TO ALL FRIENDS WORLDWIDE,

3rd September 2017

REF: 31ST ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE
Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The above conference was held from 30th August to 3rd September 2017 at Friends Center, Ofafa Maringo situated 6 kms East of Nairobi City. This is a former rescue center for the Mau Mau victims of the post-independent struggle.

The weather was cool at about 26°C. The conference was held a few days after the National General Elections. The delegates prayed for peace in the nation. The mood of the conference was warm and jovial and with 347 delegates in attendance from all the 21 Monthly Meetings. In attendance were representatives from the Friends United Meeting (FUM), Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Africa Section and Friends Church in Kenya (FCK).

The conference was officially opened by the Presiding Clerk Simon Angote. In his opening remarks, he welcomed all the delegates to the conference and wished them well in their deliberations. He confirmed that all the resolutions of the past conference had been fulfilled and asked all leaders to hand over smoothly and support the incoming leaders. He said the church had strong structures which required operationalization.

The theme of the conference was “Enhancing servant leadership,” derived from John 9:4. The main speaker was Pastor Nathan Lihanda, the Chairman OF Friends Church (Quakers) Nairobi Yearly Meeting Mission Commission.

Reflecting on our theme, the main speaker said that servant leadership is about people. A servant leader should be merciful, selfless and serve in the spirit and power of God. He should be disciplined, focused and a team player. He reminded the delegates that they should serve the Lord while there is still time and that we are justified by faith and not the law.

During the conference, 18 marriage officers were commissioned, a new General Superintendent and his Assistant were also commissioned and new leaders inaugurated to serve for the next three (3) years.

We considered topical issues like; “Spiritual & physical church growth” and “dealing with chronic diseases”. The delegates undertook bible study on the book of 2nd Timothy every morning, received and also adopted reports from programmes and commissions. Conference resolutions were read and adopted. It was resolved that the Yearly Meeting will partner with Friends Theological College for continuous development and empowerment of church Members.

Yours in the Lords Service,

STEPHEN MAGWILU
INCOMING PRESIDING CLERK

("You are my friends if you do what I command you” John 15:14)

Listening to Christ: A simple faith that transforms lives