



Crop Plan 2018

Dear Friends of FCFI,

The Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International hopes this Crop Plan 2018 letter reaches you in the midst of getting your spring planting & spraying completed in a timely way. Here in Central Illinois we had good conditions in early April to plant corn. FCFI has responded to disasters in the Southwest & High Plains, and in the Gulf Coast regions. The 5th wheel command trailer is parked in Vici, Oklahoma to house and feed teams of fence builders. Our newest shower trailer is in Houston and the original shower trailer is in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, both in response to Hurricane Harvey. More about the Oklahoma Wildfires on page two. Your support enables the ministry to respond to tornados, hurricanes, wildfires, and flooding as needed.

Spring is also the time of the year when the Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International has to apply and submit payment for space at summer and fall farm shows. This is a cash flow drain for the ministry just as planting corn and soybeans is a financial strain for farmers across North America. The Fellowship invests in public farm shows as a way to interact with Christians and prospective Christians regarding faith in Jesus Christ. FCFI got its start in 1985, in the midst of the farm credit/inflation crisis. Only the Lord knows the future of agriculture and our country. The Fellowship wants to be ready this summer and fall to interact with farmers about their spiritual life. Thank you for your faithful support of FCFI enabling the ministry to move forward with confidence.

The Lord is at work building a Fellowship of Christian Farmers organization in New Zealand. New Zealand's largest farm exposition is called National Fieldays. This year's Fieldays is June 13-16th at the Mystery Creek grounds near Hamilton, NZ. Farmers have prepared 1500 wordless walking sticks and 500 wordless puzzles to share the gospel over the four day event. This is the 8th year FCFI NZ has had a display at Fieldays. The focal point of this year's exhibit is building friendships with farmers across New Zealand. Isolation is a big problem in NZ. Angus Buchan's small group DVD and study materials will be promoted to get New Zealand farmers into small groups as they enter winter. Thank you ahead of time for praying for friendship to be cultivated in New Zealand.

This is a very important time in our nation's history for the ministry to continue sharing the gospel message with people at farm shows. Your prayer and financial support keeps the Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International well-funded to continue being a witness unto the Lord Jesus Christ this year.

Be sure to send the Home Office your e-mail address and place FCFI as an approved sender in your address book. This saves printing and postage costs. Be sure to "like" FCFI on its Facebook page at www.fcfi.org.

Your Brother in Christ,

Dennis Schlager, Executive Director/CEO
Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International



Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International

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April 12-20th a 340,000 acre wildfire burned in Woodward and Dewey counties in western Oklahoma. Wildfires burn extremely hot and move very fast. This event was called the "Rhea Wildfire" and the "Route 34 Wildfire." Eighty percent of the pastureland destroyed and cattle killed were in Dewey County. Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International Disaster Relief Coordinator, Melvin Bell and his wife Marilynn, met with Woodward County Emergency Management staff and selected Vici, Oklahoma as the location central to most damage to organize a base camp. Last year's wildfire was in Ashland, Kansas and ranchers there pulled the Fellowship's 5th wheel toyhauler bunkhouse to Vici, Oklahoma. A shower trailer was loaned to FCFI by the Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief. One of the Fellowship's shower trailers is still being used in Spring, Texas for Hurricane Harvey relief as a part of a Baptist Disaster Relief base camp. Your help is needed to rebuild destroyed fences in Vici, Oklahoma. The FCFI base camp is air conditioned with a shower trailer and a kitchen to cook meals. Temperature wise this is not ideal fence building weather, but the work has to be done. Pray, put together a team, and give the Fellowship Home Office 48-hours notice before you can arrive in Vici.



A long drought situation in the Mountain Grove, Missouri area followed by heavy rains and flooding made it necessary to ship hay to feed dairy cattle. Loads came from Oklahoma and Illinois. At the same time the dairy families in Mountain Grove, Missouri and in Pennsylvania were getting notices in the mail that their milk processor was not going to buy their milk after May 1st. The price of milk and finding new processors to buy milk is a huge stressor for dairy families. Please pray for dairymen in America and drink milk whenever you can.



The Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International has been an exhibitor at the National FFA Convention and Expo for 25 years. In February the National FFA Expo President called the FCFI Home Office to explain that if the Fellowship applied for space at the 2018 National FFA Convention and Expo, FCFI would not be issued exhibit space. The President explained that the National FFA Expo wants to be more "inclusive" at future Expos. The FCFI Board of Directors will meet in Bloomington, Illinois June 27-28 to decide how to respond to the National FFA organization. Please pray for this situation. Contact the FCFI Home Office if you have any comments or questions.



The Fellowship of Christian Farmers needs to ship another truckload of walking stick material from Georgia to Central Iowa. Each load has 60,000 sticks that are prepared by volunteers for use to share the gospel at farm shows. Area Director, Walter Powell, Omega, Georgia organizes this source of walking stick material. Past FCFI President, Kendal Pliner, has the machine shed space available to handle the 60,000 stick load. Each load costs \$6,000. FCFI Board of Director, C.P. Foster donates the trucking. PTL!

Many farm shows are in the plans for 2018-2019. Second year events include the Walworth County Fair in Elkhart, Wisconsin; Louisiana State FFA Convention, in Alexandria, LA; Cedar Rapids Farmers Market, Saturdays this summer; and the 58th Steam Engine and Antique Tractor Show, in Pinckneyville, Illinois. Plus for the first time the Illinois State FFA Convention, June 12-13th in Springfield, Illinois. All of these events include local, rural churches who desire to be part of sharing the gospel message. Your continued support makes it possible to expand FCFI's outreach ministry. The Farm Progress Show tent in 2015 is shown here as it returns to Boone, Iowa, August 28-30th. Hope to see you at a farm show soon.

YES Dennis, *I / We will partner with FCFI to make a difference!*

Please Check All that Apply

- ☐ **RAPID RESPONSE** Support FCFI Disaster Relief Campaigns including Oklahoma Wildfires \$50,000.
- ☐ **FARM SHOW MINISTRY** Help cover the exhibit fees in the coming months of \$95,000.
- ☐ **SMALL GROUP MATERIALS** Angus Buchan Small Group materials inventory \$2,000.
- ☐ **MOST URGENT NEED** Please use our/my gift wherever it is NEEDED MOST on the day it arrives.

My/Our Gift Amount: \$30___ \$50___ \$100___ \$500___ Other Amount \$_____

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ Bus. _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____ E-mail 2 _____

Your email address in our database with fellowship@fcsi.org in your address book enables us to send you e-newsletters at low cost.
Thank-you for helping FCFI get more digital in communicating with you.

- ☐ We will partner with the Fellowship of Christian Farmers in praying for its ministry outreach.

Please pray for us: _____

* Please make your tax deductible gift. Mail your check payable to Fellowship of Christian Farmers International
To make your tax deductible gift securely on-line please go to www.fcsi.org and click the 'Donate' button.

FCFI * P.O. Box 15 * Lexington, IL 61753 * fellowship@fcsi.org * (309)-365-8710

Registration Deadline:
Monday, June 25, 2018

Registration Form

25th Annual FCFI Conference
July 27 - 29, 2018 - Lexington, KY

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

Name _____

Spouse _____

Children _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Conference fees include; 6 meals and 2 nights lodging

_____ # of additional Nights, please specify dates _____

Additional Conference Activities

CHECK OPTIONS BELOW AND INCLUDE
PAYMENT ALONG WITH REGISTRATION FEES

☐ Creation Museum ONLY

☐ Ark Encounter ONLY

☐ Combo Tickets

**Please refer to the website for pricing
chart to include additional conference ac-
tivities with registration fees. Questions?
Call the home office (309) 365-8710!**

Conference Registration Fees

FRIDAY EVENING, SATURDAY, SUNDAY NOON

☐ Adults _____ \$250.00 US each

☐ Children _____ \$80.00 US each

Total _____ \$ _____



25th Annual Conference

Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International

"...the joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10

July 27 - 29, 2018 - Lexington, KY

FEATURING

- Rapid Action Reports
- Mission Reports
- FCFI Auction
- Informative Workshops
- Great time of fellowship and reconnecting with friends
- Opportunities to tour the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter

Inspirational Speaker
Tim Chaffey



Content Manager for Attractions
Division of Answers in Genesis

Keynote Speaker
Andrew Jit



Global Missions Pastor at
Owensboro Christian Church

Four Points by Sheraton

For more information, contact: FCFI (309) 365-8710 or fellowship@fcfi.org

Register and Pay with your Credit Card at www.fcfi.org