

The Bead Story, Good News For All!!

Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? Have you accepted Him as your savior? The colored beads we use attached to our walking sticks, by a piece of rawhide, tell the wonderful story of God's love for us...

-The **Gold Bead** - "The Street of heaven was pure gold, as it were transparent glass". Rev. 21:21. We all want to spend eternity there. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." -The **Dark Bead** - represents sin. Sin separates us from God. Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

-The **Red Color** - represents the blood of Christ. - Romans 5:8 - "But God commends his love for us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ dies for us." When we accept Christ as our savior our sins are washed **White** as snow. Isaiah 1:18 We're forgiven. Romans 10:9 - "Confess with your mouth and believe in your heart that God raised Christ from the dead, and you shall be saved." -Finally the **Green Bead** - Once we accept Christ as our savior there will be spiritual growth. II Peter 3:18 - **"But grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ."**



Dodo Murray from Mohawk, NY, displaying 3,000 completed beads and rawhide. Dodo, like many volunteers, works hard preparing the bracelets for shows. We're so thankful to have so many dedicated volunteers.

God's gift to us is free and can be received by praying a simple prayer.

"Lord, I'm a sinner in need of forgiveness. I believe you died for me on the cross and rose again. I want to turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. I ask you to come into my heart and become Lord of my life." In Jesus name, Amen

Event Schedule

January 5-7 - Keystone Farm Show, York, PA
 12-14 - Fort Wayne Farm Show, Fort Wayne, IN
 13-14 - South Carolina Agibuz and Farm EXPO, Florence, SC
 15-16 - North Louisiana Ag Expo, West Monroe, LA
 21 - Georgia Peanut Farm Show and Conference, Tifton, GA
 29-31 - Power Show, Columbus, OH
 February 4-6 - Western NY Farm Show, Buffalo, NY
 10-13 - Louisville Farm Show, Louisville, KY
 25-27 - NY Farm Show, Syracuse, NY
 26-27 - Mid-South Farm and Gin Show, Memphis, TN
 26-27 - Swamp Cabbage Festival, LaBelle, FL
 26-28 - Western Farm Show, Kansas City, MO
 March 3-5 - Pioneer Days, Wauchula, FL
 5-6 - Strawberry Festival, Floral City, FL
 19 - Pioneer Day, Arcadia, FL
 29-31 - Mid America Farm Expo, Salina, KS
 April 2- Central FL. Dragon Boat Festival, Tavarus, FL
 6-8 - Great Bend Farm and Ranch Expo, Great Bend, KS
 15-17 - FCF-Canada Annual Meeting, Dalkeith, ON
 May 31 - FCFI Golf Tournament, Woodgate Pines, Boonville, NY
 June 3-5 - VT. Dairy Festival, Enosburg Falls, VT
 3-5 - Western NY Dairy Festival, Springville, NY
 11 - Dryden Dairy Day, Dryden, NY
 11-12 - Violet Festival, Dolgeville, NY
 17-18 - Strawberry Festival, Owego, NY



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FCFI Main Office

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"You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in You."

What a peaceful scene with its new fallen snow, a field at rest and trees in the background getting ready for a long winters rest. Late fall and winter is a much needed time of rest for all of God's creation and it ought to be for you and I as well. With Thanksgiving and Christmas behind us and a couple of months before the fields come alive with color, what a great time to feel God's presence and peace. Isaiah 26:3 - with our mind trusting in Christ we'll have perfect peace. Our culture defines peace as the absence of trouble, but peace really is the presence of Christ in our lives. John 16:33 "I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble but take heart! I have overcome the world." What great news, so may we encourage you to take time to rest from a busy year, recharge your batteries for another season and most of all rest in the peace that only He can provide. The snow in the picture provides for a very clean setting, it reminds us of the white bead we use to share the gospel at events all across Canada and the United states. God's blood ran red on Calvary so that our sins would be white as snow. Isaiah 1:18. Real peace comes from knowing Him and being grateful that what we have is enough.

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PS 23 "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters (even in cattle watering tubs) He restores my soul!" The entire work mission crew with Pastor Randy Johnson, before heading home, after a very productive week of serving at Reality Ranch.

→
 Iverson Powell, grandson of area leaders Walter and Becky Powell, helping pick up after the Sunbelt AG EXPO. Children have peace when they see adults exhibiting that fruit of the spirit. Jesus said, "My peace I leave with you."



WHERE YOU AT ?



Have had some extra time lately to think and read. Have been reading a book called "Principles For the Gathering of Believers Under the Headship of Jesus Christ". It talks about the passion and compassion of believers in the underground churches in China, Iran and North Korea. How they meet in caves and barns and wherever they can to avoid being found. It is nothing for these people to get together to pray for 2 or 3 hours at a time. There are a lot of things done differently there and I highly recommend reading the book.

The one thing that I would like to point out is that all the born again believers are passionate about sharing how to be born again! They even risk death to share this!

We have opportunities to share the gospel at farm shows and with our neighbors friends and family so let's get out and do what the Lord has asked us to do, and we can help you if you come to the shows that we have you can learn, be equipped and be encouraged. So come get involved with us.

Gary Beery
Radner, OH

Guest Column



See What The Lord Has Done

By Suzanne Pisano – Holland Patent, NY

Missions completed. Yes missions. Three missions in one month. I was blessed to travel with William and Kathy Brown to the Georgia Expo sharing about Jesus. A young boy returned the next day with his father; (he remembered that I said to enjoy his walking stick for a day or two but to do the same, "tell someone about Jesus and pass on the stick". He did that and came back for another stick to give away. How precious was the moment, knowing the Lord spoke to this young boy, and right there choosing him to go and tell others. I went on to The Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization to help prepare for their upcoming conference; where delegates from around the world come to share and learn new ideas to help with hunger and to grow a harvest in harsh climates. At ECHO I learned that 75% of the world's food is generated from only 12 plants and 5 animal species, and that more than 90% of crop varieties have disappeared from farmer's fields. ECHO is the place to learn and prepare for a harvest to feed many. After ECHO I went onto Reality Ranch where I helped with fixing, painting, planting, painting and painting: (did I mention painting?) helping to maintain the Rodeo Ranch of Randy Johnson. Working at the ranch in the atmosphere (guidelines) that Randy developed; hard work great fellowship and sharing God's love with a bible service each evening which I felt prepared me for my evening sleep in our Lord's great peace. My prayer before going on these missions was from 2 Timothy: "I present myself to you Lord, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth, helping those in need." This has been a wonderful experience feeling the Lord use me in an unselfish humbling way. I thank God for what He has allowed. Read Proverbs 3:5. He opens and closes doors. Commit yourself to doing the will of God. Pray, if you have peace, press ahead knowing that His will is good, pleasing and perfect.

From the Pen of Bill Brown

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV) "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." What better time to write a column on being an encourager, than a few weeks after being involved in two of the largest events on the FCF calendar. The International Plowing Match in Finch, ON. in September and the largest event in the US, the Sunbelt Ag Expo, which took place the middle of October in Moultrie, GA. and two weeks of FCFI sponsored mission trips where Kathy and I served as hosts. Shows this large take lots of workers (volunteers) of which we had a couple of hundred, how easy it would be to say unkind words when the days drag on. Instead I heard lots of "thanks, can I help, sure appreciate what you're doing" and most of all, "enjoyed working with you and when will we work together again." Mission trips as well take a toll on volunteers working together trying to accomplish tasks that may be out of our comfort zone. Still I heard lots of encouraging words and comments. "Let's do it again next year."

What a pleasure to work with members whose love for the Lord is evident and whose desire is that others come to know Christ and have the same daily experience of knowing Him as Savior. It's amazing what a smile on our face, a hug and kind words can do. In Proverbs 16:24 we read "Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body." (ESV) How much better our world would be if we heeded those words. We each need to be encouraged. These are trying times we live in to say the least, but what a joy to know the Lord. Hebrews 10:25a "encouraging one another, even more as you see the Day drawing near." May I suggest that we use encouraging words when speaking with others in the same way we speak to Christians, that they may ask the reason for our joy?

"To God be the glory for great things He hath done."

Through The Eyes of a Pastor

Charles L. Walker, Pastor Weeks Chapel
United Methodist, Norman Park, GA

The question many ask is, Can we experience perfect peace? People have been searching for peace for generations. If we could live in a world where there is no troubles, no difficulties, no conflicts, no difficult circumstances, no worrying situations, then maybe we could experience peace. But we live in this fallen, broken and sin sick world don't we? Jesus tells us in John 16:33, "Have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." We are never going to reach a place in this world where there will be no trouble, difficulties or conflicts. But we can choose how we will deal with those circumstances. Isaiah the prophet shares these encouraging words in Isaiah 26:3, "You (God) will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trust in you." Peace comes when we trust God. When we commit our circumstances and situations to God. When we thank Him for what He has done, is doing, and will do, then we experience peace. However, so many have not heard such an encouraging message. I have found working with the Fellowship of Christian Farmers ministry that most people with whom we share the simple, yet powerful story of the colored beads and the stick, are searching and seeking peace in their lives. This ministry gives such a great opportunity to introduce Christ to them and remind believers as well that true peace comes from faith and commitment to Christ. Isaiah 1:18, "Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow." We can all experience peace in our lives in knowing we are forgiven through our faith in Christ. God will keep you in perfect peace when you trust in Him, when you fix your thoughts on Him! What a great opportunity to share the Gospel Story through the ministry of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers.



"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Mark 16:15

Higher Ground

Got 'Living Water'?

We all know that drinkable water is a precious commodity. Recently, we drilled a second well on our dairy farm to make sure we have plenty of water for our dairy herd and our two family households. When the well driller hit water, I was so excited to see this fresh new water come gushing out of the new well. It's the life blood of every farm.

There's another even more precious water that's the life blood of Christians. Chapter four in the Bible's book of John tells us that Jesus asked a Samaritan woman for a drink of water from Jacob's well. She was astonished that Jesus, a Jew, would ask such a thing from a Samaritan. Jesus used that well water as a lesson about an eternal life source. "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again. But whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst again," He said. "The water that I give will become in him a spring of water, welling up to everlasting life." That's what Jesus wants for each of us – to be a well, spilling over with good news of the eternal life that God promises for each of us. That's what "welling up" means – being ready to share what God has done for us.

Have this living water? You never know when you'll meet someone who is going through a dry spell in their life. You never know when you'll meet persons who think they have it all together but don't know who Jesus really is and why He died on the cross for them. God wants each of us to have this vibrant living water inside of us. And if you have this living water, let it well up inside to be shared with others who want and need it. Our world badly thirsts for it.

Roy Norman, Woodstock, CT

Higher Ground Column Reprinted by permission of "American Agricultural Magazine"

Put in the Sickle *By Jeff Goss*

In the perilous days we are living in, is it possible for us to have inner peace? According to Jesus, it is possible to have peace, and His Word tells us how to get it. First, in John 14:27, Jesus tells us He is leaving us His peace. Then, He gives us the command to not let our heart be troubled or afraid. So how do we stay in constant peace when there is so much stress and pressure that tries to come in our lives? Isaiah 26:3 tells that He will keep us in perfect peace if we will trust and keep our focus on Him. Romans 8:5-6 puts it this way, "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit, the things of the Spirit." Verse 6, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." We will walk in His peace despite the circumstances going on around us by having our mind on God and His Word, meditating on His promises and faithfulness and goodness. Jesus confirmed this in John 16:33 when He said, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace." Finally Hebrews 12, verses 2 and 3 tells us to look unto Jesus lest we be wearied and faint in our minds. If you are weary today, seek Jesus with all your heart and He will renew your strength.



Greetings From The South

We are not living in a perfect world. We are living in a world that has flaws, problems, frustrations, disappointments, and tragedies that rob us of peace in our daily lives. So often these mishaps show up so unexpectedly. Since we do not know what tomorrow holds for any of us, we can expect things to change suddenly.



Area Leader
Walter Powell
Omega, GA

In the early 1990's there was a tremendous drought in the southeast. I had no insurance to cover the loss, plus I had the added expense of producing the crop for the next year. I felt hopeless but with God's help and blessings, over time I was able to overcome my financial loss. Slowly my peace returned.

Have you ever had a time in your life when you felt you had been robbed of peace? David Jerimiah calls these periods in life just another "bend in the road." Some of these "bends" seem to never end while others straighten out quickly and life becomes smooth again. As we journey in life we all want a path that is smooth and straight with no curves, but that is not the way of life. It is filled with many curves that we cannot see beyond. However, we have a heavenly Father who sees beyond our vision. He says in His word, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Ps 46:1)

The storms in life are coming and there is nothing we can do about them. But we know a God who can take us through the storms. There is peace beyond understanding when we place our hope in Him.

A Book of Proverbs ON BEING HAPPY

1. The easiest way to make others happy is to be happy yourself.
2. Smiles never go up in price or down in value.
3. Happy people don't have the best of everything but they make the best of everything.
4. Happiness often enters through doors we didn't know existed.
5. Some people cause happiness wherever they go, others whenever they leave, make sure you're the first.

"I had a choice; I could believe the lies of the devil, in which case I was on the way to suicide, or I could believe in the promises of God and be taken through my time of trial."

~Angus Buchan – From Faith like Potatoes – On nearly losing his farm.

Assembled by Clark "Solomon" Phillips
Clark is a past member of the FCFI Board of Directors
and makes his home in North Collins, NY



Market Place Evangelism

All ready and open for business (God's Business) at the International Plowing Match held Sept. 22-26 in Finch, ON. 5500 stopped by the FCF-Canada Tent. →



→ Many times FCF members travel lots of miles to assist local members in staffing events. Dave Porter, Watertown, NY sharing the gospel is one of many of those dedicated volunteers.

→ Picture of young folks – at Sunbelt AG EXPO, Moultrie, GA. Over 8,000 stopped to receive a free gift, with some waiting in line for 30 minutes. There's always lots of prep work behind the scenes. Youth play an important part, all smiles, as they serve in that capacity. We do appreciate each one.



Other News

→ Area Leader, Walter Powell from Omega, GA spent the weekend of Oct 9-11 in NY speaking at chapter outreach meetings. His message was one of encouragement "No matter what trials come your way, God will lead you through it." Walter is shown at the Mohawk Valley Chapter Dinner Meeting in Steuben, NY. He also spoke at the Northern NY and Mountain Valley Chapters meetings.



Reality Ranch Mission Trips

→ Reality Ranch is used to its fullest hosting rodeos for all ages, bull riding schools, therapeutic riding and just providing a safe place for people to heal. Caring People Ministry of Bowling Green, FL use the ranch to encourage folks as they struggle with addiction. Kenny Sanders, Bible Study Leader is shown helping a young lady onto a horse. lots of prep work behind the scenes. Youth play an important part, all smiles, as they serve in that capacity. We do appreciate each one.



Mission Trips ECHO



13 FCFI members from St Catharines, ON, NY and IN served for a week at ECHO, Nov 1-6 in FT Myers, FL. ECHO continues to host missionaries from around the world as they search for ways to feed the hungry.



Andy Catorelli, ECHO Farm manager, helping put the first goat in the new house. Research is always being done to better the lives of those less fortunate.



Gordon Potter, Westernville, NY replacing bamboo fence on the goat house at ECHO. The house was rebuilt as goats are a very popular meat source around the world.

Reality Ranch Mission Trips



The hot FL. weather is always hard on paint so FCFI spends lots of time painting all over the ranch. Deb Herrold, Westville, IN and Suzanne Pisano, Holland Patent, NY working on renewing the bull chutes for the rodeo events.



Pastor Randy Johnson, founder of Reality Ranch, is a quadriplegic so ramps are very important to his mobility. Paul Davidson and John Waterman from Holland Patent, NY rebuilding the ramp to his office.



Always lots of work and repairs at the ranch. Cliff Kitchen, Vernon Center, NY driving the loader tractor as he assists, Joe Smith, Westernville, NY and Ron Herrold, Westville, IN in setting up a new entrance.