

THE SOWER

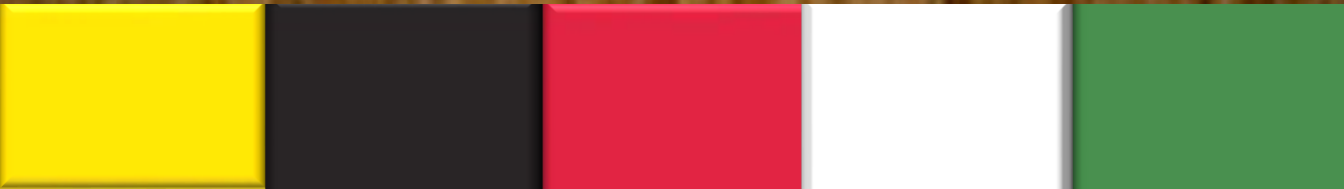
Issue 59 2023 Edition

“LET’S GO”

*“Then Jesus told them, “As you go into all the world, proclaim the gospel to everyone.
Mark 16:15*



*Fellowship of Christian
Farmers Canada*



A World on Fire (for God)



Richard Quesnel – FCFC Administrator

“Out-of-control wildfires have affected so many people this summer — not just in Canada but around the world, with Greece, Spain, Russia and Hawaii also enduring record-smashing wildfire seasons.” **(Magan Carty, Journalist)**

As my wife and I read about the fires and watched the videos, we were troubled by the loss and the destruction that so many had experienced. We began to pray for those who were impacted by this devastation and for the volunteers and workers who risked their lives to help.

Then one day, I came across this picture and it really hit me. The fire in the background is so close to the people; Yet they are going about their lives, their activities, their pleasures without paying any attention to the impending danger. They almost seemed indifferent. This awakened my spirit to the reality of another fire that is coming.

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The Coming Judgment

3Most importantly, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. **4**“Where is the promise of His coming?” they will ask. “Ever since our fathers fell asleep, everything continues as it has from the beginning of creation.” **9**The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise as some understand slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance. **10**But the Day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar, the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and its works will be laid bare. **11**Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? **2 Peter Chapter 3:3-4,9-11 (BSB)**

Who will take the necessary risks to rescue them from the impending fire? Who will dare to share the Gospel with them? The Cross is the answer to that question. We cannot remain indifferent before such an amazing love. As Jesus’s followers, we’re all called to share the Gospel. That call can sometimes intimidate us. We may even shiver at the idea.






The Fellowship of Christian Farmers – Canada (FCFC) trains volunteers to share the message of salvation in Jesus Christ across Canada from Nova Scotia to BC. Volunteers comprised of interdenominational evangelical Christians, collaborate to present the Gospel message in 5 colors at marketplace events such as fairs, festivals, trade shows, etc. Will you volunteer? We can train you.

Let us pray that the Lord will set our hearts on fire with his love for the world. This is our mission field! Let’s go!

Fewer and fewer people in Canada regularly attend church. In response, the Fellowship of Christian Farmers – Canada (FCFC) is taking the message of salvation in Jesus Christ across Canada from Nova Scotia to BC.

The Bead Story:

This is the Good News that the Fellowship of Christian Farmers shares with everyone.
We use five colours as a reminder.

-  Gold: Gold reminds us of heaven, a beautiful place with no sin, pain, or sorrow. Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." God wants us to go there too: Yes, "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him would not be lost but have eternal life" John 3:16
-  Dark: But we have a problem! Sin separates us from God which separates us from heaven. The bad news is that we are all guilty. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23
-  Red: What is the solution?
Red – the blood of Christ. Two thousand years ago Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came into the world. He led a perfect life and he was crucified for us to pay the penalty for our sin. Romans 6:23: "...but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
-  White: If we believe this in our hearts, admit we are sinners and sincerely ask for the forgiveness of Jesus, God has promised to forgive us. Then in His sight we are now pure as the white colour represents. This is the Good News! This is a free gift and, like any other gift, if we don't take it, we don't get it! Jesus Christ offers salvation to everyone but only those who accept Him as Saviour and Lord receive the gift of salvation.
-  Green: Spiritual Growth. If we believe, we will want to grow to know God better. We can grow by praying, reading and studying the Bible, being good neighbours, worshipping with others and telling others the good news.

What about you? Have you accepted God's gift of salvation?



Prayer Request and Financial Update

Brad Wilson, Executive Director

Greetings from the Fellowship of Christian Farmers Canada! In 2023, more than 100,000 people across Canada heard the Gospel message at one of our outreach events; Thanks to the faithful volunteers from different evangelical churches! Thank you, Lord!

Our 30 chapters had a variety of outreach events. From 2-3 gathered at a park on Saturday afternoons in Kelowna to a 10-day Western Rodeo Festival at St-Tite, Quebec, to the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) in Toronto, where dedicated volunteers shared 12 hours a day for 18 days

In over 100 venues, people lined up to receive a free gift and patiently and intently heard the Good News. Our goal is to share the simple and concise five-colour Gospel story within 3-5 minutes. We offer a copy of God's Word (between 15,000 and 20,000 copies graciously provided by ShareWord Global). We also try to connect people with a local church for discipleship and growth. From the East to the West, we were encouraged by the English and French Chapter reports submitted. They contained stats, testimonies and amazing stories from our volunteers (see p. 6-8).



Prayer Request

Please pray for those who repented, accepted the free gift of salvation and started a new life in Christ. Pray for those who thought they were too bad for God to forgive them - that the seed of forgiveness would germinate, grow and produce a great harvest!

(Cont. page 6)

Please pray for those rare encounters when we were unable to complete the Gospel presentation. We hope the encounter with a Christian still had a positive effect. Pray that everyone we shared with are at least one step closer to our Saviour!

Financial Update

FCFC is a volunteer driven organization that relies on God for all of our financial needs. Our annual chapter activities and administrative budget work out to about \$2.00 per Gospel presentation. The bulk of our budget goes towards show entry fees and the cost of gift giveaways. Our administrative costs are relatively low. In 2023, we are running an operating budget deficit and are looking to the Lord to encourage our community of supporters to give.

Here is how you can help:

To erase our operating budget deficit, any ***one-time gifts*** given to the ***General Fund in December 2023*** will be ***matched up to \$10,000***. For your convenience, donations can be made:

By Phone (819-242-8063)

Online: <https://fcfcanada.org/donate/>

By Mail: (Please see the donation form on p. 16)

Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Amazing Stories & Testimonies

from our Volunteers

SOUTH CENTRAL ONTARIO CHAPTER

International Plowing Match - Laurel, ON/September



Once again, the Fellowship of Christian Farmers had the privilege of sharing the Gospel at the 2023 International Plowing Match (IPM). The IPM was in Laurel, Ontario. We had 54 volunteers over 5 days and more than 8000 people visited our booth! **Brad Wilson**

RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

Filipino Street Festival -Winnipeg, MB /June

“The days were very hot, but the people were ready to hear the gospel. Many people confessed their sins and asked Jesus into their hearts. One person, after he was told what the colored beads meant, was asked if he was sure that he would go to heaven. He said "no, he was not". He was asked if he would like to ask Jesus to forgive him. He was very ready to pray and seek forgiveness and to get right with God. After he had prayed, he told us that his daughter had started attending a Christian School and he just wanted to have what she had and learned with her. It was so exciting to see the sparkle in his eyes and the smile on his daughter's face. Praise the Lord! We're so grateful for such willing workers who brave the heat just so that they might have opportunity to guide another soul to the Lord.



There are many reasons to be thankful but most of all, we're thankful for God who gave us the gift of salvation and that we can go out and share it with others.” **Cheryl Sawatzky**

MAURICIE CHAPTER

Western Rodeo Festival- St-Tite, QC/
September

“A couple came with two young children. After my testimony of the 5 colours was given, the husband who had been standing a little farther came closer, and he said to me, "This is the first time I've heard the Gospel in this way and it makes me think.”

Paul Camirand



OUTAOUAIS CHAPTER

Women's Show - Ottawa, ON/October

"I met a young man who came to help his friend who had a booth at the Women's Show. This young man listened to the presentation of the 5 colors with an interest that surprised me, and he seemed touched. He told me he had never heard this message before. I offered him a New Testament, which he eagerly took. He was also really happy to learn all that the New Life card could teach him. I encouraged him to explore all the material I gave him. Thank you, Lord, for Your heart-touching message."

Thérèse Robinson



SOUTH CENTRAL ONTARIO CHAPTER

Bread and Honey Festival -Mississauga, ON/ June

"The Bread and Honey Festival in Mississauga was the same weekend as two other major outreaches for the South-Central Ontario chapter! I was part of the team of 23 FCFC volunteers who partnered with ShareWord Global and returned to this show. This time, the show was now two-day event. It also featured a 40 vendor Mystical Market with everything from divination, to communication with the dead to tarot card readings. "WE HAVE TO BE THERE!" To shine the light of the Gospel in this dark place. The organizers were happy to have us giving out the walking sticks again. Over the two days ~3,000 people heard the Good News by hearing the "Walking Stick Gospel" and receiving 2900 free walking sticks, over 200 bracelets or other free gifts. Thank you, Lord!!! Pray that all the people's hearts received the seed of the Gospel, erasing the untruths of God and will be transformed by the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives!" **Scott Brockie**

Chapters and Volunteering

For a list of our local chapters,
please visit our website at
www.fcfcanda.org



Ancaster Fair

Niagara Region - Pauline Shaw

There are two things that stood out for me at the Ancaster Fair. First, was the support that we received from the Ancaster Reformed Church. We got a total of 30 volunteers and most of them came out to share the gospel for the first time. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and excitement even if they were a little afraid. They all did a wonderful job and they are looking forward to the next Outreach.



just blessed my heart. A few of the youths were asking so many questions, I know that the Lord was speaking to them. I know many souls were blessed at this event and I pray as they read the Word of God their lives will be transformed. It was a wonderful and exciting time. Terry Taylor (ON Field Rep.), myself and the volunteers are so grateful to share God's love.

The second thing was the children. I didn't expect to see so many school buses. Loads of children would pass the table, the Rubik's cube caught their eyes. When we told them that we need an adult present for us to explain what the colours mean and before we can give them the free gift. They immediately went and got their teachers or parents. They listened to the Word and received their free gift. That



Okotoks Trade Show

Calgary South Chapter - Russ Harris

Here are few stories of individuals impacted by the Gospel at this event:

“I had prayed that the Lord would send me prodigals to witness too. Sandra was a lady in one of the booths, she came over and admitted she was a prodigal. She knows she had to repent and turn and agreed, she didn’t yesterday but it will come. Also had spoken to a few more that knew they were away from the Lord.” - **Shirley**

“The first two young woman I spoke to were in their 20’s. I explained the bead story and explained the prayer, and both of them prayed on their own and signed their names and dated the pamphlet to remember their spiritual birthday. All glory to God! Many I spoke to had no idea where they would go when they passed away, but now they know the way.”- **Janet**

“Doug and I had prayed Saturday night for God to send us some divine appointments for Sunday, it came quickly the very first couple I talked to. As I shared and when it came to me asking them do they want salvation, eternal life and peace with God, they were more than willing to say the prayer and receive.”- **Russ**



Volunteers comprised of interdenominational evangelical Christians, collaborate to present the gospel message in 5 colors at marketplace events such as fairs, festivals, trade shows, etc. This is our mission field!



Recognizing our Québec Field Representative

Jessynia Théagène

Richard & Melissa – FCFC Administration

“You are young, but don’t let anyone treat you as if you are not important. Be an example to show the believers how they should live. Show them by what you say, by the way you live, by your love, by your faith, and by your pure life.” **1 Timothy 4:12**

As an answer to prayer, a young Montrealer, 24 years of age joined the FCFC leadership team in Québec (QC). Sylvain & Émilie Couture were the Field personnel in leadership in QC at the time. Émilie recalls the moment “Seeing that the task does not cease to grow, we asked God for help. God heard and responded in sending Jessynia Théagène.” Jessynia’s testimony demonstrates the astounding manner in which God called her:

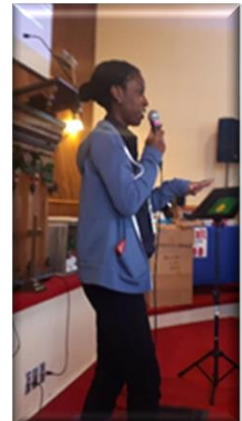


“During this time I clearly felt the call of God to get involved as an evangelist. Then I asked God, ‘How can I combine my passion for both agriculture and evangelism?’ In response to my prayer God revealed to me that I was an ‘agrochristian’. ‘Agro’ in Greek means ‘fields’. God has called me to be a Sower of seeds in His missionary field.”



From an assistant role to apprentice-coordinator, Jessynia continued to demonstrate her dedication and wiliness to serve. She shared the Gospel message at events and assisted at the booth as needed. She helped in presenting the FCFC ministry to churches and assisted with the volunteer training. She contacted the organizers of public events, prepared the volunteer schedules and ordered the required

supplies. She organized fundraising events, helped with committee meetings and worked on the layout of *Le Semeur* (French newsletter).



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For two years, Jessynia gained valuable experiences as an apprentice under the leadership of Sylvain Couture, the QC Fieldman. She then continued under the leadership of Robert Doran, the interim fieldman after Sylvain resigned in 2019. Using their combined talents, Robert and Jessynia did a great job of continuing the work of the ministry in Québec. They launched an Inter-chapter AFCC Quebec Newsletter, so that all chapters would know the schedule of activities and have news of what is happening in other districts. An administrative team of volunteers was also established and it included seven administrative roles. All these elements, from team building, communication and sharing the torch would prove to be beneficial for what lay around the corner.

In 2020, she stepped up to her new leadership role as Field Representative for the province of Québec. Shortly after, she faced the pandemic and its impact on events and volunteers. Surrounded by the support of a strong FCFC Québec team that was cultivated prior to this season, she was able to meet the challenge. With the use of online technological tools, they continued to evangelize. She also mobilized Chapter volunteers through prayer and team building until they were able to return in the marketplace.



We thank her for her work and dedication to God and to the FCFC ministry. We are thankful that she responded to the universal call to evangelization. We want to honour and thank her for her leadership contributions as the QC Field Representative:

“It has been a real pleasure for me to work with Jessynia—first as a board member and more recently as a rookie Executive Director. She has been helpful, insightful, positive and just an overall good person to work with. My understanding of how our ministry functions in Quebec was greatly enhanced by Jessynia and I know her leadership and organizational skills will be difficult to replace. She will be missed! May the Lord bless Jessynia in the next chapter of her life and I know that she will continue to serve Him wherever her career takes her.” **Brad Wilson, Executive Director**

Thank you, Jessynia for your dedication over the years. I am grateful to the Lord for your leadership and your sense of innovation. May God continue to use you for His kingdom and glory in your professional career and in your family life. **Jocelyn Aubut, President**



Jesus Celebration

Fraser Valley Chapter – Christine Reimer

A group of great Fraser Valley Christian Leaders organized the first ever *Jesus Celebration* at Mill Park in Abbotsford, British Columbia.

It remained steady from the start of the day to the end. The day started with 50 walking sticks but before long there was a struggle just to keep up with all of the sharing. We mostly encountered believers at our booth so the emphasis was on the green bead; Spiritual Growth!

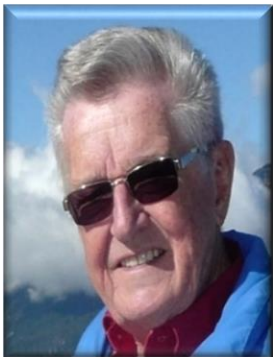


We all need encouragement in our Spiritual Growth and are called “to spur one another on toward love and good deeds” Hebrews 10:24-25. We need to be deeply rooted in Christ so that we can persevere as believers while loving others well and sharing the Good News! How often do we feel discouraged in the different phases of our life when life may seem overwhelming? That is what this ministry allows us to do. To connect with believers and non-believers within minutes where we get to the heart of their issues holding them back from drawing close to a God who loves them and wants to be in righteous relationship with them.

A really special element about this event was it felt like a glimpse of heaven, “Every tongue from every nation confessing Jesus as Lord!” There were many Christians eager to learn how to share the Gospel so it was very empowering. On Saturday, we connected with so many different Christians from different churches, cultures, backgrounds and races from all over the Fraser Valley and that was so beautiful. Normally at the events we go to it’s a very high ratio of unbelievers so while it’s a joy to share the Gospel, there is sadness

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for those not ready to make a decision for Jesus. The enthusiasm I was met with in sharing the Gospel and the joy of the Lord on people's faces was so encouraging. We are not alone here in Abbotsford or in the city you live in. God has believers everywhere and when we come together, we are truly "Brothers and Sisters in Christ!" A few times I got choked up sharing the Gospel and held back my tears as we remembered together while reciting the gift of salvation, God had freely given us through Jesus.



Wood Expo

Henry Janzen, Western Field Representative

For years, Carol and I have been asking for prayer to establish a new Fellowship of Christian Farmers-Canada (FCFC) chapter on the Sunshine Coast. The Sunshine Coast is one of the most beautiful parts of BC, still part of the mainland, right on the edge of the Pacific Ocean. However, it is accessible only by our BC Ferries, as if it were an island unto itself. There are no roads going to this part of the province.

After scouring the internet for years and making applications to other venues, the Wood Expo suddenly appeared on my screen from nowhere. We just knew this must be God's answer to our many prayers. After making a quick call to Pastor Ivan Fox, of the Sechelt Life Church, to confirm he and his small congregation of about a hundred were ready to join us in evangelizing the area, we received his emphatic YES! So, we booked the event with less than ten days to seek vendor approval, load up our van with 600 sticks, all the equipment, book our trip, and add some luggage.

Not so fast, because after a lot of searching, we managed to find what seemed to be the last motel room in town, and the only Ferry reservation we could get, one day earlier than we planned. God gave us a late-night passage. The problem now was, our Ferry booking was for Thursday 10:00 PM on the same day as my angiogram appointment that afternoon. Now why would God put these two bookings together on the same day?

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We resolved to say it must be to stretch our faith, knowing He will work it out or He would have blocked this show as He had done so many before.

After arriving in our room on the S. Coast at midnight, we now had all day Friday to recover from a swollen and throbbing right arm. The doctor would not allow us to go without my commitment not to use it for 48 hours.

We scheduled our Training of 9 volunteers for Friday night at 7:00 PM, following our assigned setup time of 5:00 PM. When we arrived at 5:00 we discovered we had been assigned one large corner of the second floor, with no elevator access. However, lots of volunteers emerged quickly to carry our sticks and equipment upstairs, which made light work of it. And, as it turned out, we had the perfect spot with lots of room to spread out sharing the 5-colored beads with as many as 5 groups of guests at the same time, all one-to-one with as many volunteers from the church. It was awesome to see some sharing for the first time. While others had the joy of leading someone into a personal relationship with Jesus for their very first time! You could spot those folks very easily as their feet were now several inches off the floor, and their smiles went from ear-to-ear. How God blessed those volunteers, their church, and Carol & I that day! It was all “more than you can ask or imagine”!

We were blessed with nearly two dozen guests (new born/again believers) who will be joining us “when the Roll is Called up Yonder”! That made everything we had gone through to get here all completely worthwhile, with our faith having been stretched yet again. It seems our God has a way of doing that with every new event FCFC engages in.

The bonus for Carol and I was to join Pastor Ivan in a presentation on Sunday morning, and to see so many eager volunteers committed to start their own chapter, right away! We stayed another night to help organize four of them in their new chapter positions and to complete the necessary paperwork.

Carol and I finally got off the Sunshine Coast at 6:30 PM, Monday night, all tired but excited after having accepted God’s very strange timing with my angiogram appointment, the ferry delays, the overbooked motels, and being unable to reserve our passage back home on Sunday afternoon as we had expected. God’s perfect timing of all these events turned out right again, for reasons we had not known in advance. Praise the Lord!

PLEASE CLIP AND RETURN WITH YOUR GIFT FOR FCFC MINISTRIES

Join and Support FCFC:

I would like to assist the mission of FCFC
in presenting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Become a member: An annual membership fee is required to join
\$75 per person and \$90 per couple.

Enclosed is my cheque for \$_____

Made payable to: **Fellowship of Christians Farmers- Canada**

To be used for: () General funds (**any one-time gifts given to the General Fund in
the month of December 2023 will be matched up to \$10,000**)

() Chapter _____

<p>I am paying by: VISA () MasterCard () AMEX () One time donation of \$_____</p> <p>Monthly donation of \$_____ to be withdrawn on the 15th of each month.</p> <p>Card number _____ Expiry date (mm/yy) ____ / ____</p> <p>Signature _____</p> <p><i>(If you choose a monthly donation, your gift will remain on-going until you notify us otherwise)</i></p>

Name _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Email: _____ Tel: _____



* Receipts issued for Income Tax purposes Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by FCFC. Each restricted contribution will be used as designated, understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed determined by the organization, the remaining restricted contributions will be used where needed most.

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