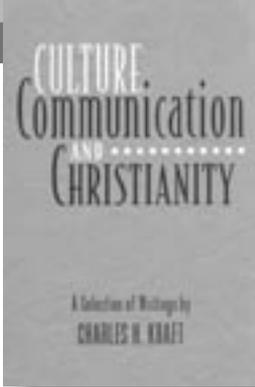




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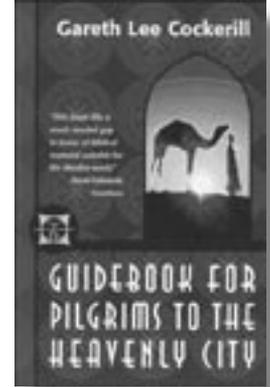
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From the Editor's Desk



We have some weighty writers in this issue. Read their thumbnail sketches. But take special note: we again have a younger author.

This journal was actually started by younger people. It was born as one of the many results of the younger, simultaneous conference to the World Conference on Frontier Missions that took place late in 1980, at Edinburgh, Scotland.

At that meeting the younger participants had their own meetings and crossed over into the plenaries. The younger group appointed two people. Brad Gill was appointed to handle on-going contact with the older mission leaders as well as the younger. Gordon Aeschliman was appointed to provide an on-going newsletter, which eventually became this journal, now in its 22nd year.

When, soon after Edinburgh, the International Society for Frontier Missiology was formed, youth were very much involved and the ISFM became one scholarly society which carried in its DNA an intergenerational reach. This simple fact was an "inconvenience" at last fall's IFMA/EFMA/EMA/ISFM conference at St. Louis because the other three societies did not have any intention of including younger people. We of IJFM/ISFM had to rent additional rooms and put on essentially a separate youth conference in order to fulfill our founding mission.

Alas, the actual Edinburgh young people have scattered in all directions and are no longer a viable group. That is the way it is with most youth groups. But, there is a move on now to rehabilitate the International Student Leaders Coalition for Frontier Missions with a new younger generation. If those who came to the St. Louis meeting are representative it will be a vibrant group. As this emerges we will certainly report on it.

In the pursuit of His frontiers,



Ralph D. Winter
Editor

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January–March 2005

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Editor

Ralph D. Winter

Managing Editor

Rory Clark

Consulting Editor

Hans Weerstra

Layout

Rory Clark, Amanda Valloza

Secretary

Barbara R. Pitts

Publisher

Bradley Gill, representing the student-level meeting at Edinburgh 1980.

Web Site

www.ijfm.org

Editorial Correspondence

IJFM

1539 East Howard Street

Pasadena, CA 91104

(626) 398-2108

ijfm@wciu.edu

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Send all subscription correspondence to:

IJFM

1539 East Howard Street

Pasadena, CA 91104

Tel: (626) 398-2281

Fax: (626) 398-2185

Email: ijfm_subscriptions@wciu.edu

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LUTHERAN SOCIETY FOR MISSIOLOGY ANNOUNCES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Lutheran Society for Missiology is pleased to announce that Dr. Allan Buckman has accepted a position as the society's new executive director.

"It is a privilege to be asked to serve the LSFM as its executive director," Buckman said, adding, "In the past, LSFM has served the Lutheran mission community well through its journal, *Missio Apostolica*, as well as its occasional book publications. This heritage will be continued in the future as careful attention is given to the sharing of effective practices, models and methodologies."

Buckman brings a wealth of experience and training to this post. Born and raised in South Dakota, upon graduation from Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, in 1965, he went to Nigeria, West Africa, where he served as an evangelistic missionary among the Yala people and supervised the translation of the New Testament into the Yala language. In 1977 he became the area secretary for Africa, Europe and the Middle East for the Board for Mission Services (LCMS World Mission) of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

In 1989, Buckman accepted the call to be the director for World Services for the LCMS Board for Mission Services. In that position, he was responsible for the supervision and coordination of LCMS-sponsored mission work around the world, until his retirement in 2003. He continues to serve LCMS World Mission on a part-time basis. Buckman received his Doctor of Missiology degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in 1978. He and his wife, Carol, make their home in Saint Louis.

"Over the years, LSFM has been guided by its purpose statement: 'To cast a vision for the importance of mission among Lutherans, especially through the identification and sharing of cutting-edge mission strategies.' At a time when the global mission challenge is becoming increasingly complex, the need for effective information sharing becomes correspondingly important," Buckman stated.

"This is an interesting and challenging time to be a participant in the worldwide expansion of Lutheran mission initiatives. It is also a privilege to work with those positioned on the cutting edge of this effort," Buckman added, noting the plans of the LSFM to link its efforts with LCMS World Mission's emerging Ablaze! initiative.

Story courtesy of Douglas Rutt, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN



LCMS WORLD MISSION • 1333 S. Kirkwood Road • St. Louis, MO 63122-7295, USA

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The IJFM is published in the name of the International Student Leaders Coalition for Frontier Missions, a fellowship of younger leaders committed to the purposes of the twin consultations of Edinburgh 1980: *The World Consultation on Frontier Missions* and the *International Student Consultation on Frontier Missions*. As an expression of the ongoing concerns of Edinburgh 1980, the IJFM seeks to:

- ☞ promote intergenerational dialogue between senior and junior mission leaders;
- ☞ cultivate an international fraternity of thought in the development of frontier missiology;
- ☞ highlight the need to maintain, renew, and create mission agencies as vehicles for frontier missions;
- ☞ encourage multidimensional and interdisciplinary studies;
- ☞ foster spiritual devotion as well as intellectual growth; and
- ☞ advocate "A Church for Every People."

Mission frontiers, like other frontiers, represent boundaries or barriers beyond which we must go yet beyond which we may not be able to see clearly and boundaries which may even be disputed or denied. Their study involves the discovery and evaluation of the unknown or even the reevaluation of the known. But unlike other frontiers, mission frontiers is a subject specifically concerned to explore and exposit areas and ideas and insights related to the glorification of God in all the nations (peoples) of the world, "to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God." (Acts 26:18)

Subscribers and other readers of the IJFM (due to ongoing promotion) come from a wide variety of backgrounds. Mission professors, field missionaries, young adult mission mobilizers, college librarians, mission executives, and mission researchers all look to the IJFM for the latest thinking in frontier missiology.