



Dear friend in Christ,

Greetings from the Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International Home Office in Lexington, Illinois. Harvest in Illinois is nearly complete. Last year we were still combining corn due to late planting. The Coronavirus Pandemic, however, impacted our lives in many ways in 2020. As we end the year, God's Word in Habakkuk, gives us hope for the New Year.

"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." Habakkuk 1: 5

The Prophet Habakkuk was complaining to the heavenly Father that He can not allow Babylon to overthrow Judah. As Habakkuk complained further the Lord said: *"But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him." Habakkuk 2: 20*

The Heavenly Father is still in control despite circumstances we face in the New Year. Please read the 3.5 page Minor Prophet book of Habakkuk several times and reflect on chapter three where Habakkuk's attitude totally changed. Changed from complaining to praising the Lord with the same set of circumstances.

As we look to the 2021 ministry year, we anticipate new coronavirus vaccines to open-up farm shows and state FFA conventions. Last year's switch to virtual exhibiting and Zoom video conferencing has opened a new door to organize high school Zoom small group meetings with students from several states in each group. Friendship cultivation and digging into God's Word will highlight these Zoom Meetings. Your help is needed to lead one of these Zoom meetings.

Multiple hurricanes in the south have opened Disaster Relief campaigns in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Mike Weaver, Bill Brown, and Melvin Bell are in Lillian, Alabama this week assessing where FCFI should set up base camps for teams this winter's Disaster Relief project. Please send us your current e-mail address so we can send you e-newsletters with Disaster Relief trip information.

The Fellowship needs prayer more than ever as the Board of Directors makes plans for the 2021 ministry year. Our Prayer Team has over 600 people who pray for the needs presented to them by the Home Office or by Prayer Coordinator, Mary Jones. More Prayer Team members are needed in 2021. The Prayer Guide is written by Mary Jones, and is printed and emailed monthly.

Today I am asking our brothers and sisters in Christ to please pray that the Lord would continue to direct this ministry and its leadership. Pray for the FCFI Board of Directors as they budget and plan for future ministry. The projected budget for 2021 will be nearly \$450,000. Would you prayerfully consider making a special gift towards meeting this budget goal? Thank you for your continued support of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International.

In Christ's service,

Dennis Schlagel, Executive Director
Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International

Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International

P.O. Box 15, Lexington, Illinois 61753 • (309) 365-8710 • Fax (309) 365-7023 • www.fcfi.org

2021 Ministry Opportunities

Help Future Disaster Relief Teams

FCFI continues to serve Christ by serving others. In 2020 FCFI mobilized volunteers who served on disaster relief teams in Marianna, Florida; Cookeville, Tennessee; Laurel, Mississippi; Keystone, Iowa; Abbeville, Louisiana; and Lillian, Alabama.

We Need Your Help!

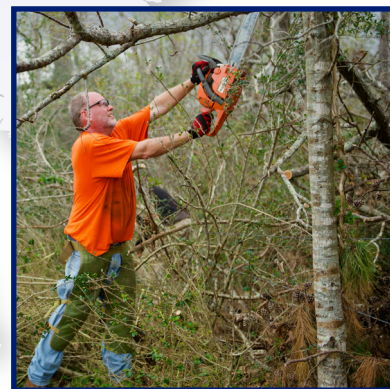
FCFI Rapid Relief teams are on alert and ready to respond when the urgent cry for help goes out.

Please prayerfully consider financially partnering with us so these teams are ready to respond.

For the third winter since the October 2018 landfall of Hurricane Michael, FCFI teams worked in the Marianna, Florida area. Area Director, Mike Weaver continued long term disaster relief on Florida ranches. FCFI also needed to get its base camp of a 38 foot motorcoach and shower trailer brought home for maintenance after 2.5 years in the Florida panhandle.



On March 3rd an EF-4 tornado hit Nashville and Cookeville, Tennessee. Fourteen people were killed in Cookeville. FCFI responded by having an Area Director and team in Marianna, Florida move to Cookeville. County Emergency Management Agency and Extension Beef & Crops specialist welcomed FCFI to the Putnam County Fairgrounds to set up a base camp for volunteer workers. Samaritan's Purse was set up in Nashville. FCFI invited Samaritan's Purse to send volunteers to Cookeville to be part of the rural disaster cleanup. On April 12th, Easter Sunday, a tornado with the third largest wedge recorded by NOAA hit Laurel, Mississippi and ran northeast to Meridian, MS. 84 miles by 2 miles wide destruction path. Samaritan's Purse National Director, Todd Taylor, called Mike Weaver to suggest FCFI be part of this rural tornado



disaster. Much cleanup remains to be done in Mississippi in the coming months. Three teams helped in Glade, Mississippi before spring planting season began.

During the transition from Cookeville, Tennessee to the Easter Tornado in Mississippi, the Coronavirus pandemic hit Midwest states. FCFI had the opportunity to haul donated 3M N95 masks/shields and gloves from Midwest Food Bank and Harbor Freight Stores to OSF Health Care hospitals in Peoria, Illinois (17 hospitals). Thousands of pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) were donated to protect nurses and hospital staff.



August 10, 2020 several thunderstorms converged in the Nebraska/South Dakota area. The unified thunderstorm became a "derecho" with 100 mph straight winds. In Marshalltown and Cedar Rapids, Iowa winds reached sustained winds of 120 mph. 13.2 million acres of corn was flattened across Iowa running near US Highway 30. The damage represented

40% of corn planted in Iowa. 1000 farm grain bins were also destroyed, including two Harvestore silos on US 30 west of Cedar Rapids. FCFI set up a base camp in Keystone, Iowa to clear trees in farm places and remove steel trash from soybean fields. Grain bin parts needed to be cleared before combines could harvest soybeans. Livestock buildings had damage and roofing materials which needed to be hauled away.



Serving, Sowing, Reaping for Christ Around the World



Support 2020-2021 Short-Term Mission Teams

For 34 years FCFI partners have helped us as we lead and resource short term Mission Teams who serve and minister here in the USA and around the world!

Your generous support is needed now, so vitally needed resources are ready for our Mission Teams to be able to serve and glorify Christ on the front lines of the mission field.



Pastor Antonio Gomez in Torreon, Mexico has hosted many farmers in the winter to build new rooms inside a new church facilities in San Antonio. This year the Fellowship shipped a second truckload of Astro Turf for the Spanish/American Mission; Pastor Antonio's Mission. The Astro Turf was installed in a growing church south of Torreon for youth soccer ministry. Your help is needed in Torreon, Mexico with FCFI President Dave Carter in February. More construction is needed to expand the ministry and the soccer ministry disciple training. There is no safer place than in the center of the Lord's will expanding the youth ministry in Torreon. Contact FCFI President, Dave Carter, to join the team to Mexico. carterfarm@sbcglobal.net or cell 765-438-0855.

Provide Farm Show Ministry Opportunities

Evangelism is FCFI's core ministry goal! We desire to bring as many as possible into the Kingdom of God. FCFI partners, volunteers, and leaders were part of 53 virtual farm shows and State FFA Conventions despite Coronavirus cancellations this past year.

Thousands of people had a chance to hear the Gospel story including the power of Christ's love for them and how each person could know Him personally!

Dennis Schlagel and Kevin Cernek are shown attempting to wear their high school FFA jackets for a video used for State FFA Virtual Conventions. Students were invited to scan a QR code to watch a gospel presentation video and join a Zoom small group team to study the Bible and meet student from several states. Pray for the expansion of this opportunity in 2021.



The Fellowship had its first Virtual International Conference in Shipshewana, Indiana in July 26-28 using You Tube live. All sessions can be watched on the Fellowship of Christian Farmers You Tube channel along with many other videos produced to share the gospel and for State FFA Conventions.



FCFI Area Director, Jeff Goss is presenting the gospel with FFA members at the Ozark Fall Farmfest in Springfield, Missouri, October 2-4th. More shows are opening-up before Christmas. Wichita Farm and Ranch; Nebraska Farm Expo in Lincoln; and the Tulsa Farm Show will give FCFI workers the opportunity to share the gospel message at Christmastime. Thank you for praying for a successful reopening of farm show events in 2021.



Without the generous financial partnership of our ministry friends we would not be able to touch these unsaved lives. It is my heartfelt prayer that you will partner with us and provide the means to increase the Kingdom while the fields are ripe for harvest.

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

Please Check All that Apply

☐ **FARM SHOW ministry**

Evangelism Outreach at Farm Shows

2021 Budget: \$140,000

☐ **Rapid Response Teams**

*Support Disaster Relief in North America including Louisiana,
Alabama, and Mississippi*

2021 Budget: \$30,000

☐ **Short term missions**

*Provide Support For FCFI Mission Projects
in Mexico, Missouri, Florida, and New Zealand*

2021 Budget: \$20,000

☐ **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 \$ _____

** Please make your tax deductible check payable to Fellowship of Christian Farmers International (FCFI)*

☐ We will partner with you in praying for the ministry of the Fellowship of Christian Farmers International

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St./Prov.: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ Business _____

Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Please pray for us: _____

please put fellowship@fcfi.org into your address book so you receive all messages from FCFI

**You may also donate online at www.fcfi.org
using your credit/debit check card.**