

2014 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; author, including *Crucible: The Choices that Change Your Life Forever*



Mark Bailey

President, Dallas Theological Seminary; former pastor; author, including *Prophecy in Light of Today*



Gary Bredfeldt

Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School, Lancaster Bible College; experienced small-town pastor; author, including *Great Leader, Great Teacher*



April 28-30

Morton, Illinois



**Rural Home
Missionary Association**



Significance

in Unlikely Places

Ron Klassen

RHMA's Executive Director

Who of us hasn't looked out our window and wondered if the place we are serving is important? Or, if what we are doing is important? Or, perhaps we are nagged by the thought that there may be someplace out there more important than our place. If we are overly consumed with questions like these, a host of words might describe us: disillusioned, restless, unfulfilled, etc.

When we dwell on questions related to significance, we do well to make sure we are finding answers from the right Source. Since "The Lord does not see things the way you see them" (1 Samuel 16:7), we should ask: "What does God think?" We're going to unpack this question at our conference. One of the things we are going to discover is that time and again God seems to see things as significant that others overlook or minimize.

Come and be encouraged! Come and you will find a down-home, warm, and affirming atmosphere. Come and you will connect with a host of people who understand your ministry context. Come with the expectation that you will return to your place of ministry with renewed passion and vigor.

There's lots to talk about. Let's do it together!

**Can't come to
the Morton Conference?**

**Join us in Lancaster, Pennsylvania
September 29 – October 1, 2014**

For more information, go to
www.rhma.org.

RHMA

Box 300, Morton, IL 61550

Call toll-free: 866-263-2350

info@rhma.org www.rhma.org



Seminar Leaders



Lee Eclov

Senior Pastor, Village Church, Lincolnshire, Illinois; grew up in a rural church; consulting editor, *Leadership Journal*; columnist, *PreachingToday.com*; author, *Pastoral Graces: Reflections on the Care of Souls*



Ron Klassen

Executive Director, RHMA; former small-town pastor; author, including *No Little Places: The Untapped Potential of the Small-Town Church*



Brent Lacy

Rural church student ministries pastor, Rockville, Indiana; grew up on a farm in southern Illinois; author, *Rural Youth Ministry*; conducts *Rural Youth Ministry Lab* training



Shawn McMullen

Senior Minister, LifeSpring Christian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio; long-time small-town pastor; author and editor, including *Unleashing the Potential of the Smaller Church* and *Releasing the Power of the Smaller Church*

Seminar Leaders

Continued



Jill Savage

Founder and CEO, Hearts-at-Home; wife of a former pastor; conference speaker; author, including *Living with Less So Your Family Has More*



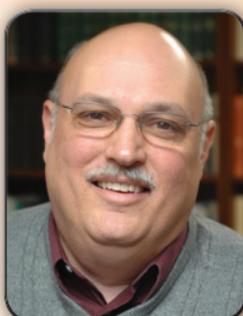
Megan Scheibner

Mother of eight; wife of a former small-town pastor; conference speaker; author, *Parenting Matters* and *In My Seat*



Steve Scheibner

President, Characterhealth Corporation; experienced small-town church planter and pastor; conference speaker; Commander, U.S. Navy Reserves; pilot, American Airlines (scheduled to fly Flight 11, the first plane to hit the World Trade Center on 9/11)



Barney Wells

Consultant and professor for RHMA's TACT Program; professor, Lincoln Christian Seminary; country church pastor for 34 years; author, including *Leading Through Change: Shepherding the Town and Country Church in a New Era*

Seminars



Based on responses to a recent, extensive survey conducted by RHMA, on Tuesday we will be offering several seminars that address key concerns raised by pastors in town and country churches.

Tuesday Morning In-Depth Seminars

(two-part, 45 minutes each part)

Pastoral Graces: Reflections on the Care of Souls

Lee Eclov

Pastors of smaller churches are well-positioned to be agents of God's grace through the ordinary work of ministry. We will explore how pastors fulfill their call to shepherd the flock by "Wordworking," along with the tools of authority, wisdom, and grace.

Tailoring Youth Ministry for a Rural Context

Brent Lacy

RHMA's recent survey of town and country pastors revealed a real concern for how to effectively minister to rural youth. We have tapped the shoulder of a seasoned rural youth pastor for answers. Brent will talk about the unique challenges, share creative ways to reach rural youth, discuss useful technologies within limited budgets, and explore networking possibilities.



Survey Says . . . Evangelism & Discipleship

Shawn McMullen and Ron Klassen

After RHMA's recent survey results were in, and evangelism and discipleship were concerns that repeatedly surfaced, Shawn and Ron have been comparing notes and experiences, which they will share in these two seminar sessions.



The Discipleship Advantage in Small Towns

(First session)

Might small-town churches be especially well-positioned for discipleship? We'll explore together the what and how.

Overcoming Outreach Obstacles in a Context of Social Intimacy

(Second session)

Webs of relationships can create awkwardness when it comes to evangelism. We'll tackle the challenges and share some evangelism strategies and ideas that you might take home to your community.

Being the Shepherd's Helpmate

(WIVES ONLY)

Megan Scheibner

We are called to be effective helpers for our husbands, though we hold no title or position. Our attitudes and actions concerning our husband's ministry can build up or tear down the body.

The Nine Practices of the Proactive Pastor

Steve Scheibner

Small-town pastors face hundreds of decisions each day. Learning to respond proactively instead of reactively helps pastors thrive in today's church environment.

God's Grand Story

Phil Tuttle

Have you wondered how all the pieces of the Old Testament fit together, about all those good and bad kings, judges and priests, desert experiences, and messages of hope, and what it all means? God's Grand Story is the story of God's work to redeem, restore, and renew His people.

Tuesday Afternoon In-Depth Seminars

(two-part, 45 minutes each part)

Significant Leadership in Town and Country Churches

Gary Bredfeldt



Daunting leadership challenges also surfaced in RHMA's recent survey of small-town pastors.

In this seminar, Gary describes leadership as "making a significant difference" in the lives of those whom we serve. "Significance" cannot

be explained simply by chance; it must be done with intentionality.

Survey Says . . . Leadership

Shawn McMullen and Ron Klassen



In these two sessions, Shawn and Ron will be collaborating on two specific leadership concerns raised in RHMA's recent survey of small-town pastors.

Navigating Through Conflict in a Familiarity Breeds Contempt Environment

(First session)

Conflict provides one of the most difficult challenges but also one of the greatest opportunities for leadership. This seminar will explore the unique dynamics of conflict in a town and country environment and examine biblically-grounded strategies for addressing conflict effectively.

Overcoming Leadership Inertia in the Town and Country Church

(Second session)

Some believe rural people are more reluctant to lead. Whether or not this is true, we'll offer practical suggestions for fostering an atmosphere in which more aspire to become leaders and develop as leaders.

Finding the Balance in Ministry

Steve and Megan Scheibner

Pastors and their families must learn to balance church life and home life. A lack of balance puts us at risk for burning out and profits no one.

Rural Ministry 101

Barney Wells

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!

Wednesday Stand-alone Seminars

(60 minutes each, repeated in afternoon)

The New Battle for the Bible

Mark Bailey

How important are Adam and Eve in a Biblical theology of the Scriptures? How do we answer those who do not believe in a historical Adam and Eve?

Significant Teaching in Unlikely Places

Gary Bredfeldt

Your teaching ministry can make significant impact on the people you teach. We will explore principles of teaching that will heighten your impact as a teacher.

In It for the Long Haul

Lee Eclov

Pastoral work takes a unique kind of perseverance. All we need to do is ask Moses about shepherding God's flock through the wilderness. One of God's gracious gifts to pastors is seeing the slow work of His grace in the people and church we serve.

The Pursuit of Holiness: Why It Especially Matters in Town and Country Ministry

Shawn McMullen

God said, "Be holy because I am holy." In this seminar we'll consider God's call to holiness, how our holiness honors Him, and how we might expect God to bless our lives and ministries when we pursue holiness.

Ten Stress Strategies Every Woman Needs

(WIVES ONLY)

Jill Savage

Our over-committed, super-sized lives too often bring out the worst in us. This seminar will offer strategies to manage stress that naturally comes with the daily challenges of life, such as increasing margin, reclaiming balance of the urgent and important, improving time management, and replacing fear with faith.

Marriage and Friendship

Steve and Megan Scheibner

A healthy marriage is vital to the health of the church. Friendship plays a key role in the health of your marriage.

Joseph and His Legacy

Phil Tuttle

Everyone leaves a legacy. Some of the most extraordinary legacies belong to the most ordinary people. Joseph thought his dreams were dead, but his hardships were part of a bigger story. Whatever your path, God will put you in unexpected places of influence if you are faithful to Him and responsive to His ways.

Schedule



Monday, April 28

- 4:00-5:15 p.m. Registration at RHMA
5:30 p.m. Supper at Grace Evangelical Church
6:00-6:45 p.m. Bookstore open
7:00 p.m. Plenary Session
Storytellers: Steve and Megan Scheibner
Speaker: Phil Tuttle
The Surprising Geography of Jesus
8:30 p.m. Dessert and Fellowship
Hosted by the RHMA Board of Directors

Tuesday, April 29

- Breakfast at your hotel or on your own
8:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting
with Carey Gossen
8:45 a.m. Plenary Session
Speaker: Gary Bredfeldt
Significant Conflict, Significant Results
(Acts 6:1-7)
9:45 a.m. Break
9:45-10:15 a.m. Bookstore open
10:15 a.m. Special Feature: Steve Scheibner
In My Seat testimony
10:50 a.m. In-Depth Seminars
(two-part, 45 minutes each part)
12:30 p.m. Box Lunches / Free-time Options
12:30-1:30 p.m. Bookstore open
1:30-3:15 p.m. In-Depth Seminars
(two-part, 45 minutes each part)

Schedule continues on next page

Continuing Education Credit

You can receive 1.3 CEU credits by attending all sessions of the Small-Town Pastors' Conference. Credits will be issued through Lancaster Bible College and Graduate School, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. A fee of \$8.50 is payable at the conference upon completion of a form which will be available in the conference packets. LBC will mail you a CEU certificate following the conference.

iLEAD Center



LANCASTER
BIBLE COLLEGE

Schedule

Continued



Tuesday, April 29

- 5:30 p.m. Supper
6:00-6:45 p.m. Bookstore open
7:00 p.m. Plenary Session
Storytellers: Steve and Megan Scheibner
Speaker: Mark Bailey
A Meaningful Message from a Meaningless Place
(Luke 4:14-30)

Wednesday, April 30

- Breakfast at your hotel or on your own
8:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting
with Carey Gossen
8:45 a.m. Plenary Session
Speaker: Mark Bailey
Leadership Lessons from a Cave in the Wilderness
(1 Samuel 24)
9:45 a.m. Break
9:45-10:30 a.m. Bookstore open
10:30 a.m. Stand-alone Seminars
(repeated in the afternoon)
11:30 a.m. Lunch / Options
Fellowship Hall: *Fellowship with other
pastors and wives*
Gym: *Get-to-Know-RHMA presentation*
12:45-1:45 p.m. Stand-alone Seminars
(repeat of morning seminars)
2:00 p.m. Ladies' Tea with Jill Savage
(*Breaking Up with Perfect*)
Men's Dessert Forum
(*Phil Tuttle, Mark Bailey, Gary Bredfeldt*)
5:30 p.m. Supper
6:00-6:45 p.m. Bookstore open
7:00 p.m. Closing Plenary Session
Storytellers: Steve and Megan Scheibner
Speaker: Phil Tuttle
The Unshakable Priority of Jesus

CHILDREN

While families are important to us, this conference is for pastors and wives. As a courtesy to our other participants we ask that no children attend with you. Thank you.

Information



REGISTRATION COSTS

POSTMARKED BY APRIL 12:

Pastor ONLY:	\$100
Pastor & Wife:	\$130
Full-time Student:	\$40
Full-time Student & Wife:	\$65

After April 12: ADD \$20 to the total registration cost.

Registration includes lunches, suppers, and conference materials.

Registration costs are non-refundable after April 12.

Space is limited. First-come, first-served basis.

LODGING

Special rates have been secured at the following hotels:

Holiday Inn Express and Suites Double/Single -
140 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550 \$105.00
Phone: 309-263-4400 (special rates expire 3/30)

Best Western Ashland House King - \$84.99
201 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550 Double - \$81.99
Phone: 309-263-5116 (special rates expire 4/17)

Baymont Inn and Suites Double - \$67.99
210 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550
Phone: 309-266-8888 (special rates expire 3/29)

Quality Inn Double/King - \$70.99
115 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550
Phone: 309-266-8310 (special rates expire 4/17)

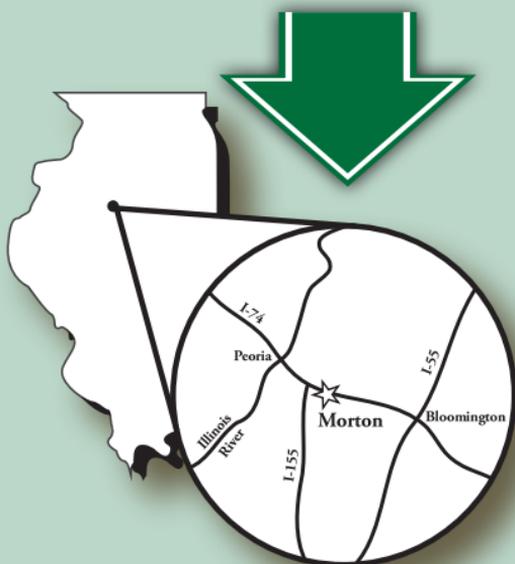
Travelodge Double/King - \$68.99
101 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550
Phone: 309-266-1600 (special rates expire 4/17)

All hotels provide a complimentary breakfast.

The Holiday Inn, Best Western, and Baymont Inn have indoor pools. To make your reservation, please call the hotel of your choice. Mention RHMA to receive the reduced rate.

We encourage you to make your reservation early, as space is limited at these rates.

Location



ALL SESSIONS HELD AT
Grace Church
1325 E. Jefferson
Morton, IL 61550

RHMA IS SENSITIVE TO THE FACT THAT MANY SMALL-TOWN PASTORS CANNOT AFFORD EXPENSIVE PASTORS' CONFERENCES. THE ACTUAL COST OF THIS CONFERENCE IS CONSIDERABLY MORE THAN THE REGISTRATION FEE, BUT RHMA IS COMMITTED TO RAISING THE DIFFERENCE. DURING THE CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE PROVIDED TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD EXPENSES, IF YOU WISH TO DO SO.

Morton
Illinois
Village of Morton

RHMA appreciates the financial support of the Village of Morton, which helps with the cost of producing and mailing this brochure and other conference marketing endeavors.

Registration

You may register online
(www.rhma.org) or fill out
this form and mail to RHMA,
Box 300, Morton, IL 61550.

Name _____

Wife's name (if attending) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church/Ministry _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

Email _____

Registration cost if postmarked by April 12: Check where appropriate

Pastor ONLY \$100 Pastor & Wife \$130

Full-time Student \$40 Full-time Student & Wife \$65

Registration cost _____

After April 12: Add \$20 to the total registration cost _____

Special Event fee _____ x \$5.00 = _____

Total \$ _____

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.

Tuesday Morning Seminars

Pastor Wife Title

Choose ONE per person

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Pastoral Graces: Reflections on the Care of Souls</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Tailoring Youth Ministry for a Rural Context</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Survey Says . . . Evangelism & Discipleship</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Being the Shepherd's Helpmate</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The Nine Practices of the Proactive Pastor</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>God's Grand Story</i> |

Tuesday Afternoon Seminars

Choose ONE per person

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Significant Leadership in Town and Country Churches</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Survey Says . . . Leadership</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Finding the Balance in Ministry</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Rural Ministry 101</i> |

Wednesday Seminars

Choose TWO per person (each seminar is repeated)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The New Battle for the Bible</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Significant Teaching in Unlikely Places</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>In It for the Long Haul</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The Pursuit of Holiness: Why It Especially Matters in Town and Country Ministry</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Ten Stress Strategies Every Woman Needs</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Marriage and Friendship</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Joseph and His Legacy</i> |

THREE WAYS TO PAY

1. Make check payable to RHMA and mail with this form.

2. Or pay with: _____ Visa _____ MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

3 Digit Security Code

Signature _____

3. Or register online and pay there with a credit card or from your bank account.

Questions? Give us a call: 866-263-2350. **(continued over)**

Special Events

Tuesday 10:15 a.m.

In My Seat

The powerful testimony of Steve Scheibner, a small-town pastor and American Airlines pilot who was scheduled to pilot Flight 11, the first plane to strike the World Trade Center on 9/11.

Tuesday afternoon

In addition to seminars, the following are activity possibilities for Tuesday afternoon. Please check the activity of your choosing.

Some activities have limited space and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To help us with planning, please indicate your choices below.

Tuesday, April 29 Activities

(please check one per person)

Pastor Wife Event

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum (\$10.00/person) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Funk's Grove (\$5.00/person) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Caterpillar Tour (no cost) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Golf Outing (fee to be determined) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ladies Shopping (no cost) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Trap Shooting and Fishing (no cost) |

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum

Step through the doors of the official Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and you'll feel as if you've stepped into the life of our 16th president, widely acclaimed as our nation's greatest. The museum features state-of-the-art exhibits, interactive displays, and multimedia programs. It also contains the world's largest collection of documentary material related to the life of Lincoln. Join us for an experience you will never forget and learn more about Abraham Lincoln and his legacy to the United States and the world.



This tour is limited to 15 people.

The cost for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum is **\$10.00/person** and is **IN ADDITION** to your conference registration fee. Advanced tickets for the tour are required. Therefore no refund will be given.

Caterpillar Tour

(Limited to 15 people)

This is the facility where the D-7 through D-11 track-type tractors are assembled — the largest Cat track-type tractors.

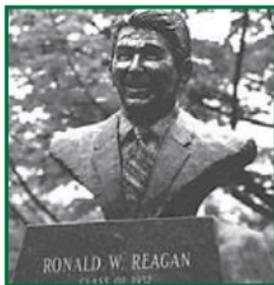


Ronald Reagan Museum at Eureka College

(Twenty minutes from Morton. Driving maps will be available.)

President Reagan's alma mater houses a collection of over 2,000 items from his student days, movie career, and political life. It's the largest collection of Reagan memorabilia outside of the Reagan Library in California.

This is a free event.



Funk Prairie Home and Gem & Mineral Museum

Lafayette Funk was a founder of the Chicago Union Stockyards and director of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. His family had one of the largest farms in America and created the first commercial hybrid corn. His grandson traveled extensively for the Funk Brothers Seed Co. and collected gems and minerals from around the world. The farm was electrified in 1910 (first in the world) and the 13-room home, built in 1864, has been extensively restored to its original condition. The museum houses more than 4,000 specimens, from gemstones of every type to petrified dinosaur feces to an intact saber-toothed tiger skull! **This tour is limited to 30 people. The cost of the bus trip is \$5.00/person.**



Bass Pro Shops – East Peoria

(Fifteen minutes from Morton. Driving maps will be available.)

Bass Pro Shops is an outdoor retail leader in hunting, camping, nature gifts, outdoor cooking, and much more. They have become one of America's premier outdoor retailers with destination outdoor retail stores across America and Canada, serving over 75 million sportsmen a year. Each store is unique and offers a truly unforgettable shopping experience — as close to the Great Outdoors as you can get indoors!



Ladies Shopping

(Limited to 15 people)

Take a van ride to Bloomington for an afternoon of indoor mall shopping. Included among the stores are: American Eagle Outfitters, Back Store, Bath & Body Works, Bergner's, Buckle, Christopher & Banks, Claire's, Cuddly Friends, C.J. Banks, deb shop, Earthbound Trading Company, Finish Line, Foot Locker, Gap, JCPenney, Hallmark, Hickory Farms, Kohl's, Lids, Limited, Macy's, maurices, MC Sports, Old Navy, Payless Shoesource, Sears, White Barn Candle Co., Wild Country. No cost.

Trap Shooting and Fishing

Weather permitting, we will fish and shoot clay pigeons at an RHMA friend's hobby farm. Guns and fishing gear will be provided at no cost.



Golf Outing

(Limited to 15 people)

Weather and interest permitting, we will schedule a golf outing for Tuesday afternoon. Please mark "Golf Outing" if you are interested in participating.

The cost will be determined. We will contact you before the conference with further information.



Box 300

Morton, IL 61550

*Join us at RHMA's
Small-Town Pastors'
Conference!*

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