

Robert Needs Your Support

FTC clearly plays a pivotal role among Friends. You can partner with Robert Wafula in his leadership of Friends Theological College by joining those who support him with finances and prayer. Your financial support can answer Robert's prayers, and his vision that FTC continues preparing men and women from all tribes and Yearly Meetings in East Africa (and beyond) to be pastors and leaders who are well-rounded and theologically trained for the future of Friends.



Vision for the Future

Now in his third term of leadership, Robert is thrilled that the campus is green with beautiful native trees, and lush with birds and monkeys. The campus is also busy year-round with a mix of traditional students, modular students who come for intensive studies during school holiday breaks, and Yearly Meeting leaders who come for non-degree leadership and spiritual formation training. Robert's vision for FTC's future includes sustainability pathways like increasing the African donor base and producing bio-gas from the school's dairy cows to reduce dependency on firewood. An expanded library, along with the new African Quaker Archives initiative is in the works. Ongoing priorities include expanding and deepening ways that FTC can serve the wider Friends Church through creative theological training and building bridges of unity.



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Donate to Robert Wafula's work, or subscribe to his newsletter to be informed about the challenges and stories of hope and growth at FTC. Use the QR code or link: <https://www.friendsunitedmeeting.org/about-us/field-staff/robert-wafula>

A Long-Term Vision of Hope and Wholeness for FTC (and East African Friends)

When Principal Dr. Robert Wafula returned to Kenya to lead Friends Theological College in October of 2014, he was well-equipped with a solid background in education and theological training, both in Kenya and in the United States.



FTC is Growing

Dr. Wafula returned to a school with a deteriorating physical structure, a minimal student body of forty-two, and a concerned faculty and staff who frequently worked without pay. Yet God had equipped and blessed Robert with a vision that was and is strong enough to sustain the FTC community through growing pains and a global pandemic, and to prepare a generation of ministers for both the present and future of Friends in East Africa. Over the brown, barren campus, Robert prayed that God would restore the green beauty, the wildlife, and the health of their hillside in Kaimosi—and then he got to work.



Health and New Life at FTC

During his first term, Robert invested in planting trees, shoring up finances, installing a solar electric system which has transformed the campus, and building relationships with Yearly Meetings and leaders across East Africa. Kaimosi's power supply is both costly and unreliable, causing most of campus to shut down at dusk (7 pm year-round). But today, the FTC campus is literally a "city on a hill," as the library and other buildings remain open—allowing students to study until 10 pm. And as the campus became green again, it showed other forms of health and new life as well. Through the efforts of many, in 2018 FTC completed the task of securing its accreditation from the Association for Christian Theological Education in Africa (ACTEA), the body which accredits theological schools in Africa. FTC is now one of sixteen accredited Bible colleges on the whole continent.

FTC's Expansion—and Challenges

The growth and expansion of five satellite campuses (with two more on the way) and new academic programs (such as Chaplaincy and Counseling Psychology), along with online distance learning options allow a wider variety of students to enroll at Friends Theological College. Students who were formerly limited by distance, travel time and cost, or family and job commitments have new options that are reducing access barriers to quality theological education. The installation of ramps and sidewalks has made the campus more handicap accessible. 2021 saw 362 students enroll, and over 200 students graduated in the combined 2020/2021 graduation ceremony. But growth comes with challenges, too, and FTC's leadership team has worked relentlessly to accommodate dormitory, dining, classroom, staffing, and office space needs.

