

Pneum Africa



JOURNAL

Editorial: Towards New Missions Frontiers

Dear friends,

Welcome to this new Edition of *PneumAfrica*!

Allow me to begin this editorial with a word of acknowledgement to Jerry Ireland who served as the inaugural editor of *PneumAfrica* and set a very high standard for this publication. Even though he has stepped out of the role of Editor he has continued to offer his invaluable input as part of the larger editorial team, for which we are thankful.

The articles and book reviews in this edition of *PneumAfrica* explore different facets of God's mission. Mission propels the church to explore frontiers for the purpose of advancing the *missio Dei*. The nature of the frontiers that must be explored often transcends the physical and the geographical. The Church is called to explore boundaries of every kind for the sake of the advancing of the gospel. This includes a willingness to map out new theological frontiers as part of what may be required to advance the missionary life and calling of the church. A recurrent theme in this edition of *PneumAfrica* is the application of missiological insight to new theological challenges and arenas for just such a purpose.

In this vein, our first article written by Linda Seiler presents a response to issues of homosexuality that is fashioned around the concept of the *missio Dei* and its implications for human sexuality. While she writes from a North American vantage point the subject matter, and the manner in which it has been framed, make it salient reading given the current widespread discourse on the subject across Africa. In his article addressing the state of missions in the Africa Assemblies of God Alliance (AAGA) Enson Lwesya argues that its missionary enterprise has been imprisoned by a North American missiology that is not accommodative of the scriptural latitude on what constitutes missions, and one that is painfully

inappropriate for the contextual realities of Africa. Emmanuel Kwasi Amofo argues in his article that example of the missional formation of the people of God in the wilderness journey provides normative lessons for the contemporary church in Ghana. While in our ministerial reflection Jeff Nelson and Ismael Yusuf explore the potential positive result of persecution by juxtaposing a biblical case study with one from a contemporary Islamic context.

As you read through read through the articles and the book reviews in this edition of *PneumAfrica* our prayer for you is that you may be prompted to consider new frontiers that you may required to cross in order that you might be used in new and greater ways to advance the good news of the Kingdom of God.

Peace be with you,

Andrew Mkwaila
Editor