Facing Aids The Challenge The Churches Response

#aids church response #hiv faith community #tackling aids christian organizations #global health challenge churches #aids support ministry

The global HIV/AIDS epidemic presents a profound challenge that churches worldwide are actively confronting. This critical topic explores the multifaceted churches' response to AIDS, highlighting the vital role faith communities play in offering support, education, and hope. It delves into how Christian organizations are tackling AIDS through ministry, advocacy, and direct assistance, demonstrating their commitment to addressing this global health challenge and providing crucial AIDS support ministry.

Students can use these dissertations as models for structuring their own work.

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Facing AIDS

The global spread of HIV/AIDS poses grave challenges for individuals and institutions alike -- not least for Christians and the churches. What are the latest scientific findings about AIDS? How can we address the theological and ethical issues raised by AIDS? How can the churches respond to their members who are directly affected by AIDS? How can the churches help to prevent its spread? How are issues of human rights directly related to the spread of AIDS? This WCC study document is the fruit of two years of intensive consultation by an international group of pastors, theologians and ethicists, scientists, doctors and nurses, people living with AIDS and people working with those touched by it. Successive chapters focus on the scientific facts and social, economic and cultural context; theological perspectives; ethical and medical-ethical issues; human rights and responsibilities; and pastoral care by the church as healing community. The challenge of AIDS calls for a forthright and faithful response from Christians and the churches. This book is an important resource for shaping that response.

When God Stood Up

THE VICTIMS OF THE AIDS PANDEMIC IN AFRICA ARE FAR MORE NUMEROUS THAN THE DEAD AND DYING. MILLIONS OF ORPHANS AND WIDOWS ARE TRYING TO SURVIVE IN EXTREME POVERTY AND SOCIAL OPRESSION. JAMES CANTELON, A CANADIAN PASTOR, HAS CHALLENGED CHURCHES IN AFRICA-AND IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES-TO UNITE IN A COMMON CAUSE TO BRING RELIEF TO SUFFERING OF INTOLERABLE MAGNITUDE. When God Stood Up is the story of a remarkable journey that affirms God's presence in the most ravaged places on Earth. Millions of our fellow human beings are depending on just to be "God's hand extended." Read about their stories and be humbled. "The book puts HIV/AIDS into terrifying perspective. Jim and Kathy Cantelon are the face of God's love to so many who are so desperate." --Deborah Grey, MP (ret'd). "As Jim narrates his accelerated response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, it reminds one of the image G.K. Chesterton captured of St. Francis: always running.' Within a matter of weeks, the author catapults out

of Vancouver to the Durban colloquium, to hospitals and church events across the sub-Sahara-you sometimes look for a page to catch your breath! Come to think of it, with the awesome destruction of human life described here, what could be mode appropriate? When God Stood Up carries a sense of that which it issues a call for: breathless haste." --John & Ruth Kerr, Trans-Africa Theological College, Kitwe, Zambia "Posturing God as standing up sends readers a signal: beware. Coddled for years by an image of a benign and permissive deity, Cantelon gives a yank on our leash of grace. Human tragedy, he reminds us, isn't just unfortunate-it's the stuff of life that strikes at the very heart of faith, a fait he asserts that should neither be smug nor comfortable. This God of justice makes it clear that those who call themselves by his name are to do no less than embrace justice." --Brian Stiller, President, Tyndale University & Seminary, Toronto "This is more than the story of the calling of a man to a god-sized mission. It is an informative, unfolding drama of perhaps the most critical issue of our time-AIDS in Africa. As Jim has cast and recast his vision, people all over the world have been caught and reeled in to unexpected roles, in response to the pandemic. My husband and I are in that number. Be warned as you read, you too may be stirred to action!" --Moira Brown, Co-host, 100 Huntley Street, CTS-TV

HIV/AIDS and the Curriculum

In response to HIV/AIDS and its consequences, this collection of essays by young African scholars proposes a pattern of Christian education designed to equip churches for ministry in a time of crisis. Theological institutions are urged to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic through the academic disciplines of ministerial preparation as well as in continuing education opportunities, short courses for laity and training-of-trainers seminars for parish workers. Practical guides for classroom discussion are provided in the areas of health and human sexuality, biblical interpretation, theology, counseling, gender perspectives, project design and management. The book ends with a detailed "HIV/AIDS Curriculum for Theological Institutions in Africa\

Victim Theology

Rarely does a book come along with a renewed understanding on the way certain issues are treated especially the Churchs response to HIV/AIDS. Other books talk about the social, economic issues in relation to HIV/AIDS, but this book goes further to show the theological basis of the churchs response. With evidence from the history of the main line churches, Mageto exposes the suppressed views within the mission churches on the HIV/AIDS. The book opens up yet another way of understanding the churchs response to HIV/AIDS so far and shows new ways of looking at the pandemic in particular those who are infected and affected.

HIV/AIDS and Poverty

A collection of fifteen case studies that give church leaders practical and realistic preparation to handle tough issues like sexual harassment, pornography, divorce, and the effects of abortion. The book includes discussion questions, an appendix for facilitating discussions, and a bibliography of additional resources.

Facing Messy Stuff in the Church

Europe's "Black Death" contributed to the rise of nation states, mercantile economies, and even the Reformation. Will the AIDS epidemic have similar dramatic effects on the social and political landscape of the twenty-first century? This readable volume looks at the impact of AIDS since its emergence and suggests its effects in the next decade, when a million or more Americans will likely die of the disease. The Social Impact of AIDS in the United States addresses some of the most sensitive and controversial issues in the public debate over AIDS. This landmark book explores how AIDS has affected fundamental policies and practices in our major institutions, examining: How America's major religious organizations have dealt with sometimes conflicting values: the imperative of care for the sick versus traditional views of homosexuality and drug use. Hotly debated public health measures, such as HIV antibody testing and screening, tracing of sexual contacts, and quarantine. The potential risk of HIV infection to and from health care workers. How AIDS activists have brought about major change in the way new drugs are brought to the marketplace. The impact of AIDS on community-based organizations, from volunteers caring for individuals to the highly political ACT-UP organization. Coping with HIV infection in prisons. Two case studies shed light on HIV and the family relationship. One reports on some efforts to gain legal recognition for nonmarital relationships, and the other examines foster care programs for newborns with the HIV virus. A case study of New York City details how selected institutions interact to give what may be a picture of AIDS in the future. This clear and comprehensive presentation will be of interest to anyone concerned about AIDS and its impact on the country: health professionals, sociologists, psychologists, advocates for at-risk populations, and interested individuals.

The Social Impact of AIDS in the United States

This publication carefully describes the HIV/AIDS pandemic and how it is understood in some African contexts, which hampers prevention initiatives. It also delineates the complex nature of the poverty and HIV/AIDS interplay. To address the situation, a family systems practical ecclesiological theology and approach to HIV/AIDS ministry, and a pastoral counselling approach that derives from and is sensitive to the African context, are proposed.

HIV/AIDS, Poverty and Pastoral Care and Counselling

"A passionate and well articulated call to mission. Messer charts steps for individuals, congregations, denominations, and ecumenical agencies in a faithful response to the HIV/AIDS.

Breaking the Conspiracy of Silence

This book is a collection of chapters by seasoned scholars of religion covering the role played by various religions at home in Botswana in the struggle against HIV and AIDS. The book is a direct result of field research projects conducted by the authors on the role of religion in a country that once ranked as the worst affected by HIV and AIDS in the world. It comprises of twelve chapters that are divided into four parts. The first part, comprising of three chapters, provides a background of the faith sector in Botswana. Part II of the book focuses on the Christian religion and comprises of four chapters. Part III comprises of three chapters discussing other religious groups apart from Christianity. Part IV addresses the role of culture and religion in HIV and AIDS response in Botswana. With several attempts to mainstream HIV and AIDS in education both in schools and in tertiary institutions, the book serves both the academic and research community at national and international levels. It does not serve only those studying religion, but all who address issues of HIV and AIDS from whatever field of study.

Suffering, Belief, Hope

Over forty million people today are living with HIV/AIDS. In 2005, three million people died of AIDS, and half a million of them were children. The reality is dark. But in darkness, even one small flame of light makes a difference. And the church of Jesus Christ is bringing light into the darkness of the AIDS crisis all over the world. Like these churches, this book is a flame. Deborah Dortzbach and Meredith Long offer personal stories, up-to-date statistics and their years of international experience to give us the global portrait of AIDS: the roots of the problem and the role of the church. They teach us to listen. They allow us to observe. They help us become informed so that we can become involved, partnering with brothers and sisters already at work around the world loving, lobbying, caring, praying. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (Jn 1:5). Here is a book to help us see how the light of Christ shining through his church can change the course of the current AIDS crisis. Market/Audience Ministry organizations Missionaries Laypeople concerned about the AIDS crisis Pastors Features and Benefits Gives a global perspective by national and international experts. Gives a biblical perspective. Provides the basic facts we need to know in a brief format. Provides a great orientation for anyone interested in AIDS. Offers concrete ideas for taking action.

The Faith Sector and HIV/AIDS in Botswana

This book addresses the ongoing concept and effects of globalization, particularly on the socioeconomic life of the less developed countries like Tanzania. The author advocates for an alternative, better model of globalization.

AIDS Issues

This volume of BiAS/ ERA is a Festschrift honouring Nyambura J. Njoroge. She is an outstanding woman theologian whose work straddles diverse fields and disciplines. Inspired by her rich and impressive œuvre, in this volume friends and colleagues of her (among them celebrities like Musa Dube, Gerald West, Fulata Moyo, Ezra Chitando, and others) explore how religion and theology in diverse contexts can become more life giving. Contributors from many countries and different continents explore themes such as African women's leadership, theological education, HIV/ AIDS, lament, the

Bible and liberation, adolescents and young women, sexual diversity and others. Collectively, the volume expresses Nyambura's consistent commitment to the full liberation of all human beings, in fulfilment of the gospel's promise that all may have life and have it to the full (John 10:10)

The AIDS Crisis

Tolerance: Human Fragility and the Quest for Justice: Sheds new light on the liberal democratic values of toleration, taking into account the fragility of human moral ventures in general - within and beyond the Western liberal tradition; Broadly considers the limits of tolerance as they have stemmed from sincere efforts to define justice in a secular or a postsecular manner, together with its related rights, responsibilities, and virtues; Clarifies various forms of response to human needs as connected to the condition of human fragility as well as the persistent quest for justice. Ville Paeivaensalo, PhD (Theology, Helsinki), is a docent in theological and social ethics at the University of Helsinki. Taina Kalliokoski, MTh, is a doctoral student of social ethics at the University of Helsinki. David Huisjen, MTh, is a secondary school teacher and a doctoral student at the Department of Systematic Theology at the University of Helsinki.

Globalization of Concern

This book on church administration is a tool for all pastors and leaders in all churches. It provides ideas, methods, guidelines, and styles of administering and supervising modern day congregations and religious organizations in an easy to follow language. It can be used for any clergy or lay training, retreat, spiritual formation workshops, and seminars. Theological or Bible institutions or universities which offer courses in church administration will find this book most helpful. Individuals can use it for their personal spiritual development. It also carries a devotional and motivational aspect which every spiritual leader cannot afford to miss.

That all may live!

This selection of writings from the most important moments in the history of Christianity has become established as a classic reference work. This new edition brings the anthology up-to-date with a new section looking at issues facing the twenty-first century churches.

Tolerance

The editors of this volume highlight the fact that although the Church often stands up for other public issues such as human rights, democratic political rights, economic justice, etc., sexual and gender-based violence do not receive the attention they deserve. There are no theological or cultural arguments that can justify such a position. Sexual and gender-based violence are a scourge that defies our Christian understanding of human dignity? and challenges the Church in all its formations to respond. ÿAlthough most of the case studies are from Zimbabwe, they challenge us regardless of which country we are living in? or the tradition of our specific denomination.ÿ In the context of Southern Africa, where the HIV and AIDS burden is among the highest in the world, sexual and gender-based violence are a major contributor to the spread of the disease. This will only change if the Church challenges this practice as part of its educational and public work? in theological institutions, in congregations, but also in its pastoral work within families.ÿ

Church Administration

Burning Center, Porous Borders articulates what the church is and is called to be about in the world, a world now globalized to the point that the local is lived globally and the global is lived locally. The church must respond creatively and prophetically to the challenges-economic disparity, war and terrorism, diaspora, ecological threat, health crisis, religious diversity, and so on-posed by our highly globalized world. It can do so only if the church's spiritual center burns mightily. Conversely, it can burn mightily in the spirit of Christ only if its borders are porous and allows the fresh air/spirit of change to blow in and out. While there is much rhetoric about change, the most common response to change is to continue doing business as usual. This is particularly the case in the face of perceived global threats. In spite of the hoopla and euphoria of the global village, walls of division and exclusion are rising, hearts are constricting, and moral imagination shrinking. In response to this context, Burning Center, Porous Borders proposes alternative ways or images of being a church: burning center and porous borders, wall-buster and bridge-builder, translocal (glocal), mending-healer, radical hospitality, community of the

earth-spirit, household of life abundant, dialogians of life, and community of hope. In Burning Center, Porous Borders congregational vitality and progressive praxis kiss and embrace!

From Crisis to Kairos

'Another World is Possible' examines the many peoples who have mobilized religion and spirituality to forge identity. Some claim direct links to indigenous spiritual practices; others have appropriated externally introduced religions, modifying these with indigenous perspectives and practices. The voices of Black people from around the world are presented in essays ranging from the Indian subcontinent, Japan and Australia to Africa, the UK and the USA. From creation narratives to trickster heroes, from the role of spirituality in HIV positive South Africa to its place in mental health and among the poor, spirituality is shown to be essential to the survival of individuals and communities.

Documents of the Christian Church

The existence of orphans is as inevitable to most African cities and the world as it is death. These orphans are caused by the death of one or both parents due to various reasons, including the scourge of HIV and AIDS. Being orphans, most of them are vulnerable to difficult lives because they have nobody to fend for them and take care of their lives. They lack adequate food, living expenses, school fees, and care since their current guardians are also in adverse economic situations. In such situations, orphans end up living a life of hopelessness and trauma, which makes them deeply remember their dead parents and the care they received from them before death. Following the vulnerable situation of most orphans, this book, through a study done in the Tanzanian context, challenges churches to extend their counseling and caring ministries to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC). It purports that the use of narrative approach is the most effective way to enter into the world of vulnerable children in order to provide pastoral counseling to them. This approach helps pastoral counselors to use life stories, proverbs, biblical narratives, plays, arts, songs, riddles, poems, symbols, and images as healing and coping mechanisms for OVC. Therefore, this book is helpful not only to churches and their ministry to orphans and vulnerable children, but also to those who care for orphans in their homes. Moreover, it will be helpful to children who live in adverse conditions worldwide to find ways to cope with their situations through the stories of children used inside this book.

Justice Not Silence

What does it mean to be Reformed Christians in the world today? and in Africa and South Africa? What does it mean to commemorate the legacy of John Calvin (1509-1564) after 500 years? in a modern world characterised by democracy, by popular notions of human dignity and human rights, by worldwide struggles for individual freedoms and for social justice, by a global economy in crisis? when social historians argue about the lasting contribution of Calvin and his followers precisely with respect to all these modern phenomena? The 28 essays by Dirkie Smit selected for this volume deal with such questions.

Burning Center, Porous Borders

Contributed articles presented at a consultation organized by BTESSC, SATHRI and the World Council of Churches held at the Ecumencial Resource Centre, Bangalore from 10-12, Sept., 2003.

Another World is Possible

Monthly current affairs magazine from a Christian perspective with a focus on politics, society, economics and culture.

Pastoral Counseling for Orphans and Vulnerable Children

Religion is often seen as a conservative force in contemporary Africa. In particular, Christian beliefs and actors are usually depicted as driving the opposition to homosexuality and LGBTI rights in African societies. This book nuances that picture, by drawing attention to discourses emerging in Africa itself that engage with religion, specifically Christianity, in progressive and innovative ways--in support of sexual diversity and the quest for justice for LGBTI people. The authors show not only that African Christian traditions harbor strong potential for countering conservative anti-LGBTI dynamics; but also that this potential has already begun to be realized, by various thinkers, activists and movements across the continent. Their ten case studies document how leading African writers are reimagining Christian

thought; how several Christian-inspired groups are transforming religious practice; and how African cultural production creatively appropriates Christian beliefs and symbols. In short, the book explores Christianity as a major resource for a liberating imagination and politics of sexuality and social justice in Africa today. Foregrounding African agency and progressive religious thought, this highly original intervention counterbalances our knowledge of secular approaches to LGBTI rights in Africa, and powerfully decolonizes queer theory, theology and politics.

Essays on Being Reformed

This book describes African Theology/ies and the Bible as a "contemporary mosaic." The book is shaped in the form of a "mosaic" with three patterns. One pattern deals with the Bible and Culture. The second deals with Hermeneutics (interpretations of various biblical texts) as they relate to African cultural contexts and the third part deals with general issues of Gender Missiology and practical Christianity. Some of the themes treated in the book are reading and hearing scripture as a "hermeneutic of grafting\"

HIV/AIDS, a Challenge to Theological Education

This volume is an engaging and provocative introduction to Feminist Biblical Studies. The authors draw upon their own social, cultural and religious backgrounds and experiences in reading the New Testament as feminists in the context of globalization. They provide intentional interpretations of biblical texts that cast gender, race, class and power relationships as issues inherent in both the content and context of scripture and its interpretation. The essays call into question feminist social engagement that does not extend beyond academic halls, churches and Christians, suggesting directions for future research and teaching in Feminist Biblical Studies.

ThirdWay

The current HIV and AIDS regime has opened up unknown vistas in intellectual pursuits and knowledge creation. One such newly opened up area of research is studying HIV and AIDS in relation to gender issues. However, owing to the devastating nature of the epidemic, most studies tend to focus on women merely as an "at risk" population leaving aside the wider sociological dimensions that pertain to women's sexuality in general, issues of AIDS related stigma and discrimination and how it impacts on women's careers as economic contributors to society. The uniqueness of the present study lies in the fact that it embodies the author's triangulated research into the tripartite dimensions of HIV and AIDS, women's sexuality, and gender-sociology, all against the backdrop of analysing actual experiences of career women in Kenyan universities.

Reimagining Christianity and Sexual Diversity in Africa

This volume highlights the relevance of globalization and the insights of gender studies and religious studies for feminist theology. It focuses on the changing global contexts for the field and its movement towards new models of theology, distinct from the forms of traditional Christian systematic theology and of secular feminism.

Aridity, change and conflict in Africa

Biblical scholars often read the Bible with their own interpretive interests in mind, without associating the Bible with the concerns of laypeople. This largely undermines the contributions laypeople can offer from reading the Bible in their own contexts and from their own life experiences. Moreover, such exclusively scholarly reading conceals the role of biblical texts in dealing with current social problems, such as HIV/AIDS-related stigmatization. Hence, the lack of lay participation in the process of Bible reading makes the Bible less visible in various common life situations. In this volume Elia Shabani Mligo draws on his fieldwork among people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Tanzania, selects stigmatization as his perspective, and chooses participant-centered contextual Bible study as his method to argue that the reading of texts from the Gospel of John by PLWHA (given their lived experiences of stigmatization) empowers them to reject stigmatization as unjust. Mligo's study shows that Christian PLWHA reject stigmatization because it does not comply with the attitude of Jesus toward stigmatized groups in his own time. The theology emerging from the readings by stigmatized PLWHA, through their evaluation of Jesus' attitudes and acts toward stigmatized people in the texts, challenges churches in their obligatory mission as disciples of Jesus. Churches are challenged to reconsider healing, hospitality

and caring, prophetic voices against stigmatization, and the way they teach about HIV and AIDS in relation to sexuality. Churches must revisit their practices toward stigmatized groups and listen to their voices. Mligo argues that participant-centered Bible-study methods similar to the one used in this book (whereby stigmatized people are the primary interlocutors in the process) can be useful tools in listening to the voices of stigmatized groups.

African Theology/les: a Contemporary Mosaical Approach

Global Member Care: Crossing Sectors for Serving Humanity, the latest book from the O'Donnells, is part of an ongoing effort to help a diversity of colleagues keep current with a globalizing world and the global field of member care. This second volume in the Global Member Care series encourages readers to connect and contribute to various international sectors on behalf of mission/aid workers and humanity. The book's 35 chapters include a wealth of practical resources: guidelines, codes, resolutions, perspectives, principles, case examples, videos links, human rights instruments, and more. Get ready to venture into the heart of global issues and opportunities—from the trenches to the towers and everything in between!

Feminist New Testament Studies

In Nairobi, Kenya, Catholic and Sunni Muslim leaders working in HIV and AIDS prevention, education, and destigmatization efforts respond to those negatively affected in markedly similar ways. This book relies on interview material to offer insight into how these religious traditions offer care for those living through the epidemic.

Researching AIDS, Sexuality and Gender

"An eye-opening demonstration of how Catholic moral theology works in the concrete...ÝKeenan shows that the Catholic tradition of moral theology is robust, timely, supple, humane and, most of all, wise enough to make vital contributions to ongoing global discussions about the current state of the Body of Christ." -National Catholic Reporter

The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Theology

A new, updated third edition of the most successful and widely used textbook on Christian ethics.

Jesus and the Stigmatized

Membership in the United Methodist Church in the United States has been shrinking since the merger of 1968. Yet the bishops and young clergy who contributed essays to "Do Not Be Afraid" are unconvinced by the constant claims that the church is dying. The authors provide powerful stories pregnant with hope. Editor Dr. John Harnish masterfully weaves the chapters together so that the readers understand why each writer was included, as well as how each comes from a unique context.

Global Member Care Volume 2

Muslim and Catholic Responses to HIV and AIDS in Kenya

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