

The Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International had an exhibit at the Commodity Classic Show, February 27-29th, in San Antonio, Texas. Good thing we did, that was the last farm show that was not canceled due to the Coronavirus! In this issue of the Crop Plan 2020, FCFI has been busy with disaster relief in Cookeville, Tennessee (tornado March 3rd); Laurel, Mississippi (two EF-4 tornadoes April 12th); hauling PPE material to hospitals treating Coronavirus patients; and planning to become virtual exhibitors at State FFA Conventions that are planning online conventions.

Coronavirus Pandemic

The "Stay at Home" order is having a spiritual impact on America and the World. Talk to your friends about "Live Stream or Facetime Live" church services or Zoom video conferencing small groups & prayer meetings and you learn that participation is way up. The minor Prophet, Habakkuk, in Chapter one was shaking his fist at the Heavenly Father for allowing the Assyrians to overthrow Israel in year 722. In Habakkuk 1:5 the Heavenly Father says, "Look among the nations, and see: wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told." In Habakkuk



Lexington, Illinois farmer, Ron Miller, straps down five pallets of protective gloves donated by Midwest Food Bank in Peoria, IL.



Jim Nelson, Agribusinessman and FCFI member, works with Harbor Freight warehouseman to load five pallets of 5 mil gloves and N-95 masks with shields. Harbor Freight donated the PPE to OSF Health Care in Peoria.

2:20 "But the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him." Chapter 3 Habakkuk reveals his attitude has changed. Same circumstances, but a new approach after hearing the Heavenly Father. Today we have the entire Bible to listen to the Heavenly Father. The book of Habakkuk is 3.5 pages long; yet, it is so relevant to today as we move forward into the future of year 2020.

FCFI offered trucking to Central Illinois hospitals to haul Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). First load was five pallets of gloves, 750,000 pairs, for the 15 hospitals of OSF Health Care in Peoria, Illinois. The second load was a gift of five pallets of 5 mil gloves and N-95 respirator masks with face shields donated by Harbor Freight stores. This load was also taken to OSF Health Care in Peoria. We all have friends that need PPE to protect them as they work in the health care industry.

FCFI Responds to Two Tornadoes

An EF-4 tornado hit Nashville, Tennessee on March 3, Super Tuesday Primary voting day. The path of destruction ran along I-40 to Cookeville, Tennessee and Putnam County. FCFI Area Director, Mike Weaver was leading a team of long term recovery workers in Marianna, Florida where Hurricane Michael made landfall in October 2018. Mike and crew hitched up the shower trailer and charged up the batteries on the Motor Coach and drove to Cookeville, arriving March 7th. Putnam County Extension Director Wayne Key and Kevin Tucker, Putnam County EMA Director, parked Mike Weaver and crew onto the Putnam County Fairgrounds for an FCFI base camp. On March 4th FCFI invited Samaritan's Purse volunteers in Nashville to assist Wayne Key begin work on Putnam County farms. Two big days of work with our friends at Samaritan's Purse. Both Illinois and Tennessee announced Stay at Home orders that slowed long distance volunteers. However, the FCFI base camp was used by Tennessee leadership to guide local drive-in volunteers to keep disaster relief going.



FCFI has worked with Samaritan's Purse coordinating volunteers in Putnam County Tennessee and in Laurel, Mississippi.



The Fellowship needs a medium HP skidloader with a grapple hook for fence line work in wooded disaster areas like Mississippi.

Mike Weaver pulled the FCFI shower trailer on April 20th to begin FCFI disaster relief in a huge rural, tornado disaster area. Mike, a trained forester, worked two days sawing big trees with Samaritan's Purse crews. The Glade Baptist Church in Glade, Mississippi near Laurel has offered its facilities for FCFI use. The church has a gymnasium, kitchen with coolers and showers. There is no such thing as a well timed disaster. Your help is needed in Mississippi. Contact the FCFI Home Office to join Mississippi Disaster Relief team.

Easter Sunday Tornado hits Mississippi: The third widest wedge tornado ever recorded by NOAA ripped a path of destruction 2 miles wide and 84 miles long from west of Hattiesburg, MS to Meridian, MS. A second tornado followed the wedge tornado by 40 minutes adding to the destruction of fences lines, poultry houses, and many acres of cultivated forest. On April 16th, National Director of Samaritan's Purse, Todd Taylor, called FCFI Executive Director, Dennis Schlagel to invite FCFI to Laurel, Mississippi to join Samaritan's Purse base camp in Laurel.



The Fellowship needs a used flatbed truck to pull its 38' toyhauler disaster relief trailer. The trailer has a gooseneck hitch and needs a dedicated truck to move it from disaster to disaster.

2020 State Convention Career Shows

Prior to March, FCFI was registered to exhibit at 22 State FFA Conventions. Then the Coronavirus started changing plans. Oregon FFA had a "Virtual" State Convention online then several states began planning "Virtual" conventions with online exhibiting.



At this writing most of the original 22 State Conventions are planning to include exhibitors. Pray for the opportunity and the production of videos needed to send to each State FFA "Virtual" Convention.

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

Please Check All that Apply

- RAPID RESPONSE** Support FCFI Disaster Relief Campaigns in Tennessee and Mississippi including a skid loader and a one-ton flatbed truck. **\$50,000**
- FARM SHOW MINISTRY** Help cover the exhibit fees for the second half of 2020 including the FFA "Virtual" State Conventions **\$45,000**
- SMALL GROUP MATERIALS** Small Group materials and Zoom Video Conferencing e-workbooks **\$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@fcfi.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.fcfi.org and click the 'Donate' button.

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



27th Annual Conference

Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18

Registration Form

Registration Deadline:
Wednesday, June 24, 2020

27th Annual FCFI Conference
July 24 - 26, 2020 - Shipshewana, IN

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 per person

_____ # of additional Nights, please specify dates _____

Additional Conference Activities

CHECK OPTIONS BELOW AND INCLUDE
PAYMENT ALONG WITH REGISTRATION FEES

- Amish Shop Tours (\$6)
- Amish Home Dinner (\$22 each)
- Menno-Hof Museum (\$7 each)
- Dutch Country Market (FREE)
- Heritage Ridge Creamery (FREE)
- Bonneville Grist Mill (FREE)
- Yoder Popcorn Farm (FREE)

Conference Registration Fees

FRIDAY EVENING, SATURDAY, SUNDAY NOON

- Adults _____ \$300.00 US each
- Children _____ \$100.00 US each
- Total** _____ \$ _____

July 24 - 26, 2020 - Shipshewana, Indiana

FEATURING

- Rapid Action Reports
- Mission Reports
- FCFI Auction
- Informative Workshops
- Great time of fellowship and reconnecting with friends
- Opportunities to tour Amish Casket Shop, rug weaving, basket weaving, leather shop, Dutch Country Market, Heritage Ridge Creamery, Yoder's Popcorn Farm Grist Mill, Amish Home Dinner

Keynote Speaker
Kevin Cernek



Pastor, Assistant to the
FCFI Executive Director

Special Music

Keith Barkley and Family Tradition



Saturday Evening Concert

Blue Gate Garden Inn, Shipshewana, IN

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

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