



"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." - Matthew 9:37

Photo by Catrina Rawson

Harvest Report 2024

Joining FCFI has proven to be a time filled with transition and excitement from new challenges. While we've had experience in fair and festival ministry in the past, coordinating support for more than 100 shows while responding to fires, tornadoes, and hurricanes has been new – to say the least. During our first eight months with FCFI, it has been a joy to hear about the impact of the ministry through the testimonies of volunteers throughout the fellowship. In this, our first Harvest Report, we'd like to share some of the stories we've heard.

Grateful for you,
Dan and Teresa Janzen



A Story of Faithful Obedience, testimony from David Kah

"I wish I was younger when I found out about the Fellowship of Christian Farmers. It's very rewarding, especially when I lead a group of young people to the Lord. I will continue till I drop. I ministered to a man at a show, gave him a stick, and he walked away. The Lord spoke to me and said talk to him again. I chased him down and he immediately gave his heart to the Lord. Apparently, God needed that few minutes to prepare his heart."

"At another fair, I started talking to a lady who had lost her hair due to cancer. God spoke to me and told me He was healing her. The lady's tears flowed. The next year, I looked her up. She was healed. She told me she had lost all hope but was now healed. Praise God!"



Bill Nichols (area leader) and David Kah

Stories from Volunteers

In a recent Zoom meeting, volunteers shared story after story of transformation: parents witnessing their children respond to the Gospel, Christians finding confidence to share faith using FCFI's unique tools, and many testifying that God had them in the right place at the right time with the right message. One volunteer shared how years of patient outreach to a skeptical fairgoer culminated in the man's salvation—a testament to persistence and faith.

Isaiah's Inspiring Faith at the Washington County Fair, testimony from Art Free

Isaiah, a young man in his twenties, touched volunteers with his unwavering faith. Despite walking with a slight limp and limited arm mobility from a stroke he suffered at age 14, Isaiah was eager to share the Gospel. Over several days, he returned to the booth multiple times, each time bringing family and friends. When asked why he did not tell them himself, he said, "I do tell them. I want them to hear it from y'all also. Plus, they get a stick or bracelet with gospel-telling instructions." His desire for others to experience the peace he found in Jesus inspired everyone he met.



Isaiah pictured with his back turned

Fellowship of Christian Farmers, International

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Disaster Response in Action

This year, FCFI has once again demonstrated its commitment to serving communities in crisis through its Disaster Response Program.

When back-to-back hurricanes struck Bradenton, Florida, FCFI Deb and Ron Herrold assisted elderly residents and families in cleaning out flood-damaged homes, salvaging belongings and repairing the damage. Tornadoes in Indian Lake, Ohio, tested the resolve of FCFI and FFA volunteers working together to comb fields of debris.



Peyton Mroz, a homeschooler and apprentice with a Mennonite carpenter

A New Generation of Volunteers

At just 19, Peyton Mroz from New York Mills, NY, hearing Area Leader Bill Brown speak about disaster relief at Hope Alliance Church, Peyton felt called to join the team to aid in reconstruction recovery in Mayfield, Kentucky following a 2021 tornado.



Washed out bridge in North Carolina



Future FCFI Volunteers



Watch Mitchell's testimony on our YouTube channel

FCFI Helene Response Story

Mitchell Beddingfield, a Swannanoa, NC resident, experienced life-changing support from FCFI, a group of Amish men, and Matthew Kent (Cru missionary) after a devastating hurricane struck his community. The flooding left his home severely damaged, requiring new drywall, insulation, etc.

Reflecting on the tragedy and relief efforts, Beddingfield shared, "In the midst of destruction, people pulled together. Their help was a beacon of hope in a dark time."



Volunteers with RV and Kabota heading to NC

As disasters continue to challenge communities nationwide, FCFI calls on individuals to volunteer, donate, and pray, ensuring that their mission of hope remains strong in 2025. Please donate for disaster response.



2024 State FFA Conventions

This year we had evangelistic booths at 25 state FFA conventions. The area leaders often say "these are our most effective outreaches and should be the last to cut when our funding is low." They talk to the same youth year after year building opportunities for follow-up discipleship.

New—planned for this year: FFAers invited to go on short-term missions trips. If you can volunteer to help with this email me at dan@fcfi.org.



Serving, Sowing, Reaping for Christ Around the World



2024 Annual Conference Highlights



Scan the QR code to see the conference videos on the web!

FCFI gathered at Fair Oaks Farm, Indiana in July for its 31st Annual Conference themed ***Our Hope is in the Lord.***

Participants enjoyed pre-conference field trips to:

- **BioTownAg:** Innovations in agriculture
- **Kemin Foods:** Featuring mint as a specialty crop
- **Sonoma Farm:** Value-added processing
- **Dairy and Pig Adventures:** Educational farming tours

Keynote speaker Joe Humrichous and morning devotions by Bill Kuhlemeier inspired attendees, while music from the Heritage Gospel Quartet lifted hearts in praise.

Dan and Teresa Janzen presented on ***Engaging the Next Generation***; Reports from Area Leaders Bill Brown, Bill Nichols, Mike Weaver, Jeff Goss; Alex Stroie (Romania/

Ukrainian outreach), FCFI Canada President Jocelyn Aubut, and updates from Holland and New Zealand highlighted FCFI's global reach. Exhibits by AgrAbility, AgGrandize, Agristewards, Global Disciples, and Global Radio Outreach showcased ways to integrate faith, discipleship, and farming. Attendees engaged in a panel discussion on ***Farmers, Faith, and Stress*** and celebrated FCFI's history.



Steve Cernek introduces Pastor Alex Stroie



Mission Trips and Volunteer Opportunities

- Ongoing Disaster Response in Florida & North Carolina: **URGENT**
- ECHO in Fort Myers, FL - January 2025, debherrold@yahoo.com
- Romania - March 2025
- Navajo Nation - October 2025
- Boys Ranch in Missouri - Coordinator needed, date TBD
- Fence Building in Texas and Oklahoma - Flexible Dates
- North Carolina Disaster Response Rebuilding - Sept. labrowfarm1@gmail.com

Please email fellowship@fcfi.org to volunteer for any of these.

Discipleship Ministry Coming - Volunteers Needed!

Discipleship opportunities for Farm Show follow-up are for everyone: in person, by phone, or on-line. And if you are a techie or know one, we need help developing the cutting-edge technology for on-line follow-up. Email Dan Janzen at dan@fcfi.org.

Looking Ahead 2025 FCFI Conference

Save the Date: July 22–25, 2025, in Kalamazoo, MI!

Pre-conference excursion options include:

- Tillers International: Draft power museum & appropriate technology
- Bodtke's (Cornerstone Ag) blueberry farm & packing operation
- Kalamazoo Airzoo: Aviation adventure
- Gilmore Car Museum: Automotive nostalgia

Financial Update & Ongoing Ministry

This year has brought financial challenges, especially during the summer. Still, your generosity in August, which resulted from prayer and letting you know the critical need, was truly remarkable. **THANK YOU.**

With the commodity prices as they are, some people have chosen to support FCFI through gifts of grain or non-cash assets or by making gifts directly from their IRA as part of the annual required minimum distribution (RMD). Please contact the office if you need help with these types of gifts.

As we prayerfully set our 2025 budget this December, our ability to continue—**and even expand**—our outreach highly depends on year-end giving. Without sufficient support, tough decisions regarding programs and events may need to be made. However, with your help, we can grow our impact by adding **new festivals, fairs, farm shows, and FFA conventions.** **PLEASE PRAY** for our ministry and consider giving as God leads you. Your year-end gift ensures we can continue vital outreach programs in 2025.

Special Thanks

We're grateful for every **volunteer, supporter,** and **church** that has partnered with us. Your prayers & generosity make this work possible.

Monthly Fellowship

Join us on Zoom for prayer and fellowship every first Saturday.



Scan the QR Code to Sign Up!

Yes! I/we will partner with FCFI to help make a difference!

Please Check All that Apply

☐ Farm Show Ministry

\$400,000

Over 125 farm shows, 25 State FFA Conventions, and approximately 60,000 walking sticks shared with the Gospel presentation

☐ Disaster Response Ministry

\$75,000

Hurricane relief in Florida and North Carolina and future responses

Urgent: Farmers have donated alfalfa hay, we need fuel and volunteers to transport to flood-affected producers

☐ Short-Term Ministry (FFA Mission Trips)

\$25,000

☐ I want to volunteer for:

☐ Missions Trips

☐ Discipleship Ministry

☐ Farm Shows

☐ Disaster Response

☐ USA ☐ International

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

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Cell Phone _____ Email _____

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

Please pray for us: _____

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