



# Robert Wafula

## PRINCIPAL Friends Theological College

**ROBERT WAFULA** is a Friends pastor, a Christian leader, a scholar of religion, a social scientist and an educator. He is an alumnus of Friends Theological College, St. Paul's United Theological College in Limuru, Kenya, Earlham School of Religion and Ohio University. His PhD was earned from Ohio University in the field of Cultural Studies in Education with his research focusing on the intersection of indigenous cultural practices and Christian faith among the Bukusu community of western Kenya. He holds two master's degrees — in International Affairs and in Religious Studies — and has published in the fields of cultural studies, development studies, Quakerism and comparative religions.

Robert has left a position teaching comparative religions, anthropology, cultural diversity and comparative literature at Columbus State College and at Central Ohio Technical College in Ohio in order to take up the role of Principal at FTC. He states that he is greatly looking forward to returning to Kenya to give back to the community through this important leadership role in support of the mission of FTC to *“equip pastoral ministers who will be thoughtful listeners, effective evangelists, dynamic preachers, informed educators and models of integrity.”*

FROM EDEN GRACE,  
FRIENDS UNITED MEETING GLOBAL MINISTRIES DIRECTOR:

I invite you to join me in celebrating the appointment of Robert Wafula as the next principal of Friends Theological College (FTC) in Kaimosi, Kenya. Robert is a graduate of FTC and has long held a special love for the College. He will be succeeding Ann Riggs once his support has been raised. Robert will be focusing on shepherding the College through the accreditation process, strengthening the Board, enhancing alumni involvement, deepening the connections with the Yearly Meetings in Africa and evaluating the academic and co-curricular programs to make sure we are doing the best possible job training pastors and other leaders for the Friends Church of the future.

As a Kenyan with 17 years experience in academia in the United States, Robert is uniquely qualified for this role. He and his wife Nancy are excited to return to Kenya to give back to their

*continued on back*

*“Give  
opportunity to  
a wise man that  
again he may  
learn wisdom,  
and teach the  
righteous that  
he may progress  
beyond his  
teacher.*

*The beginning  
of wisdom is*

*the awe of the  
Lord and the  
knowledge of the  
Righteous One is  
understanding.”*

PROVERBS 9: 9 - 10





*Robert and Nancy Wafula*

## ROBERT WAFULA continued

community. They are especially hopeful that Kenyan Friends will support them in this ministry. This is an opportunity for the world-wide community of Friends to stand together in uplifting the ministry of the college and its principal and to grow together in genuine global partnership.

We invite you and your meeting to make a commitment to pray for Robert and to support him financially. We are requesting pledges from Friends, not just one-time gifts. We are committed to keeping Robert's ministry account fully funded by maintaining a full complement of pledges.

## PLEDGE/FAITH PROMISE

**We are beginning something new at FUM**, something that works well for other sending organizations – pledges/faith promises. Friends United Meeting has not typically structured field staff support according to a pledge model, but we believe this is a critical shift toward responsibly and sustainably maintaining our field staff and empowering their ministries. We will still accept one-time gifts, but our emphasis will be on recruiting a “full load” of pledges before Robert departs for Kaimosi.

### ***Here's how this works:***

1. Choose an amount that you believe God is equipping you to commit to Robert Wafula's ministry over the next 3 years.
2. Fill out the pledge postcard (hint: sign up for auto withdrawal – it's much easier) and send it back to FUM.
3. If you've signed up for auto withdrawal, you're done. It's that easy.
4. Of course, if you didn't sign up for auto withdrawal, you'll need to remember to send in your pledge. We'll remind you if you forget, but it's much easier for you and for us if you make it automatic.

We encourage you to join us in showing solid, consistent support for Robert Wafula with a monthly pledge. We are looking for:

- 10 people to give \$200 per month
- 20 people to give \$100 per month
- 30 people to give \$50 per month
- 70 people to give \$10 per month

### ***Which book is your book?***

### ***How much will you pledge to get Robert to Kenya?***

We've built this “tower of books” to help visualize the community of support Robert Wafula needs for his ministry. Each book in this tower represents one pledge toward Robert's ministry – the thicker the book, the larger the pledge. When all the ‘books’ have been pledged, Robert can begin his work at FTC! Which size book will you choose? **Keep checking on the FUM website to watch this tower of support grow.** [www.fum.org](http://www.fum.org)

