



# YOUNG QUAKERS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

## FRIENDS INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

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### EPISTLE FROM THE 5<sup>TH</sup> TRIENNIAL GATHERING

Dear friends everywhere,

We send you greetings from our fifth triennial gathering held at Mabanga Agricultural Training centre from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009. Mabanga Agricultural Training centre is located five kilometers north of Bungoma town along Webuye – Bungoma road, in Western Province of Kenya, Bungoma Central district, Kanduyi Division. Mabanga experiences warm and wet climate.

The gathering brought together 75 delegates from different cultures and traditions. The Theme “Divine perception” was extracted from the book of I Samuel 16:7. It was explored by two speakers; Deborah Saunders from Philadelphia Yearly meeting and Oliver Kisaka of EAYM- North yearly meeting. In their unique and introspective preaching, they challenged the delegates and all in attendance to shun traditional way of worship and seek to know God beyond what meets the eye.

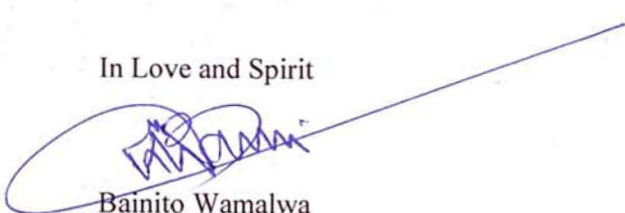
Other avenues of interaction included topics like Quaker diversities, servant leadership, workshops, interest groups, and Base groups. Also both types of worship were exercised and the excursions were among the forms of interactions.

The gathering brought together delegates from various yearly meetings in Kenya, Uganda yearly meeting, Rwanda yearly meeting, Burundi yearly meeting, Central and South Africa, Europe and Middle East Young Friends, and Various Quaker organizations from USA (FGC Youth Ministries, Freedom Friends Church, FUM, Evangelical Friends Church). Also the gathering was attended by officials from FWCC AS, and FUM Africa ministries. The choir from Chwele yearly meeting was a blessing to the gathering throughout our stay.

The diverse experiences and idea sharing was rich in the gathering and each one was able to understand each other as we left for our homes although with the challenges of building the unity among ourselves, increasing and maintaining the connections, promoting environmental conservation among others.

May the Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as I wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy new year 2010.

In Love and Spirit



Bainito Wamalwa  
Clerk