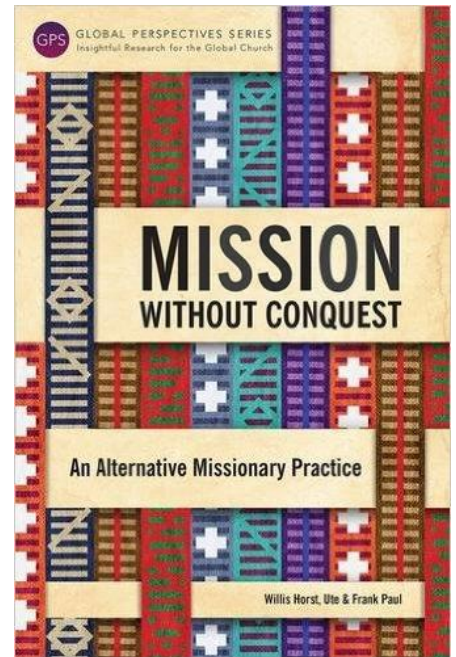
<http://mac.libraryhost.com/index.php?p=collections/findingaid&id=350&q=&rootcontentid=9193>

See also this new book: <https://wipfandstock.com/from-suffering-to-solidarity.html> (p97ff).

And of course the book co-authored by Frank and Ute Paul: *Mission without Conquest* available here: <http://www.amazon.com/Mission-Without-Conquest-Global-Perspectives/dp/1783689161>



Albert Buckwalter And Mocovi Leaders In Chaco Argentina



- **Jim Harries has recently had two new articles published:**

Harries, Jim, 2015, 'Holiness in African Perspective', *The Pneuma Review*, <http://pneumareview.com/holiness-in-african-perspective/>

Abstract: Many African people, as the Rekabites praised by God in Jeremiah 35, keep strictly to ancestral requirements. In parts of Africa, this is done to avoid death. Biblically we find two levels of 'holiness'; akathartos (unclean) as against katharos (clean), but also bebelos (common) as against hagios (holy). The latter (hagios) presupposes the existence of katharos, whereas katharos may be there in the absence of hagios. These categories are largely forgotten in the West. African languages do not distinguish them clearly. Jesus' emphasis was on achievement of hagios. This very positive orientation can in contemporary theological education easily be lost from view.

Harries, Jim, 2015, 'The Preeminence of Life', *The Pneuma Review*, <http://pneumareview.com/the-preeminence-of-life-towards-an-african-christian-cosmology-in-intercultural-context/>

Abstract: Without life all else that may be considered of value is nothing. African people are not easily convinced of the hegemony of science that seems to sideline life itself. Once undermined, the rather groundless assumption that life only exists in a chemical host, is easily replaced by questions regarding the nature and activity of spiritual powers. So-called holistic mission often runs in the face of African reality through drawing on the products of a Western dualism that Africa does not share. Dualistic understandings result from faith in a high God, something that is best advocated from a vulnerable approach to mission.



World Mission Associates tells us more of the work of Dr. Chris Little here: <http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=456a993fcb297a0cbd0d36a91&id=cbba61ccc7&e=75ed1b12fc>

See also 'A Motorcycle for Christmas' by Craig and Karena Miller: <http://wmausa.org/story/a-motorcycle-for-christmas/>

And the WMA Christmas newsletter: <http://us8.campaign-archive2.com/?u=456a993fcb297a0cbd0d36a91&id=429595a8a4&e=75ed1b12fc>

- A **faith Reliance seminar** is to be held in the USA by Barbara Schantz February 9 to 12 2016. Details here:

<http://www.omscbmr.org/marketplace/seminars/20160209-development>



Barbara Schantz

- See <http://www.ccdnetwork.de/images/ccd/ccd-flyer.pdf> for a flyer on a **Community Development Conference** to be held in Germany later this year: Mon 30th May – Fri 3rd of June 2016, Schönblick, Stuttgart). "*Doing Church God's way? Rethinking faith in development*"
- Refugees welcome! See here for a warm open welcome to refugees in Germany. I find the rhetoric coming from Germany to be REALLY INSPIRING! <https://www.recht-auf-willkommen.de/startseite.html> (scroll down for English)