

Thank you for your interest in RHMA! Whether you are new to rural America or a veteran, please take a look around our website. I am confident your heart will be stirred.

RHMA's mission is to plant and strengthen churches in small-town America. You'll find in this website that we provide support, encouragement, training, counsel, resources, and in some communities an on-site presence through our staff of church planters and missionary pastors and their families. RHMA's reach extends into thousands of communities, from one end of the U.S. to the other.

The spiritual needs in rural America today are great. RHMA exists to help meet these needs. Sad to say, the "wholesome country living" description that was once used of rural America is no longer accurate in many areas. Statistics help paint the picture – family disintegration, substance abuse, certain types of crime, poverty . . . statistic after statistic indicate that the spiritual needs in small towns are as great, if not greater, than in urban areas. There are rural communities in our own country where the number of evangelical Christians is in the single digits – less than 5%. There are places we send missionaries to halfway around the world that have a higher percentage of Christians than many rural places in America. RHMA views rural America as a mission field; we send missionaries there.

All across the nation there are towns without churches and churches without pastors. Rural America desperately needs pastors and wives who desire to move into a town, stake a claim there for the gospel of Christ, and willingly pour their lives into that place. RHMA devotes a considerable amount of time to mobilizing pastors and wives for service. If you have a heart for reaching people for Christ, if you want a genuine opportunity to impact an entire town, then we have towns without churches, and churches without pastors. We need you to become a part of the solution for rural America.



RHMA's desire is to come alongside rural pastors, lay leaders, and churches with our encouragement and support as they endeavor to impact their communities for Christ. We take a multifaceted approach to fulfilling this aspect of our mission. We host small-town pastors' conferences, lead seminars across the country, provide an array of resources tailored to the rural context, offer seminary-accredited classes for students who anticipate being in rural ministry following graduation . . . on and on it goes. So many conferences, organizations, publishers, etc., are geared to bigger churches and cities, with little out there to validate, encourage, and equip small-town pastors. So many students in Bible colleges and seminaries

today are taught from an urban and bigger-church mindset – though statistics show that the vast majority of new graduates find themselves in rural America. RHMA seeks to bring a sense of balance, to fill a void.

Our dream at RHMA is to see at least one strong, influential, gospel-proclaiming, Bible teaching church in every rural community across our country today. Please look around this website and try to envision how God might use you to help fulfill this dream!

*Ron Klassen, Executive Director, RHMA*