

KAKAMEGA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS CHURCH (QUAKERS)

CONSTITUTION

2023

Revised

Edition

KAKAMEGA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS CHURCH (QUAKERS)

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KAKAMEGA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS CHURCH (QUAKERS)

ARTICLE 1. PREAMBLE

This constitution may be cited as Kakamega Yearly Meeting of Friends Church (QUAKERS) constitution and is hereinafter referred to as this constitution.

ARTICLE 2. INTERPRETATIONS

In this constitution, except where the context otherwise requires;

- i. **QUAKER-** Means a member of a Christian group called the Society of Friends, founded by George Fox about 1650 in England whose principles and practices include the observance of simplicity in religious worship, manners, etc. and opposition to war and taking oaths.
- ii. **YEARLY MEETING:** Is a church which holds its meetings and annual General conference once a year.
- iii. **USFW-** United Society of Friends Women- Is a wing for women Christians in the Yearly Meeting.
- iv. **QUAKERMEN:** Is a wing for men Christians in the Yearly Meeting.
- v. **YOUNG FRIENDS PROGRAMME:** Is a wing for youths in the Yearly Meeting aged between 15 years and 35 years.
- vi. **SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL:** Is a wing for young boys and girls in the Yearly Meeting aged below 15 years.
- vii. **MONTHLY MEETING-** Is a church which holds its business and worship services once every month and comprises village meeting(s) falling under it.
- viii. **VILLAGE MEETING-** Is a meeting Junior to the monthly meeting that holds its business and worship services weekly
- ix. **THE SEAL:** Means the seal of the Yearly Meeting and includes official rubberstamp of the Yearly Meeting presently in use.
- x. **Kitongoji/"cell"** refers to a group of Christians within a village Meeting. It is the lowest group of Christians within a Yearly Meeting. Usually they meet once every week.
- xi. **In this constitution a reference to a "he" shall be constructed to refer to "she" as well (Gen 1:26-27).**

ARTICLE 3. NAME AND REGISTRATION OFFICE

3.1 The name of this Church shall be ***KAKAMEGA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS CHURCH (QUAKERS)*** hereinafter referred to as the **YEARLY MEETING**.

3.2 The registered office of the Yearly Meeting shall be situated along Kakamega- Webuye road on PLOT NO. LR LUBAO/ISUKHA 977.

3.3 The postal address of the Yearly Meeting shall be post office box number 465-50100 Kakamega (Kenya).

ARTICLE 4. OBJECTIVES

4.0 .The primary and overall objective of the Kakamega Yearly Meeting of Friends Church (QUAKERS) (KYM) shall be to preach the Gospel of God's love and salvation making known Jesus Christ as Lord, and Savior in all our services to all people in accordance with the Holy Bible through worship services, prayer meetings, evangelism and visitations.

4.1 To provide spiritual guidance, care and counseling to its members, in order to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4.2 To see that men and women become responsible disciples of the church whose Head is Jesus Christ and to provide sound Christian teachings to all members and adherence to the Quaker Faith and Practice.

4.3 To establish and further the operations of Christian Mission outreach work, Education, training institutions and projects; promoting seminars and conferences leading to spiritual renewal and nurture (growth).

4.4 To organize meetings and rallies for the purpose of mobilizing to spread the Word of God by recruiting and baptizing new members in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

4.5 To train and equip men, women, youth and children with Biblical training and knowledge.

4.6 To establish organs of the Church which will include Quaker Men, United Society of Friends Women, Young Friends Programmes and Sunday school from among its members with the aim of furthering the objectives of the Yearly Meeting.

4.7 To foster Christian growth and unity among its members by:

4.7.1 Promoting and recognizing the family as the natural and fundamental unit of the Church and society.

4.7.2 Promoting, officiating and celebrating marriages between man and woman strictly in accordance with the Holy Scriptures' and the Quaker statement of Faith and Practice.

4.8 To promote and provide facilities for reaching out to youth and to teach, nurture and encourage youth and young couples including young single parents, in creative and recreational activities in furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

4.9 To promote and provide financially viable projects, job creation and skills among men, women and youth for strengthening the revenue base of the Yearly Meeting.

4.10 To establish, maintain and operate through the investment arm of the Church Community center, Youth Camps, Schools, Colleges, Rest Homes (For the aged), Hospitals, Homes for missionaries, Cottage Industries and engage in other activities as shall be conducive to furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Quakerism.

4.11 To own, develop, operate, sell, exchange, dispose of manage or deal with any property both real and personal within the Republic of Kenya or elsewhere as shall be necessary, expedient and convenient for the furtherance of the objectives of the Yearly Meeting.

4.12. To acquire by gift, donation, device or bequest real and personal property for the use, benefit and furtherance of the purpose and objective of the Yearly Meeting.

4.13 To carry on the work of printing and publishing including the making, acquiring and selling of any printed matter such as books and tracts, magazines leaflets, music and literature compatible with the objectives and furtherance of the Yearly Meeting.

4.14 To develop cooperation with Christian Charitable or Government Organizations seeking to serve the youth and other deserving members of the church or the community within and or without the areas of operation of the Yearly Meeting.

4:15 To provide for, create, receive, set and use pension and/or endowment funds for the furtherance of the objectives of the Yearly Meeting.

4.16. To carry out any other objective not otherwise specifically provided hereinabove and promotion of the letter and spirit of this constitution.

ARTICLE 5. BOUNDARIES OF THE YEARLY MEETING

The Kakamega Yearly Meeting of Friends Church shall include Village Meetings and Monthly Meetings which for the time being fall under the following Monthly Meetings: Shanderema, Kakamega, Mumias, Bukhaywa, Mugango, Handidi, Shiduha, and Shimanyiro within the counties of Kakamega and Village Meetings and Monthly Meetings within Nandi County and other counties in the Republic of Kenya and elsewhere the Church may from time to time establish Village meetings BUT shall not include Navakholo, Malava and Lugari sub counties and designated parts of Kakamega East sub county which fall under the jurisdiction of the Central Yearly Meeting of Friends Church as presently constituted.

ARTICLE 6. RELATIONSHIP/AFILIATION

The Yearly Meeting shall be a constituent member of the Friends Unit Meeting, Friends World Committee for Consultation, World Council Churches, Friends Church in Kenya, and such other Christian Bodies and organizations as may be approved by the Yearly Meeting from time to time at its Annual Conference.

ARTICLE 7. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall be subject to the following provisions:
 - 1.1. All persons shall be considered members of the Yearly Meeting provided they are registered members of a monthly meeting within the Yearly Meeting. Monthly meetings shall determine their members upon recommendation from the village meetings on the basis of standards of faith and conduct set-forth in the “Faith and Practice” of the Friends Church, (Quakers).
 - 1.2. It shall be the responsibility of each Monthly Meeting to recruit and instruct applicants into membership and to examine them strictly In accordance with the procedures established by faith and practice of Friends church (Quakers). It shall be the responsibility of each monthly meeting to maintain an accurate and up-to-date register of its members and which register shall be available for inspection by the Yearly Meeting.
 - 1.3. Members in good standing in other Yearly Meetings in the Republic of Kenya or elsewhere in the world may be accepted and registered in a monthly meeting of the Yearly Meeting by presenting a letter of transfer/travelling minute from the monthly meeting of the Yearly Meeting where they have previously been members.
 - 1.4. New persons joining a monthly meeting as members shall be issued with an associate membership certificate in accordance with the Quaker Faith and Practice as approved by the Yearly Meeting.
 - 1.5. Members of other churches or faith interested in joining the Quaker Church may be accepted into the membership of the Church in accordance with the Quaker Faith and Practice as approved by the Yearly Meeting.
 - 1.6. Each member of the Yearly Meeting shall maintain his membership of the church by contributing offering and tithe regularly to the Village Meeting his/her services, goods and such sums of money as may be apportioned to him by the Yearly Meeting and ALWAYS keeping his conduct and attendances above board.

2. LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

Any member may be suspended and have his membership terminated on any of the following grounds:

- 2.1. Failure to live consistent moral life
- 2.2. For conduct that is not consistent with the Quaker Faith and Practice
- 2.3. Neglects or without good reason fails to support the Church
- 2.4. Death
- 2.5. Written resignation

ARTICLE 8. FRIENDS DISCIPLINE/ TESTIMONY / ORDINANCE

The Yearly Meeting recognizes the following testimonies as the guiding principles to be followed and or practiced by its members:

8.1. The baptism of the Holy Spirit and the communication with Jesus Christ Himself who is the Bread of life

8.2. The inward and the personal experience of the saving Grace of God.

8.3. All wars are against the principles and precepts of our divine Lord Jesus Christ, The prince of Peace who teaches us to love our enemies and commands us to put on spiritual weapons as opposed to canon weapons

8.4. The inner peace that Christ gives necessitates the practice and promotion of peace among the people of all nations and cultures.

8.5. The Christian Ideals of simplicity and Modesty as the style of life and conduct and respect of a Christian`s conscience on matters of war

8.6. The command of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit by whom the Quaker church is led, affirm not to swear at all to all oaths. A departure from this standard betrays the truth

8.7. Belief in the priesthood of all believers according to the gift of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:11-16) while at the same time recognizing the role and importance of pastoral leadership.

8.8. Because of the evils that accompany the taking of alcoholic drinks, smoking, gambling, betting and other related modes of conduct including but not limited to dancing in an unchristian manner, the church by which we profess affirm that the practice of the above is contrary to the Spirit of Christ.

8.9. One shall not engage in business that shall necessitate the buying or selling of alcoholic drinks or narcotic drugs.

8.10. One shall not engage in the taking and giving of a bribe in order to induce favour

8.11. The Quaker Church places greatest emphasis upon Christians monogamous institution of marriage and the Christian nature of children as the highest privilege and most sacred duty of both the Christian home and the Church(Mathew 19:5-6)

8.12. Church Leaders to be good role models as guided by 1 Tim 3:1-7

ARTICLE 9. OFFICE BEARERS & QUALIFICATIONS

9.1. The office bearers of the Yearly Meeting who shall serve for a consecutive period of three years renewable once shall be as follows

1. The Presiding Clerk
2. The Vice Presiding Clerk

3. Recording Clerk
4. The Vice Recording Clerk
5. The Treasurer
6. Any other office that may be approved from time to time by the Yearly Meeting and Designated as such

9.1.1 THE PRESIDING CLERK

The presiding clerk shall, unless prevented by illness or other sufficient cause, preside over all business sessions of the Yearly Meeting and shall generally be overall in charge of all the affairs of the Yearly Meeting SAVE as may be provided in this constitution and shall be the chief spokesperson of the Yearly Meeting.

9.1.2 VICE-PRESIDING CLERK

The vice Presiding Clerk shall perform duties of the Presiding Clerk in the absence of the Presiding Clerk or such other duties as shall be assigned to him by the Presiding Clerk or the Yearly Meeting. He shall be the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Yearly Meeting

9.1.3 THE RECORDING CLERK

The Recording clerk shall record, maintain and preserve the minutes of all business sessions of the Yearly Meeting. He or she shall preserve all records of proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Yearly meeting. Additionally he/she shall be responsible for the making of reports and or announcements made and/or received by the Yearly Meeting as well as any other assignments that may be specifically given to him by the Yearly Meeting.

9.1.4 VICE RECORDING CLERK

The vice Recording Clerk shall perform any duties of the recording clerk in the absence of the recording clerk or such duties as shall be assigned to him/her by the Recording clerk or the Yearly Meeting.

9.1.5 THE TREASURER

9.1.5.1 The treasurer shall be in charge of all the finances of the Yearly meeting. He/she shall receive and also disburse, under the direction of the Finance Committee (acting on behalf of General Board), all monies belonging to the Yearly Meeting and shall issue receipts for all monies received by him/her and preserve vouchers for all monies paid by him/her. He shall report annually to the Annual Conference and shall give interim reports to the Finance committee and the General Board on request

9.1.5.2 All funds of the Yearly Meeting, including those belonging to its institutions and projects shall be managed in one accounting office under the general and overall supervision of the treasurer except where circumstances prohibit an institution or project from making use of the accounting office, provided government regulations are observed at all times.

9.1.5.3 He shall be answerable to the yearly meeting through the general board and it shall be his duty to ensure that proper books of accounts of all monies received and paid by the Yearly Meeting are written up, preserved and available for inspection

9.2 QUALIFICATION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Qualification for office bearers of the Yearly Meeting shall include

9.2.1 Full Membership

- i. Ability to read, write and communicate fluently in the official languages of the Republic of Kenya namely English and Kiswahili
- ii. Full observance of 1 Tim 3:1-7
- iii. With specific reference to the office of the treasurer demonstrated knowledge and competence in financial matters.
- iv. An Active member of the church.

ARTICLE 10: ORGANS OF THE YEARLY MEETING

The following are the organs of the Yearly Meeting

1. The Annual Conference
2. General Board
3. The Executive

ARTICLE 10.1 THE ANNUAL GENERAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE

- 10.1.1 The Annual Conference shall be the highest organ of the Yearly and its decision shall be final. Decisions of the conference shall be by a resolution. Where a specific mandate is given to the Yearly Meeting by this constitution that mandate shall be discharged by the Annual Conference
- 10.1.2 All members of the Yearly Meeting being “Friends” may attend the Annual Conference which shall be held in the month of August of each Calendar year on such dates or date as the General board may appoint PROVIDED the General Board may in exceptional circumstances convene the conference during any other month in the year.
- 10.1.3 The General Board shall decide on the number of Delegates qualified to attend and participate in the Annual Conference and shall apportion these among the monthly meetings, taking into account the membership of each monthly meeting.
- 10.1.4 In like manner the Monthly Meetings shall select delegates from the Monthly meetings based on the number of village and monthly meetings and the numerical membership of each.
- 10.1.5 Only such delegates shall have the right to make and pass resolutions at the conference
- 10.1.6 All office bearers of the yearly meeting including members of the nomination committee as well as officials of the various programmes within the Yearly Meeting shall be nominated and endorsed at the conference.
- 10.1.7 The General Board may grant observer status to other persons to attend the Annual Conference but with no voting powers

10.1.8 The Annual Conference shall deliberate and make resolutions on issues presented in the Agenda by the General Board.

10.1.9 The Business sessions of the Annual Conference shall be presided over by the Presiding clerk while the worship sessions shall be pastoral under the direction of the Missions Commissions in consultation with the Presiding Clerk

10.1.10 The Annual Conference may empower the General Board with specific mandates to perform part of its functions in between the Annual Conference

10.1.11 In exceptional circumstances with the approval of the delegates at the Annual Conference an Item not included on the Agenda may be introduced, deliberated upon and a resolution made thereon.

10.1.12 The quorum for the Annual General Delegates Conference shall not be not less than two thirds 2/3 of the registered members.

10.2 THE GENERAL BOARD

10.2.1 The General Board shall be the second highest organ of the Yearly Meeting and shall work under the general direction of the Annual Conference.

10.2.2 The composition of the General Board shall be as follows:

1. All office bearers of the Yearly meeting
2. The respective chairmen of missions commission, service commission, stewardship and finance commission
3. One trustee appointed and or nominated by the Chairman of the Board of trustees
4. The Presiding clerks of the Programmes of the Yearly Meeting namely United Society of Friends Women (USFW), Quaker men, and Young Friends Programme and Sunday Church School Coordinator.
5. Chairman of the Council of Elders.
6. The presiding clerks of all Monthly Meetings
7. Chairmen of all Committees of the Yearly Meeting
8. Not more than three members of the yearly Meeting co-opted by the General Board to represent special interests

10.2.3 The Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting shall be the chairman of the General Board

10.2.4 The minutes of the General board shall be recorded by the Recording Clerk who shall serve as Secretary to the Board

10.2.5 Two thirds of the Members of the Board shall constitute a quorum

10.2.6 The General board shall meet at least THREE times in a calendar year to conduct the business of the Yearly Meeting and shall have full powers to act on behalf of the Yearly Meeting

10.2.7 PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL BOARD

The principal functions of the General Board shall be as follows;

1. Be in charge of the overall administration of the business of the Yearly Meeting on behalf of the Annual Conference
2. Devise general objectives by which the yearly meeting carries out its functions
3. Deliberate on all functional reports of the yearly meeting including finances, general administration, individual institutions and special projects
4. Have power to hire, fire and discipline all the employees of the yearly meeting through recommendation of Human Resource.
5. Administer the constitution and rules of the Yearly Meeting
6. Oversee and or approve or reject affiliation with other church bodies or organizations including all matters incidental thereto.
7. Draw up agenda, procedure and conduct of the Annual Conference including any special conference
8. Appointment of all members of functional committees necessary for the efficient administration of the Yearly meeting.
9. Appointment of trustees for approval by the Annual Conference
10. To draw and devise terms of reference and or duties of all functional committees
11. To approve new projects prior to implementation and to supervise the implementation of the same
12. Budget approval and control
13. Promotions of relations with the government of the day and to supervise the implementation of the same
14. To regulate its own business
15. To ratify any decisions made by the Executive Committee
16. Recruitment, deployment and discipline of all administrative staff serving under the Yearly Meeting where appropriate under advice from the Human Resource.
17. To delegate any of its functions to the Executive Committee or other committee or organ of the Yearly Meeting.

10.3 THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10.3.1 The general Board shall appoint from among from its members an Executive Committee consisting of the following:

1. All the office bearers of the yearly meeting.
2. Respective Chairmen of the three Commissions
3. The respective Presiding Clerks of the programs of the Yearly Meeting
4. Coordinator of the Sunday Church School
5. Three other persons co-opted by the Executive Committee to represent special interest

10.3.2 The executive committee shall perform all such functions as shall be delegated to it by the General Board, PROVIDED any action taken by the Executive committee shall be referred to the General Board for ratification, variation or as they may deem appropriate

10.3.3 The Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting shall be the Chairman while the Recording Clerk shall be the Secretary

10.3.4 The Executive Committee shall meet as often as possible subject to there being adequate business to transact

10.3.5 The quorum of the Executive Committee shall be two thirds of the members

ARTICLE 11. COUNCIL OF ELDERS

11.1 It is hereby established the council of Elders for the Yearly Meeting whose role will be as follows

1. To pay careful attention to the needs of members in the church
2. To identify, observe, counsel and encourage those who are showing the first evidence of spiritual gifts with a view to bringing them closer to Jesus.
3. To help resolve conflicts in the church through counseling
4. To review, appraise, and recommend in confidence the performance of church members and leaders to the relevant offices
5. To assist the Mission Commission with arrangements for marriages, funerals and other religious ceremonies in accordance with the Quaker Faith and Practice.
6. To oversee the Christian education of children and adults in the church.
7. To promote and preserve the culture of the Faith and Practice of the Quaker Church.

11.2 The Council of Elders shall comprise of not less than three members and not more than 7 members

11.3 Qualifications:

11.3.1 For one to qualify to serve on the Council of Elders he must meet the following minimum qualifications

- a. Be spiritually mature
- b. Been a full member of the Church for not less than Ten(10) years
- c. Meet the qualifications set out in the book of 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- d. Be aged 50 years and above
- e. Be of high Integrity, honesty, transparency, high moral standards and patriotic to the church and has previously served for not less than 10 years in the Mission Commission and/or Administration of the Church.
- f. Possession of spiritual gifts of discernment will be an added advantage

11.3.2. Nomination to serve as a member of the council of Elders shall be done by the General Board subject to ratification by the Annual Conference

11.3.3 The term of office for Council Members shall be three years renewable once

11.3.4 At their first sitting, the members shall nominate a chairperson and secretary.

11.3.5 The subordinate meetings shall in like manner nominate members of their respective Councils of Elders whose functions and qualifications shall be the same as those stated herein above

ARTICLE 12. COMMISSIONS

1. The General Board of the Yearly Meeting shall establish three commissions namely
 - i. The Mission Commission
 - ii. The Service Commission
 - iii. The Stewardship and Finance commission
2. Each commission shall consist of not more than (NINE) members. The members shall be appointed to serve a term of THREE YEARS at the end of which term half of the members shall be eligible for re-appointment for one more term of THREE years and thereafter retire. Such retiring members shall be eligible for re-appointment after an expiry of one term of THREE years
3. The areas to be served by the Commissions shall be as follows:

12.1 MISSIONS COMMISSION

1. The commission shall comprise of serving pastors under the general direction of the General Superintendent.
2. Membership shall be drawn from the existing membership of the General Board and their nomination shall reflect regional balance and gender.
3. At its first sitting the Commission shall nominate one of their own to be the Chairman and another secretary
4. The presiding clerk, the Administrative Secretary and the treasurer shall be ex officio members
5. The commission shall be in charge of all programmes and institutions concerned with the spiritual guidance counseling, leadership and training of the Church
6. To develop and carry out worship service programmes on all occasions and events where the church is called upon to lead. In particular service programmes shall be developed at the Yearly Meeting level.
7. Appointment, deployment and discipline of pastors, Evangelists and other spiritual leaders.

12.2 SERVICE COMMISSION

1. The commission shall be in charge of all institutions, programmes and projects of Christian social nature and shall be responsible for submitting to the General Board through the Executive Committee budgets and reports from the governing bodies and institutions, programmes and projects for approval or endorsement or as the case may be
2. The Membership shall be drawn from the existing membership of the General Board and their nomination by the General Board shall reflect regional balance and gender taking into account the number of Monthly Meetings and the membership of each

3. The Presiding Clerk, the Administrative Secretary and Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the commission
4. At its first sitting the commission shall nominate a Chairman and Secretary

12.3 STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMISSION

1. The stewardship of the property of the yearly meeting, the finances, the departments, institutions, programmes and projects furthering them to become income generating undertaking and training of the leadership of the Yearly Meeting in administrative skills shall be under the charge of this commission.
2. Membership will be drawn from the existing membership of the General Board and their nomination by the General Board shall reflect regional balance and more so take into account the number of Monthly Meetings and their respective individual membership
3. At its first sitting the Commission shall nominate its Chairman and another secretary
4. The Presiding Clerk, the Administrative and Education Secretaries and the treasurer shall be ex officio members of the commission
5. Under the commission shall be the Finance Committee

ARTICLE 13. COMMITTEES OF THE YEARLY MEETING

The following shall constitute Committees of the Yearly Meeting

1. The Nomination Committee
2. The Finance Committee
3. The Education Committee
4. The Human Resource
5. The Legal Committee
6. The Epistle Committee

13.1 NOMINATION COMMITTEE

1. At the Annual Conference Monthly Meeting shall nominate persons to serve on the Nomination Committee
2. The General Board shall nominate two youths to serve on the Nomination Committee and they shall be of either gender.
3. The Nomination Committee shall assume office together with the new office picked at the Annual Conference and their terms shall end with the end of term of office of the main office.
4. The nomination Committee shall meet as often as the nature of its work will dictate and as may be directed by the General Board.
5. At its first meeting the nomination committee shall nominate the Chairman and Secretary.
6. The quorum shall be two thirds of the total membership.
7. Decisions of the Nomination Committee shall be by consensus

8. The main function of the Nomination Committee shall be to nominate and recommend office bearers of the Yearly Meeting namely;
 - a. The presiding clerk
 - b. Vice-presiding Clerk
 - c. Recording Clerk
 - d. Vice Recording clerk
 - e. Treasurer
 - f. Programme leaders
 - g. Any other officer that they may be requested to so nominate by the General Board
9. Other Meeting Subordinate to the Yearly meeting shall establish Nomination Committees at their level to undertake similar functions and the number of each shall be determined by the respective meetings
10. The nomination committee may consult subordinate meetings on persons likely to be considered for nomination with regard to their character and standing in the church
11. The outgoing nomination committee shall nominate office bearers for the succeeding term
12. The names of persons nominated for various posts shall be presented to the annual conference for ratification.
13. The members of the committee shall hold office for a term of (THREE YEARS) and shall not be eligible for re-appointment.
14. Qualification for nomination to serve on the committee shall be as follows
 - Strong evident Christian values
 - Independent Mindedness
 - Integrity
 - Objectivity
 - Transparency
 - Ability to live within the letter and spirit of the book of 1 Tim 3: 1-7
 - Christian Maturity as a Quaker.
15. The Nomination Committee shall prepare the nomination policy for Kakamega Y.M

13.2 FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. The General Board shall through the stewardship and finance commission nominate not more than nine members to serve on the Finance Committee.
2. The Finance committee shall be responsible for all financial matters and or management of the Church`s finances
3. The treasurer of the Yearly Meeting shall work under the direction and general supervision of the finance committee
4. The Treasurer shall be the secretary of the committee
5. The Vice Presiding Clerk shall be the Chairman of the Committee
6. The finance committee may make its report to the General Board on request
7. The finance committee shall meet as often as the nature of its work will demand

8. The term of office of the Finance Committee shall end with the end of term of office of the main office.
9. In consultation with the members of the Church and under the direction of the General Board the Committee shall determine the members' contributions to the church both in terms of amounts and percentages including what funds shall go to the Yearly Meeting and what funds shall go to subordinate meetings.
10. The committee shall further identify and approve projects for funding the sources of funding
11. All funds of the yearly meeting, that is; money received, donated, contributed and raised at public meetings, subscribed or earned, through investments etc. shall be retained and utilized in the name of the Yearly meeting
12. The treasurer of the Yearly Meeting shall on advice of the General Board through the Finance Committee cause bank accounts to be opened in the name of the yearly meeting into which all such monies shall be kept.
13. A register of all such bank accounts shall be kept by the treasurer who shall also cause proper books of accounts be maintained.
14. The signatories to the church accounts shall be the presiding clerk, treasurer and recording clerk. The mandate to withdraw from the bank shall be any two of the three and the signature of the Treasurer shall be mandatory.
15. The Finance Committee may subject to approval by the General Board in special circumstances permit subordinate meetings to open accounts into which funds generated by them or received by them may be deposited and disbursed.
16. The finance committee shall draw up a finance policy for Kakamega Yearly Meeting.

13.3 EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. The General Board shall identify and nominate not more than (NINE) persons to serve on the Education Committee
2. The education secretary shall be the secretary of the committee while the Chairman shall be nominated by the committee itself.
3. Experience, competency and knowledge in educational matters shall be a condition for nomination to serve on this committee
4. The Committee shall be responsible for all educational matters including all educational institutions within the Yearly Meeting and in particular shall perform the following roles;
 - i. Be responsible for the initiation and supervision of education in all institutions of learning
 - ii. Be responsible for the Sunday School, youth vocation bible schools, colleges, clubs, camping retreats and church library
 - iii. Select suitable curricular for all education activities using approved Yearly Meetings programmes

- iv. Make sure that Quaker Doctrine, teachings and practice as espoused in the Quaker Faith and Practice are understood and taught at all levels
 - v. Encourage the Youths of the Church or colleges to maintain a consistent Christian witnessing/life
 - vi. Be actively involved(in consultation with the Govt) in appointing, promoting and transfer of heads and members of the teaching staff of educational institutions falling under the yearly meeting
 - vii. For constitution of Boards of managements and school Committees including appointment of chairmen of Boards of Management within the educational institutions under the sponsorship of the church.
 - viii. For establishment of new educational and other institutions within the yearly meeting
 - ix. To generally supervise the work of the educational secretary
5. The General Board shall determine the term of office of the committee including that of the Education Secretary
 6. The education secretary may co-opt not more than three persons to represent special interests.
 7. The Education Committee should draw on Education Committee for the Kakamega Yearly Meeting.

13.4 THE HUMAN RESOURCE

1. The General Board shall appoint a Human Resource which shall consist of the treasurer, eight members, drawn collectively from the three commissions, institutions, and programmes of the Yearly Meeting. The Presiding Clerk may attend the committee meetings as an ex-officio member
2. The Chairman of the committee shall be appointed by the General Board
3. The committee shall deal with all Human Resource matters including identifying, advertising, interviewing, recruiting and disciplining administrative and other staff of the Yearly Meeting including out-sourcing services and or personnel of various cadres within the Yearly Meeting
4. In consultation with the Missions Commission they shall also be responsible for recruitment of the General Superintendent and the team under him
5. The committee shall set out terms and conditions of service for the employees of the Yearly Meeting
6. All decisions of the committee including appointments made by the Committee shall be subject to confirmation by the General Board
7. The administrative secretary shall be the secretary of the committee.
8. The Human resource shall draw up Human Resource Policy for Kakamega Yearly Meeting.

13.5 LEGAL COMMITTEE

1. The General Board shall appoint not more than nine members to serve on the Legal Committee of whom one or two shall be lawyers.
2. At the first meeting of their meeting the committee shall appoint their chair and secretary
3. The general board shall determine the term of office of the committee
4. The committee may co-op not more than three persons to represent special interests

DUTIES OF LEGAL COMMITTEE

Duties of this committee shall be as follows

1. A standing committee on all legal matters concerning the constitution of the Yearly meeting and any other regulation made there under
2. To deal with all legal and constitutional matters referred to it by the yearly meeting, general board or any other committee, commissions or boards of the Yearly Meeting
3. Be responsible for the guidance and interpretation of this constitution or any other regulations made thereunder.
4. To recommend to the General Board proposed amendments to the constitution for approval
5. To carry out or cause to be carried out studies, research and conduct an evaluation of the constitution of the yearly meeting
6. To ensure all organs and all subordinate meetings including the members of the yearly meetings of comply with this constitution
7. To submit their reports at the annual conference on all legal issues that may require attention and or action.
8. To serve as advisers to the various organs, committees and other bodies of the Yearly Meeting

13.6 EPISTLE COMMITTEE

1. At its annual conference, the Yearly Meeting shall appoint one representative from each Monthly meeting to serve on the epistle committee
2. The Epistle Committee shall draft and present for ratification an epistle letter of circulation to other Yearly meetings and other religious organizations
3. At their first meeting the members of the Committee will nominate a chair and secretary
4. The Presiding Clerk and General Superintendent shall be ex-officio members of this committee and shall ensure the letter is sent out to our local churches and other Yearly Meetings.
5. The epistle committee shall deliver to the annual conference epistles received from the Yearly Meetings
6. The term of office of the epistle committee ends within one month after the conclusion of the annual conference

ARTICLE 14. ESTABLISHMENTS OF MEETINGS

14.1 Yearly Meetings

The Kakamega Yearly Meeting of Friends Church (Quakers) is hereby expressly authorized to establish meetings within its jurisdiction subject to the following procedures being strictly adopted

14.2 Monthly meetings

14.2.1 No new Monthly Meeting shall apply registration as a new monthly meeting without a formal application signed by the Presiding Clerks of two or three village meetings within the existing monthly meeting.

14.2.2 The application must satisfy the conditions set out for establishment of a new Monthly Meeting.

14.2.3 The General Board shall approve or reject the application depending on the conditions set above.

14.2.4 Where approval is given by the General Board, the Presiding Clerk or any office bearer appointed by him shall preside over the formal inauguration

14.3 Village Meetings

14.3.1 the same principles outlined above shall apply to establishment of Village Meetings with the exception that the Monthly Meeting shall preside over the creation of the Village Meeting and shall have power to grant or reject the same

ARTICLE 15. PROGRAMMES OF THE YEARLY MEETING

15.1 The Yearly Meeting together with subordinate meetings shall divide their membership under the following programmes

1. United Society of Friends Women-USFW
2. Quaker men fellowship
3. Young Friends Programme-YFP
4. Sunday church school programme

16.1 United Society of Friends Women

15.1.1 This programme is established for the adult female members of the church with the primary duty being to:

- i. Encourage Christian Stewardship
- ii. Teach young mothers and girls plus all women in the church to live a decent Christian life and how to take care of their families and children
- iii. Teach, train, promote, and or encourage resource generation

15.1.2 USFW shall have their annual conference once a year in the month of November or December or as the General Board may in exceptional circumstances determine

15.1.3 The USFW programme shall devolve to the Monthly meeting, Monthly Meeting and Village Meetings.

15.2 QUAKERMEN FELLOWSHIP

15.2.1 This programme shall be co-ordinated by men of Friends Church (Quakers) at the Yearly Meeting level, but shall be under the Umbrella of the main Yearly Meeting

15.2.2 The membership shall cover all the male adults in the church above the age of 18 years

15.2.3 The functions of the fellowship shall include

- i. To establish manpower of its members for the effective service through the village meeting with the background on development in the Yearly Meeting
- ii. To encourage men in Friends Church to live dedicated Christian life
- iii. How to care for their families and orphans and less privileged
- iv. To initiate projects and programmes for the extension of Christ's kingdom and Financial empowerment
- v. To provide an opportunity for Christian fellowship among men of various meetings
- vi. Visiting and supporting less fortunate members of Friends church such as Widowers, orphans and the less privileged in the society

15.2.4 This programme shall devolve from the Yearly Meeting down to the Village Meeting.

15.2.5 The fellowship shall hold their Annual Conference once a year in the month of November/December or as the General Board may under exceptional circumstances determine.

15.3 YOUNG FRIENDS PROGRAMME

15.3.1 this programme which shall be for young Quakers aged between 15 years and 35 years shall be coordinated by young men and women in the church under the umbrella of the main Yearly Meeting

15.3.2 the functions of this programme shall include

- i. To assist young men and women know Christ and live devoted Christian Lives.
 - ii. To teach good morals among the youths.
1. Introduction to the Quaker faith and practice and teachings of Christ
 2. To develop strong Christian character
 3. To bring them closer to God through a strong Quaker foundation
 4. To develop the young boys and girls into good Christians
 5. To train young boys and girls how to respect their parents

15.3.3 They shall hold their Annual Conference once a year in the month of August or as the General Board may under exceptional circumstances determine.

15.4. SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

There shall be a children's ministry to mentor and nurture young children in the Christian faith

ARTICLE 16. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES OF THE YEARLY MEETING

The constitutional offices of the Yearly Meeting shall be

1. The General Superintendent
2. Deputy General Superintendent
3. Administrative Secretary
4. Educational Secretary

The minimum age to serve in these offices shall be 35 years and the maximum age shall be 65 years

16.1 General Superintendent

1. The General Superintendent of the Yearly Meeting and his deputy shall be appointed by the General Board on the recommendation of the personal and Executive Committees. Shall be paid a salary and shall hold the office for five (5) years renewable by once
2. The General Superintendent shall deal with and be in charge of the propagation of faith and provide spiritual guidance of the Yearly Meeting. He will be the spokesman (albeit in consultation with the presiding clerk where applicable) on all spiritual matters of the Yearly Meeting to perform his duty
3. The General Superintendent shall report and shall be answerable to the General Board
4. He will serve on contract basis on terms determined by the General Board

Qualifications

1. The minimum qualification for the holder of this office shall be maximum a Diploma in Theology from a recognized institution and have served as a pastor for at least 10 years.
2. In addition he must satisfy the following
 - i. Be spiritually mature
 - ii. Be beyond reproach
 - iii. Possess moral uprightness
 - iv. Display high degree of integrity, honesty, transparency and accountability
 - v. Meet leadership qualities contained in 1 Timothy 3:1-7

16.2. Deputy General Superintendent

There shall be established the office of the Deputy General whose duties shall include deputizing the General Superintendent with spiritual work in his absence, and any duties that may be assigned to him by the General Superintendent or the General Board from time to time

Qualifications

Qualifications for the position of General Superintendent shall apply to this position

16.3 Administrative Secretary

1. There shall be established the position of Administrative Secretary of the Yearly Meeting who will be appointed by the General Board upon the recommendation of the Human Resource through the Executive Committee. He shall serve for a term of 5 years renewable once and or as the General Board may determine
2. He shall hold office full time basis and shall be overall in charge of the administrative matters of the Yearly Meeting and all staff of the Yearly Meeting. In addition he shall be responsible for implementing the provisions of the Church`s constitution for the proper and smooth running of the yearly meeting.
3. He shall be answerable to the Presiding Clerk.

Qualifications and or duties

The administrative secretary shall.

- i. Be a full member of the Church
- ii. Must have held a management position in the rank of a supervisor or above
- iii. Beyond reproach
- iv. Moral uprightness
- v. High degree of integrity, honesty, transparency and accountability
- vi. Meet leadership qualities contained in 1 Timothy 3: 1-7
- vii. A certificate in Theology and above from a recognized institution shall be an added advantage

16.4 Educational Secretary

16.4.1 The office of the Education Secretary is hereby established to coordinate all educational matters in the Yearly Meeting.

16.4.2 The holder of the office shall be answerable to the General Board through the education committee

16.4.3 He shall serve as secretary of the Education Committee

16.4.4 His appointment shall be for a five year term renewable only by once and the terms and conditions of service shall be determined by the General Board

16.4.5 For the day to day operations of his dockets, he shall be answerable to the Presiding clerk

16.4.6 Appointment to this position shall be made by the General Board under the advice from the personnel committee through the Executive Committee.

16.4.7 Qualification for the office shall include

- i. Being a member of the church
- ii. Having served as an educationist at a level higher than pre-primary education and must meet the requirements of leadership set out in the book of 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- iii. Moral uprightness, honesty, high integrity, team worker and builder and proven administrative skills

16.5 PASTORS

1. The service and worship meetings of the Yearly Meeting or meeting subordinate to it shall be conducted by pastors appointed by the Yearly Meeting itself or through delegated authority
2. The pastors so appointed shall serve under the Mission Commission of the Yearly Meeting
3. The terms and conditions of service of pastors shall be as may be determined from time to time by the Yearly Meeting or meeting subordinate to it through the General Board
4. Minimum qualifications for appointment for the position of a pastor shall be as laid down by Human Resource, a certificate in Theology from a recognized Institution
5. In exceptional circumstances however persons who are not trained but have the spiritual gift to minister to the faithful may be appointed to serve as lay pastors.
6. The Yearly Meeting or meeting subordinate to it may appoint persons with special spiritual gifts to minister to the faithful as evangelists on terms and conditions that may be determined by the Yearly Meeting or in appropriate subordinate meetings as the case may be.
7. Where meetings subordinate to the yearly meeting makes such appointments the appointments shall be subject to ratification by the General Board acting on behalf of the Annual Conference
8. The mission commission shall set guidelines and regulations for appointment of persons as evangelists
9. It shall be the duty of the Yearly Meeting to ensure that the trained pastors are seconded to all meetings. Such trained persons shall assume the title of pastors and shall perform duties determined by the personnel committee subject to ratification by the General Board.

ARTICLE 17. PROGRAMMES, INSTITUTIONS AND PROJECTS

1. Institutions, programmes and projects of the yearly meeting shall be administered directly by the yearly meeting from its institutional office.
2. All development projects intended to cater for the entire yearly meeting including those needing external funding shall be initiated and implemented through the constitutional office of the Yearly Meeting
3. For each institutional project or other significant operation, there shall be established a committee of board of Management which shall manage the affairs on behalf of the yearly meeting.
4. The heads of programmes, institutions and or projects of the yearly meeting shall serve as members on the management committees of those programmes, institutions and projects but they shall not have the right vote.
5. All Quaker colleges, schools and or institutions within the areas falling under the jurisdiction of the yearly meeting shall be managed and or be run under the sponsorship of the yearly meeting.

ARTICLE 18. TRUSTEES

18.1 The General Board shall appoint six trustees who shall be full members of the yearly meeting. Such appointment shall be subject to ratification by the yearly meeting during its annual conference. A trustee or trustees so appointed shall serve for a term of five consecutive years, renewable only once.

18.2 A person so appointed as a trustee shall cease to be a trustee:

1. If he dies
2. If he ceases to be a member of the church
3. If convicted of a felony and such conviction is not overturned
4. If by reason of illness he is prevented from performing his duties as a trustee
5. If he resigns
6. If the General Board determines that his conduct is not in keeping with Quaker faith and practice PROVIDED such a decision is ratified by the annual conference.

18.3 POWERS OF THE TRUSTEE

1. To hold all land, all property belonging to the yearly meeting in their names or names of their successors from time to time appointed.
2. To sue or to be sued on behalf of the yearly meeting
3. Any document requiring execution by the trustees shall have been affixed there to in the presence of any four such trustees
4. There shall be not less than four trustees at any one time and in the event of death resignation, or removal from office of any or anyone or more trustees it shall be the duty of the General Board to appoint a successor or successors without delay.
5. There shall be a common seal of the Trustees which shall be circular in form with the words KAKAMEGA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS CHURCH (QUAKERS) inscribed around the circumference of the words "TRUSTEES" inscribed in the centre therefore, and such common seal shall be kept in the custody of the treasurer.
6. The official rubber stamp shall be classified as the seal of the office.
7. The Quorum shall be 2/3 of the members
8. It shall be the duty of the trustees to account for all properties of the yearly meeting by labeling and maintaining and inventory of the same.
9. The records of the trustees shall be subjected to annual audit by the auditor.

ARTICLE 19: AUDITING OF ACCOUNTS

1. The yearly meeting shall through the General Board appoint an Auditor whose role shall be to audit the financial records and accounts of the yearly meeting including the records of the trustees.
2. The auditor shall not only be a member of the church but must be competent in matters of accounting and auditing.

3. The auditor shall cause the treasurer's accounts to be audited with the accounting procedures and laws applicable in Kenya.
4. In the discharge of his duties the auditor shall be at liberty to enlist the services of assistants whose remuneration shall be determined by the General Board.
5. The powers of the Auditor shall include auditing accounts records at all subordinate meetings.
6. For each term of office of the yearly meeting an auditor shall be appointed and his name ratified at the annual conference.
7. The auditor's report shall be presented at the annual conference for deliberation.
8. All books of accounts and all other official records of the yearly meeting pertaining to finance shall be maintained at the yearly meeting constitutional office and at such other meeting offices as shall be required and or determined by the General board.
9. The yearly meeting or general board shall by a resolution passed by a majority of their respective members at an Annual conference have power to raise money on loan for any purpose within the laid down objectives of the yearly meeting.
10. The general board may mortgage charge or pledge any purpose of raising money on loan in furtherance of the objectives of the yearly meeting.
11. Any document required to give effect to any such mortgage or pledge or charge shall be sealed by the trustees as provided for in this constitution.
12. The financial year of the yearly meeting shall be 1st January of each calendar year to 31st December of succeeding year.

ARTICLE 20: INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS AND LIST OF MEMBERS

The books of account and all documents relating thereto and a list of members of the Church shall be available for inspection at the registered office of the Church by any officer or member of the Church on giving not less than seven days' notice in writing to the Church.

ARTICLE 21. CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

1. It shall be the spiritual, mental and moral duty of all members and all principal officers including employees of the yearly meeting and all meetings subordinate to it to conduct themselves in the best interest of the Yearly Meeting.
2. If any member, principal officer or employee infringes on any of the provision of this constitution and the rules as stated herein and in particular the Faith and patience" of the Quaker church, he shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions as laid down by this constitution or in accordance with other rules as the yearly meeting may determine from time to time or in accordance with the Quaker Faith and Practice

ARTICLE 22: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended or revised only if the following procedure is adopted.

PROCEDURE

1. A full member of the Yearly Meeting desirous of effecting an amendment to any part of the constitution shall forward his proposal in writing specifying the particular (Clauses) of the constitution he desires to be amended and giving reasons for the proposal to the General Board through hi Monthly Meeting.
2. The General Board shall upon receipt of the proposal deliberate on the same and refer it (the proposal) together with its observations and or recommendations to the Legal Committee for scrutiny and advice.
3. The Legal Committee shall upon scrutiny give its recommendations to the General Board which if satisfied with the proposed amendment shall cause the same drafted and presented to the annual conference for ratification.
4. The commencement date in respect of the amendment shall be the annual conference date when the annual conference next convenes after conference at which the said amendment was ratified.
5. If the amendment sought is on procedural or general matter, the General Board may subject to scrutiny and recommendation by the Legal Committee submit the same for ratification by the annual conference. Such an amendment if ratified shall take effect immediately upon registration by the Registrar of Societies.
6. Amendments to the constitution of the Kakamega Yearly Meeting of Friends Church (Quakers) shall be approved by at least two-thirds majority of members at the Annual General Delegates Conference of the Church. They cannot, however, be implemented without the prior consent in writing of the Registrar, obtained upon application to him made in writing and signed by three of the office bearers.

APPENDIX “A”

QUAKER FAITH AND PRACTICE OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

It is under the deep sense of what we owe to God who has loved us that I feel called upon to offer our **“FAITH AND PRACTICE”** of those fundamental doctrines of Christian Truth that have always been professed by our branch of the Church of Christ.

STATEMENT OF FAITH (John 15:14)

Friends believe that apostolic (New Testament) doctrines are essentials of Christianity.

Fundamental truths considered as vital and life-giving are:

- i. The fatherhood of God.
- ii. The deity and humanity of Jesus the Son
- iii. The ministry of the Holy Spirit
- iv. The atonement of Christ which reconciles believers.
- v. The resurrection of Jesus Christ
- vi. The high priesthood of Christ
- vii. The individual priesthood of believers

Although Friends do not stress a formal written CREED, they do state the primary principles of their faith in order to make their doctrinal position clear. Not wishing to be dogmatic, they record certain beliefs which are held as basic to their Faith. Therefore, a CHRISTIAN FAITH AND PRACTICE is a collection of attempts to speak INWARDLY FROM GOD” directly from human condition, to describe, as words can go, what men and women have found as they lived at first hand.

The following are basic beliefs of friends;

1. THE TRINITY

God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit – These are one in the eternal God-head (Matthew 2:8-19; John 10:30)

God the Father

Friends believe in One Holy, Almighty, All-wise and Everlasting God, the Father, the Creator the Preserver and Provider of all things. He alone is worthy of worship, to whom be honour, praise and thanksgiving now and forever (Genesis 1:1; Colossians 1:18)

God the Son

Friends believe in the only begotten Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, died on the cross and on the third day He resurrected and went to His Father in heaven. He will come back to receive His own. (Matthew 1:20, 23-25; 1 Corinthians 15:4).

He is the eternal word who was with God and was God. 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; Colossians 1:14, 18; Ephesians 1:7)

God the Holy Spirit

Friends believe in the third person, who is in the Unity of the eternal God-head, one with the Father and the Son, the Comforter who convinces the world of sin, the baptizer, the healer, the helper who enables people to serve in various ways as the spirit leads (John 14:26; 16:7-14; Ephesians 4:7-12; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31).

2. THE BIBLE

Friends believe that the Holy scriptures of the Old and New testaments were given by the inspiration of God, the only divinely authorized record of the doctrines which we are bound, as Christians to accept and of the moral of God that man is instructed in all righteousness. (John 1:1, 14; 1 Timothy 3:16; 2:15)

3. THE MAN.

Friends believe that man was created in the image of God; in that it pleased God, in His Wisdom and goodness, to create man out of dust, the earth, and to breathe into his nostrils and breath of life, so that man became a living soul, formed after the image and likeness of God.

Disobedience of man, he incurred the displeasure of God and the penalty of spiritual death. Consequently, all are born in a sinful state. And therefore, it was through man (Adam) that sin came into the world. "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23; 5:12-19; Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7; 27 3:11-24)

4. JUSTIFICATION AND SANCTIFICATION.

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life", (John 3:16).

Friends believe that justification in of God's free grace through which, upon repentance He forgives our sins, and imparts (gives) to us a new life.

Through faith in Him, and the shading of His precious blood, the guilt of sin is taken away, and we stand reconciled to God. By Hi we have received atonement. They believe that in connection with justification the power of being born again "REGENERATION" through which a new heart is given. (John 3:3-6)

Sanctification is experienced in the acceptance of Christ in living faith for justification. "Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the spirit of our God", (1 Corinthians 6:11). Sanctification therefore, is the act of being delivered from all nature and love of sin and being set free and free indeed. "The law of the spirit: of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law (bondage) of sin and death". (Romans 8:2(Romans 5:10-11, 21; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 5:17, Colossians 1:10 Isaiah 53).

5. THE CHURCH

Friends believe that the Church is the “BODY OF BELIEVES” (Christians); those who through repentance of their sins and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ: as their personal savior, have been born into His Kingdom by the Holy Spirit, they look to Jesus as their Prophet and their Head. (Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 1:4-7, 22-23; 1 Peter 2:4, 9-10).

APPENDIX “B”

FAITH IN ACTION (PRACTICES)

1. PRAYER/PRAISES (Adoration)

Friends have no form of written prayers, but they believe in silent prayer, humble conversation with God. No practice in Christian living is more often spoken of in the scriptures, prayer and praise. The Bible gives examples of/and instructions in these practices. Psalms are filled with prayers and praises to God.

Our savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, as our sure example in holy living often gave Himself to prayer and praise. He also instructed His disciples and all Christians of all generations to pray faithfully, and to expect God’s answer. Friends therefore believe that it should be the daily exercise of individual Christians within fellowship that our family should set apart time for collective prayers, praises, bible study and even in our public service of worship. (Matthew 6:5-13; 7:7-8; John 16:23-24; James 5:16; 1 Peter 5:6-7)

2. BAPTISM

Friends express their continued belief that the Lord appointed no outward rite or ceremony for observance in His Church. Friends accept every command of the Lord, in what they believe to its genuine import, as absolutely conclusive. The question of the use of outward ordinances in with them a question/matter, not as the authority of Christ but as to his real meaning. Friends reverently believe that as there is Lord and one faith, so there is under the Christian dispensation but one baptism, in which all believers are baptized. This is not an outward baptism with water, but spiritual baptism, not the putting away of the filthy of the flesh but that of “INWARD” work which transforms the heart and settles the soul upon Jesus.

No baptism of outward water can cleanse one from his sinful nature, but by that of the Holy Spirit alone. For John said, *“Indeed I baptized you with water, but He shall baptize you with Holy Spirit”* (John. 3:8; Matthew 3:11)

Friends therefore accept the commission of our Lord as given in Matthew 28:18-20 “Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name

of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: (Matthew 3:11; Mark 7-8; Acts 11:15-16; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:4-5)

3. *THE SUPPER OF THE LORD (Holy Communion)*

The observance of remembering Jesus Last Supper and His instructions to partaking together in remembrance of Him, is practiced often in worship. This may be done in various ways depending on the leading of the Holy Spirit within the individual worshipper. It could be in waiting upon the Lord in verbal witness, through prayer, sharing of the Holy Spirit's witness in one's life, or in expression of needs or concern. Although it is rooted in historical act of Christ's being broken and His blood shed, communion depends upon the obedience of God. The eating of His body and the Drinking of His blood cannot be an outward act. They truly partake of them who habitually rest upon the suffering and the death of their Lord as their only hope, and to whom the indwelling spirit gives drink of the fullness that is in Christ.

Friends therefore believe that it is the "INWARD AND SPIRITUAL" partaking that is that is the true Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians, 10:16-17; 11:24-29; Luke 22:15-20)

4. **SPEAKING IN TONGUES (Glossolalia)**

There are differences among the members of the Friends church, with the interpretation of the scriptures which speak of tongues as to whether they refer to actual language or to ecstatic utterances and whether this is a valid gift for our time. Nevertheless, the following points should be agreed upon. (Acts 2:1-4)

- I. The will of God as revealed in the scriptures is our conformity to His holy character as manifested in a holy life. All scriptures, spiritual experiences, gifts and fruits of the holy spirit are means to that end (Romans 8:29)
- II. Speaking in other tongues does not constitute the essential sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28:31). The evidence of the fullness of the Holy Spirit is the fruit of the spirit and especially divine love (Galatians 5:22-23)
- III. Speaking in tongues should not be made an occasion of division or strife among the members of the church (1 Corinthians 12:2). He who speaks in tongues speaks not to men, but to God and edifies himself (1 Corinthians 14:1-9)
- IV. In order to maintain unity in spite of all differences in our church, we must practice mutual submission. And in order to avoid becoming divisive, we should voluntarily refrain from certain freedoms, the practices which may become a stumbling block to those for whom Christ died (1 Corinthians 8)

However, friends have /do discourage the use of tongues in public services. If individuals or churches are led by the Holy Spirit to use tongues in public service, they should be referred to (Corinthians 14:26-28)

5. PEACE MAKING (MATHEW 5:9)

The position of friends in the PEACE is one aspect of life of love that incubates upon the Christians. Their view is that:

We feel bound explicitly to a vow our unshaken persuasion that all war are utterly incompatible with the plain precepts of our divine lord and law giver and whole spirit of the gospel.

Friends seek to apply the principles of love and arbitration at all levels. They seek to be realistic about evil in the world; they believe, nevertheless, that life's highest values, and Christianity itself may best be preserved, not with carnal weapons, but by lightening with weapons of Christian love, persuasion, prayer and suffering.

They have been active in efforts to relieve suffering, discrimination and oppression and to foster justice in the society. In faithfulness to the lord, they express their firm persuasion that all exigencies of civil government and social order may be under the banner of the PRINCE OF PEACE. (Mathew 5:9, 44; 27-29; john 14:27)

6. OATH / SWEARING

Friends rest upon the plain command of our Lord and Master, "swear not at all But let yes be "yes" and your No be "No"(Mathew 5:33-37) they believe that any departure from this standard is prejudicial to the cause of truth and to confidence between man and man, the maintenance of which is indispensable to our mutual wellbeing. This command, in friends persuasion, applies not to profane swearing only but to

Judicial oaths also (James 5:21). I affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth.

7. SIMPLICITY OF LIVING

Because the pressures to follow the style of life like that of non-Christian society/unity are so great upon Christians, friends insist that our citizenship is not of this world. Testament command states that:" Be not conformed to this world". This reminds us that in all our living we must take caution that our manner of dress should be modest and descent in every way we must also be careful that we are not seduced by the attraction and abundance of earthly good and thus fall into

covetousness. (Romans 12:2, 8; Mathew 8:18-20) Friends need to live a very simple life like that of our Lord Jesus Christ-(Philippians 2:1-10). He emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant if you are rich, help the poor and put up something at least to help the poor.

8. MARRIAGE

Friends consider marriage as SACRED UNION (ndoa takatifu) of a man and woman into oneness, as INSTITUTION graciously ordained by God Himself, for the help and continuance of the human life and family. It is not a mere civil contract and ought never to be entered upon without a reference to the sanction and blessing of God who ordained it. Marriage is solemn engagement for the term of human life, designed for the mutual assistance and comfort of both sexes, that they may be helpmate to each other in things temporary , mentally , emotionally and spiritual . To this end, it should imply concurrence in spiritual.