

World Council of Churches Publications Related to Health 2019-2024

This list contains only publications focusing directly on health or published by the WCC programmes on Health and Healing and EHAIA since 2019. Many other WCC publications in human rights, climate, peacekeeping, human sexuality, gender-based violence, violence against children, etc., have references or chapters on health or touch on health less directly.



Compendium of Promising Practices of African Faith Community Interventions against Paediatric and Adolescent HIV

Executive Summary

UNAIDS and PEPFAR developed this compendium in 2023. WCC collaborated on translating the Executive Summary into French and Portuguese.

This vital report brings together essential lessons from faith communities' exceptional leadership in addressing the challenge of HIV in children. It documents evidence from the core roles that faith communities have played in identifying undiagnosed children living with HIV, improving the continuity of treatment, and supporting adherence to care and treatment. It also documents lessons from how faith leaders have driven advocacy to tackle stigma and discrimination and push for targets to be achieved. It will help faith communities and those who support and partner

with them to advance a step change in progress towards the goal of ending AIDS in children by 2030.
23 March 2024



A Guide for Churches on the Prevention of Obstetric Fistula

WCC Human Rights programme

This guide aims to raise awareness in churches and church communities of the catastrophic condition of obstetric fistula—a childbirth injury usually caused by prolonged, obstructed labour without timely medical intervention. Obstetric fistula can have devastating physical, emotional, and economic consequences for women and can even result in permanent disability.

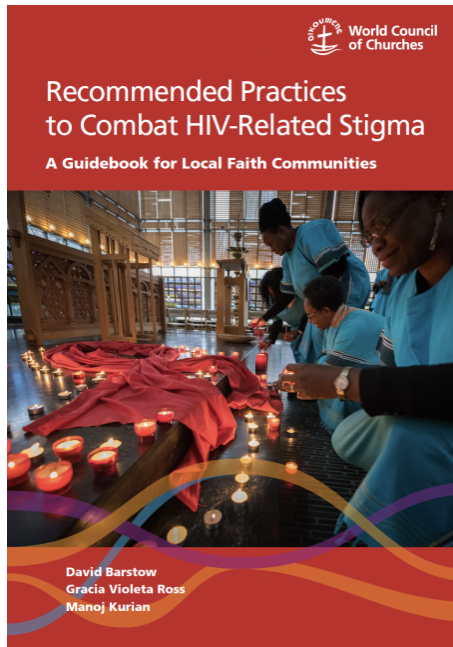
It introduces readers to obstetric fistula and explains why churches need to be concerned. It

discusses how churches can help prevent the condition from occurring in the women in their congregations and local communities. It also offers practical and emotional support and encouragement to those who are suffering with obstetric

fistula. Finally, this guide outlines the advocacy work being done and suggests some actions churches can take.

Available for download in English, Portuguese, and Malagasy.

26 October 2023



Recommended Practices to Combat HIV-Related Stigma

A Guidebook for Local Faith Communities

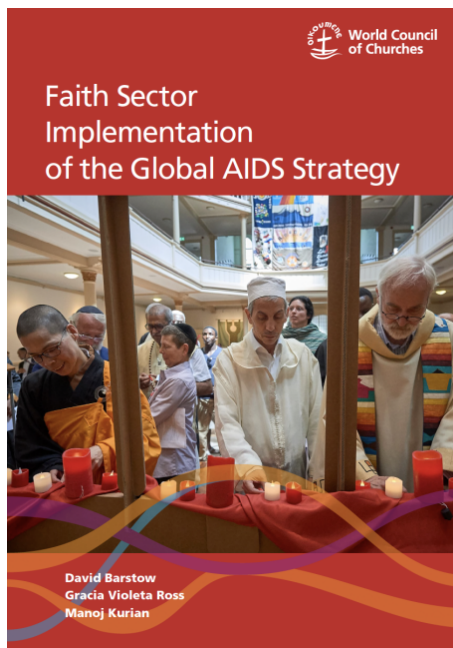
David Barstow

Gracia Violeta Ross

Manoj Kurian

In Recommended Practices to Combat HIV-Related Stigma, the World Council of Churches presents experiences of local congregations responding to HIV stigma. HIV stigma remains a significant barrier to universal access to care and prevention services and continues to be a challenge for the world, demanding our engagement and action. The faith community, with its large networks, influence and leadership, is well-placed to end HIV stigma and discrimination. It is our responsibility to participate in the HIV response; it is our calling to care for the most vulnerable.

05 October 2023



Faith Sector Implementation of the Global AIDS Strategy

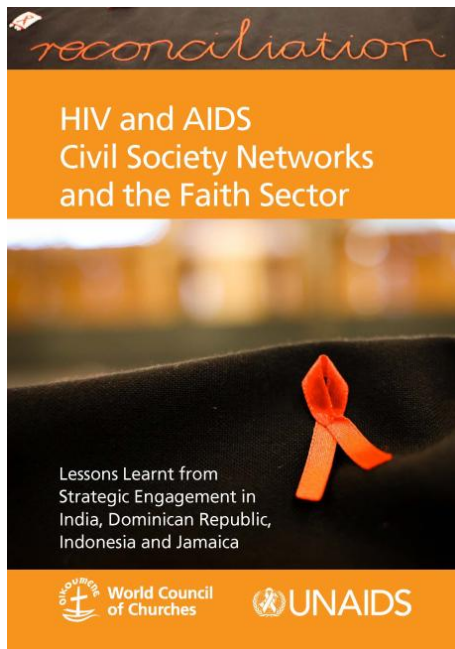
David Barstow

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Manoj Kurian

The HIV epidemic continues to present a challenge for today's world. The engagement and action of faith communities, in coordination with other actors, are crucial if we want to realize the goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. How can the faith communities have sound and relevant responses to the current challenges of HIV? In Faith Sector Implementation of the Global AIDS Strategy, the authors summarize three global strategies on HIV and provide examples of interventions and actions for faith communities.

05 October 2023



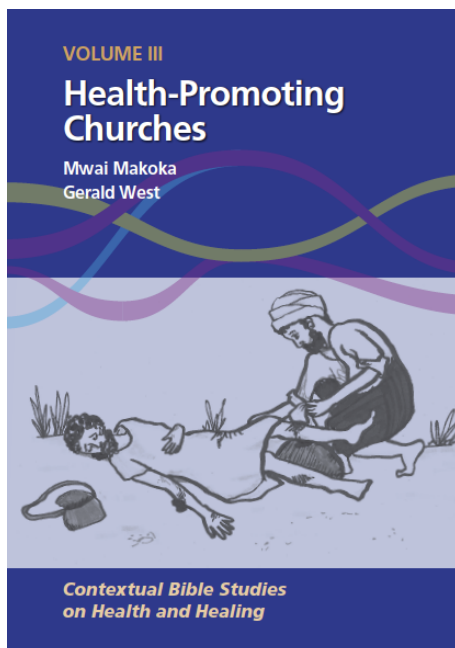
HIV and AIDS Civil Society Networks and the Faith Sector

Lessons Learnt from Strategic Engagement in India, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, and Jamaica

This booklet highlights the lessons learnt in a project, Strategic Engagement of Civil Society Networks and Faith Actors in the HIV Response in Four Countries, implemented by the World Council of Churches (WCC), with the support of the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), from July to December 2022

This initiative facilitated dialogue between civil society networks, faith actors, and key national HIV stakeholders in the Dominican Republic, India, Indonesia, and Jamaica.

31 January 2023



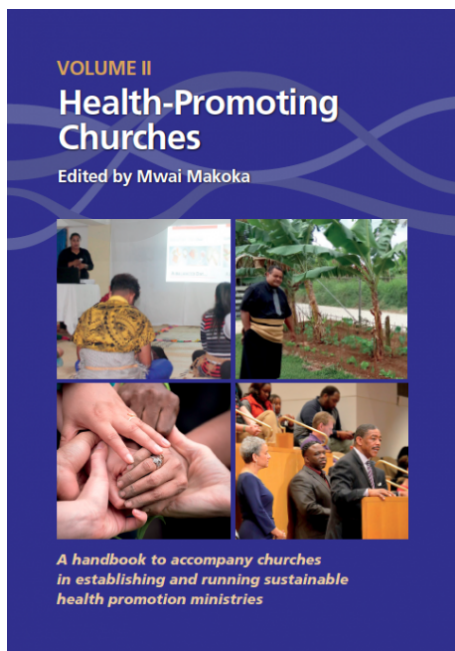
Health-Promoting Churches Volume III

Contextual Bible Studies on Health and Healing

Health and healing have always been important in the work of the World Council of Churches. The WCC has previously used the Contextual Bible Study methodology to good effect in helping churches address various challenging issues. This publication focuses on a range of challenging health issues, including women's health, disability, mental health, and health inequality.

Bible studies in this manual were produced by participants from churches around the world through a series of online workshops, ensuring that various voices and experiences are represented, enriching the publication for a global audience.

04 September 2022



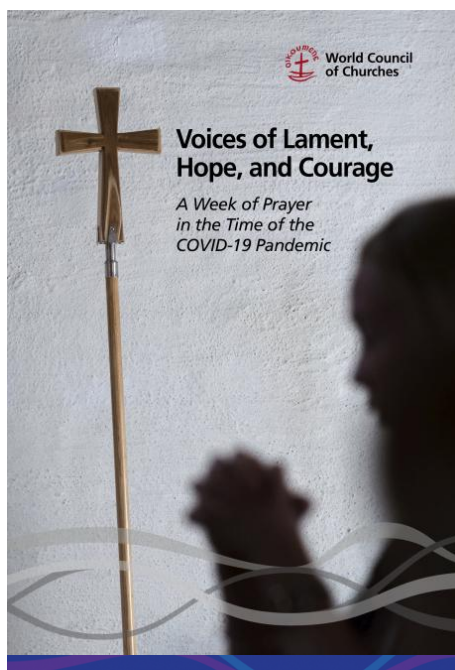
Health-Promoting Churches Volume II:

A handbook to accompany churches in establishing and running sustainable health promotion ministries. Based on the premise that the local congregation is the primary agent for healing, and each individual member has a unique gift to contribute to this healing ministry, this book provides guidelines, resources and tools to equip and support local Christian congregations in starting a sustainable health ministry.

It provides a theological and public health basis of the Health Promoting Churches (HPC) model and a guide on organizing the HPC programme sustainably.

Available in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese.

28 April 2021

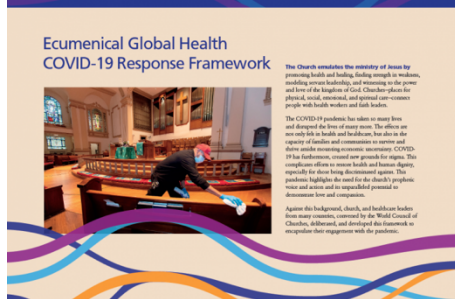


Voices of Lament, Hope, and Courage

A Week of Prayer in the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic. To commemorate a year since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the spread of COVID-19 a pandemic, the World Council of Churches provides this resource for a week of prayer.

This book was designed as a resource for use in prayer groups, congregational services, personal prayer, and in the pastoral accompaniment of those directly affected in different ways by the pandemic. The prayers, messages, reflections, statistics and WCC resources have roots in faith challenged by mourning, fear and uncertainty in different contexts worldwide.

18 March 2021



Ecumenical Global Health COVID-19 Response Framework

An A4 pamphlet, the framework identifies core challenges and response strategies for a global ecumenical response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and also recommends specific actions. This tool provides practical, simple guidelines for action through which faith communities can have an impact for their members and beyond in these challenging times.

12 November 2020



Serving a Wounded World in Interreligious Solidarity

*A Christian Call to Reflection and Action
During COVID-19 and Beyond*



World Council
of Churches

Serving a Wounded World in Interreligious Solidarity

A Christian Call to Reflection and Action During COVID-19 and Beyond

The World Council of Churches (WCC) and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue (PCID) released a joint document, “Serving a Wounded World in Interreligious Solidarity: A Christian Call to Reflection and Action During COVID-19.” Its purpose is to encourage churches and Christian organizations to reflect on the importance of interreligious solidarity in a world wounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. The document offers a Christian basis for interreligious solidarity that can inspire and confirm the impulse to serve a world wounded not only by COVID-19 but also by many other wounds.

Available in English, Chinese, Traditional Chinese, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish, Arabic, and Italian.

25 October 2020



Healing the World Eight Bible Studies for the Pandemic Era

World Council
of Churches

Healing the World

Eight Bible Studies for the Pandemic Era

The global coronavirus pandemic, which has brought death to hundreds of thousands and serious illness to millions more, also poses profound spiritual questions and real challenges to Christians everywhere.

The pandemic itself has become a fundamental test of our faith in God and God’s providence, and it urges us to earnest re-examination of our relationship to God, each other, and the natural world.

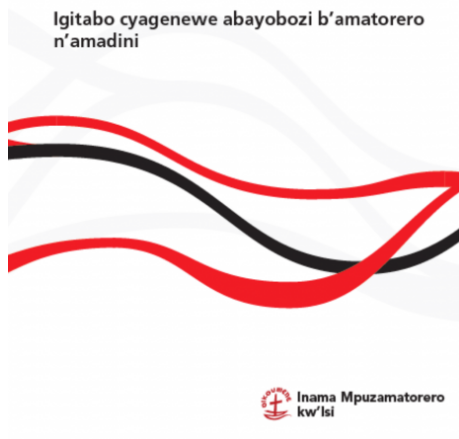
In *Healing the World*, the World Council of Churches offers these eight Bible studies to facilitate our coming to terms—as individuals, groups, and communities of faith—with the loss, fear, and confusion engendered by the pandemic, and the bracing prospect of building the world anew.

25 October 2020

Gukir' agakoko gatera Sida mu kwizera gusa:

Integanya nyigisho z'abayobozi b'amatorero n'amadini

Igitabo cyagenewe abayobozi b'amatorero n'amadini



Treatment Adherence and Faith Healing in the Context of HIV and AIDS in Africa

Training Manual for Religious Leaders

This series of manuals emerged out of the realization that exclusive claims of faith healing in the context of HIV and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa are compromising adherence to antiretroviral therapy. It recognizes that religious leaders are strategically placed to promote adherence (following through on the use of medication as suggested by a treating doctor) to antiretroviral therapy and to challenge stigma and discrimination.

The manual consists of practical, user-friendly units designed for use with faith communities, theological institutions, and theological education by extension. It is a living document and is adaptable to different contexts. It is available in French, English, Kinyarwanda, and Kiswahili

25 October 2020

Positive Masculinities and Femininities

Handbook for Adolescents and Young People in Faith Communities in Nigeria



Positive Masculinities and Femininities

Handbook for Adolescents and Young People in Faith Communities in Nigeria

Continuing its mission of providing practical pastoral resources to counter HIV and AIDS, WCC's Ecumenical HIV and AIDS Advocacy and Initiatives (WCC EHAIA) has published a half dozen manuals for addressing key concerns of those most affected by the disease. Context-driven and language-specific, the six pieces yet tackle topics pertinent to the whole of Africa and beyond and can be employed to structure workshops and to inform resource persons themselves. Available in English and French.

19 October 2020

Healing Together

A Facilitator's Resource for Ecumenical Faith and Community-Based Counselling



Healing Together

A Facilitator's Resource for Ecumenical Faith and Community-Based Counselling

Fulata Lusungu Moyo

Up to 80 percent of Africans are estimated to be traumatized as a result of violence, poverty, disease, natural disasters, and other causes. As a continent where the majority of the population are young people, Africa's adolescent population is particularly affected. Along with common causes of trauma, youth also experience many other struggles related to growing up. But this trauma often goes unaddressed, not only because sexual and gender-based violence become normalized, but also because of the lack of specific services and awareness.

This book addresses this lack. It is an important gift to enhance the role of churches to provide wholeness.

15 October 2020



Health-Promoting Churches Vol 1

Reflections on Health and Healing for Churches on Commemorative World Health Days

Mwai Makoka

This booklet includes 15 reflections on international commemorative health days from Dr Mwai Makoka, WCC Programme Executive for Health and Healing, who emphasises that he is not a theologian but “ a lay Christian who is a medical professional and keen to promote health and healing from a Christian perspective. Available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French

15 October 2020