



The Peaceful Path

Big Dreams, Bright Futures



Friends School Vikwatani

Friends Church (Quakers) Nairobi Yearly Meeting has a desire to be of impact to the various communities that they work with.

Following development of the Rafiki Centre Vikwatani starting in 2022 the masterplan made provision for development of a school in line with the vision for a school that will help the community. The member who donated 10 acres of the 12 acres owned by NYM desired that the children in the area would have a school nearby with holistic education.



A business case was documented in October 2024 to review the cost and conditions of starting a school in Vikwatani. A

Board to manage the school was put in place and has worked in conjunction with NYM and QICL to deliver on the dream of a school in Vikwatani. The board is chaired by CPA Frederick Ambale and the members are Beatrice Shirao, Dominic Ketoyo, Dr. Phance Nyongesa, Eznas Chanzu, Francis Mugomati,

Hellen Malava, Hellen Walukhu, Irene Kashindi, Justus Sudi, Margaret Muhandale and Pst Fredrick Kidake.

A pre inspection was done in December 2024 to confirm requirements of the County Education Department and recommendations given were implemented. Interviews were done to identify the teachers for the school. Two teachers were identified and recruited to run the school. The school was opened on Monday 13 January 2025 and registered 17 learners on that day. A fire inspection was done by the County on 6 February 2025 and fire extinguishers purchased post the inspection.



The learners as of 28 February 2025 were 21 boys and 13 girls making a total of 34 pupils in playgroup, PP1 & PP2. The feeding program started on 27 January 2025 with 14 parents paying for the first week.

The numbers have continued to grow each week. We had food donations (about 30.25kg of various food items), 210 writing crayons, pens and pencils and 319 books of which 279 were exercise books during the USFW conference in November 2024 that have helped jumpstart the school especially the feeding programme and learners materials.

Infrastructure has been purchased including but not limited to 50 learner chairs and 4 seater tables, head teacher and staff room table and chairs, book cabinet for all the materials, materials for physical education mainly skipping rope, balls, slides and swings and materials for the teachers to guide them as they teach the learners.

The school has had a positive impact in the community with one parent indicating that their child is now able to speak more English words and we have since learnt that the food the pupils have in school may be the only meal some of them will have for the day. This therefore makes the school a safe haven for some of them. Parents who brought their children to pre primary school with older children in other schools have enquired when we will start the primary section so that their children are in one school.



The school has received visitors some being head teachers and well-wishers of nearby schools coming to benchmark. The area chief has not only made visits to the school but also raised awareness about the school in public barazas and events. Plans are underway to have the school marketed via distribution of flyers that can be given to prospective parents by the head teacher and class representatives, at parents meetings and Chief's barazas. We welcome all members in our Churches to promote the school and encourage people in the area to join the school.

From QICL Desk

Nairobi Yearly Meeting At 38th

Presiding Clerk's Remarks On 38th Birthday



Praise God! We have a lot to thank God for in the 38 years that NYM has been in existence. Steady growth has been witnessed in many areas. These include membership, increased Local and Monthly Meetings, employment of more trained Pastors, opening of more mission stations, especially in the Coast, launch of a homegrown Bible study manual and acquisition of more property, among others. Friends School Vikwatani Kindergarten, with a feeding programme, opened its doors in January 2025 with 31 students. Many meetings are also developing fast.

Rafiki Apartments in Nakuru, is just but one example. NYM has adopted online banking for efficient processing of staff salaries and other financial transactions. Establishment of the Quaker Investment Company Limited (QICL) to separate business from worship activities is another milestone. The company has been generating revenue to support NYM's operational requirements. Please embrace QICL because it belongs to us.

NYM promulgated a new Constitution and policy framework documents in various sectors such as human resource, finance, investment, procurement, communication, social matters and data protection. A virtual portal and quarterly online newsletter are sources of information regarding NYM activities. These have helped strengthen governance in church.

NYM has also been working in close collaboration with apex bodies such as Friends Church Kenya (FCK), Friends United Meeting (FUM), Friends World Committee on Consultations (FWCC) and the National Council of Churches in Kenya (NCCK).

We are not immune to challenges. Although at 123 years, the Quaker church in Kenya should be too old to be poor, this is not the case. At 38, NYM is still struggling financially. Occasional delays in staff salaries payment, a weak staff medical cover and retirement package remain a headache to be cured. Poor working relationships between various key stakeholders of the church remains a big problem. Nomination of leaders in our church is the biggest tragedy of all times. This important process has led to divisions in churches and some members quitting, or stopping to support the church. We have to review rules governing the process of getting leaders in our church. Going forward, special emphasis will be made on mission work. Leaders should progressively increase the little 1% missions budget to a minimum of 10%. We have assigned a Pastor to specifically nurture our mission stations, grow more and expand our evangelical outreach.

NYM is spread in 15 Counties whose full potential has not been explored. We need more worship centres in Coast, Eastern, Central, and Rift Valley, areas. Some indigenous talents have been identified for training so that they can easily help in evangelizing local populations. They include Pastors Jackson, a Kauma from Ganze, Kilifi and David Chaka, a Duruma from Kinango, Kwale. The latter is on an FUM scholarship. Currently we are in talks with the FUM Missions Board to take missionaries to Dar Es Salaam, in Tanzania.

Strengthening of the Quaker Children Ministry remains key. This will give us a strong foundation for the growth and development of our church. Prayer is the bedrock of any Christian. NYM is putting in place mechanisms to develop a prayer Centre. Quakers and other Christians will converge at this Centre and communicate with God at all times.

Attaining financial freedom remains key. Faithful tithing, thanksgiving, first fruits, faith promise, sacrificial offertory and donations must be taught and encouraged. Reduction of many money consuming activities at all levels is a necessary pain. Audits carried out in a number of meetings have revealed a very disturbing trend – casualness in handling church finances. Strengthening of the audit function to prevent financial loss across our meetings will be undertaken.

The clergy and laity must prioritize submission of budgets so that payment of salaries is not delayed. There is no honour in meetings having huge development projects on the ground and yet their clergy are unable to pay rent, school fees, hospital bills and even dowry, because lay leaders have not remitted budgets - the main source of salaries payment.

Nomination of church leaders is a critical function. Church work is not ordinary; but a stewardship role. Only men and women who have God's will at their hearts should be allowed to be in charge of the process; and also be nominated as leaders. In the same breadth, we are in leadership – both laity and clergy - only for a season.

We need not fight for we are serving in the house of God, which is not our personal property. Let us work together in unity and take good care of God's flock. We have to review rules governing the process of getting leaders in our church. May the spirit of discernment guide us in getting the right people who will be entrusted with the noble task of leading God's church.

In order to enhance our church visibility, branding and signage should be undertaken. NYM's presence on radio and TV are necessary to support evangelism. We should also take advantage of the Nairobi Campus of Friends Theological College (FTC) to train leaders and other evangelists locally. They will easily fly our brand as an organization.

In conclusion, the Bible records in John 5:2-9 (NIV), as follows:

".....Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie - the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

"Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk."

At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath..."

Clergy and laity must give members services that add value to their lives such as caring for the needy, counselling, encouragement, high quality sermons/teachings, nourishing worship services and good shepherding. This way, members will not only have a reason to retain our membership, but even more important, they will appreciate the need to support mission work, through the great commission. If we have been sick for thirty eight (38) years, like the invalid man, Jesus has directed us to be healed; let us pick our mats and walk; and yes, pace with courage into our destiny as per NYM's 2025 theme (2 Corinthians 4:17-18).

Yours in Christ's Service,
BEN MAKASI SIMIYU
PRESIDING CLERK

Women in Leadership

Spot Her, Celebrate Her, and Let Us Know!

Women in NYM are stepping into leadership roles with faith, passion, and professionalism, exemplifying Quaker values of Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, and Stewardship. Their influence in the church and beyond continues to inspire and uplift communities.

Women Leading the Church

Across Nairobi and Lang'ata QCC, extraordinary women are leading with vision and dedication, shaping the future of the church with their unwavering commitment, strategic insight, and deep-rooted faith. These women are not only serving in leadership positions but are also transforming the way the church engages with its members and the wider community. They bring fresh perspectives, initiate impactful programs, and foster a sense of unity and empowerment among congregants. Their leadership is characterized by a blend of spiritual depth, administrative excellence, and a heart for service. Below are some of the remarkable women who are making a difference.



Violet Muteshi

A Pillar of Faith and Service

Violet Muteshi, the Presiding Clerk of Makadara Friends Church, stands out as a pillar of faith and a key force behind the church's remarkable growth. Through her visionary leadership and unwavering generosity, she has guided the church to achieve significant milestones.

One of her most impactful contributions was steering the church toward financial independence by successfully leading efforts to clear the SMEP loan taken during its construction. Under her leadership, the church adopted the "Faith Promise" strategy—an approach that encourages members to make voluntary and consistent financial commitments. This model has greatly strengthened the church's financial health and operational efficiency.

Violet's dedication goes beyond administration. She has a deep passion for ministry and community service. She personally supported the church choir by providing uniforms, helping maintain the group's unity and vibrancy. Currently, she is spearheading the construction of the Quaker Church Ministry Block, a project designed to enhance the church's ability to serve both its congregation and the wider community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery period that followed, Violet extended a helping hand to the vulnerable within and beyond the church. Her compassion brought relief and hope to many facing difficult circumstances.

Together with her family, she has also sponsored the education of several underprivileged children, some through to university—underscoring her commitment to empowering the next generation through education.

Her passion for social impact is further reflected in her support of the Hungry for Life initiative, which provides widows with food, farming tools, medical assistance, and business training. This program also supports students, extending her influence well beyond the church walls.

Violet Muteshi is more than a leader; she is a true servant of the people. Her selfless service and unwavering faith continue to inspire many, making her a beacon of hope, love, and dedication within Makadara Friends Church and the broader community.



Dr. Gladys Bunyasi

Dr. Bunyasi is a transformative leader driving growth and empowerment. She has successfully led resource mobilization efforts, acquiring additional land for Juja Local Church, constructing permanent structures for children's ministry, pastoral offices, and a caretaker's house.

Passionate about counseling, mentorship, and evangelism through social media, she spearheads programs that position the church as a hub for entrepreneurship training, youth and women empowerment, and community service. She has also partnered with the area MCA to advance these initiatives.

Additionally, she has launched a mentorship program, bringing professionals to engage with young people during worship services and beyond. Through the Education Commission, she organizes holiday events under the theme "The Future Belongs to the Prepared." She is a team player, rallying leaders to work harmoniously towards the church's goals.



Christine Sabwa

A true innovator and visionary, Christine pioneered Quaker Radio, donating equipment and setting up a station run by nine volunteers. Harnessing the power of technology, she has extended the reach of the church's mission.

Christine is deeply passionate about music ministry, mentoring a youth choir of 26 young people, encouraging them to step out of their comfort zones in evangelism through music. As an experienced professional in banking, auditing, and digital finance, she mentors five young women annually in both career and faith.

Serving as the QICL CEO, she has been instrumental in building new lines of business such as the Rafiki Centre Vikwatani. Beyond her ministry, she is an entrepreneur—farming mangoes and green grams, and exporting mangoes—exemplifying stewardship in all aspects of life. Her leadership has inspired others to step forward and serve.

These women are redefining church leadership, proving that women are not only capable but essential in shaping the future of the Quaker faith.

Women Excelling Professionally



Dr. Phanice Wangila Fedha

Dr. Fedha, also known as Mrs. Nyongesa, is a Director of Gender and Development, Senior Lecturer in Chemistry (STEM), and an Author. A leading voice in family and gender advocacy, she has published books such as *Research Methods in STEM and Family Relationships* and *the Church*.

Her passion for advocating for women and girls has led to career promotions, empowerment initiatives, and justice for many. She is a trained mediator with expertise in strategic leadership, monitoring, and evaluation, and remains a champion for gender equality and diversity.



Dr. Anne Tenya

Dr. Tenya, a Lecturer at the University of Kabanga, has risen from humble beginnings to earn a PhD in Information Sciences and Knowledge Management.

She is dedicated to uplifting the less fortunate, particularly young girls. Quietly and consistently, she has paid school fees for several students, with some now pursuing university education. She is also a strong advocate for women's empowerment through the United Society of Friends Women (USFW).

Through her leadership, she has mobilized women in Nakuru Monthly Meeting, initiating small-scale projects for economic empowerment. Her commitment to education, mentorship, and faith-based leadership makes her an inspiring role model.



Dr. Eunice Majanga

A Senior Lecturer in the Sociology of Education, Dr. Majanga holds a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies. Her academic journey from a diploma teacher to a doctorate holder is a testament to resilience and excellence.

Passionate about empowering the youth, she is a motivational speaker and generous financial supporter of church initiatives. Inspired by Caleb in the Bible, she is committed to resource mobilization for building a sanctuary in Nakuru.

A nurturing mentor, she never returns from her travels empty-handed, always bringing gifts for friends and mentees—symbolizing her deep care for others.



Rose Amadadi Sandagi

Is a devoted young mother and an active member of the USFW at Kericho Friends Church. She is raising her beautiful 12-year-old daughter and serves as a mentor to both primary and secondary school students.

This year, her focus is on mentoring the boy

child—guiding them on self-acceptance and equipping them with tools to handle peer pressure effectively.

Rose is an inspiring leader and a passionate community champion whose influence spans both faith-based mentorship and corporate social responsibility.

As a former youth leader at Friends Church, she played a transformative role by revitalizing youth ministries through impactful programs that nurtured spiritual, emotional, and economic growth. Her leadership not only empowered young people but also inspired more women to take on leadership roles within the church.

Currently, Rose continues to make a meaningful impact through her work at Safaricom, where she spearheads high-impact CSR initiatives in health, education, and economic empowerment. Through the Safaricom Foundation, she has helped refurbish rural health centers and facilitated the donation of essential medical equipment to underserved communities.

She has also been at the forefront of menstrual health initiatives, leading campaigns to distribute sanitary pads and conduct health education in marginalized schools. These efforts have significantly contributed to reducing period poverty and improving school attendance among teenage girls.

Rose's unwavering commitment to people-centered leadership, mentorship, and sustainable community development makes her a true role model and a powerful force for positive change.

Women Innovating for Change



Beatrice Ambale

A passionate mentor and advocate, Beatrice has dedicated her life to uplifting marginalized communities. She initiated a temporary shelter for widows at Galana Mission Station and works with the Mombasa Women of Faith Network, supporting drug addicts and vulnerable children.

Through the Engage Jamii Initiative, she mentors young girls in Mombasa, equipping them with education and life skills. Her dedication to peace and interfaith dialogue is evident in her work with the Coast Interfaith Council of Clerics (CICC) in addressing violent extremism.



Terry Khaemba Since

2013, Terry Faith Khaemba, known as “The Ideal Teacher,” has been a leader in the Quaker Children’s Ministry at

Lang’ata Friends Church.

Through Friends of the Community, she organizes monthly outreach visits to children’s homes across Kenya, offering mentorship and material support. Her mission is to uplift vulnerable children, ensuring they feel valued and empowered to pursue a bright future.

Mebo Sagala

Former NYM Recording Clerk, Mebo Sagala is an advocate for child welfare and education. What began as a small daycare in Kibera—Fairview Children Centre—has flourished into an institution providing quality education and meals for vulnerable children.

Now serving as its Director, Mebo continues to champion children's well-being, embodying resilience, servant leadership, and compassion.



Beatrice Vukutsa

A Public Health Officer at Pumwani Maternity Hospital, Beatrice is dedicated to maternal care, hygiene, and sanitation.

She has offered life-saving counseling to mothers in crisis, as well as individuals battling suicidal thoughts. She also leads group counseling sessions on job skills training, empowering youth and women. As a regular radio speaker, she educates the public on health and hygiene, broadening her impact beyond her immediate community.

These women are beacons of hope and transformation, leading with purpose in churches, communities, and professions—empowering others and leaving a legacy of impact and service.

Let us continue to spot them, celebrate them, and share their stories!



Juddie Agala

Do you know a woman doing something remarkable?

Spot her, celebrate her, and let us know—so we can share her story and inspire others. Sms on 0720852183 @Juddieagala

Prepare the Way for Missions

A powerful Revival and a timely call to action for the Quaker community

The KAKAMADA Revival, held on 15th and 16th March 2025 at Kariobangi Monthly Meeting, was a spiritually enriching event that stirred hearts and rekindled the passion for mission work within the Nairobi Yearly Meeting. KAKAMADA is a cluster of four Monthly Meetings under Nairobi Q.C.C: Kariobangi, Kayole, Mailisaba, and Dandora.

Saturday: Mission at Work

The Revival began with mission outreach teams venturing into Umoja 3 sub-local, Marurui sub-local, and Huruma Local Church. Teams engaged in door-to-door evangelism, reaching out to individuals and families with the message of hope. In Huruma, they ministered to families affected by a recent fire that devastated the area but left the church building untouched—a sign of divine preservation.

Later, Sister Violet Muteshi, Clerk of Nairobi QCC, officially opened the Revival. She encouraged the congregation, especially the youth, to take full advantage of such spiritual moments. Pastor Clevis Sakwa delivered a deep and moving message on the theme “True Worship”, based on John 4:23–24.

Sunday: Worship and Leadership Presence

Sunday was a significant day for Kariobangi Monthly Meeting. We were honored to host the Clerk and General Superintendent of Nairobi Yearly Meeting, along with other senior officials. I had the rare privilege of sharing God’s Word before them at Kariobangi North Local Church. I preached from 1 Chronicles 13:13–14 on “The Reward of Serving God Faithfully”, reflecting on the blessings that came upon Obed-Edom for hosting the Ark of God.

The delegation later visited the Friends Com-

munity Center at Kariobangi South and re-joined the Revival for a powerful worship session.

In his remarks, General Superintendent, Pastor John Webere stressed the importance of accountability in ministry, urging members to remain faithful stewards in supporting the work of God.

A Clarion Call for Missions

Presiding Clerk Brother Ben Simiyu praised Kariobangi Monthly Meeting for its legacy as a stronghold in Nairobi Yearly Meeting. He reminded us that Kariobangi has birthed several Monthly Meetings, including Kahawa, Thika, Kayole, Mailisaba, and Dandora, and has produced numerous pastors serving across the church.

He challenged the Meeting to go beyond its walls and venture into mission work, identifying areas such as Kitui, Makueni, and Konza as potential mission fields. Drawing from John 1:23, he called on the Quaker community to “prepare the way of the Lord”, igniting a fresh vision for evangelism and outreach.



*By Pastor George Busolo Lukalo,
Kariobangi Monthly Meeting
Author of “Quakers of Kenya”*

Friends Church Quakers Quakermen Ministry (NYM)

Empowering Men, Strengthening Communities

Living the Quaker Values: A Commitment to S.P.I.C.E.S.

Rooted in the Quaker Faith and Practice, the Quakermen Ministry stands firm on the pillars of Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, and Stewardship, collectively known as S.P.I.C.E.S. These values guide our every action, conversation, and service as we build a brotherhood of purpose-driven men.

Our Vision

To spread the Gospel and cultivate an enabling environment where the Quakermen Ministry flourishes spiritually, socially, and economically.

Our Mission

To enhance Christian stewardship, fellowship, and cooperation among men by empowering them in all spheres of life.

Our Core Objectives

- **Male Leadership:** Encouraging men to embrace God-ordained leadership roles at home and within the church.

- **Spiritual and Ethical Integrity:** Upholding righteousness, character, and moral excellence.

- **Strong Marriages:** Fostering Christ-centered relationships grounded in love, protection, and biblical values.

The Three Pillars of a Quakerman

- **Priest:** Leading families in faith and guiding spiritual growth.

- **Provider:** Supporting and sustaining household and community well-being.

- **Protector:** Safeguarding the family and community with love and responsibility.

Empowerment in Action: Transforming Lives

The Quakermen Empowerment Program is a transformative initiative equipping men to take charge of their spiritual, social, and economic journey. It's about becoming proactive agents of change — in the church, in the home, and in society.

What We Do

We inspire men to:

- Think creatively and take initiative.
- Solve problems that matter to them.
- Strengthen their overall well-being —



spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and economically.

How We Empower

Through a variety of holistic and engaging activities:

- Keshas (Overnight Prayer Meetings)
- Seminars, Preaching Sessions, and Group Discussions
- Midweek Fellowships and Monthly Men's Breakfasts
- Inter-local Rotational Empowerment Visits
- Home Visitations to Build Relationships and Support Networks

A Holistic Approach

We believe in whole-person empowerment. Our programs offer:

- Counseling: Addressing health, behavior, and emotional well-being.
- Mentorship: Encouraging men to uplift and guide each other.
- Training & Skills Development: Equipping men to lead more impactful lives.
- Impact & Stewardship: Fostering a spirit of service, responsibility, and transformation.

We continually evaluate and improve our programs to ensure they remain impactful and relevant.

Stories of Transformation: Empowerment in Action

Across our churches, the fruits of empowerment are visible:

- Kariokor MM: Acquired 4 acres of land in Ibisil for future development and investment.
- Kayole MM: Successfully constructed a perimeter wall for their church.
- Makadara MM: Upgraded their church with a pulpit carpet, a new PA system, a generator, and a perimeter wall. Plans are underway for ceiling installation and wiring.
- Other Monthly Meetings: Provide continuous support to various church development initiatives.

In addition, the program has hosted seminars, conferences, and retreats focusing on timely and researched topics — from health and wellness to culture and Christianity.

Leadership, Fellowship & Milestones

Our ministry has built strong organizational structures:

- Council of Elders: Offers wise counsel and mediates disputes as needed.
- Special Committees: Including Planning, Social, and the Ibisil Project Team.
- Representation in Higher Meetings: Our men have been appointed to serve in national church forums like FCK and QMI. We've nurtured strong ties with Friends Church Kenya (FCK), actively participating in joint prayer events such as FCK Keshas.

Nurturing Spiritual Growth

To nurture spiritual strength, we have identified and engaged Pastors and Evangelists to walk alongside men — from the local church level upward — offering guidance, prayer, and pastoral care.

Partnership & Outreach

We proudly support other ministries and community initiatives, including:

- Donating cement and other materials to projects at Rafiki Centre, Vikwatani.
- Collaborating with the Education Commission to provide food and clothing to underprivileged children near Rafiki Centre.

Living Out the Biblical Calling

In all our work, we remain inspired by the biblical roles of men as Providers, Priests, and Protectors — called not only to lead, but to serve with humility, vision, and love.

By Benson Lubanga
Chair Qaukermen

Leadership Governance Retreat: A Time of Reflection, Strategy, and Renewal



*Date: 26th February – 1st March 2025
Venue: Friends Centre Maringo*

As the curtains closed on the much-anticipated leadership governance retreat held from 26th February to 1st March 2025, there was a shared sense of purpose and renewed commitment among church leaders. The retreat, themed around reflection, accountability, and strategic alignment, brought together pastors, departmental heads, elders, and key stakeholders in church leadership.

The event kicked off with a Pastors' Retreat, providing a serene and focused environment for spiritual leaders to retreat from their busy schedules and intentionally reflect on their personal calling, ministry direction, and collective vision. Special emphasis was placed on the need to improve employee welfare, with a particular focus on benevolent support systems.

Leaders acknowledged the increasing burden of unforeseen expenses on staff members and committed to developing structured, compassionate, and sustainable welfare solutions.

Key Agenda Areas and Resolutions

Throughout the retreat, several thematic sessions were held, guided by facilitators with a deep understanding of church governance and leadership dynamics. Discussions and workshops led to the adoption of resolutions in the following areas:

1. Church Leadership

There was a strong emphasis on equipping current and emerging leaders with the tools and training needed to serve with integrity, vision, and humility. Plans were set in motion to establish regular leadership training sessions, mentorship programs, and performance accountability systems.

2. Employee Welfare

Beyond benevolent support, the conversation broadened to include health insurance access, emotional wellness, and fair remuneration.

3. Resource Stewardship

Leaders examined the church's use of resources both financial and human and called for improved transparency, reporting structures, and prudent financial management. Emphasis was placed on aligning budgeting practices with the church's mission and strategic goals.

4. Peaceful Coexistence

Recognizing the diversity within the congregation and leadership teams, the retreat emphasized the importance of promoting unity, mutual respect, and conflict resolution. A culture of open dialogue, regular fellowship, and reconciliation was encouraged to ensure harmony across the yearly meeting.

5. Strategic Goals

A forward-looking session culminated in the definition of strategic priorities for the year. These included strengthening discipleship, expanding outreach programs, embracing digital ministry tools, and investing in QCM. Clear metrics and timelines were established to guide implementation and evaluation. Clerk informed members of a team that has been setup to review NYM strategic plan 2021 – 2026.

Special Guests and Spiritual Encouragement

The retreat was graced by the presence of Elders Clerk emeritus Churchill Kibisu and Elder Clerk emeritus Simon Angote, whose wisdom, humility, and years of service brought great inspiration. Their keynote messages reminded attendees of the importance of servant leadership, accountability to God, and resilience in the face of modern ministry challenges.

Outcome and Impact

As the retreat came to a close, participants expressed gratitude for the space to reconnect, realign, and be spiritually refreshed. Many described the experience as timely and transformational. Leaders returned to their stations with renewed vigor, deeper clarity, and a strong sense of shared purpose for the year ahead.

By Dan Wamalwa
CRIT Chair

NYAFP Program Growth & Upcoming Initiatives

Over the past two years, the NYAFP program has experienced dynamic growth—spiritually, socially, and structurally. With a vision rooted in youth empowerment and community transformation, we've seen incredible progress in connecting, equipping, and mobilizing young people across the nation. Here's a roundup of our highlights and what's coming next:

1. NYM NYAFP Forum – A Space to Grow in Faith

The NYAFP Forum has become a vibrant on-line space for young believers to gather for weekly Bible studies, teachings, and thoughtful discussions. This initiative has helped strengthen spiritual foundations while connecting youth across various regions.

2. Youth-Centered Events – Fellowship in Action

From sports days and team-building retreats to revivals, missions, and crusades, our events have seen exceptional growth! These gatherings have fostered unity and spiritual awakening. A major achievement? The establishment of a new local church in Vikwatwani, under the Kongewea Monthly Meeting. Glory to God!

3. Town Hall Meetings – Youth Voice Matters

This year, we're rolling out town hall meetings where youth can interact directly with NYM leadership. These sessions will focus on understanding NYM's policy, structure, and constitution, while also creating space for open dialogue, questions, and collective vision-setting.

4. NYM Netball Team – Rallying Behind Our Champions

Let's cheer on the NYM Netball Team, established just a year ago and already preparing for county and national tournaments! This is more than just a game, it's about teamwork, discipline, and representing the power

of youth in motion. Let's show them our full support!

5. 36th NYAFP Conference – See You in Vikwatwani!

We're excited to invite you to the 36th NYAFP Conference, taking place in Vikwatwani. This is a powerful time to connect, worship, and grow as one body.

Bonus Mission: We encourage all members and partners to support the newly established school in Vikwatwani. Whether through donations, materials, or mentorship, we welcome collaborations to help build this school into a beacon of hope and education.

Looking Ahead

As NYAFP continues to grow, our mission remains the same:

Empower the youth. Deepen spiritual roots. Impact our communities.

Let's keep the momentum going, together!

Prepared by:
Donnex Mutecho
Program Chair, NYAFP



Simplicity as a Virtue in Friends Church (Quakers)

Introduction

Simplicity is a core virtue in the Friends Church (Quakers), deeply rooted in our tradition of seeking an undivided heart before God. Richard Foster, a Quaker theologian, explores simplicity in *Celebration of Discipline*, emphasizing that it is not merely about living with less but about aligning one's life with the kingdom of God. He asserts, "Simplicity is an inward reality that results in an outward lifestyle." This does not equate to poverty.

Foster argues that simplicity liberates individuals from anxiety, as it shifts focus from possessions to trust in God's provision. He warns against the cultural obsession with accumulation, stating that "the desire for wealth and status enslaves the soul." Instead, he encourages believers to adopt a lifestyle of contentment, guided by Jesus' teaching that life does not consist in the abundance of possessions (Luke 12:15).

The Quaker testimony of simplicity encourages a life free from material excess, dishonesty, and unnecessary distractions. This echoes Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:33 to "seek first the kingdom of God." Quakers believe that true simplicity fosters spiritual freedom and deepens one's relationship with God. Foster reinforces this by warning against the bondage of materialism, advocating for trust in God's provision rather than wealth and possessions.

Quaker practice has historically reflected this virtue through plain dress, simple speech, and ethical business dealings. Foster highlights that simplicity is not about legalism but about cultivating a heart that is content, generous, and free from greed. He suggests practical steps, such as rejecting anything that leads to addiction, avoiding debt, and practicing gratitude.

Conclusion

By embracing simplicity, Quakers seek to live with integrity and purpose. Foster's insights align with this tradition, reminding believers that simplicity is about living in truth, focusing on God's will, and serving others joyfully. As Quakers have long demonstrated, a simple life is a powerful testimony of faith and trust in God. Indeed, a key aspect of simplicity is living with integrity, ensuring that our words, actions and priorities align with God's truth. To me, as Clevix, this is true Quakerism. It is time to practice and not memorize (James 1:22)

Reference

Foster, Richard J. Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth. HarperCollins, 1978



*Written by CPM Clevix Sakwa
Pastor, Friends Church (Quakers)
Kawangware Monthly Meeting.*

Why Should We Talk About Tithing as Quakers?

Introduction

Tithing is a topic that often brings up many questions, emotions, and even resistance. As Quakers, it is important for us to explore this topic not just from a historical or doctrinal perspective, but from a place of spiritual reflection and community discernment.

Quaker Foundations on Tithing

Early Quakers refused to pay tithes to the Church of England. They saw tithing as a forced payment to a professional clergy, which clashed with their belief in the priesthood of all believers and a direct relationship with God. Instead of supporting institutionalized religion, they focused on mutual care within their communities and on living lives that bore witness to their faith.

But why this resistance?

Early Quakers believed that Old Testament tithes, which were meant for the maintenance of the Levitical priesthood, were no longer relevant. With the coming of Christ, they understood that there was no longer a need for human intermediaries between God and humankind. This theological stance led to widespread persecution, which was well-documented and shared publicly to highlight the injustices they endured.

A notable Quaker, William Penn, used his influence in the courts to advocate for Quaker rights and to relieve persecution where possible.

Over time, as Quakerism evolved, the focus shifted toward other core values such as peace, simplicity, integrity, equality, and community. However, today's Quakers are increasingly revisiting the concept of stewardship a value closely tied to the spirit of tithing. Many now choose to give according to personal conviction and community needs, rather than out of obligation.

So, What Does the Bible Say About Tithing?

Malachi 3:7-10 (NIV)

"Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty.

"But you ask, 'How are we to return?'

"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

"But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'

"In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse your whole nation because you are robbing me."

What is Tithing?

Tithing is a voluntary act of giving a spiritual discipline, not just a financial transaction. It is an expression of worship, obedience, trust, and gratitude to God for His provisions.

•*The first recorded act of tithing is in Genesis 14:18–20, where Abraham gave a tenth of his spoils to Melchizedek, the priest.*

•*The practice became law in Leviticus 27:30, and again emphasized in Deuteronomy 14:22–24 and Numbers 18:21–24.*

In the Old Testament, tithing was a system designed not just for temple maintenance but also to support the Levites, the poor, the widows, and the strangers a communal expression of care and justice.

Why Tithing Still Matters

1. It's for our benefit, not God's.

God doesn't need our resources. As Psalm 50:10–12 says:

"For every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills... If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it."

2. It's an act of trust.

When we tithe, we are placing our confidence in God's provision, rather than our own strength.

3. It builds godly character.

As John 3:16 reminds us, “For God so loved the world that He gave...” God is a giver. In tithing, we mirror His nature.

4. It disciplines us.

Financial discipline often reflects broader spiritual discipline. Giving regularly shapes us to be more generous, compassionate, and focused on eternal values.

Tithing as Protection and Blessing

Malachi 3:10–12 offers a remarkable promise: “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it... I will prevent pests from devouring your crops...”

This isn’t just about financial reward, but about wholeness, protection, and provision—in every area of life.

Critical Questions for Us Today

Despite these promises, we must reflect:

1. Why are we still struggling as a church?
2. Have we truly grasped and practiced the biblical concept of tithing?
3. Could we be, in some way, robbing God?
4. Were we laid on the correct foundation as Quakers regarding tithing?

These are not accusations but invitations to reflect—both individually and as a faith community.

An Invitation to Commitment

Let us view tithing not as a burden or legal obligation, but as a joyful response to God’s faithfulness. It’s a spiritual connection to God, to our local fellowship, and to the mission we are called to support.

“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” – Matthew 6:21

Tithing also deepens our accountability to God, to our spiritual leaders, and to ourselves. It binds us more closely to our church family and the spiritual altar where we worship.

What does my giving say about my relationship with God?

Let’s step into a deeper spiritual walk, not out of compulsion, but out of conviction, love, and faith.



*By Senior. Pastor. Linet Limo
Mission Commission Chair*

Church Constitution-Making Process – Feedback Questionnaire

Interview Questionnaire has been filled by Benson Amuyunzu Luyove, Constitution Commissioner Kariokor Monthly Meeting, Legal Team FCK Constitution review team.



1. How would you describe your overall experience with the church constitution-making process?

First and foremost I take this opportunity to thank the Almighty God for having granted me the favour to participate in this not only historical but defining process in our church. Secondly, I would like to appreciate the church leadership that deemed it fit to appoint as a member of the legal team that had the opportunity to guide the great team of commissioners whose invaluable and relentless efforts birthed the new constitution for the Friends Church (Quakers) Kenya.

My experience with the church constitution-making process, I would say it has been a learning process. I have gained more experience and first-hand interaction with circumstances that led to the church split in the 1970's and 1980's. The otherwise unimaginable sad memories harboured by some of our churches were occasioned by the bitter manner in which the church split. It is my prayer and hope that this is a reminiscent that invokes our memories and will only re-

mind us of our sorry past but not hold us hostage to the dark past.

I highly appreciate the meaningful engagements that we had during the various stakeholder engagements; the quest for unity envisaged by the young generation and the wisdom of our senior members of the church. Overall, the process was engaging, insightful and at a point tiring but God was faithful throughout the journey.

2. How involved did you feel during the drafting of the constitution:

First version:

Slightly involved in the process as the initial first draft was prepared by the commissioners.

Second version:

Actively involved in the process as at this stage I had the opportunity together with my fellow legal team to review and advise the FCK Constitution Commission on the proposals. I had the opportunity to participate in the collection of views from members of the church during the various public participation sessions organised by the FCK in conjunction with the yearly meetings

Third (final) version:

Very involved. At this level, I had the opportunity to put together the various views received by the commission during the public participation forums. With a view to incorporating the various views collected during the public participation and ensuring that we addressed all the concerns raised by members.

3. What were the main reasons, in your view, that led to revisions after each version?

- Need for more inclusiveness
- Disagreements among leadership

- or members
- Feedback from congregants
- Alignment with biblical principles
- Governance and structure concerns
- Church unity

4. How was the mood or atmosphere during each stage of the process?

First version:

hopeful

Second version:

united

Third version:

celebratory

5. What were the biggest challenges faced during the constitution-making process?

Any constitution-making process is not without its fair share of challenges. Equally, the process leading to the drafting of the FCK constitution was marred by its own share of challenges;

- i. The desire by members to have one church under one leadership; this was proved a challenge noting that we have existing registered and autonomous Yearly Meetings. At a time, it was very difficult to convince the Yearly Meetings that they could be under one church with leadership at the national level.
- ii. Balances various competing interests; noting that we have various existing yearly meetings that are autonomous, the question of property stood out prominently, the question of protecting existing boundaries, the question of powers of the yearly meetings. I am happy that at the end of the process, we were able to balance the competing interests to a certain extent although I must admit not fully as we have parties who still felt not well convinced. It is my prayer that continued engagement and consensus-building will help solve any pending issues.

iii. Communication; throughout the process, it has proved difficult to ensure effective communication, especially on various provisions of the constitution. The parties concerned would at times give their own version of the document to the members thus creating confusion as to the true position of the church. For example, as we speak today, some members have been made to believe that the constitution is going to allow the taking over of some meetings by other yearly meetings.

6. What role did public (congregation-wide) participation play in shaping the final constitution?

The views collected during public participation have played a major role in developing the final document. The first draft had a limited structure. However, the above public participation engagement contributed greatly to the type of structure we have today. For example, the members wanted a structure that would unite the entire church, and give the church a leadership that could speak to the outside as one church while at the same time upholding and respecting the autonomy of the existing yearly meetings.

The above led to our current structure where all the yearly meeting presiding clerks sit at the National Governing Council a key decision-making organ of the church. The presiding clerk has a role in selecting one of them to become the National Presiding Clerk.

The various public engagements have greatly contributed to the document we have; key decisions have been made during the engagements that led to the document we have today.

7. Do you feel that the final version of the constitution reflects the values, vision, and unity of the church? Why or why not?

Certainly, yes.

The Quaker church is respected worldwide for being at the forefront for being an advocate for peace. Indeed, one of our core values is peace.

The core values have not only been includ-

ed in the final document but they also run through the entire document. For example, the need to unit the church under one body is seen throughout the document. It is my hope that through the implementation process, the above values will be seen.

8. Looking back, what part of the process are you most proud of?

The Public Participation.

It not only afforded me the opportunity to visit a number of our yearly meetings but also, gave us insight as to what the members of our great church needed to be done.

9. What lessons or spiritual insights did you gain from being part of this journey?

Love,

One of the core lessons I have picked from the entire process is the question of love. I have seen the actualisation of the words of John in 1st John 4:8 calling unto us Christians to love one another. The decision of the existing yearly meetings to agree to be part and parcel of this process is a great show of love.

Patience,

If there is one valuable area I have seen significant growth in my life, is patience. I have throughout the various engagements had my patience levels tested to the core but with God's grace I came out stronger.

10. Any personal quote, testimony, or story you'd like included in the newsletter?

Guided by the word of God in Romans 15:13 I wish to say that as human beings we are only limited to the extent of our hope.

It is my hope and prayer that the FCK Constitution will live to achieve its purpose of bringing the church of God together as one body of Christ.

Finally, brothers and sisters in Christ, I would be completely wrong to say we have a perfect document because there will be none. However, we have a good document, that I request we come together as Isaiah calls on us, to reason together and improve the document for the unity and growth of our church.



By Benson Amuyunzu

Friends Church (Quakers) Nairobi

Yearly Meeting Data Usage

In alignment with Kenya's Data Protection Act, 2019, we are committed to transparently informing you about the personal data we collect and its intended uses.

Data We Collect:

1. Personal Identification Information:

- o Details Collected: name, date of birth, gender, and national identification number.
- Purpose: maintain accurate membership records and facilitate personalized communication.

2. Contact Information:

- o Details Collected: phone numbers, email addresses, and physical addresses.
- Purpose: share church updates, event notifications, and respond to your inquiries.

3. Family Details:

- o Details Collected: marital status, names of spouse and children.
- Purpose: offer tailored family-oriented programs and support services.

4. Financial Contributions:

- o Details Collected: records of tithes, offerings, and other donations.
- Purpose: manage church finances responsibly and provide contribution statements for your records.

5. Photographs and Videos:

- o Details Collected: images and recordings from church events.
- Purpose: document and share church activities within our community and on official platforms.

Usage of Collected Data:

- Spiritual Support: understand and address your spiritual needs effectively.
- Community Building: foster a connected and supportive church environment.
- Administrative Functions: manage church operations efficiently and comply with legal obligations.
- Use on our social media platforms: the images will be used to advertise, or promote church events

If you have any concerns regarding your data, please contact
admin@friendschurchnym.org

Engaging in Church Missions

The great commission.



Mathew 28:19-20

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Our Mission statement

To preach and teach the Gospel of God's love and salvation through Jesus Christ to all mankind.

Our Vision statement

A well-resourced, gospel preaching and Christ-centered church.

What is Mission Work?

Mission work is a divine calling, a sacred endeavour to spread the light of the Gospel unto all nations. It is an act of obedience to the Great Commission, where we are sent forth as ambassadors of His love, mercy, and truth.

What Mission Entails

Proclamation of the Gospel: At its heart, mission work is about declaring the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is the sharing of His love and hope with those who dwell in darkness.

Service to Others: True mission embodies service, meeting the physical, emotional,

and spiritual needs of others. As our Lord taught us, "For I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink." (Matthew 25:35).

Making Disciples: It is not merely about conversion but nurturing believers in their faith, helping them grow in their relationship with God, and equipping them to share His love with others.

Cultural Understanding: To minister effectively, one must understand the culture and context of those being served. This builds bridges of trust and respect.

Ways you can participate in Mission work

Prayer and Fasting: Begin with prayer, seeking clarity and strength for the mission ahead.

Have you sought the Lord earnestly for His guidance in this noble task?

Gathering a Team: Assemble a group of like-minded believers for "where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I among them." (Matthew 18:20). Unity in purpose is vital.

Training and Preparation: Equip yourself and your team with knowledge of the Scriptures, cultural sensitivity, and practical skills.

Have you considered what training is needed before embarking on this journey?

Engagement: Begin to engage with the community through service, outreach events, and personal relationships.

What creative ways can you think of to reach out to those around you?

Follow-Up and Discipleship: After initial

engagement, it is crucial to follow up and disciple those who respond.

How can you create a sustainable model of support for new believers?

Some of the challenges Faced During Mission Work

Cultural Barriers

Navigating different customs and beliefs can be daunting. Are you prepared to listen and learn from those you aim to serve?

Resistance or Hostility

Some may reject the message or respond with hostility. Remember the words of Jesus: "If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you." (John 15:20).

How will you respond in love and grace in such moments?

Resource Limitations

Often, mission work lacks sufficient funds or supplies. Have you considered practical ways to mobilize resources for your mission efforts?

Burnout and Fatigue

The work can be taxing, both physically and spiritually.

Are you committed to caring for your own spiritual health as you labour for the Lord?

Communication Barriers

Language differences may hinder effective communication.

What steps can you take to bridge this gap?

Dear friend, as you contemplate the calling to mission work, remember that you do not go alone. The Lord Himself walks beside you, empowering you for the task at hand. With a heart full of faith and love.

What is the first step you will take in this journey of service?

*By pst Jane Mutoro
Mission Pastor*



Upcoming NYM Events

Event	When	Venue
LAUNCH OF NYM MISSIONS MONTH	4th May -11th May	Local/monthly Meetings
Men Seminar	24th May	QCC
FCK Thanksgiving	25th May	Monthly Meetings
USFW Leaders & Pastors Wives Retreat	23rd to 25th May	Nairobi/Langata Q.C.C
Hospitals and Prisons Visit	7th – 8th June	QCC
NYAFP Day	28th - 29th June	Monthly Meetings
QCM leaders Retreat	27th -29th June	TBA
YFP – FCK Triennial	6th – 10th August	Kamusinga YM

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