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, 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 died 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."

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 Sept.-Dec.

September Aug 30 – Sept. 1-- NYS Festival of Balloons - Dansville, NY

Aug 30 - Sept1- - Spencer Fair, Spencer, MA

5-8 - Hebron Harvest Fair, Hebron, CT 5-8 - Nittany Antique Machinery Show, Centre Hall,

5-8 - Nittany Anti PA

13-14 - Oneida - Herkimer Farm Progress Show, Mohawk, NY

12-15 - Four Town Fair, Somers, CT

14 - Lycoming County Balloon Fest, Hughesville, PA 17-21 - International Plowing Match, Verner, West Nipissing, ON, Canada

21- Cream Cheese Festival, Lowville, NY 21-22 - Troy Heritage Days, Troy Fairgrounds, PA 21-22 - Remsen Barn Festival, Remsen, NY 27-29 - Apple Fest, Central Square, NY 28-29 - Harvest Fall Market, Underhill, VT

October – 4-6- Harwinton Fair, Harwinton, CT 4-5 - Outreach Meetings – NY 4-6 - Ozark Farm Fest, Springfield, MO 11-13 - Riverton Fair, Riverton, CT 15-17 - Sun Belt Ag Expo, Moultrie, GA 18-19 - Fulton Fall Festival, McConnellsburg, PA 18-20 - Greek Festival - Lecanto, FL 19-20 - Hellers Apple Festival, Wapwallopen, PA 26 - Apple Fest, Congregational Church, Salem, CT 26 - Mt Ephraim Baptist Church Family Day, Arcadia, FL

26-27 - Pioneer Days, Lake Wales, FL 31 – Watsontown Light the Night, Milton, PA November – 2 – Farm Day – Rocking B-A-B Ranch, DeFuniak Springs, FL

9 - Dragon Boat Festival, Lake Hernando, FL December - 12-14 - Tulsa Farm Show, Tulsa, OK The Prayer of Jabez Oh, that You would Bless me indeed, and Enlarge my Territory, that Your hand would Chronicles Be with me, 4:10 and that You would Keep me from Evil, that I may not cause pain!





"Encourage One Another And Build One Another Up" 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV)

The Fellowship of Christian Farmers just recently hosted two summer conferences. The picture above, taken by Ed Westfall, comes from the Eastern Conference held in central NY July 12-14. "Informal conversations with folks ranging from long time FCF workers being joined by recent members." That's really what conferences accomplish. Please check out Ed's article in the Guest Column portion of this newsletter. He uses the following scripture to encourage. Philippians 2:4 "not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interest of others" (NIV)

The Fellowship of Christian Farmers Int. held it's 26th annual conference, July26-28, in Dubuque, Iowa. It also was a time to renew old acquaintances and encourage one another. Pictures from conference inside. "Be assured, if you walk with Him and look to Him and expect help from Him, He will never fail you."

~George Mueller

Inside: From The Pen-Pg 2 Guest Column Pg 2 Fieldmen Report Pg 3 Proverbs by Clark Pg 3 New Staff, Pledge Form Pg 5 Testimonials Pg 6 Market Place Evangelism Pg 4, 5, 13, 15, 16 Other News: Pg, 4, 8,9, 10,11 Mission trips Pg 10 News from Heartland Pg 12 Through the eyes of a Pastor Pg 17 Event Schedule Pg 18 The Bead Story Pg 18

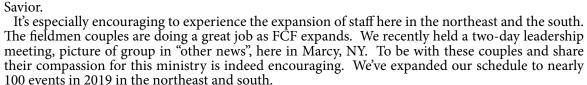


It's always encouraging to see young families involved in ministry. Brittany D'Armond and young sons, Jimmy & Joseph helping out at Empire Farm Days

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The Fields Are Ready For Harvest!

What an encouraging couple of months we've experienced in FCFI and FCF-Canada. Three conferences were held, stick work days in NY, change of staff in Quebec, but the work continues, and of course too many events to even mention where Christ was shared. And, we still have some of the largest events still on the calendar. What a pleasure it is to work with volunteers whose love for the Lord is so evident and whose desire is that others come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior



Remember, these are very trying times we live in and we each need to be encouraged. Hebrews 10:25a "encouraging one another, even more so as we see the day drawing near."

The event schedule is on the back page. Please stop by and say "hello". We'd love to have you help us. *"The fields are ready for harvest"*!

Give Him thanks in all things, ~*Bill Brown*

Guest Column ED & GAIL WESTFALL • Westmoreland, NY

Values of Meeting Together



At the conclusion of the FCFI Eastern Conference, some of the values of any meetings we may have comes to mind. By meetings, I mean a meeting like the conference with dozens of attendees, a small gathering of friends or strangers, or one-on-one encounters. All of there types of meeting are common to FCFI members. Some of the meeting values that come to mind are: social, educational, and caring.

Social: Regardless of the size of the gathering, there is opportunity to share good news, concerns, views, and offers to assist. The ages or backgrounds or issues discussed should not deter from having the time together from being of value.

Hebrews 10:25 New International Version (NIV)

25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Matthew 18:20 New International Version (NIV)

20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

continued on page 12

Pastor Chris Elliott

On January 20, 2019 our family walked with my mother, Shirley Elliott through the valley of the shadow of death. The passing of a loved one brings with it a range of emotions. On our walk that day and the days following, many tears were shed. Yet those days included much laughter and singing. Sorrowful, as we miss Mom so much, yet joyful, because we know that she is in the presence of the Lord she loves. Besides, it won't be that long, in the big scheme of things, that we'll see her again.

As I reflect on my mother's life, a poem comes to mind:

The Dash by Linda Ellis.

I read of a man who stood to speak At the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on her tombstone From the beginning to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth And spoke of the following date with tears, But he said what mattered most of all Was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time That she spent alive on earth And only those who loved her Know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, The cars, the house, the cash, What matters is how we live and love And how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; Are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough To consider what's true and real



Shirley Elliott leaning against porch pole. Written by Pastor Chris Elliott, PA 3rd from R

And always try to understand The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger And show appreciation more And love the people in our lives Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile, Remembering that this special dash Might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read With your life's actions to rehash Would you be proud of the things they say About how you spent your dash?

By Linda Ellis, Copyright 1996-2019 Southwestern Inspire Kindness, Inc., thedashpoem.com

Thought provoking, isn't it? Shirley Elliott's "dash" was loaded! Loaded with family, ministry, and, well, life. Farm wife, mother of five, grandmother of 13, great-grandmother of 24 (and counting), newspaper editor, deacon,

Continued on page 5



Mohawk, NY

Fieldman Encouragement What am I to do?



Mark 16:15 says it all; "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature!" It is not easy for me to just go up to someone and talk to

Roy & Cathy Upson them about the gospel. I know it is the greatest news and most important in our lives, maybe many of you feel the same? Our family and friends are some of the hardest to tell about Jesus.

The walking stick ministry is for me a great tool in getting the gospel out. People come to the booth looking for a free walking stick and they will listen to the message. God's word says it will not go void! Some will respond, many tell us they have never heard and some do accept Jesus as Lord!

Exodus 3:11a "Moses, asks -who am I that I should go?' Our work is to tell everyone about Jesus and to live our lives so others see Jesus in us! So, yes just as Moses we are called to go and spread the good news.

Cathy and I have completed three shows in central NY and shared with over 1,000 people and several have accepted Christ. We still have 6 more shows on our late summer and fall schedule. What a privilege to share and pray with others.

~ Roy Upson

A Book of Proverbs

Book of Proverbs on Encouragement

- The race isn't always to the swiftest.
- Fertile ground grows the best crops and the best weeds. That's no reason not to use it.

• The person who says there's nothing sure except for taxes and death hasn't read the Bible.

• My remains will stay here but when the roll is called up yonder, I'll be There!

• If you fail to plan, you plan to fail. So, start to plan!!

• "It's never crowded along the extra mile" Wayne Dyer

> Assembled by Clark "Solomon" Phillips Clark is a past member of the FCFI Board of Directors



Mary Zacek, Prospect, NY helping at the Walking Stick Work Days. Joining in were grandaughters Maddie, Samantha and Abbie.

the Chenango County Dairy day in Norwich, NY

Steve & Chris Brown all set up at

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Market Place

Evangelism



Eden Corn Festival. The area is known for it's sweet corn production. The annual event held in August, has been very productive for FCF with over 1,000 stopping by the tent. The young lady in the picture is signing for her Dad. The message goes forth in many forms.



Two youngsters enjoying their FCF

hats to kids.

hats at the Antioch Church Block Party in PA. The Steeles reported a very busy afternoon and they like passing out the

Niagara County Fair, Lockport, NY. Olcott Bible Church headed up the effort and 50 people accepted Christ as their Savior. Shown is the ever popular train stopping by the FCF tent.



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Market Place Evangelism FFA Conventions



Jeff Goss at the Arkansas FFA Convention ministering to big farm kids, who moved to the US from Asia.



↑ Jeff Goss praying the sinner's prayer with Oklahoma FFA students

> Gary Jurkowski, MHV Member, traveled from Central NY to help out.

Jeff Goss sharing the gospel with FFA members. Students are very respective.



FCF received third place - best appearing exhibit at the Brooklyn , CT Fair, ribbon attached to front of tent. Workers - Roy Norman and Rob Wrobel

4





Empire Farm Days



 \rightarrow Steve Brown,

fieldman, coordinated the event.





The Gant family from Holland Patent, NY have been faithful workers for many years. Gina Gant once again helped out at the event.



The crew waiting for customers at the Meredith dairy Days, Meridale, NY. Don Palmer, Mike Yakubec, Peg Kenyon & Herb Hait



Karen Steele, PA Northern Tier Chapter sharing the bead story at the Loyalstock Antique Tractor Show, Williamsport, PA

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News From The Heartland

Area Leader • High Ridge, Missouri



The Power of Encouragement

One thing most of us can agree on is that we are living in the last days with perilous times coming on the earth. It also means an increase in spiritual warfare for the Christian. More than ever we will need to encourage each other in the

faith. That is why First Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." Lone ranger Christians who don't go to church much or who don't fellowship with other believers much will have a hard time making it in their walk with God. God has put certain believers in my life who, when I just simply talk with them on the phone, I feel encouraged. On the other hand, we need to stay away from people who tear us down. One friend of mine had a dream while growing up to play college football for his state college. A coach along the way said some discouraging things to him so he lost confidence in this dream and turned to drugs and was in bondage to drugs for the next 10 years. Life and death is in the power of the tongue. Unfortunately, we have all had people in our life that tore us down with their words which affected us in a negative way. Let us learn from this and give people the encouragement they so desperately need. Prov. 4:25 "As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." Jesus Christ.

Jeff Goss

VALUES OF MEETING TOGETHER continued from Page 2

Educational: When the gathering is large, as at a conference, the educational value may be centered on a lecturer or instructor. With small groups or individual meetings, the educational input may come from any attendee at any time.

~*Ecclesiastes 7:12 New International Version (NIV)*

12 Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter,

but the advantage of knowledge is this: Wisdom preserves those who have it.

~*Colossians 3:16 New International Version (NIV)*

16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Caring: In any meeting situation for maximum value to be derived, a patient listening mode is important whether the speaker is addressing one or many. FCFI members are often in meeting situations with small groups or individuals and develop a keen attention to listening and offering wisdom to those who will accept it.

~*Philippians 2:4 New International Version (NIV)* 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ~*Galatians 6:2 New International Version (NIV)* 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Thank-you For Supporting Our Mission

Support FCFI: I would like to assist the mission of Fellowship of Christian Farmers in Presenting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Enclosed is my check for \$ (Make payable to Fellowship of Christian Farmers International)

To be used for: General Fund as needed _____ or Area Leaders of Choice Mike Weaver Bill Brown Jeff Goss

I am paying by: ___Visa ___MasterCard __AMEX One Time Donation of \$_____ Monthly Donation of \$_____ to be withdrawn on the 15

Card Number_____Exp mm/yy ___/___

Signature _____ monthly gifts on going until notified otherwise



FCFI, PO Box 15, Lexington, IL 61753



Cathy Upson along with husband Roy, coordinated the Two Cylinder Show, Canandaigua, NY

THROUGH THE EYES OF A PASTOR Continued from page 17

Sunday School teacher, choir director, motorcycle ministry, FCFI work camp participant – to name a few.

I recognize that it sounds like I'm bragging on my mother, but what I hope you'll see is that God, in His wisdom, uses everyday people like you, me, and my mother to bring glory to His name. It really isn't about us, but about the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the small denomination our family is a part of – the Church of the Brethren – we use an expression based on Matthew 22:36-40 "For the glory of God and my neighbors good". Are you spending your "dash" for God and others?

Testímoníes from the Field...



We'd like to share a few testimonies that came to us in the past couple of months. FCF receives many of them and they encourage us as we work at events sharing our faith.

Julie Tarbell, coordinator- Faith at the Fair, for the Genesee County Fair, sent the following note. *"I really appreciate your ministry, it's such a unique outreach. Keep up the good work."*

Roy speaking

-Thought you might like to know that at last year's Swamp Cabbage Festival in LaBelle, FL, we prayed for Lois Nemic because she was being treated for cancer in her lungs. She recently had an MRI and the Dr. can't find cancer anywhere. Praise the Lord!

Terry Taylor, Ontario, Canada

-Judge a person's greatness not only by his friends, but also by those who oppose him. May that be our testimony in FCF? Yes, some will continue to oppose us!



-Region Eight Fieldmen Couple, Michael and Karen Steele, of the PA. Northern Tier Chapter, send the following. *"We've had an awesome year to date and still have 7 more events on our calendar. The Lord continues to open hearts to the gospel and we continue to see people turn their hearts to Jesus."*

*Picture of Steeles in front of their new trailer. *Picture of Steeles in front of their new trailer.



Anne Fleming



Eastern Fellowship Of Christian Farmers Conference JULY 12-14, Stittville, NY



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Pastor Jim Wolford, Gallupville Gospel Church was the keynot speaker. "Letting the Lion Out Of The Cage" referencing DL Moody is his challenge to the church, to get out of the building and into the marketplace.

Pastor Rob Andreas, Portageville, NY led the Saturday morning devotions



We were privileged to have Mary Jones, FCFI Prayer Coordinator with us. Encouraging us to take advantage of the opportunity to pray for others.



Russ Johnston, Knoxville, IA got us going on Saturday morning with his presentation on sharing the gospel to a needy world.



↑ Gail Westfall serving the Bryon Gyore Family, Bill Brown's nephew



Redeeming Love Fellowship hosted the event which saw 139 attendees. Tents were set up outside for \uparrow eating and fellowship.



Friday night concert - Loyd Clyne Band from \uparrow Carleton Place, ON



Weaver Believers from GA provided the music \uparrow on Saturday night





For Reservations Call 315-736-5964 - by October 2nd

Northern NY Chapter Dinner Friday, Oct 4, 2019 at 7:00 pm Six Town Meeting House Church St., Adams, NY Contact the Porters at 315-778-5247



For info call Deb Herrold 219-916-3535 or debherrold@yahoo.com



Walking Stick Work Days

17,400 Sticks Manufactured!



Pastor James Brewer, Pilgrim Holiness Church, Marcy, NY, host of the event and Mike Batstiaasen, Embro, On



JULY 26-29, DUBUQUE, IA



Ex Dr, Dennis Schlagel welcoming the crowd.



Common Bond Quartet provided music on Saturday evening



Malik Pett, Mike Bastiaansen and Bill Brown 🔨



↑ Lou Lenaghan, Marcy, NY, Jack Brake, Clinton, ME,



Wakil Pett. Great to have brothers Wakil and Malik Pett helping out.



↑ Steve Hutton & Levi Nimey, both from Holland Patent





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Keynote Speaker Joe Humrichous, IN encouraged everyone using Luke Chapter 16 with key verse 13; "You can't serve two masters"

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Region 8 Fieldmen Couples Met August 19&20 To Plan For 2020

R to L Michael & Karen Steele, Williamsburg, PA, Steve & Chris Brown, Prospect, NY, Pastor Mitch Santelli, Woodstock, CT, Roy & Cathy Upson, Mohawk, NY, Kathy Brown, Marcy, NY host of the event 2nd from L

