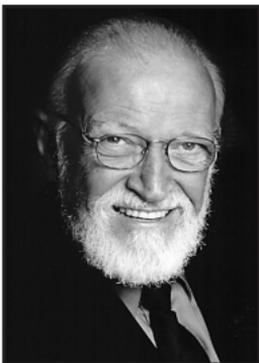


Small-Town Pastors' Conference

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

The Town and Country Shepherd

Featuring...



Calvin Miller

Professor of Preaching and Pastoral Ministry, Beeson Divinity School; former small-town pastor; author of more than 40 books, including *O Shepherd, Where Art Thou?*



H.B. London

Vice President of Pastoral Ministries at Focus on the Family; strong passion for small-town pastors; author



April 19-21, 2010
MORTON, ILLINOIS

Rural Home Missionary Association

Nearly 70 Years of Planting & Strengthening Churches in Small Towns



Shepherd?

RON KLASSEN

RHMA Executive Director

Of all the leadership models in Scripture – prophet, priest, king, judge, etc. – why does God seem to have a penchant for using “shepherd” to describe the role of a church leader?

“Feed my lambs...Take care of my sheep.” (John 21:15-16)

“Keep watch over...all the flock...Be shepherds of the church of God.” (Acts 20:28)

What does it mean to shepherd? Does merely having sheep make one a shepherd? Does living in a rural environment make shepherding an automatic? How does shepherding impact lives now and for eternity?

There are many models for church leadership advocated in books and seminars today. Shepherding generally is not one of them. The time is right for us to take a fresh look at the Scriptures, to rediscover the Biblical model, and do a ministry check-up.

Come and you will find a down-home, warm, affirming, and encouraging atmosphere, and a place where most everything will be tailored to town and country contexts. Best of all, I promise you won't have to scoop any manure while you are here.

I hope to see you soon!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Klassen".

Can't come to the Morton Conference?

Join us in

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

September 27 – 29, 2010

Held at the facilities of Calvary Church, Lancaster.

**For more information about
this conference, go to www.rhma.org.**

RHMA

Box 300, Morton, IL 61550

Call toll-free: 866.263.2350

info@rhma.org

www.rhma.org

Meet the Conference Speakers & Seminar Leaders



Gloria Bagley

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



Mike Boyle

Assistant Professor of Pastoral Studies, Moody Bible Institute; former small-town church planter; RHMA consultant



Mark and Ben Danielson

RHMA's Director of Mission Ministries; prior to this he and his wife Cindy served as church planters in Mullen, Nebraska; Ben is their son



Linda Hartzler

Farm wife; Family Life Director of Prairieview Mennonite Church, Flanagan, Illinois; writer for Veggie Tales



H.B. London

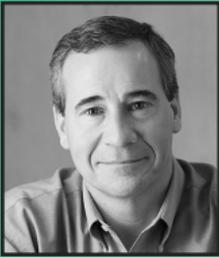
Vice President of Pastoral Ministries at Focus on the Family; strong passion for small-town pastors; author



Bob MacKay

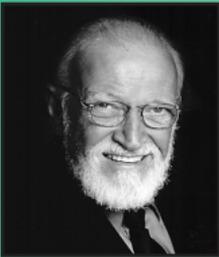
Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Mentor, Ohio; longtime small-town pastor; much sought-after pastoral counselor; professor in RHMA's Town and Country Training (TACT) Program

Speakers continued...



Shawn McMullen

Minister, Church of Christ, Milan, Indiana; director of the Energizing Smaller Churches Network; author and editor, including *Releasing the Power of the Smaller Church*



Calvin Miller

Professor of Preaching and Pastoral Ministry, Beeson Divinity School; former small-town pastor; author of more than 40 books, including *O Shepherd, Where Art Thou?*



Larry Moyer

President, EvanTell; farm upbringing; evangelist in many small towns; author



Jeff VanGoethem

Pastor, Scofield Church, Dallas, Texas; four town and country pastorates; author



Barney Wells

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



Dave Wyrzten

Longtime small-town pastor, Midlothian Bible Church, Midlothian, Texas; author

Seminars

In-depth Seminars — Tuesday ***Each seminar is a two-part series.***

You and the Impossible (Part 1)

(ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN)

Gloria Bagley

Session 1 – When It’s You Against a Horde – Six Positive Responses When Faced with Impossible Situations

When faced with a huge multitude coming against him, Jehoshaphat was afraid and powerless against them. He didn’t know what to do but he did know Who to turn to. Jehoshaphat’s solution can be yours as well.

Session 2 – When It’s You in Distress – Four Desperate Situations, One Response

Even women in ministry get into situations in which there seems to be no way out. The psalmist presented four desperate situations we can identify with and one solution to them all.

Pastor-Care Issues in the Town and Country Church (Part 1)

Bob MacKay

Session 1 – The Critical Early Years in Your Church: How to Set the Stage for Positive Long-term Pastoral Impact

The foundation for long-term ministry success is built in the first few years. In this session we’ll be exploring metaphors, principles, and best practices for the critical first few years in your church.

Session 2 – Handling Stress: Helping You Figure This One Out

One of the “big surprises” of town and country ministry can be the stress. In this session we’ll be talking about practical ways of tackling that stress and managing it well!

The Influential Small-Town Church

Shawn McMullen

Session 1 – Making the Most of What You Have: Capitalizing on the Inherent Strengths of the Small-Town Church

Many forms of life-changing ministry (such as nurture, affirmation, acceptance, and shepherding) often occur naturally and spontaneously in the small-town church.

This session will help you identify the unique capabilities of your church and consider ways to tap into them.

Session 2 – To Know and to Be Known: Community Connection Strategies for the Small-Town Church

Do local people think of your church as a friend or an adversary? How does your school system and town government view your congregation? This session suggests a philosophy for community connection through event-driven and service-driven ministry opportunities.

The Image-Driven Sermon

Calvin Miller

There has been a renewed emphasis in recent years on the use of narrative in preaching. While this is a welcome improvement, it is the combination of word and image, narrative and exposition, that will best serve the small-town congregation.

Evangelizing in the Context of Social Intimacy

Larry Moyer

Leaders of rural churches want to see their people evangelize. Most face two challenges: fear and lack of a method. In rural communities there are also issues of familiarity and close-knit friendships which create awkwardness for those who have known non-Christians most of their lives yet have never spoken to them about Christ.

Continuing the Discussion of Revival in Rural America (Part 1)

Jeff Van Goethem

Session 1 – What We Can Learn from the Welsh Revival

Session 2 – What We Can Learn from the Layman's Prayer Revival of 1858

Following up on last year's RHMA conference on revival, these seminars will take us deeper into the principles and conditions of revival and how they can relate to your rural context.

Shepherding in Sheep Manure

Dave Wyrzten

How do you deal with mules on your church leadership board, wars over worship styles, counselees with mental illnesses that drain your time, and folks who simply don't like you but there's just no other church to go to? What does the Good Shepherd have to say to us when we are wading in sheep manure up to our armpits?

In-depth Seminars — Wednesday ***Each seminar is a two-part series.***

You and the Impossible (Part 2)

(ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN)

Gloria Bagley

Session 3 – When You’re Going Nowhere Fast – Six Commands to Women That Will Produce Fruitfulness

Are you aimless with no direction, or are you terribly busy – your wheels frantically spinning yet going nowhere? God has a plan for you and wants that to be your focus.

Session 4 – When It’s Past Time to Take Possession – Six Truths I Need to Remember in Order to Take Possession of What God Has Promised

God asked Israel, “How long will you wait to take possession of the land the Lord your God has given you?” Are you taking possession of the “land” God has given you or are fears or other pursuits holding you back from all He has for you?

Pastor-Care Issues in the Town and Country Church (Part 2)

Bob MacKay

Session 3 – Staying Healthy: Developing a Personal Plan for Balance and Sanity

Ministry can destroy our bodies, souls, and spirits. We really do need a plan for balance and health. This session looks at a model for sustaining a lifetime of personal and ministry effectiveness.

Session 4 – Pastoral Counseling: Explaining the Foundational Principles for Healthy Soul Care

Does being “competent to counsel” mean I need a PhD in counseling? In this session we’ll be laying down some of the basic principles that can help make us effective and competent as pastoral counselors.

The Healthy Small-Town Church

Shawn McMullen

Session 1 – Building Up the Body: Creating a Positive and Productive Atmosphere in the Small-Town Church

Are your people happy when they come to worship? Do visitors feel comfortable in your services? Are your business meetings fun and productive? Do your volunteers feel appreciated? This session provides several keys to health and growth in the small-town church.

Session 2 – Looking to the Future: Developing Leaders in the Small-Town Church

What do you want the leadership of your church to look like in 5-10 years? This session focuses on personal holiness, recruitment, relationship building, and mentoring as key elements for improving your leadership structure.

Improving Your Evangelistic Speaking Skills – Five Essentials in Communicating to People in the 21st Century

Larry Moyer

People tire of speakers; they never tire of communicators. We will share the essentials of evangelistic communication which are both biblical and relevant.

Continuing the Discussion of Revival in Rural America (Part 2)

Jeff Van Goethem

Session 3 – What We Can Learn from the Punjab Prayer Revival

Session 4 – What We Can Learn from the Manipur Revivals of Northeast India

These sessions will focus on lessons we can learn from revival in other cultures.

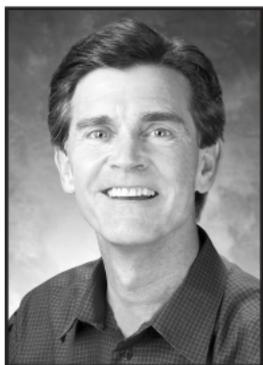
Christ and Small-Town Ministry: the Country People Loved Him, the City People Killed Him – Why?

Dave Wyrzten

Herod the Great would have never guessed that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem and his son Antipas would have never thought to look for him in Nazareth. Why did Jesus choose to live as a carpenter in the country for more than 30 years of His life and was it significant that the crowds in Galilee loved Him but the crowd in Judea yelled “Crucify Him?”



What others are saying . . .



"If you're a pastor in a small town or pastor in a small church and feel like no one really understands what's going on in your life, this conference is for you. The atmosphere is warm and contagious. The teaching is quality! The people are authentic and God greatly strengthened my heart when I was there. I highly recommend the RHMA conference."

Chip Ingram

President and radio teacher, Living on the Edge; Senior Pastor, Venture Christian Church, Los Gatos, California; Member, RHMA's Board of Reference



"My experience is that there is nothing like RHMA's Small-Town Pastors' Conference. It's rare indeed to have such focus, purpose, fellowship, and encouragement."

Kent Hughes

Senior Pastor Emeritus, College Church, Wheaton, Ill.; Executive Director, Bible Heritage Foundation, Spokane, Washington; author and conference speaker; Member, RHMA's Board of Reference



"If you're weary of meetings where you're a statistic instead of a person and where they try to minister to people by the acre, then the RHMA conference is for you. The speakers come from the trenches, not from ivory towers, and the sessions are practical because they deal with what's going on today. You'll feel right at home, believe me!"

Warren W. Wiesbe

Author; longtime pastor and conference speaker; Member, RHMA's Board of Reference

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 \$6.50 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.



Lancaster Bible College
and Graduate School

Schedule

Monday, April 19

- 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. Registration at RHMA's headquarters building, 310 East Courtland Street, Morton
Check into hotels
- 5:30 p.m. Supper at Grace Evangelical Church
- 7:00 p.m. Plenary Session with Calvin Miller
Not Every Great Church Is a Big Church
(Luke 4:16-19)
- 8:30 p.m. "Make-Your-Own-Sundae" Fellowship
Hosted by the RHMA Board of Directors

Tuesday, April 20

- 8:45 a.m. Plenary Session with Dave Wyrzten
Small-Town Ministry—Something Special in Christ's Kingdom (1 Samuel 14:6)
- 9:45 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. In-depth Seminars, Sessions 1 & 2
- 12:15 p.m. Box Lunches
Free time – Choice of activities
(see options on *Special Events* page)
- 1:15 p.m. Afternoon seminar option with Barney Wells
Ministry in Postmodern Rural America
- 5:30 p.m. Supper
- 7:00 p.m. Plenary Session with Calvin Miller
Blessed Art Thou! (Luke 1:26-56)

Wednesday, April 21

- 8:45 a.m. Plenary Session with H.B. London
The Town and Country Shepherd – Part 1
- 9:45 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. In-depth Seminars, Sessions 1 & 2
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch – Two options
(1) Fellowship with small-town pastors and wives
(2) Get-to-Know-RHMA presentation
- 1:30 p.m. Plenary Session with Mike Boyle
A Pastor of Irresistible Influence
- 2:30 p.m. Ladies' Tea with Linda Hartzler
Men's Dessert Forum with the speakers
- 3:30 p.m. Free time
- 5:30 p.m. Supper
- 7:00 p.m. Closing Plenary Session with H.B. London
The Town and Country Shepherd – Part 2

Information

REGISTRATION COSTS

POSTMARKED BY APRIL 1:

Pastor ONLY:	\$ 95
Pastor & Wife:	\$120
Full-time Student:	\$ 35

After April 1: ADD \$20 to the total registration cost.

Registration includes lunches, suppers, and conference materials.

(A nominal fee will be charged for some of the special events. See Special Events pages.)

Registration costs are non-refundable after April 1. Space is limited to 400. First-come, first-served basis.

LODGING

Special rates have been secured at the following hotels:

Ashland House & Conference Center (Best Western)

201 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309.263.5116

Rate: \$74/night + tax (1-4 people)

Comfort Inn

210 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309.266.8888

Rate: \$59.99/night + tax (1-4 people)

Quality Inn

115 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309.266.8310

Rate: \$62/night + tax (1-4 people)

Travelodge

101 E. Ashland, Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309.266.1600

Rate: \$62/night + tax (1-4 people)

All hotels provide a complimentary breakfast.

The Ashland House and Comfort Inn have indoor pools.

To make your reservations, please call the hotel of your choice.

Mention RHMA to receive the reduced rate.

Hotel Reservation Deadlines:

April 4 for Ashland House, Quality Inn, and Travelodge

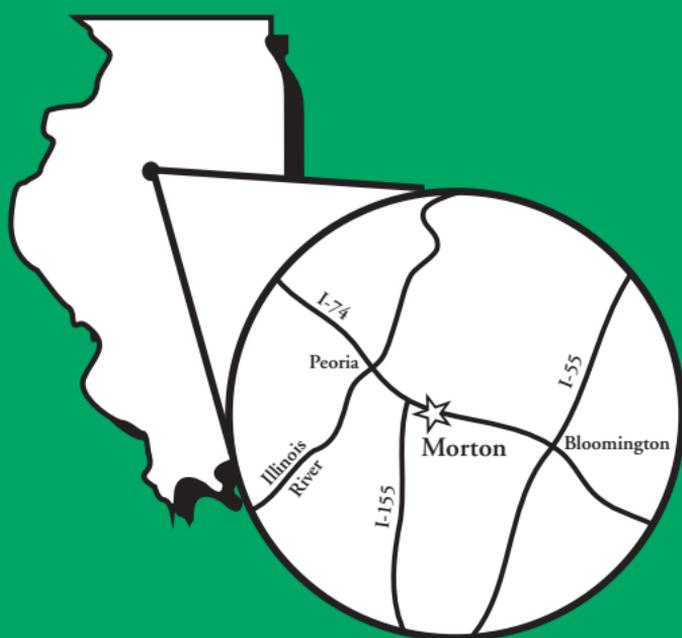
April 6 for Comfort Inn

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

CHILDREN

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

Location



ALL SESSIONS HELD AT
Grace Evangelical Church
1325 E. Jefferson
Morton, IL 61550
309.266.9281



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.

Registration

PLEASE PRINT OR GO ONLINE TO REGISTER

Name _____

Wife's name (if attending) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church/Ministry _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

Email _____

Registration cost if postmarked by April 1: Check ONE

Pastor ONLY \$95 Pastor & Wife \$120 Full-time Student \$35

Registration cost _____

After April 1: add \$20 to total registration cost _____

Lincoln Museum tour cost _____ x \$10.00 = _____

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. Or 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—per day—per person registered

In-depth Seminars—Tuesday

Pastor Wife Title

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>You and the Impossible (Part 1) (Women)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Pastor-Care Issues in the Town and Country Church (Part 1)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The Influential Small-Town Church</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The Image-Driven Sermon</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Evangelizing in the Context of Social Intimacy</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Continuing the Discussion of Revival in Rural America (Part 1)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Shepherding in Sheep Manure</i> |

In-depth Seminars—Wednesday

Pastor Wife Title

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>You and the Impossible (Part 2) (Women)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Pastor-Care Issues in the Town and Country Church (Part 2)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>The Healthy Small-Town Church</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Improving Your Evangelistic Speaking Skills – Five Essentials in Communicating to People of the 21st Century</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Continuing the Discussion of Revival in Rural America (Part 2)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Christ and Small-Town Ministry: the Country People Loved Him, the City People Killed Him – Why?</i> |

Special Events

Tuesday afternoon

Following are activity possibilities for Tuesday afternoon. Please check the activity of your choosing and send the appropriate fee with your registration.

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

Ministry in Postmodern Rural America Seminar with Barney Wells

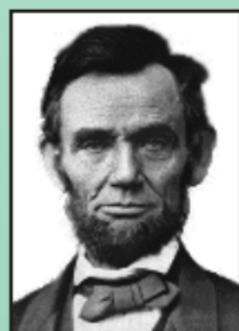
1:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

A look at how postmodern influences are affecting rural American culture, and how we need to strategize for evangelism as a result.

There is no additional cost for this seminar.

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.



(continued next page)

To help us with planning, please indicate your choices below. This registration does not commit you to your selection. You may change it upon arrival. (Exception: Lincoln Museum)

Tuesday, April 20 Activities *(please check one per person)*

- | <u>Pastor</u> | <u>Wife</u> | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Ministry in Postmodern Rural America Seminar with Barney Wells</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum (\$10.00/person)*</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Lincoln Sites Tour (\$6.00/person)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Shoppes at Grand Prairie Bus Trip (\$2.00/person)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Golf Outing (fee to be determined)</i> |

Wednesday, April 21 Lunch

- | <u>Pastor</u> | <u>Wife</u> | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Option 1 – Fellowship with small-town pastors and wives</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Option 2 – Get-to-Know-RHMA presentation</i> |

*** Note: If you sign up for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, the money is not refundable if you cancel.**

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 and we must receive your tour reservation by April 9.

The Lincoln Sites Tour

Travel to Springfield, Illinois, with those taking in the Presidential Museum and discover the rich heritage of Abraham Lincoln as you tour Lincoln's Home, Tomb, and the Old State Capitol building.

A fee of \$6.00 per person will be collected when you arrive at registration to help cover the cost of admission to the Old State Capitol and transportation.

Shoppes at Grand Prairie

Take a bus ride to the Shoppes at Grand Prairie for an afternoon of shopping. Included in the 80+ shops are: Aeropostale, Ann Taylor Loft, Banana Republic, Bergners, Borders Books & Music, Chicos, Claire's Accessories, Clarks, Coldwater Creek, Dick's Sporting Goods, Dress Barn, Eddie Bauer, Jos. A Bank Clothiers, New York & Company, and Old Navy.

The cost of the bus trip to the Shoppes at Grand Prairie is \$2.00 per person and will be collected when you arrive at registration. You may also choose to carpool with someone and not be restricted to the bus schedule.

Golf Outing

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

The cost will be determined and the fee will be collected at registration. We will contact you before the conference with further information.

Wednesday noon

Get-to-Know-RHMA presentation

Many have asked the question, "What is RHMA and what does RHMA do?" In this luncheon meeting, information will be shared about the expanding and broad-reaching ministries of RHMA.





Box 300
Morton, IL 61550

*Join us at our
Small-Town Pastors'
Conference!*

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*Join us at our
Small-Town Pastors'
Conference!*

Return Service Requested

