



Eden Grace will be Leaving Position as Global Ministries Director

Friends United Meeting announces the resignation of Eden Grace as the Director of Global Ministries. Her departure leaves a significant vacancy at FUM. Her last day is yet to be determined. Eden is committed to leaving well and she will continue to work on several significant projects for the next few months. Currently, FUM is reviewing staffing needs and we plan to announce a search in the coming weeks.

FUM has been the context of Eden's public ministry for much of her adult life. She served on the FUM General Board for twelve years, was FUM's representative to the World Council of Churches for fifteen years, was a member of the field staff in Kenya for nine years, and finally has served as Director of Global Ministries for the last seven years. About her commitment to FUM Eden says, "FUM is my family and my home. While I feel clear to step away from my current position, I expect that God will continue to call me into ministry with FUM in new ways in the future. I am so grateful for the beloved relationships I've been able to form, and for the amazing work of God I've been able to witness, and I trust that God has great things yet in store for us as a global fellowship, gathered in Christ's name."

Friends United Meeting is "committed to energize and equip Friends through the power of the Holy Spirit." This is Eden's legacy with FUM. She brings a high level of competency, passion, and spiritual depth to her ministry. Additionally, she works continuously to encourage and empower the global community of Friends.

While we are sad to release Eden from our service, we are thankful she will remain a vital member of the FUM family.



FUM Bookstore



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Thurman books** published by
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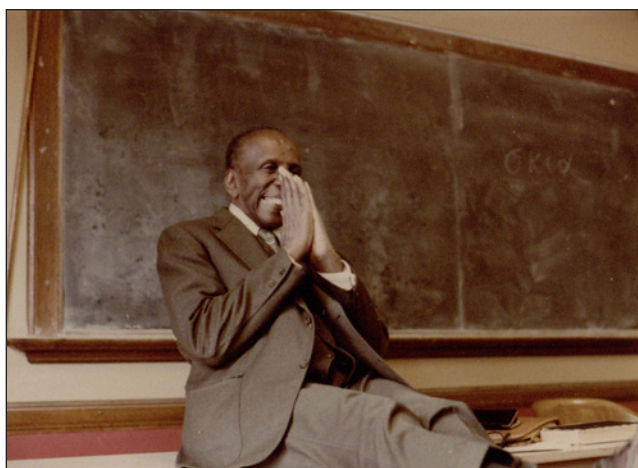


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FUM E-news will Feature Howard Thurman Works

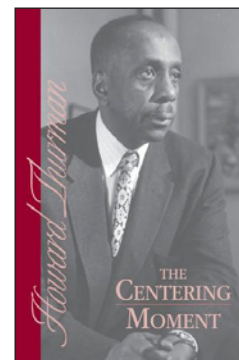


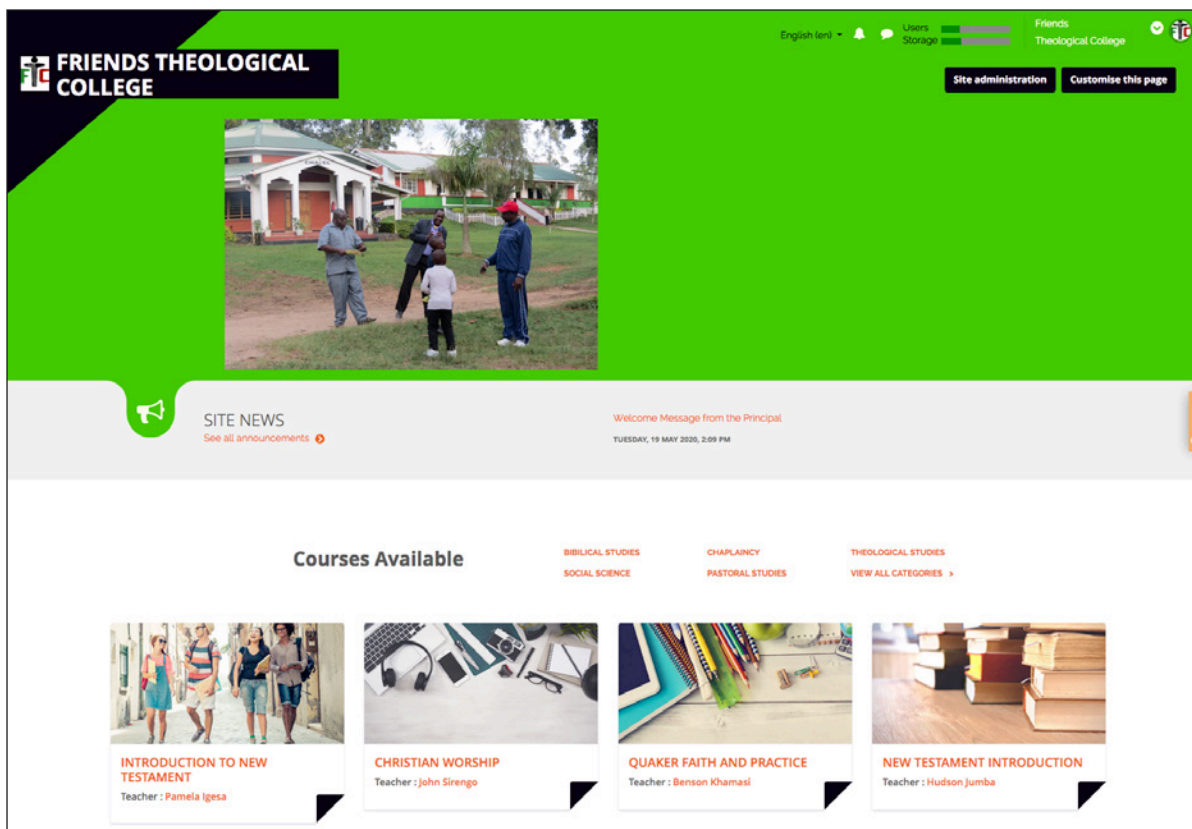
Friends United Meeting has the honor to be stewards of many of the works of theologian and minister Howard Thurman. Thurman is known as one of the most influential religious leaders of the twentieth century. He was the spiritual mentor to Martin Luther King, Jr. and other significant leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, and influenced principles of nonviolence in the African-American freedom struggle. King reportedly carried with him a copy of Thurman's book, *Jesus and the Disinherited*.

As racial tensions in the United States once again prompt protests and divide communities, FUM's E-news will feature weekly selections of Thurman's reflections and prayers. We're beginning with this:

Our Father, we come to Thee, seeking in quiet ways the courage to ease the tensions and break the discord in which, in one way or another, our lives are surrounded. We offer to Thee the treasures of our life, to the end that we may be so touched by Thy spirit and sensitized by Thy love and Thy tenderness that we may find our way in peace and in strength and in confidence. — Howard Thurman, *The Centering Moment*

Thurman's books are available at [bookstore.friendsunitedmeeting.org/
collections/howard-thurman](https://bookstore.friendsunitedmeeting.org/collections/howard-thurman)





FTC Initiates Online Learning in Response to COVID-19

In late April, the FUM E-news reported that Friends Theological College—the primary training center for African Friends ministers—was experiencing immediate financial need related to the COVID-19 pandemic and response. FTC is dependent on student fees to cover the cost of operational expenses; since the Kenyan government had shut down all schools to prevent the spread of the virus, tuition income had been cut off. FTC was beginning to explore alternative educational platforms and the possibility of offering distance learning, but at that point, classes were postponed indefinitely. Students were sent home and Principal Robert Wafula described the campus as “literally quiet.”

Students left campus on March 20 in a somber mood. They did not know when they would return to the classroom. Affected the most were those anticipating graduation in October 2020.

The sudden drop in income left FTC struggling to pay core staff members. This put the school in danger of not being able to reopen smoothly, because unpaid staff members would need to seek alternate employment elsewhere, and any reopening would be stalled by the need to hire new staff. The FTC finance office projected that it would cost approximately \$10,000 USD per month to keep the College functioning; an astronomical sum to consider raising in such a short amount of time.



Robert Wafula

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The generosity of Friends carried the school through, however. Only a week later, we were able to report that funding had been secured to keep FTC open through May. Online learning had not been part of FTC's planning process up until this point, but this gave a small window for moving the school to an online learning model for the beginning of the June module.

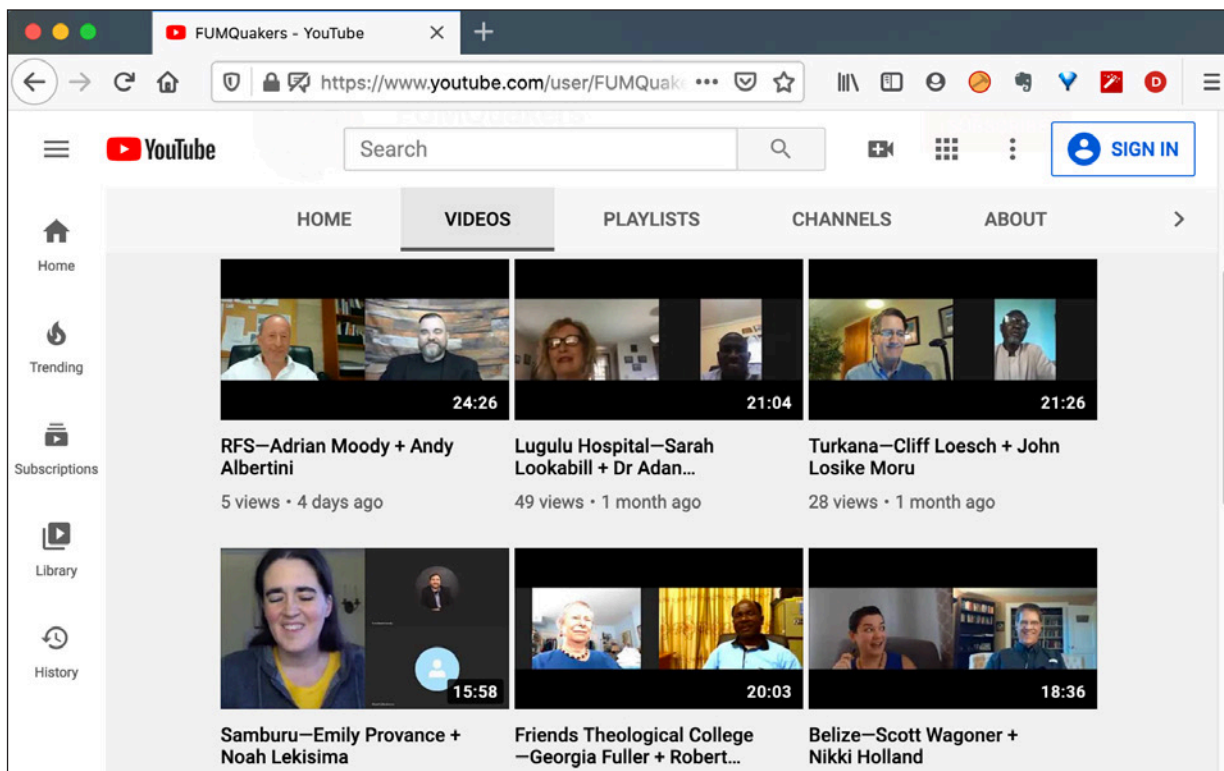
Technically, online learning at FTC was launched on April 22nd, 2020. Making it work smoothly depended on gaining access to the Moodle online learning platform, which was financially out of reach, so arrangements were put in place to engage students via other social media platforms—Zoom, WhatsApp, Skype, and email communications. Lectures were done online, using video-conferencing tools like Zoom, and residential students completed their exams from home. Meanwhile, the FTC administration and IT instructor were busy training lecturers and students at each of the four FTC satellite campuses in e-learning skills.

Then FUM donors came through with funding for Moodle access and some other technological upgrades. FTC started with a MoodleCloud plan that was limited to 200 users, but as interest in e-learning grows among the students and faculty, it became clear that we needed to upgrade to the 500-user plan. Again, with the support of generous donors, we were able to purchase that upgrade in early July. The June module began online with 141 students, with three from Uganda, two from Rwanda, and a good number from pastoral communities in Kenya. We are still exploring ways to assist students from Tanzania in enrolling in online learning.

FTC Principal Robert Wafula says, "FTC is an oasis where African Friends come and draw theological knowledge that includes training in spiritual formation and leadership, for Friends Churches and Meetings." We offer our gratitude to each one of you who has supported this school through prayer and through financial giving.

In the past five years, under Robert's leadership, FTC has grown in numbers and reach. Student enrollment is three times what it was five years ago, relationships with African Yearly Meetings are stronger, satellite campuses have opened, and ministers from other Christian traditions are coming to FTC for study. Join us in praising God's faithfulness, and in thanking God for the Spirit-led faithfulness of Friends.





Global Impact Conversations on YouTube

Did you know that we're on YouTube? You can find us at [youtube.com/user/FUMQuakers](https://www.youtube.com/user/FUMQuakers). Most recently, we've posted six conversations about the work FUM is doing in the world and how our Global Impact Fund supports that work. In the videos, FUM staff and project partners speak with FUM Board members about their missions of evangelism, education, health care, and peace-building, and how the Global Impact Fund allows them to be flexible and responsive to changing circumstances.

- [Nikki Holland](#), Belize Friends Ministries Director, spoke with FUM General Board member [Scott Wagoner](#) about the work of Belize Friends School and Belize Friends Center, the way in which the work of the School, the Friends Center, and Belize City Friends Church build upon one another, and how FUM in Belize brings good things to the Southside of Belize City.
- FUM Board member—and frequent FTC adjunct lecturer—[Georgia Fuller](#) interviewed [Robert Wafula](#), Principal of Friends Theological College, on FTC's role in preparing leaders for the African Friends Church, how FTC has lifted up women as leaders for the Friends Church, and how FTC is meeting the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic by making a commitment to online and distance education.
- [Noah Lekisima](#), Board Treasurer for Samburu Friends Mission, and [Emily Provance](#), FUM General Board member, talked about the Samburu region and the work of Samburu Friends Mission, including the Mission's schools, support of girl child education, and evangelism.
- FUM General Board member [Cliff Loesch](#) and Turkana Friends Mission Director [John Losike Moru](#) spoke about the Turkana region, the challenges faced by the Turkana people, and the role of Turkana Friends Mission in supplying clean water, in evangelism, and in education—for girls as well as boys.
- [Dr. Adan Muhammed](#), CEO of Friends Lugulu Mission Hospital spoke with FUM General Board Recording Clerk [Sarah Lookabill](#) about the scope of the hospital's work—the geographic area that patients come from, the specialties the hospital is able to offer, the number of patients the hospital sees, and how FUM assists Lugulu Hospital in caring for patients with no financial means.
- [Adrian Moody](#), Head of Ramallah Friends School (RFS) in Ramallah, Palestine, spoke with RFS Development Director [Andy Albertini](#) about the role of the school in Palestine, whom the school serves, and the challenges facing students and their families.

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FUM's 2020 Summer Mission Focus: Turkana Friends Mission 50th Anniversary

If you're planning a Vacation Bible School, or programming for Quaker camps, or other summer fundraising efforts, keep in mind that our summer focus this year will be the **Turkana Friends Mission**. TFM is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year, and we're looking forward to giving you materials on the history of the mission and how God has used it to bring hope and peace to the Turkana region.

Downloadable materials can be found here: friendsunitedmeeting.org/connect/summer-mission-focus



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