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Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin March 2022 Volume 14, Number 3

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



AVM Board		Advisory Board
Jim Harries (chair)	Andy Dipper	Chris Flanders
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Nick Henwood (communications)	Deborah Bernhard	Jay Gary
Daniel Albert	John Macdonald (on leave)	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 jim@vulnerablemission.org
 This month's contents:
AVM's Next Webinar Sat 23rd April.
Cheong discusses Vulnerable Mission.
Normalcy's Evil (Book review).
Anti-racism (Book review).
Reconciliation Conference.
Board update.

New to Vulnerable Mission? Or wanting to link up with others exploring Vulnerable Mission?

Join us at our next free quarterly 2-hour AVM webinar.

When: Saturday 23rd April, 2022

Time: 14:00 (London Time (British Summer Time)).

Speakers: Jens and Deborah Bernard.

Booking form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/18SUObyB38dAiCtdhzJQdhF5SjtHVzki36OIWpj7qZnY/edit>

..ooOoo..



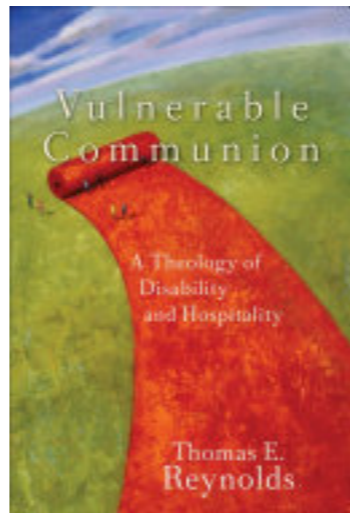
Discussion about Vulnerable Mission.

"Trusting and depending on a host to provide for us teaches missionaries the posture of humility, dependence and faith in God. It teaches humility because we come in a position where none of our cultural skills nor money is useful. It teaches powerlessness because we must depend on the goodwill of locals to invite and engage us first. It teaches faith because we cannot depend on our plans or money; we must walk in the mystery of not knowing what to expect."

Download whole document: <https://vulnerablemission.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Financially-simplistic-or-strategically-wise-missions-Jesus-words-for-mission-in-Mt-10-2.docx>

John Cheong's, a lecturer in missiology in Singapore, has contributed this short piece towards discussion about vulnerable mission.

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Book Review: Normalcy's Evil.

Download document:

https://www.academia.edu/attachments/80035414/download_file?s=portfolio

Go to this link for Jim Harries' review of the book Reynolds, Thomas E., 2008, *Vulnerable Communion: a theology of disability and hospitality*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Brazos Press. Jim has titled his review *Normalcy's Evil*. The review is in the process of being translated into German for publication. The issue Reynolds raises regarding the 'cult of normalcy' pertains directly to vulnerable mission. Vulnerable mission challenges 'cults of normalcy' created by the West, that declare secularism to be the universal necessary way forward. The latter vision of normalcy would leave many people stranded. Hence Jesus came, not to tell us to be 'normal', but to challenge 'normalcy' by aspiring to be Godly by imitating Christ.

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Book review by Marcus Grohmann of Harries, Jim, 2021, *How Western Anti-Racism Harms Africa and How We Can Do Better*, Chichester:

Faithbuilders Publishing. "Having gained insights into African ways of life by intimately sharing life in rural parts of Africa for the last three decades while exclusively using local languages, he addresses what he perceives to be a fundamental flaw in today's anti-racism: its close entanglement with Western secularism."

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14769948.2022.2039857>

Anyone who wants a copy of the full review and does not have access, contact Marcus here: marcus.grohmann@gmx.de

Marcus has also posted the submitted-version of his review on [academia.edu](https://www.academia.edu), which is accessible

here: https://www.academia.edu/71562621/Book_Review_How_Western_Anti_Racism_Harms_Africa_and_How_We_Can_Do_Better_by_Jim_Harries_ORIGINAL_MANUSCRIPT

Jim's book is here: <https://www.faithbuilders.org.uk/product/how-western-anti-racism-harms-africa-and-how-we-can-do-better/>

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Conference on Reconciliation

Please consider joining us for the EMS (Evangelical Missiological Society) Northeast Regional Virtual Conference to be held online, **New York time**, on the theme of "Reconciliation" on Saturday March 19, 2022. Registration is free.

Two members of the Alliance for Vulnerable Mission are to contribute, the timing being as follows:

9:00 Welcome, Devotional, and Instructions

9:10 Reconciling Black and White, Missionaries to get to the Roots in Africa - Jim Harries

9:40 Reconciliation as Mission - Marcus Grohmann

Jim Harries is a missionary in East Africa, and chairs the AVM (Alliance for Vulnerable Mission). Marcus Grohmann, is a research student in South Africa with whom we work very closely in the AVM. (More papers will be presented subsequently by other scholars. Marcus and Jim are at the beginning because they come from a time-zone that is further ahead.)

To register: go to this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/ruXzxabXPE>

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Board Update.

The Board is very pleased to welcome Nick Henwood into the new position of Communications' Director of the Alliance for Vulnerable Mission.

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