Many Friends Injured, Five Dead in Kenya Bombing

NAIROBI KENYA Twenty-four Friends were victims of the August 7 bombing of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, according to a mid-September report from Bartholomew Miles, general secretary of Nairobi Yearly Meeting. He reported that five Friends have died as a result of the blast. Two were members of East Africa Yearly Meeting (South). The others were from East Africa Yearly Meeting (Kaimosi), Chavakali Yearly Meeting, and Vokoli Yearly Meeting.

Rich and Sandy Davis, FUM representatives in Kenya, have also reported about the aftermath of the Nairobi bombings. Since August 7 there have been moments of silence and special prayers for the victims and their families, in the yearly meetings and in many local meetings. Nairobi Yearly Meeting took up a special offering for the victims, raising approximately 200,000 Ksh. There are still many who have relatives in hospitals and there are no funds to pay for the care.

They write that many Friends are shaken and confused by the fact that this tragedy was an attack on someone else but the ones who have suffered the most are the Kenyans.

Wayne Carter, presiding clerk of Friends United Meeting, was in Nairobi for a previously scheduled visit in the days shortly after the bombing. He conveyed the profound sorrow of Friends world-wide to Friends in Kenya.

We anticipate additional details in time for our November issue.

Plainfield, N.C., Youth Support Turkana Mission

PLAINFIELD NC During North Carolina Yearly Meeting, a group of young Friends from Plainfield Friends Meeting handed Herman Otioko a check for $1,465.00 to support the Turkana Friends Home orphanage in northern Kenya. Herman Otioko, a Kenyan Friend and missionary to the Turkana people, was visiting North Carolina Yearly Meeting. The gift was presented at the Plainfield Friends meetinghouse during an afternoon tour of Western Quarterly Meeting.

Mary Butt, a member of Providence Meeting, had visited Kenya on behalf of USFW in 1997, and shared about her experience with the youth group. When they heard about a need among the semi-nomadic people of Turkana, the youth decided to raise funds to provide food, clothing, toys and school supplies for children being cared for at the Kalakol orphanage. The Home is caring for fifty-four children, many of whom lost their parents to cattle raiders.

The children catered meals, a Civilian banquet, a high school class reunion, a church spaghetti supper, and they held an auction for a cross-stitched picture crafted by Kim Terry.

The group has eight members—Adam Terry, Stacy Glover, Derrick Hall, Marshall Capps, Preston Capps, Andrew Kirkman, Patrick Coggins and Stephanie Coggins—and the support of leaders Kim and Tommy Terry and Buddy and Lou Ann Capps, as well as the rest of the Meeting. Before undertaking the Turkana project, the group had raised a thousand dollars for a sick child in their community.

NCC on Global Warming

NEW YORK Twenty-four heads of Christian communions in the United States signed a letter to President Clinton, (and similar letters to key Senators) supporting the Kyoto Protocol to the Climate Convention. This was part of a strategy developed by the National Council of Church of Christ–USA on global warming issues.

The Kyoto treaty calls on developed countries to cut emissions of heat-trapping gases that come from burning fossil fuels. The U.S. would be required to reduce 1990 levels by seven percent over the next 10 to 15 years. The next U.N. Climate Change Treaty Conference will be held in Buenos Aires in early November, 1998.

A Midwest Interfaith Climate Change conference will be held October 25-26 in Columbus, Ohio, for environmental leaders from NCC communions, evangelical Christian, Jewish and Catholic congregations.

The NCC’s climate change packet is available for $1 from Environmental Justice Resources, NCC, P.O. Box 968, Elkhart IN 46515; 800-762-0968.

Beebe Pleads Guilty

SEATTLE WA Terrill Beebe, a Harmon and Associates staffer and successor trustee of the former National Friends Insurance Trust, pleaded guilty on September 3 to a charge of conspiracy to commit mail fraud, wire fraud and embezzlement from a health care benefit program. His plea was part of an agreement that included a two-year prison sentence and restitution of over $7.1 million to National Friends Insurance Trust and Village Mission participants.

Beebe’s indictment followed the sentencing and imprisonment of Philip Harmon (see Quaker Life cover story, March 1998, and News, June 1998). Harmon has begun serving his eight-year sentence at a Federal prison in Sherwood, Oregon.
David Romberger appointed to serve in Belize

David Romberger has been appointed by Friends United Meeting for a two-year term to work in Belize with Mike and Kay Cain (see September FUM News). David will be working with both young people and adults with the ultimate goal of helping to start a meeting.

David sees this as an opportunity "to witness in an appropriate manner for our Lord Jesus" and to create educational opportunities in a nation where the family system is weak and public education usually ends at the 6th grade. He hopes to be of practical service by providing vocational skills and opportunities, possibly in the areas of citrus farming and marine activities. David is a licensed merchant marine captain and is experienced in construction trades. In the course of their work, the team intends to form relationships and provide spiritually-grounded occasions for fellowship, educational, recreational and worship opportunities, leading to the formation of Bible Study circles and a worship group.

David practiced law for eight years in the 70s until he found the conflict between Christian discipleship and professional expectations intolerable. At that point, he returned to carpentry and construction work. In 1983 the Rombergers taught at the Ramallah Friends Schools for a year. David is a member of the Seaville (NJ) Monthly Meeting of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Turkana Mission Development

The Turkana Friends Mission, through FUM, received a grant from the Anna H. and Elizabeth M. Chace Fund administered by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. The grant provides Turkana Friends the opportunity to construct three rental houses on Mission-owned property located near primary and secondary schools in Lodwar. Once constructed, the housing will provide greatly needed and affordable homes for teachers, as well as generate local income to assist the Friends Mission to become increasingly self-sufficient. As a part of this project, FUM is working with the Mission to provide consultation and staff training to strengthen the local management capacity of Turkana Friends.

VBS Buys Desks, Snacks for Friends Boys School

As of the end of September, twenty-four Meetings had reported their participation in the Vacation Bible School project for the Belize Friends Boys School. With contributions ranging from $15.00 to over $500.00, the VBS project had raised $3,744.96.

Among the participating meetings were several who didn’t actually have Vacation Bible School this summer, but they held special bake sales and other fund-raising events so that their children could participate in this important project.

With more contributions still expected, FUM staff are enthusiastic about meeting the goal of providing desks and snacks for the children at the Belize Friends Boys School. Thanks!

Chain of Prayer

Has your meeting signed up for the 1999 FUM Chain of Prayer? It will begin January 1, 1999 and run through the FUM Triennial, July 18. Every meeting is invited to participate by signing up for 12-24 hours to provide continuous prayer for our mutual concerns. Our theme is Whom Shall I Send? Who Will Go For Us? A packet of material is available upon request for $10. It includes a poster, sign-up sheet, lessons for children and youth, and bulletin cover. Do so by November 2.

This can be done by visiting www.fum.org. Click on the Meeting Ministries button and follow instructions, or by calling Cheryl Stoner at (765) 962-7573.
One Life at a Time

Indiana Yearly Meeting Responds to the Call

by David Brock

Become Alive

In Turkana, there is a proverb which says: if a son leaves Turkana to work in Nairobi, and he sends money home to his mother but he does not visit her, then the Turkana people say that that son is dead to his family. If he is only sending money, then he is only in touch with the physical, the material side of his mother. Only if the son is coming to visit, coming to be in touch with the physical, the mental, the spiritual part of his mother and his family—is that son alive.

In the last several months, we have had more visitors from FUM than we have had in some time—a group with David Brock, David Phillips, Don and Janet Garner; a group with Ray and Jean Bubak and Harold Williamson, who consulted with us on some of our projects; and Matthew Keller from the FUM staff, who visited with our staff and with many Friends groups and church members. Because of these visits, FUM is becoming alive now for many in Turkana. That is a very good thing.

From John Moru Losike, Turkana Friends pastor, as told by Matthew Keller, FUM staff member.

When David Phillips, pastor at Wabash Friends Church, called me in early September and asked if I would consider being part of a team representing FUM at a conference in Kenya, I knew immediately that God was drawing me to the project.

Before long the team also included Bob Phillips and Don and Janet Garner. Bob Phillips, David’s father, has been active in Jonesboro Friends here in Indiana Yearly Meeting and he has a keen interest in missions. Don and Janet Garner are both leaders at Bethel Friends Church here in Indiana. In addition to this, Don had just finished six years as clerk of IYM, and both he and Janet have taken a special interest in the Friends work in Kenya.

Putting the five of us together on a team seemed coincidental. But, unbeknownst to us, the Kenyans were planning not only a conference for pastors, but also a second conference for yearly meeting superintendents and presiding clerks. Under God’s direction the team David had put together included a pastor, a yearly meeting superintendent, a presiding clerk, and two key Friends who had served in many different leadership positions at the local meeting level.

The Kenyan planning committee set a goal of having all 14 yearly meetings represented at the conference. This seemed impossible given the past history of dissen- sion as well as the barriers of no place, no funding, and no speakers. Yet, throughout this time God was quietly orchestrating this project until all the pieces fell beautifully into place.
Our first purpose for going was to speak at the Kenya National Friends Pastors’ Conference held in Malava at the Friends School. When we arrived at the conference site at Malava, in the Western Province of Kenya, it was about 9:00 p.m. on December 31. We had left a crowded marketplace in Nairobi where people were beginning their New Year’s Eve with drinking and loud music. We arrived to a sea of faces in an auditorium lighted only by four kerosene lanterns. These people had traveled over difficult roads in packed vehicles, walking the last couple of miles. But here they were already praising God in prayer and song. Our focus on finding a bed as soon as possible changed quickly as we entered into this powerful experience of worship and expectancy.

Over 500 people were registered and stayed on the campus during the three-day conference. The conference concluded with about 2,000 people in Sunday worship—some packed inside and many others outside listening and participating.

The theme of the conference was “Peace—What Would Jesus Do?” John 14:27. During the services we saw that the search for global peace was real in a country recently racked by the U.S. Embassy bomb blast and surrounded by war-torn nations. We found that the search for peace among the community of Kenyan believers was real in the midst of some long-standing church rifts. And, finally, we were touched to see that the search for inner peace was real as person after person came forward to ask forgiveness from God and to begin their life on a new level with Him this new year.

Since the conference, many reports have come back about how the pastors returned to their homes and held gatherings everywhere telling people what they had learned. They feel things will be different now as they implement some of the tools they learned at the conference and as they listen carefully to Jesus as he guides them in finding peace for themselves and others.

Sandwiched between the two conferences was a trip to the northern part of Kenya, the desert area known as Turkana. We visited the mission sites there. John Moru, pastor, was our host and guide. We met with the team of dedicated workers led by Herman Otioko at the Turkana Friends Mission. We saw where meetings for worship were beginning under trees, where wells were being drilled to find the vital water supply (see News, p. 17), where homes, schools, and meeting houses were being built, and where orphans were being nurtured. The need is immense and our team was overwhelmed with questions about where to begin. A little money can go a long way in this mission area opened up by the Kenyan Friends Church. Again we could see God’s hand at work multiplying little to much as Kenyans go about building His kingdom of grace in a parched land.

As we left Turkana and hurried back to Kaimosi in Western Province we were all anticipating our next assignment wondering how the talks we had prayerfully prepared in the States would apply in a very different culture from ours. The conference with the superintendents, general secretaries, and presiding clerks was a big step in faith because it had never been done before. Amazingly, all 14 yearly meetings sent representatives and we had a great time talking about how to minister more effectively and how to manage yearly meetings. We found that Kenyans face many of the same problems we do in United States yearly meetings. The good news is that significant steps for needed change were agreed upon before leaving the conference. The spirit as we closed in worship on Sunday was one of hope and excitement.

Visits are important. When Brock’s group visited and went into villages, to me it appeared that if Americans are able to make visits here, they tend to understand more completely. For American Friends to truly learn more, my (recent) visit to the USA should only be an enticement for them to come. Some may have thought I was exaggerating about certain things, but when they see for themselves, they understand. One visit by Mary Buttt [North Carolina Yearly Meeting], just one visit, inspired her to do much work on our behalf, which we very much appreciate. Then for Mary, and for those people she had reached, my visit was simply a reinforcement of what she already knew.

All of this gets us to a deeper level of speaking with each other. So I encourage more Friends to make visits, if they can. It’s costly for us to host and for them to come, but the outcome can be more important than just the money that has been spent.

From Pastor Herman Jaika Otioko
Head of the Turkana Friends Mission
This conference was held at Friends Theological College which gave us a chance to see the college and spend some time touring the school and visiting with Rich and Sandy Davis who are our FUM representatives in Kenya. Rich is also the principal of the college and Sandy works with the library and does many other administrative tasks. Rich and Sandy are doing a great job and it is evident that God has carefully prepared them for this time in their lives.

My last trip to Kenya was in 1994. At that time, I was with my wife, Linda, and David Phillips on a fact-finding trip for FUM. We were to assess the needs of the college and how we felt Friends in the U.S. could help FTC as they sought to upgrade the quality of their school. Many Kenyans longed to raise the standard of the school and the FTC board had approached FUM for input.

I can still picture the drab buildings with leaky roofs, the dismal library, and the lack of any extra space to expand the tiny principal’s office which served as the total space for the administration of the college. Most of all, though, I remember the faces of the discouraged staff and students. These faithful Friends were struggling to excel against insurmountable odds.

It has been very exciting for me to hear the wonderful reports of how many Kenyan yearly meetings are working together, donating and helping upgrade the college. As we walked around the campus, everywhere, we saw major differences from when I was at the college before. Buildings and equipment are upgraded in the classrooms and other areas. The quality of students is outstanding. Sunday night Vespers service led by the students was very spiritually moving experience for me as I sensed the progress and their deep spiritual hunger. I could see the answer to many prayers, much waiting, and a large monetary investment by many people over the years. Here were men and women dedicated to serving God through pastoral ministry even though they have little hope of being paid much salary and knew they would face many other problems in their ministry. They have a deep faith that God has called them and He will make the way possible.
Before I left for Kenya, Linda told me to be sure to look for a student at the college named Simon Oyiengo Lubang’a. Simon had been a student in the school when Linda and Mary Glenn Hadley had worked at the college in the first term of the 1995 school year. Simon’s life is a testimony of how God is moving in the lives of the students at FTC. I had time to talk to Simon and hear his story. He had a wonderful spirit and a strong sense of call from God. He had applied and been accepted to the college in 1995 but because he had lacked the funds to complete Form 4, the equivalent to our high school, he did not have the skills to succeed academically that term. It was evident to those who taught him that his call to the ministry was real, yet they all saw he was struggling and often failing academically. The acting principal, Oscar Lahombo, met with Simon and his mother to try to find a solution. The only answer seemed to be for Simon to return to Form 4. This must have been very discouraging to Simon. But he knew, if he was going to do what God had called him to do, he would have to swallow his pride and go back. He finished Form 4 and now was at the college doing very well. He is part of the praise and worship team that leads the college in worship and travels to other places as well.

Simon has overcome many financial obstacles. He returned to Form 4 on faith not knowing where he would get the money for tuition. Simon prayed. People in Kenya and here in the U.S. helped him. Portland Friends and Lynn Friends both gave money for his schooling when he went back to high school.

Simon wrote to us after our return: “I appreciate your gifts of insights before and after your departure for USA. The hand of the Almighty God is working on my side. I will stick on your advices that drove me home via my spiritual needs on Christian faith as I am a Christian. I will never ever leave my Saviour who died at Calvary to save me from my sins and its repression. I thank Him for this and I am striving in my life to work tirelessly for my Saviour Jesus Christ. He brings peace and comfort unto me, for I am walking in his light.”

Every student at FTC has a story of how God has worked wonders to place them where they are at the college. Simon’s ministry will be only that of one pastor out of many monthly meetings and yearly meetings. Yet, what would have been lost if people had not helped this one person? Who can say what the impact will be? Only God knows. How many others can we help—one at a time?

We can’t help everyone, but we can help one. We can help the one that God calls us to and the one that God is calling to do His work. We can be the tool that God uses to help someone else overcome discouragement, financial roadblocks, and spiritual setbacks. In what ways is God calling you to reach out to one life today?

David Brock has been superintendent of Indiana Yearly Meeting for 13 years. David and Linda first went to Kenya in December 1993 as a part of a Friends United Meeting Christian Education Team. They say that it was a life-changing experience for both of them. This article grew out of David’s third trip to Kenya.

**One Who Served:**
Ruth Baker Kellum, Missionary Nurse

By Beatrice Kimball and Gladys Kellum Kimball

Ruth Kellum served as a nurse in Kenya from 1928 to 1955. Born March 7, 1901, near Tonganoxie, Kansas, she moved at 13 years of age to Friendswood, Texas, and attended Friendswood Friends Academy and then Friends University and Nurses Training at Herman Hospital in Houston, Texas. Ruth and Everett Kellum were married August 26, 1928, in Friendswood, Texas, and both felt called to full-time Christian service.

They sailed from New York on October 29, 1928, to London where they stayed for a month at a temperance hotel at 35 shillings a week while waiting for passage to Kenya. They finally sailed December 8, 1928, arriving in Mombasa January 2, 1929. They took the train upcountry and arrived in Kisumu the evening of January 4, and were picked up January 5 by mission staff and taken to Kaimosi.

In addition to nursing at Kaimosi Hospital, Ruth taught hygiene and home nursing at the Girls School.

During the war year of 1945, the Friends...
Kellum, continued from page 7

Missionary Advocate reported, "Ruth Kellum has conducted a Junior Church at Kaimosi for several years. It was this group which gave 50 shillings for relief of Jewish children this year. One of the young men, David Yuka, whom she trained while he was taking his teachers course, is now teaching in Lugulu area. He had a concern to do a similar work among the children there. With the approval of the church elders he began the services in June. They have continued with marked blessing. He began with an attendance of about 175...."

"Ruth Kellum has continued to teach her class in Home Nursing and also has the gardens as her special interest.... She has encouraged the girls to clear and plant much larger gardens than in past years. They have raised corn for posho flour, wimbry for cereal, sweet potatoes, peanuts, cabbage and small vegetables, enlarged the banana shamba, and continued with their individual gardens."

October 1947 began furlough time. Ruth and Everett arrived back in Kenya September 1949 and went to live at Lugulu. Horst Rothe reported in 1951, "Ruth Kellum, in charge of the Health Center in Lugulu, is looking after 1,053 in-patients, 4,382 out-patients, 67 maternity cases."

Because of Everett’s heart problems they retired from the field on June 23, 1955, and became charter members of Derby Friends Church, Derby, Kansas. Ruth’s heart was always in missions and she was pleased when her children and grandchildren chose to serve the Lord. Gladys and her husband Bruce spent four years in Kenya. David and his wife Mae were missionaries in Burundi for 23 years and will be returning in August 1999 for a two-year term to teach English and minister in other areas. Lorna and her husband Dick have served faithfully in their church. A grandson Kelvin Kellum and Tony Wheeler, the husband of granddaughter Stacey Long Wheeler, are both ministers.

Ruth passed away on January 29, 1999 at age 97.

RETRIEVES

Friends Center with unprogrammed Christian orientation on Olney Campus offers personal retreats: June: Introduction to Conservative Friends with Bill Taber. For information write Bill Taber, 61357 Sandy Ridge, Barnesville OH 43713, or phone (740) 425-1248.

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Moving to (or within) North Carolina? David Brown, a Quaker real estate broker, can help. Contact him at 1208 Pinewood Drive, Greensboro NC 27410; (336) 294-2055.

TOURS

Consider a Costa Rica Study Tour August 3-14, 1999 or January 27-February 7, 2000. E-mail: jshtuckey@sol.racs.co.co. Fax: (011)(506)645-5528 or write: Sarah Stuckey, Apdo. 46-5655, Monte-verde, Costa Rica, Central America or call or fax Roy Joe or Ruth Stuckey, Tel./Fax (937)584-2900.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Friends Homes, Inc. founded by the North Carolina Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, has been providing retirement options since 1968. Both Friends Homes at Guilford and Friends Homes West are full service retirement communities offering independent living, assisted living, and skilled nursing care. Located in Greensboro, North Carolina, both communities are close to Guilford College and several Quaker meetings. Enjoy the beauty of four seasons, as well as outstanding cultural, intellectual and spiritual opportunities in an area where Quaker roots run deep. For information please call (910) 292-9952 or write: Friends Homes, 6100 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro NC 27410.

FIELD STAFF OPPORTUNITIES

FUM Field Staff Needed (3 Year Commitment):
- Assistant Principal at Friends Theological College (Kaimosi, Kenya) to fill vacancy during education leave of current assistant and to serve as Assistant FUM Representative to Rich Davis.
- North American missionary to work in the Kalokol, Turkana (Kenya) region.
- Educator at the Boys School in Belize City.
- Friends United Meeting Representative to Russia, to develop long-term work in Russia.
- Pastors within Jamaica Yearly Meeting.
- Chaplain for Happy Grove Friends School in Jamaica.

OTHER FUM OPPORTUNITIES

- Short term accountant for Lugulu Hospital.
- Bible teachers for Good Shepherd Seminary, Cuba. Spanish fluency required.
- Urban Ministries Summer Internship with Chicago Fellowship of Friends.
- Christian Peacemaker Teams (3 year term).

Contact John Myers at FUM for information on any of these service opportunities at (765) 962-7573. e-mail: MyersJK@compuserve.com

Quaker Life On-line
Articles, advertising info www.fum.org/QL/ql-index.htm

Quaker Life  May 1999  29
First Tenants Move into Turkana Rental Housing

In August, three families moved into newly constructed rental housing units in the central Turkana town of Lodwar. The units were built by the Turkana Friends Mission, with the support of a grant received from the Anna H. and Elizabeth M. Chace Fund.

Designed to help local school teachers find affordable housing, as well as to help the Friends Mission reduce its dependence on outside income, the rental housing initiative also served as a successful 'pilot' project between FUM and Turkana Friends. FUM provided consultation and training throughout the grant, in an effort to help strengthen local skills.

“Turkana Friends implemented the grant with the utmost integrity” said Matthew Keller, FUM's Project Development Officer. As funds began to run low near the end of the project, Turkana staff volunteered their time and labor to help complete the painting and final touches.

Turkana Friends hope to secure funding to construct additional units. In an interview at the beginning of the project, pastor-in-charge Herman Jaika Otioko noted: “the housing units can be a great help to the community, as well as a great help to the Friends Mission and its ministries.”

Celebration of Quakers in Cuba Begins
January Workteam Planned

Cuba Yearly Meeting [La Junta Anual de la Iglesia de los Amigos (Cuáqueros) en Cuba] is planning a year-long celebration of the arrival of Quaker missionaries to Cuba on November 14, 1900. The Centennial will be observed from November 14, 1999 to November 14, 2000, with the focus of the celebration being November 11-14, 2000. The theme of the celebration will be based on Exodus 18:19-20: “And now show us the path we are to walk and what we must do.”

In response to an offer by Lorenzo Baker of the United Fruit Company, the American Friends' Board of Foreign Missions reorganized and incorporated in 1900 and chose Eastern Cuba as the field for Friends work. The area included the districts of Gibara, Banes, Holguin and Puerto Padre. Gibara, a flourishing seaport, was selected as the place to begin the new work, intentionally removed from the direct influence of United Fruit.

Friends United Meeting

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Quaker Life November 1999 5
Paradox and The Vision Thing
Jens Braun, New England Yearly Meeting

Deep down we all know we have something fabulously wonderful in Quakerism. So why do we seem to be a small, marginally effective faith community? We celebrate a gloriously courageous and spirit-led history but wonder if we will survive for another couple of generations given the current rate at which our numbers appear to decrease.

Though for many of us Friends the blessed gift of Quakerism provides a worshipful framework upon which to base the consequences of our relationship to God, it is a gift most people overlook. And yet we know that in this world of violence, busyness, consumerism, disintegrating communities and environmental degradation the testimonies of Friends could provide much healing. But we don’t see it happen.

During the February FUM board meeting we were told by Patti Crane (not a Quaker) about the paradox we are. The Religious Society of Friends encompasses many paradoxes—in our worship, in our theology, in our relationships among ourselves. It is this ability to accept and hold paradox in our hands and hearts that makes us particularly special. From this understanding flowed another insight that made the rest of the weekend meetings especially productive. Many of us began to understand how the diversity among Friends—as encompassed in the evangelical, programmed, unprogrammed definitions of Quakerism—is a strength and not a weakness. Though our diversity can be a source of crippling divisions, it is also a source of enrichment, healthy challenges, deepening relationships, broader understandings of our infinite God, and just plain joy.

Patti asked us to think about what things only FUM can do best. And a vision emerged from various discussions, and various committees. We talk of the need for leaders to lead and define us, but once again I found that our Leader is sufficient. FUM’s mission statement speaks of energizing and equipping “fellowships where Jesus Christ is known (check), loved (check) and obeyed (whoa! obedience is for pets, not red-blooded thinking, intelligent adults).” Might our real need not be for leaders but rather for obedient followers?

The vision we were given is simple and fitting for a disparate group such as us. Let FUM only work on missions, communication/publications, and assisting in sharings between yearly meetings. I believe I am not alone in experiencing the creative thrill of corporately redesigning FUM’s organizational structure to fit identified needs, and meet the priorities arising out of faithfulness to our testimonies. Paradoxically (again), it is in some respects the same old structure, yet it is fundamentally redirected. In the past it might have been said that the world is ready for a renewed Society of Friends and part of FUM’s job is to make Quakers ready for it as well. Now we might say that FUM’s job is to hear and amplify our corporate experiences of God through sharing this witness among Friends and non-Friends alike.

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VBS To Assist Children of Turkana, Kenya

Vacation Bible Schools and Sunday school classes can make a difference in the lives of Turkana Friends Mission school children through the 2000 FUM Children’s Mission Project. Students at Nkisia and Lokoyo Primary Schools in the Turkana District of Kenya have no desks. They have to sit on dirt or on cement floors during their classes.

Friends United Meeting has set a goal of $9,000 to purchase 180 desks for the two schools. Made of iron frame with wooden tops, each desk will seat three students and will be made by Kenya carpenters and craftsmen.

Meetings and churches will receive promotional posters and suggested class activities to help students learn about the Turkana culture and the daily lives of children at home and at school. Financial contributions to the 2000 FUM Children’s Mission Project will make a difference in the lives of students who never take education, food, or even water for granted.

See a related story about drought in Turkana on page 8.

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Friends United Meeting

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News

Operation Easter Basket

CARMEL, INDIANA Over the last few years, Carmel Friends Church has distributed thousands of Easter baskets in the Indianapolis area. The outreach grew from the vision of Diana Moore, who died this last December of cancer.

Seven years ago, Diana Moore read about the needs of York Street Day Care Center in the inner city of Indianapolis. Easter was close, and Diana decided that these children might appreciate Easter baskets filled with crayons, pencils, books, coloring books, and a stuffed animal.

She shared her idea with a few people from Carmel Friends Meeting. They supported her so enthusiastically that by Easter not only did the children at York Street receive Easter baskets, but their siblings and Riley Children's Hospital did too.

Operation Easter Basket grew. The next year, Friends made little bunnies from washcloths, with a candy-filled plastic egg inside, at what has become the annual Cheesecake and Bunny party. Diana expanded the ministry to include an Indianapolis inner-city school, the Salvation Army, and other families and needy organizations of which she became aware. In the second year over 500 Easter baskets were made and delivered.

The following year Diana began involving other groups in her project, starting with the Girl Scouts who meet at Carmel Friends. Much to the Meeting's surprise, fifteen leaders and 85 Scouts showed up. Many Girl Scouts and Brownies used the proceeds from their Girl Scout cookie sales for the baskets.

One year she went to a close-out sale of a popular toy store and spent $482.45 on coloring books, crayons, books, pencils, and candy. She put them on her credit card—in faith. The following Sunday, Carmel Friends put bunny-covered envelopes in each pew, with a note in the bulletin that we would gratefully accept any donations toward Operation Easter Basket. When the offerings were counted, there was exactly $482.45.

For three years in a row Friends made and delivered more than 1100 baskets, and last year the total was nearly 1,500.

From the beginning, Diana decided that this was not her project, but it was God's. She never ceased to give Him full credit. As Diana fought with cancer, one of her dreams was that others would pick up on this project, and continue to receive directions from God.

On Dec. 18, 1999, Diana lost a battle with cancer. Others have continued her ministry. As of mid-January, 4,172 plastic eggs, 226 baskets, 235 boxes of crayons, 220 stuffed animals, and 195 children's books filled space at Carmel Friends. An organizational meeting for Operation Easter Basket has been scheduled. God drove Diana, and it was contagious.

—based on a report from Gail Schmid, Carmel Friends

Famine in Turkana; Kenya Friends Respond

NAIROBI, KENYA “More than 250,000 people have been displaced by the drought,” according to reports in the Nairobi Daily Nation.

In a January 21 story, Peter Kamau noted, “Although the rate of malnutrition amongst children could come down with continued supply of Unimix food in the affected divisions of Kaalenj, Lokitaung, Lokori, Katiliu [where there is an 'under the tree' Friends church] and Kerio, the rate is still high in these areas.

"Malnutrition rates for Lokori, for example, have risen from 21.4 per cent in August to 54.1 per cent in December last year. The overall malnutrition rate in the district has risen from 30.5 per cent in August to 40 per cent in December."

A report from Alfred Madiga, presiding clerk of East Africa Yearly Meeting of Friends-North, indicates that Friends from twelve Quarterly Meetings donated 60 bags of maize (corn), seven bags of beans and 16 bales of used clothes. A delegation from the yearly meeting hired a lorry to transport the goods, and distributed supplies at the children's home, schools and nurseries run by Friends in the Turkana district. Alfred Madiga reported, "When we left Kalokol, and Turkana as a whole, we had a Sunday worship and the spirit as we closed the Sunday service was one of the greatest hope and excitement and appreciation from the members."

The National Council of Churches of Kenya has been active in relief work. Martin Lokademo, warden of the Turkana Children's Home in Kalokol, reported receiving beans and maize adequate for the months of February and March from the NCCK in addition to supplies donated directly by Friends.

According to Daily Nation reports, relief food and medicine was distributed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees "to 12,000 people living around the Kakuma refugee camp." In a February 22 editorial, the newspaper described the famine "which now threatens the entire country" and called for better preparation for such emergencies and treating the agricultural sector with more respect.
News from Friends United Meeting

World Missions Spotlight On Turkana Friends Mission

Herman Otiko and John Moru, head pastor and assistant of Turkana Friends Mission, will be traveling among Friends in the United States October 11–November 14. As they visit yearly meetings within Friends United Meeting, they will share the work of Turkana Friends Mission and raise funds for the support of these programs. Because of tighter financial limits, it is no longer possible to subsidize this ministry out of PUM’s general budget. Included in their itinerary are stops in Baltimore, New England, North Carolina, Wilmington, Indiana, Western and Iowa yearly meetings.

Financial support for Turkana Friends Mission helps cover staff salaries, travel, office expense, water expense, medical expense, vehicle maintenance and repair, school costs, youth and women’s programs, accounting and audit fees, and other on-going needs.

Recently, Retha McCutchen met with Herman and John in Kenya, and they gave her a list of income generating projects for the sustainability of the Friends Church in Turkana which includes the following:

- Rental houses (build 15 and purchase one already built)
- Wood workshop
- Turkana Cultural Center
- Pre/Primary School
- Friends Church Ability Center
- Posho mill
- Mobile clinic
- Electricity in Kalokol Friends Center

They also shared with her a list of “needs”:

- Water boreholes
- Transportation—cars and motorcycles
- Video system for Christian education videos
- Overseas missionary couple
- Scholarships
- Leadership training
- General support of orphans in Kalokol Home
- Relief support
- Financial support of women’s groups in Tonyoutu and Ngikok

Turkana typically endures a harsh, arid climate, but a current drought has already claimed the lives of several people and large numbers of animals. This unfortunate fact accentuates the critical need for water boreholes and relief aid.

May God lead you in opening your heart and your wallet in response to this great ministry.

Pictured above are buildings on the Friends mission settlement.

A typical young man in Turkana. He carries his walking stick and a small stool to sit on or to use as a “pillow”.

6 October 2000 Quaker Life
VBS TURKANA SCHOOL DESK PROJECT UPDATE!
$9,427.06 has been received! Praise the Lord and thank YOU!

Pictured above, students at Nakiria and Lokoyo Primary Schools sit on cement or dirt floors during school. Right, the money raised will buy materials and employ Kenyan carpenters to build desks for the students in the Turkana Friends Mission schools.

Photos taken by Sandy Davis and Matt Keller in April, 1994.

Pictured above are women clearing ground in the village of Lochuga, near the site of the proposed rental housing for teachers.

Local Lochuga women are pictured in the top right photo. They were very proud of their work on the project.

In the photo to the right, a new water borehole is being worked on by Turkana men.
FUM 2000 Audit Report

Unrestricted Account (General Fund) Summary

INCOME
Contributions:
  Individual, monthly meetings, yearly meetings $ 607,439
  Other (Quaker Life, Friends United Press,
  World Missions, North American Ministries
  and Quaker Hill Bookstore) 29,980
Sales:
  Quaker Hill Bookstore 386,729
  Quaker Life Magazine 135,585
  Friends United Press 77,229
  Other: 3,807
TOTAL $1,240,769

EXPENSES
General Secretary's office $ 95,931
World Missions 164,910
North American Ministries 30,718
Friends United Press 107,367
Quaker Life 151,185
Quaker Hill Bookstore 399,724
Administrative 304,771
General Board 26,566
TOTAL $1,281,172

Net Operating (deficit) for 2000 $ (40,403)

Temporarily Restricted Account (Missions) Summary

Beginning Balance $606,576
Income +710,337
Expenses −810,046
Ending Balance $506,867

*Full audit report available upon request.
FUM Missions News (World Ministries Updates)

Ramallah Friends Schools (Ramallah, Palestine)

Graduation was held at Ramallah Friends School on May 26, 2002. Because of the recent situation in Ramallah, graduation ceremonies were limited to the presentation of diplomas and students could only invite parents—far different from the usually invited six or seven guests consisting of parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters. The decision to limit the ceremonies was jointly made by the seven private Christian schools in Ramallah, of which the Friends school is a member. Schools are now adjourned for the summer with classes resuming in August.

Applications for fall enrollment have surpassed the number of students who can be accommodated. Due to the loss of income over the past year, it will be difficult for many families to afford tuition and school fees. In order to assist these students, a scholarship fund is in place at FUM. You can donate by specifying on your check—"Ramallah Friends Schools Scholarship Fund."

Colin and Kathy South, FUM’s field staff in Ramallah, left Ramallah in early July to attend Triennial in Nairobi, Kenya. From Kenya they went to their home in Britain to visit with friends and family. They will return to Ramallah in August.

Lyndale Girls Home and Swift-Purcell Boys Home

(Highgate, Jamaica)

Dwaine, Becky and Sarita Williams, field staff at the Lyndale Girl’s Home and Swift-Purcell Boys’ Home in Highgate, Jamaica, will soon end their service with FUM. Dwaine, Becky and Sarita came back to the U.S. in early June to attend the wedding of their son and brother, and Becky and Sarita remained there. Dwaine returned to Jamaica in July and officially ends his service as administrator of the homes on July 31, 2002.

Recruitment efforts have been in place for some time to find a replacement for the Williams, but to date those efforts have been unsuccessful. Administration of the homes will be carried out by the Friends Education Council in Jamaica, the governing board for these projects of Jamaica Yearly Meeting, until new field staff is recruited. FUM will accept donations for the Williams until September, since their support funds have been short of their expenses in recent months. Donations for the Williams can be designated to Dwaine, Becky and Sarita Williams and sent to FUM.

Friends Boys School (Belize City, Belize)

The Belize Friends School is out for the summer and Mike and Kay Cain have returned to the U.S. as usual during the break. They plan to use the time at home to take some well-deserved time off with loved ones and friends, and will also speak about the school and their experiences at various venues this summer.

Enrollment at the schools has been down, but Mike has been working hard to meet with those in the community to
increase enrollment. They've been encouraged by the ambition of three students who want to go on to attend St. John's College, the most prestigious high school in Belize. Mike and Kay can be reached this summer at mkcain@btl.net.

**Friend's Theological College (Kaimosi, Kenya, East Africa)**

Rich and Sandy Davis continue in service at the college until September and will then end their term of service as FUM field staff. Stan and Karen Bauer will replace them starting in September, and remain through spring of 2003. Patrick Nugent, Mary Kay Rehard and their children will take up the post as field staff in the spring of 2003 for a three-year term of service.

Rich and Sandy reported in June that construction of the new men's dorm continues with the addition of a roof. The projected completion date is September 2002. Other construction at the college in the past year has included library and dining hall expansion, a women's dorm and a staff house. There have also been a number of repairs to existing structures, including fixing leaky roofs, which will be much appreciated by the students during the rainy season!

Enrollment is at 50 students, the largest ever for the college. Third-year students are currently involved in community evangelism in their Evangelism and Missions class. Second year students have begun their ministries in various village meetings and area schools. The first year students are involved in teaching Sunday School and mid-week Christian Education classes in the Junior School. All students are assigned at various times to hospital ministry, and at the time of this writing, the hospital was full of malaria and typhoid patients due to the rains.

Rich, Sandy, Stan, Karen, Patrick and Mary Kay all attended the Triennial in Nairobi, Kenya. Stan, Karen, Patrick and Mary Kay will also speak this summer at various gatherings to help inform people about their upcoming ministry. If you'd like information about having them come to speak at your meeting or special gathering, please contact the FUM World Ministries department at (765) 962-7573, or e-mail missions@fum.org.

**Turkana Friends Mission (Kenya, East Africa)**

Herman Otiko will complete his service to FUM's ministry in Turkana this summer. Watch in next month's *Quaker Life* for a look at Herman's career with FUM. John Moru will be continuing the Turkana ministry. We congratulate Herman on being a good and faithful servant and look forward to our continued work together with John.

**Samburu Friends Mission (Kenya, East Africa)**

Samburu is this year's Vacation Bible Study Mission Project with a goal to raise $5,000 to build and equip two new classrooms at Lotulelei Friends Mission Primary School. As of this writing, $765 has been received toward this project. Your prayers and support for the success of this project are appreciated.

Read more about the VBS mission project and all FUM World Ministries on our web site—www.fum.org.

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**Friends United Meeting**

101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond IN 47374
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FUM@FUM.org • www.FUM.org

☐ I am enclosing a contribution for FUM's 2002 VBS Mission Project—Classrooms in Samburu.
☐ I would like information about putting FUM in my will.
☐ I would like to subscribe to *Quaker Life*.

Name __________________________________________
Address _________________________________________
Meeting __________________ E-mail ________________

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News from Friends United Meeting

Herman Otioko Jaika Retires
By Maxine Nash

He walks with the slow-moving dignity and grace of a man at peace. You can almost see Jesus walking beside him, quietly imparting wisdom. You know instinctively that this man has been listening to Jesus for many years and has faithfully followed His leadings, even when the requests seemed a lot to ask of one very human man. You know without a doubt that there have been hard times in this man’s life, and yet you also know he has trusted in God through it all.

This man is Herman Otioko Jaika, who has been the face of Friends to the Turkana people in northern Kenya for nearly 30 years.

Herman, a native Kenyan, was entering his last term at Friends Bible College (now Friends Theological College) in 1971. Ersal Kindel, a missionary from Iowa Yearly Meeting, was already living and working in Turkana directing a Friends technical center and continuing work in the orphanage in Kalokol. Ersal expressed a desire to have an African work with him in Turkana and spoke with Marvin Hoecksema, the principal at the Friends Bible College (FBC). From that discussion, a secret plan was put into place to discern God’s choice for a co-worker.

At that time, it was customary for students at FBC to go out for field work (manual labor combined with preaching and teaching) for two weeks each term. During Herman’s last term, Marvin sent Herman and another FBC student for field work at Kalokol in Turkana. Ersal gave a good report on Herman’s work and during FBC graduation in 1972 Herman was given a letter from Ersal. In it, Ersal noted that when Herman was in Turkana he had gone through the interview successfully, much to Herman’s surprise at hearing that it had indeed been an interview. They asked Herman to pray about doing this work in Turkana. As Herman prayed, a hymn came to his mind with the words, “Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.” And so, Herman followed God’s leading to Turkana.

Turkana is one of the most inhospitable places on earth. The ground is parched and dry, temperature averages are greater than 90 degrees Fahrenheit year round and a hot wind blows nearly constantly. The Turkana people lead a nomadic life herding their cattle and goats in search of grass for grazing. They have their own language and culture that was very foreign to Herman even though both are Kenyans. Just to reach Turkana was and is a complicated affair. In the early 1970s, the trip involved three days on supply trucks and public transport using very unimproved roads.

The Turkana people are a fighting people, brought up learning that raiding cattle and goats from each other is the way to gain wealth. For that reason they are suspicious of outsiders and consider them to be potential spies. In the Turkana language, the word they use for an outsider or foreigner is “emoi” or enemy. Although Herman was an outsider, he was not an “emoi” to the Turkana people because he came with the word of God. They considered him a friend and accepted him and Jesus into their hearts. In fact, when I asked Herman what the most outstanding feature of his time with the Turkana people has been, he says their friendship to him.

Herman came to Turkana as a newlywed with his wife, Ruth. He laughingly tells the story of how during their courtship he asked Ruth, “If I lived on a rock, would you live with me?” Herman says that Ruth has sometimes referred to that rock during their time in Turkana asking, “Is this the rock you were telling me about?” Herman and Ruth were blessed with a daughter, June, born in 1974 at the hospital in Kaimosi. June attended Catholic primary school in Lodewar (now Quaker primary school existed at the time although there are now two primary schools in Kalokol and one in Lodewar) and continued her secondary education in Nairobi. She currently lives and works in Nairobi.

The work in Turkana, and Herman’s part in that work, has been an amazing example of bringing the Good News of Jesus to a society without radically disturbing the culture. Herman notes that when the Turkana people are alone, they are prone to misunderstand each other easily and they respect the presence of someone outside their society as an intermediary. Although Herman’s work in Turkana has brought change, the culture and way of life of the Turkana people remains largely the same as it was nearly 30 years ago. There is some difference in thought regarding the accumulation of wealth through raiding parties, with the younger generation foregoing this activity more and more. Also, the schools have led to some shift of the younger people away from the area as they go to larger cities and towns to further their education. Permanent schools also require some change in the way in which families function as the students are required to be present on an ongoing basis, necessitating boarding facilities for children whose parents may be moving far and wide with their cattle and goats.
Herman’s latest efforts on the mission field have included trying to raise up young leaders within the community.

Perhaps because he is Kenyan, or perhaps just because he is a wise and faithful man, Herman has spread the news of the Gospel in a culturally sensitive way to a people that have come to love and respect him for his many efforts. Over and over I heard, “Pastor, pastor,” as we drove through Lodewar or as Herman made his way among the people gathered beneath a shady tree or congregating near the well. Trying to take an individual photograph of him is nearly impossible as people are drawn to him, much as I suspect people were drawn to Jesus. There is a feeling of unconditional love from Herman that resonates of the love of God.

After 30 years among the Turkana people, Herman is retiring from the mission field. May God go with you now into retirement, Herman, and may you be blessed with peace and prosperity in this new phase of your life.

**Turkana Friends Mission Needs Your Support**

Herman Otioko and John Moru will be traveling in the United States during October and November to help raise funds for the next two years of ministry work in Turkana. The annual budget for the Turkana Friends Mission is $26,000. Your gift will help fund:

- six pastors salaries—pastors teach in schools and plant churches;
- four nursery schools and three primary schools that provide meals for children;
- an orphanage in Kalokol for children;
- community based projects such as wells and water boreholes;
- women’s groups who organize self-help projects.

Just 25 meetings or individuals giving $100/month would completely fund the Turkana Friends Mission program, providing spiritual, educational and physical help to many children and adults.

**Friends United Meeting**

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- I am enclosing a contribution for Turkana Friends Mission.  
- I would like information about putting FUM in my will.  
- I would like to subscribe to *Quaker Life*.  

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__________________________  
Meeting ________  
E-mail ________________________________

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