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Join us at Grace University
for a one-day Small-Town
Pastors' Conference!



Box 300
Morton, IL 61550

No Little Places

*"In God's sight there are no little people
and no little places."*

— Francis Schaeffer —

Small-Town Pastors' Conference

A conference tailored
to pastors and wives in
town and country settings

Featuring



PHIL TUTTLE

President,
Walk Thru the Bible;
former small-town pastor

MARCH 28, 2008
Grace University Campus
Omaha, Nebraska



RHMA
Rural Home
Missionary Association

GRACE
UNIVERSITY™



Come Expectantly!

Ron Klassen
RHMA Executive Director

Have you been wishing for a conference tailored to your ministry context? Wishing you could hear from speakers who understand your unique circumstances? Wishing for encouragement in your small place?

In 1994 RHMA launched such a conference in Illinois. It has been widely appreciated and maxed out in size, prompting us to offer similar conferences elsewhere in the U.S. and Canada. We were quite pleased when Grace University asked us to partner with them in offering this kind of conference on their campus—in a part of the country where we have not previously hosted a conference. We are grateful for the significant help Grace is providing. Their facilities are top-notch. They have a wonderful staff ready to serve you. And, they have done all they can to make the conference as inexpensive as possible.

This flyer is your invitation to join us! You will find yourself in a place where your ministry is affirmed and valued. Come expecting to be built up and stretched. Come expecting to gain new insight into how to more effectively serve in your small town and also renewed passion and vigor to see God work through you.

Ron Klassen



James Eckman
President, Grace University

On behalf of the Grace University family, I am delighted to welcome you to the 2008 Small-Town Pastors' Conference. Since our mission is to develop servant leaders for the home, the church, and the world, we at Grace University seek to serve you through this conference. May our God grant you His grace and enablement as you serve Him. God bless you.

James P. Eckman

RHMA

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GRACE UNIVERSITY

1311 S. 9th Street, Omaha, NE 68108
Toll Free 800.697.1808
www.GraceUniversity.edu

Conference Speakers and Seminar Leaders



GLORIA BAGLEY

Wife of small-town church planter in Utah; preacher's kid; frequent women's conference speaker

Seminar #1 – Misconceptions in the Life of a Pastor's Wife

This seminar will help us find ways to replace misconceptions with truth about God, ourselves, and others!

Seminar #2 – Lord, What Am I Supposed to Be Doing?

It is easy to fall into the trap of allowing the expectations of others to drive what we do, but what are God's expectations and how can we stick to HIS plans for us?



RON KLASSEN

Executive Director, RHMA; former small-town pastor; author

Seminar #2 – Maximizing the Strengths of the Town/Country Church

Picture a small-town church that is not trying to imitate larger, city churches, but studies itself and its community and then prayerfully designs ministries uniquely suited for its place and time. This seminar will help this picture become a reality as we explore the distinctive characteristics—especially strengths—of the small-town church.



GARY ROSEBOOM

Associate Director, RHMA; longtime minister of music; RHMA conferences worship leader; raised in a small town

Seminar #1 – Strong Worship on a Weak Budget (Parts 1-2)

Seminar #2 – Strong Worship on a Weak Budget (Parts 3-4)

The "worship wars" have—unfortunately—found their way to the small town. This seminar will explore three issues: (1) Approaching a holy God in worship; (2) Learning lessons from the early church at worship; and (3) Working toward acceptable worship (Hebrews 12:28) in your small-town church.



PHIL TUTTLE

President, Walk Thru the Bible; former small-town pastor

Seminar #1 – Rediscovering the Joys of Ministry

Let's face it: Between board meetings, counseling sessions, sermon preparation, and people with "unique" personalities, it is easy to lose your joy in the midst of local church ministry. It is time for each of us to reorient our motivational compasses to the three sources of joy that kept Paul going through the toughest times of his life.



JEFF VANGOETHEM

Pastor, East White Oak Bible Church, Carlock, Illinois; four town and country pastorates; author

Seminar #1 – What Are We to Do with Cohabiting Couples?

Over 50% of couples marrying today live together prior to marriage. Pastors are encountering these couples every day as they seek weddings in the church. Should pastors agree to perform these weddings? Have these couples helped or hurt their chances for a successful marriage? What kind of stand should pastors take? What kind of counsel should pastors give? Every pastor needs to think through this issue.

Seminar #2 – Reversing Decline in a Long-Established Small-Town Church

Churches all across rural and small-town America are declining and even closing. Can anything be done about this? Is it still possible to build and rebuild small-town churches? We will not sugar-coat this tough question but outline the perseverance and strategies needed to successfully reverse decline.



BARNEY WELLS

Town and Country Training Program Consultant, RHMA; professor, Lincoln Christian Seminary; former country church pastor for 34 years; author

Seminar #1 – Rural Ministry 101

This seminar is an orientation to rural ministry, geared primarily for new pastors and wives who are just getting started. Seasoned pastors and wives are welcome to attend for a refresher course!

Seminar #2 – Leading Through Change

Whether your community is growing or declining, change is taking place. In this seminar we will explore the kinds of changes that are happening, along with the accompanying challenges and opportunities.

Conference Schedule

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration and continental breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Plenary Session with Phil Tuttle
10:15 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.	Break – soft drinks, coffee
10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Seminar #1 (Part 1)
11:35 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.	Seminar #1 (Part 2)
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Plenary Session #2 with Phil Tuttle
3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Seminar #2 (Part 1)
4:10 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.	Seminar #2 (Part 2)
5:00 p.m.	Head home

You can receive Contact Hour credit through Grace College of Continuing Education, by attending all sessions of the Small-Town Pastors' Conference. A certificate will be issued through Grace. A fee of \$5.00 is payable at the conference upon completion of a form which will be available in the conference packets. Grace will mail you a Certificate of Completion following the conference.

Directions to Grace University and conference information may be accessed online at www.GraceUniversity.edu or by calling toll free 800.697.1808.

Registration and payment

PLEASE PRINT OR GO TO www.rhma.org TO REGISTER

Name _____
 Wife's name (if attending) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Church/Ministry _____
 Phone: Home _____ Work _____
 Email _____

Registration cost if postmarked by March 14: Check ONE

Pastor ONLY \$75 Pastor & Wife \$100
 Student ONLY \$25 Student & Spouse \$40

Registration cost _____

After March 14: add \$20 to total registration cost _____

Total \$ _____

THREE WAYS TO PAY

1. Make check payable to: RHMA

Mail form and check to: RHMA, Box 300, Morton, IL 61550

2. Or pay with: Visa MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

3. You may also register online with a credit card

Pre-Registration for In-depth Seminars

To help us plan for seminar materials and space, please indicate your choices below. This registration does not commit you to your selection. You may change it upon arrival.

Check ONE seminar per session per person registered

Seminar #1

Pastor	Wife	Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Misconceptions in the Life of a Pastor's Wife</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Strong Worship on a Weak Budget (1-2)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Rediscovering the Joys of Ministry</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>What Are We to Do with Cohabiting Couples?</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Rural Ministry 101</i>

Seminar #2

Pastor	Wife	Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Lord, What Am I Supposed to Be Doing?</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Maximizing the Strengths of the Town/Country Church</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Strong Worship on a Weak Budget (3-4)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Reversing Decline in a Long-Established Small-Town Church</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Leading Through Change</i>