

THE PROFIT MAGAZINE • VOLUME 1 • 2014

The Profit

Register for
the 21st FCFI
Annual Conference
at www.fcfi.org
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For what shall it profit a man to gain the world and lose his soul? - Mark 8:36

Serving, Sowing, Reaping for Christ Around the World.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven

Greetings fellow rural Christian servants. As I step up to take my turn as Chairman of the FCFI Board, I do so as your servant. In Mark 9:35, Jesus counseled His disciples on greatness in Heaven saying, "Anyone who wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else." Truly, this is the perfect pattern for achievement. Every one of us can put this into practice by being the hands and feet of Jesus as guided by The Holy Spirit. God doesn't look at His servants as lowly, but leaders and better said, as daughters and sons, His own family. The servant is the person who's been given the agenda, knows what needs to be done and will have everything pleasingly in place when the Master arrives.

FCFI is a tool for God. FCFI's mission statement is "Serving, Sowing, Reaping for Christ around the World". The organizations unifying view on how to accomplish the mission is expressed in the vision statement, "The vision of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International is to encourage Christian farm families and agricultural professionals to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior around the world." The FCFI Board and staff strongly support this mission. As Chairman I welcome your suggestions and encourage you in Christian family development as I was raised by Christian parents, Bruce and Lois Brace of Carroll County, Ohio and lead a Christian home for my wife Ellen and three children. I serve my local congregation, Mt. Tabor UMC, in East Canton, Ohio as Lay Leader, youth leader and Sunday school teacher. I'm in my fourth cover to cover reading of the Bible, with emphasis this round on personal relationship. I will encourage programming to help FCFI members grow in faith and establish long term spiritual growth achievements.

As you carry out your cropping plans for 2014, the FCFI board and staff encourage you to plan and not lose sight of your "Spiritual Agriculture Crop" goals. Mark 9:35 is the 2014 FCFI Annual Conference theme. You are encouraged to prepare for Conference attendance by placing this verse before you and applying it through your devotions. Make plans now to attend the FCFI Annual Conference and make extra efforts to enhance the experience by bringing family, friends, or possibly a young farm family as Nick Korm did last year. The Conference and the Cincinnati-Covington area have many enjoyable possibilities for families. The Creation Museum is extra special and offers a zip line for teens. You can encourage us by registering way early so we can brag about you in future newsletters. Thanks for all you do in serving, sowing and reaping for Christ around your world.

Looking forward to serving you,

B. Todd Brace, FCFI President



B. Todd Brace
FCFI President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

The Profit cover photos were taken in Washington, Illinois as FCFI was involved in helping clear some of the 1082 homes destroyed by an EF-4 tornado on November 17th. Tornado disaster relief is a tremendous challenge in winter weather. The Fellowship partnered with the Global Compassion Network to clear over 50 homes until the snow/ice and extreme cold in December shut our effort down.

The Fellowship has resumed building fences on the South Platte River in Northeast Colorado. Page 3 of Profit explains the "1000 Year Flooding" campaign that needs your help to continue.

The Lord has opened up the door to ministry in New Zealand at the Southern Farm Show in rural Gore, Southland. The need to share the gospel and build friendship among farmers is needed in New Zealand just as in North America. Page 6 of Profit has a photo essay of Southern Field Days. Pray that the Lord will lead more North American farmers to travel to New Zealand to share the gospel and make new friends.

The Fellowship's Conference Team is planning a tremendous meeting in Cincinnati. Pages 4-5 of Profit outlines the activities planned including the Creation Museum. Be sure to plan on attending this year's Conference and invite a young family to join you.

Thank you for your prayer and financial support of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International ministry. See you in Cincinnati!

Dennis Schlagel, FCFI Executive Director



Dennis Schlagel
FCFI Executive Director

— FCFI —

The purpose of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers is to build, maintain, and strengthen faith in God for the farmer, the farm family, and the farming industry through presenting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

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COLORADO 1000 YEAR FLOOD DISASTER RELIEF CAMPAIGN CONTINUES IN LOGAN COUNTY, COLORADO

The Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International will continue a campaign to rebuild Logan County Colorado farms and ranches along the South Platte River. The South Platte River region suffered a "1000 Year Flood" following record rainfall September 11-15th in the Rocky Mountains near Fort Collins, Colorado.

Sterling, Colorado portion of the South Platte River had a ½ to one mile wide flood plains, dumping silt, brush, and other types of trash into the fences of pastureland. Hundreds of miles of fences will need to be replaced.

Housing and meals for volunteer teams is being coordinated by Logan County ranch families. To join the Colorado "1000 Year Flood" Relief Campaign contact:

Jerry Rice, FCFI Disaster Relief
Coordinator
Cell 580-516-1234

or

Frank Cornelius, Association Director
of Missions for Southern Baptist for
Colorado Eastern Plains
Cell 719-940-4830



Flood waters filled fence lines with trash that rendered the fence useless. FCFI team from Oklahoma worked to clear the debris from the fenceline so a new fence could be built. This ranch is located in Weld County near Greeley



A new fence built in the spring is a beautiful site. April in northeast Colorado is a busy time with planting and livestock work. Many ranch families have one spouse working off the farm, too. The "1000 Year Flood" hit at harvest last September and needed to be rebuilt in the spring.



A team of FCFI members from Boise City, Oklahoma travelled to Weld County Colorado to take care of three work orders in rural area generated by Samaritan's Purse Disaster Relief. Samaritan's Purse is a "first response" disaster relief ministry. Last September their command center in Greeley identified three rural locations that needed help. These work orders were presented to FCFI Disaster Relief Coordinator, Jerry Rice. The week of March 24th, Jerry and his wife, Deborah, joined a team of their neighbors to help families in Weld County.

For More Information, contact:
Dennis Schlager
Phone: 309•365•8710
Email: fellowship@fcfi.org

21st Annual Conference

Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International

"Anyone who wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else." - Mark 9:35

August 1-3, 2014

Cincinnati, Ohio

**Conference and Lodging
at Embassy Suites - Cincinnati-River Center
Covington, KY**

Inspirational Speaker

Tim Chaffey, Writer, Editor, Answers in Genesis



Tim lives near the Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio borders with his wife and two children. He enjoys spending time with his family, walking, basketball, swimming, and good theological discussions. In 2001, he was the starting center for a national championship basketball team. He swam the relay leg of half-Ironman triathlons in 2012 and 2013, and completed the Nation's Triathlon in 2013 with Team in Training to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

He currently works as the content manager for the Ark Encounter. He has spent five years as a pastor and associate pastor, in which he taught youth ministry, adult Sunday School, and a weekly theology class in addition to regular preaching duties. He has also taught high school Bible and science classes for six years.

Tim earned a Th.M. in Church History and Theology from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary in May 2011 after successfully defending his thesis on "The Sons of God and the Nephilim" (available on Kindle). In 2008, he earned a Master of Divinity degree (summa cum laude) specializing in Apologetics and Theology. Tim also holds a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Science in Biblical and Theological Studies.

He is the founder and director of Midwest Apologetics, a ministry dedicated to defending the word of God from the beginning to the end.

Special Music by Calvary's Celebration Band



FCFI 21st Annual Conference

FEATURING:

- ✓ *Tim Chaffey, featured speaker from Answers in Genesis*
- ✓ *New Disaster Relief Truck on site*
- ✓ *Educational Workshops*
- ✓ *Special Music by Calvary's Celebration Band*
- ✓ *Mission Reports from South Texas, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and New Zealand*
- ✓ *Visit the Creation Museum!! See the next page for more information*
- ✓ *Thoroughbred Horse Farm Tour - visit FCFI.org for details*

CREATION MUSEUM®

Prepare to believe.



Creation Museum guests observe the life-size, animatronic Utahaptor, a velociraptor-type dinosaur whose remains were discovered in Utah in 1993.

©Answers in Genesis



Main Hall – An animatronic 40-foot-long sauropod dinosaur overlooks The Creation Museum's large main hall. Other dinosaurs that also move realistically are placed here too.

©Answers in Genesis

WWW.CREATIONMUSEUM.ORG

only 7 miles west of the Cincinnati Airport

Financial Donors Needed to Help Young Farm Families

The challenge of deciding to devote discretionary cash to attend the Fellowship of Christian Farmers Conference can be difficult for any of us in some years, but for many young farm families it's unthinkable. With that in mind, the FCFI Conference Planning Committee is seeking contributions from FCFI members and Agribusiness for the purpose of buying down the conference costs for young farm families and youth. Anyone interested in donating to this cause may send specified contributions to the FCFI National Office at, P.O. Box 15, Lexington, IL 61753.

Financial Incentives to Visit the Creation Museum

The Cincinnati-Covington area is home to the Creation Museum. It's billed as 70,000 square feet of family fun. To enhance the spiritual growth experience of attending the 21st Annual FCFI National Conference, visiting the Creation Museum is part of the pre-Conference activities. Since attending the Creation Museum takes the better part of a day, an additional night of hotel will probably be required of most attendees. To encourage young families to experience the Creation Museum and attend the 21st Annual FCFI Conference, a grant of \$200 per family is being offered to the first 20 applying families. Applicants must submit a simple essay verifying their authenticity as a farm family, the ages of their children and how they hope to enhance their family's spiritual growth through attending the FCFI Annual Conference. Fifty percent of the funding is reserved for Ohio Families.

The FCFI Conference Planning Committee is in the process of developing eligibility rules which will be published on the FCFI web site in the future, but the idea is to help authentically engaged in farming families who are still supporting children at home.

Registration Deadline
is on or before
July 1, 2014

Registration Form

21st Annual FCFI Conference – August 1-3, 2014
Cincinnati, Ohio

Name _____

Spouse _____

Children _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Friday evening, Saturday, Sunday morning:

Adults _____ @ \$250 US each
Children (10 and under) _____ @ \$ 80 US each
RV Adults _____ @ \$100 US each

(Cost of conference includes meals and accommodations per person)

Make Checks Payable to:
FCFI Conference
P.O. Box 15
Lexington, IL 61753

Register and Pay
with your credit card
at www.fcfi.org

NEW ZEALAND FIELD DAYS



The Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International NZ organized its first ever exhibit at the Southern Field Days, February 12-14th, at Waimumu, Southland. Southern Field Days is New Zealand's second largest farm exhibition and is held biannually. The next Southern Field Days will be February 10-12, 2016. The South Island Agricultural Field Days will be March 25-27, 2015 near Lincoln, Canterbury.

Mike Whale, left, guides the lengths of wood being cut to the correct size by Alan Taylor using a radial arm saw in preparation for use as wordless walking sticks at the Southern Field Days. 6 meter 2 X2 's were first split length wise on a table saw and then split again to get the desired 1" X 1" by one meter walking stick. Mike Whale and Alan Taylor are both team members of the Lower Maitava Valley Ministers Group that invited FCFI to come to Southland. Over 400 walking sticks were sanded and rawhide bracelets attached for the Southern Field Days.



The Southern Field Days expanded by 120 exhibitors thanks to the construction of a 50m X 100 m Event Center. Marques (tents) were being shipped from the North Island to accommodate the growth. The 3m X 6 m marquee resulted from a cancellation on Saturday before the show opened. 50mmX 50mm New Zealand Pine poles 4.8 meters long were used to fly flags from six countries. Janet Schlagel, Bloomington, Illinois, is shown by the FCFI property sign the day before the show opened. Praise the Lord for providing a framed marquee that enabled a professional, agribusiness exhibit.

Wordless Walking Sticks were popular items at the Southern Field Days. Three boys are shown with FCFI Executive Director, Dennis Schlagel, after hearing the gospel presentation. 350 wordless puzzles and 400 silicone bracelets were used to share the gospel with some of the over 38,500 people who attended the three day show.



Shown, left to right, are Richard Kyte, Dairy NZ; Tau Ben-Una, Presbyterian Pastor; Dennis Schlagel FCFI; and John Ranstead, Presbyterian Family Worker. Each man has been involved in the prayer, planning, and execution of the plan to be part of the Southern Field Days exhibit.



The Maitava Christian Church hosted a worship service and supper for all farmers who attended the Southern Field Days. Farm families drove over an hour away to attend the first FCFI NZ meeting. Cultivation of new friendship is a precious commodity in agriculture today. Pray that many such meetings can begin to happen all over New Zealand in the coming years.

CANADA - 100 EVENTS COAST TO COAST

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. John 1:12

In the past year, FCF-Canada has shared the gospel in every province across the country from the Pacific to the Atlantic. We covered over 100 events and spoke to 100,000 people. Is this ministry effective?

I think the answer can be found in Mike Sweeney's comments about the Royal Winter Fair:

"Once again we are thankful for God's grace and favour shown unto us at the Royal Agriculture Winter Fair in Toronto this past fall, enabling us to minister truth unto those who came into the FCFC booth. Men, women and children by the thousands were ready to hear the simple but profound message of the Cross, with many calling upon His Name as Lord and Savior.

Witnessing with our own eyes the change in the facial expressions and overall countenances of peace with those who prayed with us, can put a different perspective on worldly plans and goals which man pursues in his 60, 80, or 100 years on earth.

Our time down here is the shortest thing we will ever do in light of eternity, but eternity was touched by the 36 volunteers who shared the gospel, plus the many hands who helped prepare the thousands of walking sticks and small items for this event, Jesus said if you give a cup of water in My Name you will not lose your reward, and there were many cups from the "RIVER OF THE WATER OF LIFE" given in preparation for, and during the 10 days of the Royal. It's His delight to reward those who are about the Father's business."

John Van Elswyck of Ontario said: "Just sharing at the fairs has been so awesome. This is the simplest way of witnessing I've seen. People look you right in the eye and listen intently. We don't save them - only God can do that, but we have to sow the seed. Eternity is at stake! We are not doing this to earn brownie points. Many people don't know and this really pushed me forward to witness. There are churches on almost every street corner but people don't know!"

Roy Nielsen of Nova Scotia shared this testimony: The grandfather of a little grand-daughter dying of cancer, said: "How can God permit that?" The mother and sister of the little girl came also. I shared through the gospel tract that God is love, and told them we don't always know the "why", but that we can always put our trust in our loving God. They were comforted and prayed. (Note: It's no "coincidence" that this family came to speak with Roy. Roy & his wife Leona lost a three month old baby daughter, so he understood the heartache and could speak from personal experience.) Roy said, "This is only one example of the joy, peace, comfort, and hope that we witnessed. It is such a privilege to share God's gospel of salvation; to see the Holy Spirit convict and move hearts; to see people claim Jesus Christ as their Saviour."

Pastor John Baker of Exeter, ON, said: "These farmers do a great job sharing the gospel and bringing people to Christ."

After hearing the testimonies of volunteers, we agree with Harvey Buck, one of our members, who said: "I'm excited to see what's coming down the road. I've got a heart to see this country turned upside right!"

2014 FCF-Canada Annual Spring Retreat

Friday & Saturday, April 11 & 12, 2014

Dalkeith, ON (halfway between Ottawa & Montreal)

"Serving with Joy" is the theme

Psalm 100:2 tells us to serve the Lord with gladness.

A time of rejoicing, sharing, workshops, great music, fun and fellowship surrounding the AGM

The 2-day program: \$60.00 per person.

You are responsible for overnight accommodation.

Everyone Welcome!

Reservations by April 4: fcfc@bellnet.ca or tel: 819-242-7067



Keynote speaker
Bill Brown



In French Quebec alone, more than 400 volunteers coming from 60 churches, shared the gospel with over 43,000 people. At left: Expo Saint-Hyacinthe



At the International Plowing Match, on a chilly, damp day in September, people claimed Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

For a complete listing of upcoming shows in Canada please visit our website: www.fcfi.org



Saturday, June 28, 2014
register online at
www.pedalingforkicks.com

FCFI Farm Show & Calendar of Events view this calendar, and check for updates at www.fcfi.org

APRIL

- 3-5 Southern Plains Farm Show - Oklahoma City, OK
Tony DeGiusti 405-381-4383
- 9-11 Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo - Great Bend, KS
Dennis Schlager 309-530-7004

MAY

- 3, 5 Spring Fling - Danville, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 10 Milton Cultural Festival - Milton, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 31 FCFI Golf Tournament - Boonville, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823

JUNE

- 6-8 Western NY Dairy Festival - Springville, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 7 Strawberry Festival - Madison, CT
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 11-14 New Zealand Fieldays - Hamilton, NZ
Dennis Schlager 309-530-7004
- 14 Branford Festival - Branford, CT
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 14 Dryden Dairy Day - Dryden, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 20-21 Strawberry Festival - Owego, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 27- 7/5 Millville Carnival - Millville, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 28 Pedaling for Kicks Bike Ride - Carlock, IL**
Richard Verdery 309-826-5543

JULY

- 10-12 3-i Farm Show - Dodge City, KS
Sonny Kaufman 785-783-3875
- 10-13 Madison County Fair - Brookfield, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 11-19 Lycoming Co. Fair - Hughesville, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 18-20 Four State Farm Show - Pittsburg, KS
Ken Werner 479-524-8520
- 21-26 Troy Fair - Troy, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 22-24 MI Ag Expo - Lansing, MI
Mike Dietz 517-468-3977
- 30- 8/3 Niagara County Fair - Lockport, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 31-8/3 Corn Festival - Eden, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823

AUGUST

- 1-3 21st Annual FCFI Conference - Cincinnati, OH**
Todd Brace 330-488-0896
- 1-3 Antique Machinery Show - Montourville, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 2-9 Clinton Co. Fair - Mackeyville, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 3 Old Home Days - Vernon Center, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 6-8 Empire Farm Days - Seneca Falls, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823

- 11-16 Montour-Delong Fair - Washingtonville, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 13-15 Sunbury River Fest - Sunbury, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 8-17 Skowhegan State Fair - Skowhegan, ME
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 12-14 WI Farm Technology Days - Stevens Point, WI
Mike Brehm 262-632-3519
- 14-16 Northern NY Farm Show - St. Lawrence City
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 14-17 Wolcott Fair - Wolcott, CT
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 16 Woodsman's Field Days - Booneville, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 20-21 Maine Farm Days - Clinton, ME
Bill Brown 315-749-6823
- 19-21 Dakotafest - Mitchell, SD
Martin Ellingson 605-847-4663
- 26-28 Farm Progress Show - Boone, IA
Dennis Schlager 309-365-8710
- 27-9/1 Sullivan Co. Fair - Forksville, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 27- 9/1 Luzerne Co. Fair - Dallas, PA
Doc DeVoe 570-458-9876
- 30-9/1 NY Festival of Balloons - Dansville, NY
Bill Brown 315-749-6823

Join And Support FCFI: I / We would like to assist the mission of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers in presenting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to farmers, farm families and the entire agricultural community.

I am interested in: ☐ More information about the ministry ☐ Farm shows in my area ☐ Praying for FCFI ☐ Volunteer Opportunities

☐ I have a prayer request _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

