

ANOMALY...Decidedly Different



2018 Small-Town Pastors' Conference

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

Featuring...



Eugene Habecker

Chairman of the Board of Directors, Christianity Today; President Emeritus, Taylor University; author, including *The Softer Side of Leadership*, *Leading with a Follower's Heart*, and *Rediscovering the Soul of Leadership*



Jason McConnell

Pastor, Franklin United Church and East Franklin Union Church – both located in dairying/farming communities in Vermont; professor, RHMA's TACT Program



Ed Stetzer

Executive Director, Billy Graham Center for Evangelism; Chair, Evangelism and Leadership, Wheaton College Graduate School; Advisory Committee member, Rural Matters Institute; former church planter; Interim Teaching Pastor, Moody Church, Chicago; prolific author of both books and articles



Jared Wilson

Director of Content Strategy, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Director, Pastoral Training Center, Liberty Baptist Church, Kansas City; former small-town pastor in Vermont; frequent conference speaker; author, including *Supernatural Power for Everyday People*



**Rural Home
Missionary Association**

October 8-10

Lancaster, Pennsylvania



Anomaly

Decidedly Different



Ron Klassen

RHMA Executive Director

Okay, I admit it. We've had some fun with this year's theme. Picture a small-town pastor who is a little peculiar . . . you get my drift. Don't be surprised if we poke a little fun at ourselves at conference time as well.

Our byline helps us with our focus: "Decidedly Different." This speaks of intentionality. And it reminds us that our roles and places of ministry are different from urban and big church contexts – anomalous.

Being anomalous, don't be surprised if at this conference you glean approaches to ministry that are considerably different from what you might hear at other conferences.

Being anomalous, at this conference you will be encouraged to view your small town and church differently from how many in the Christian world view it – to see it as God sees it: *There are no little places.*

And, our theme provides opportunities for all of us, pastors and churches alike, to be challenged to be set apart – anomalous – in our small town, a light in a dark place.

Come expecting to interact with others about how we and our small-town ministries are anomalous. Come anticipating good fellowship . . . and fun with our theme!

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

RHMA

Box 300, Morton, IL 61550

Call toll-free: 866-263-2350

info@rhma.org



Seminar Leaders



Marylou Habecker

Conference speaker, mentor for women, and writer for Christian publications, including *Today's Christian Woman*; former "First Lady" of Taylor University



Ron Klassen

Executive Director, RHMA; former small-town pastor; conference speaker; author, including *No Little Places: The Untapped Potential of the Small-Town Church* and *Leading Through Change: Shepherd the Town and Country Church in a New Era*



Miriam Lofquist

Women's Coordinator, IFCA International; raised in a small-town church planter's home and served with her husband in small-town church planting ministry; conference speaker; Editor, *Chera Fellowship* magazine



Jeff VanGoethem

Senior Pastor, Scofield Church, Dallas; four town and country pastorates; former member of RHMA's Board of Directors; conference speaker; author, including *Living Together: A Guide to Counseling Unmarried Couples*



Barney Wells

Graduate Academic Dean, Associate Professor of Bible and Ministry, Lincoln Christian University; consultant and professor, RHMA's TACT Program; longtime country church pastor; author, including *Leading Through Change: Shepherd the Town and Country Church in a New Era*

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

**Join us in Morton, Illinois
April 8-10, 2019**

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

Seminars



Tuesday Morning Seminars

(90 minutes)

Eugene Habecker

Courageous Conversations and Forgiveness in Pastoral Leadership: Its Necessity and Its Pursuit

Churches of all sizes have to deal with situations where relationships between members have broken down. The scriptures provide much guidance about how to go about resolving these broken relationships, including a case study. We will deal with ways to have courageous conversations with people in these kinds of situations, discuss ways that forgiveness and reconciliation can be addressed, and introduce the concept of a forgiveness cycle.

Marylou Habecker

(Women)

Cultivating the Marriage and Ministry Garden

Being a pastor's wife is a unique privilege and calling. Our marriages need nourishment to grow like beautiful gardens. Gardens need air, water, and sunshine. The same is true in ministry marriages. In our session, we will enjoy finding ways to make sure we are getting "Air" to breathe, where to find "Water," and how to be warmed by the "Son." We will "dig into" Scripture and life lessons on the importance of planting love, forgiveness, gratitude, grace, and laughter, as well as look at "weeds" we need to pull that choke our joy.

Jason McConnell

I Love to Tell the Story: An Introduction to First-Person Narrative Preaching

This seminar will introduce the art of first-person narrative preaching and explain why this homiletic form is a good fit for oral cultures and rural congregations. It will also demonstrate a step-by-step process for developing and delivering first-person narrative sermons for "dramatic" impact.



Jeff VanGoethem

Pastoral Transitions: Should I Stay, or Is It Time to Go?

Pastors move. It is a fact of life. How do we know when it's time to move on to a new ministry? Maybe we should be recommitting ourselves to where we are. How do we discern God's leading in such decisions? No cookie-cutter formulas will be presented, but this seminar will thoroughly explore the issues we face in pastoral transitions.

Barney Wells

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!

Tuesday Afternoon Seminar

(90 minutes)

Ron Klassen

Maximizing the Strengths in the Town and Country Church

Picture a town and country 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 town and country church.

Wednesday Morning Seminars

(90 minutes)

Miriam Lofquist

(Women)

Help . . . I'm Not Your Typical Pastor's Wife!

What is typical? In this seminar, we are going to investigate the confidence a pastor's wife can have in ministry. We will also examine biblical character that is needed when serving in this capacity.

Seminars *(Continued)*

Jason McConnell

The Gift of Sabbatical for a Small-Town Pastor

Many pastors, especially those serving in small-town and country churches, have never taken a sabbatical! This seminar will explore the biblical and theological roots of “Sabbath” and the benefits of a sabbatical for both pastor and church. It will also offer practical advice for planning, funding, and implementing a pastoral sabbatical.

Jeff VanGoethem

Keys to Longevity in Pastoral Work

All pastors think about quitting. Many do. How can we persevere as God’s shepherds and stay in it for the long haul?

Jared Wilson

Ministry in Hard Soil

Whether you’re weary, worn out, or worked up about your current season of ministry, or all of the above, this seminar will examine God’s gracious word for faithful ministers in difficult contexts.

Barney Wells

Nothing Stays the Same – Even in Small-Town America

Whether your community is growing or declining, change is taking place. We’ll explore the changes, challenges, and opportunities for ministry that growth presents. We’ll also examine the challenges and provide hope for those ministering in a declining town.

Continuing Education Credit

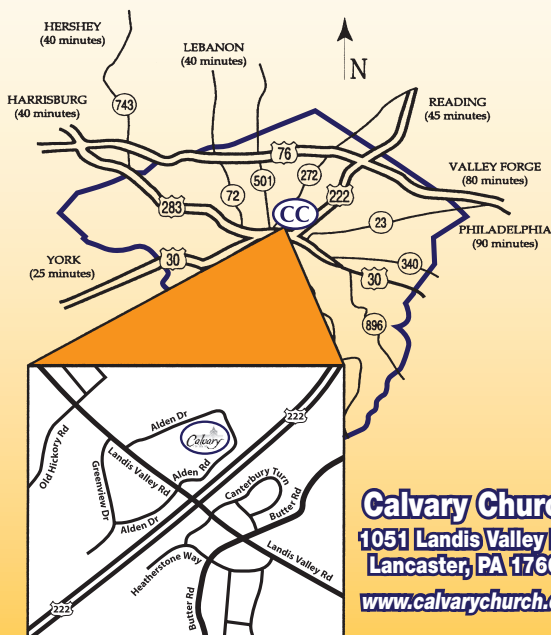
You can receive 1.0 CEU credit by attending all sessions of the Small-Town Pastors’ Conference. Credits will be issued through Lancaster Bible College and Graduate School, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. A fee of \$10.00 is payable at the conference upon completion of a form which will be available in the conference packets. LBC will mail you a CEU certificate following the conference.



anomaly...Decidedly Different



Location



Calvary Church
1051 Landis Valley Rd.
Lancaster, PA 17601
www.calvarychurch.org

(Note: You cannot exit from Rt. 222 onto Landis Valley Rd.)

Schedule

Monday, October 8

4:00–5:15 p.m.	Check-in at Calvary Church
5:30 p.m.	Supper
6:30 p.m.	Plenary Session Storyteller: Dave McGrew Speaker: Eugene Habecker
8:00 p.m.	Fellowship time

Tuesday, October 9

Breakfast	At your hotel or on your own
8:45 a.m.	Plenary Session Speaker: Ed Stetzer
9:45 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	Seminars
11:45 p.m.	Lunch – Two Options Fellowship with pastors & wives Get-to-Know RHMA
1:00-1:45 p.m.	Plenary Session Speaker: Ed Stetzer
2:00 p.m.	Seminar/Free time
6:00 p.m.	Supper
7:00 p.m.	Plenary Session Storyteller: Dave McGrew Speaker: Jared Wilson
8:30 p.m.	Fellowship time

Wednesday, October 10

Breakfast	At your hotel or on your own
8:45 a.m.	Seminars
10:15 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m.	Plenary Session Speaker: Jason McConnell
12:15 p.m.	Lunch

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 September 24:

Pastor ONLY:	\$115
Pastor & Wife:	\$160
Full-time Student:	\$80
Full-time Student & Wife:	\$100

After September 24: ADD \$20/person to the total registration cost.

Registration includes lunches, suppers, and conference materials.

Registration costs are non-refundable after September 24.

LODGING

Special rates have been secured at:

Hawthorn Suites

2045 Lincoln Hwy
Lancaster, PA 17602
Phone: 717.290.7100

Rate: 1 Queen Bed w/sleeper - \$79.00/night + tax
2 Queen Beds - \$89.00/night + tax

Complimentary hot breakfast buffet served each morning.

To make your reservation, please call the hotel and mention RHMA to receive the reduced rate.

Hotel Reservation Deadline Is September 2

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



Tuesday noon

Get-to-Know-RHMA Presentation

Perhaps you are wondering, "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.

Special Event

Tuesday afternoon



A TOUR OF AMISH COUNTRY

Join us as we travel by motor coach on a tour through the beautiful Lancaster County countryside. We will stop along the way to look around and see the Plain People's way of life and listen to the step-on tour guide talk about the sites.

The cost of the tour 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.



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 September 24: check appropriate box

Pastor ONLY ☐ \$115 Pastor & Wife ☐ \$160

Full-time Student ☐ \$80 Full-time Student & Wife ☐ \$100

Registration cost _____

After September 24: Add \$20/person to the total registration cost

Amish Tour add _____ **x \$10.00 =** _____

Total \$ _____

Choose ONE - per section - per person registered

Seminars — Tuesday Morning

Pastor Wife Title

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Courageous Conversations and Forgiveness in Pastoral Leadership: Its Necessity and Its Pursuit |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cultivating the Marriage and Ministry Garden (<i>Women</i>) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I Love to Tell the Story: An Introduction to First-Person Narrative Preaching |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pastoral Transitions: Should I Stay, or Is It Time to Go? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rural Ministry 101 |

Seminar — Tuesday Afternoon

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Maximizing the Strengths in the Town and Country Church |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|

Seminars — Wednesday

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Help . . . I'm Not Your Typical Pastor's Wife! (<i>Women</i>) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The Gift of Sabbatical for a Small-Town Pastor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Keys to Longevity in Pastoral Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ministry in Hard Soil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nothing Stays the Same – Even in Small-Town America |

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.

Questions? Give us a call: 866-263-2350



Box 300

Morton, IL 61550

***RHMA's Small-Town
Pastors' Conference is
returning to Pennsylvania!***

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