

## THREE WAYS TO PAY

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

2. Or pay with:  Visa  MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

3. Or register online ([www.rhma.org/conferences](http://www.rhma.org/conferences)) and pay there with a credit card or from your bank account.

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

### Friday, October 1, Activities

(please check one per person)

#### Pastor Wife Event

- Hershey Trolley Works (\$15.00/person)  
This tour coincides with the Friday afternoon seminars  
  Amish Country Tour (\$15.00/person)

First come, first served

### HERSHEY TROLLEY WORKS

All aboard for a historic sightseeing and chocolate-tasting journey through the town built on chocolate! This memorable excursion delivers good, old-fashioned fun as singing trolley conductors dressed in period costumes entertain and inform you on an enchanting ride through CHOCOLATE TOWN, USA.

### AMISH COUNTRY TOUR

Join us as we travel 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.

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

Join us next year in Illinois, April 25-27

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CHAMPAIGN, IL  
PERMIT NO. 453

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

  
RHMA  
Box 300  
Morton, IL 61550

**Clear Vision**  
Seeing as God Sees

**Featured speakers**

**Les Lofquist**  
  
Professor of Practical Theology and Director of Church Relations, Shepherds Theological Seminary; former Executive Director of IF-A International; raised in a small Minnesota town; former small-town church planter; member, RHMA Board of Reference

**Phil Tuttle**  
  
President, Walk Thru the Bible; former small-town pastor, author, including Clueable: The Choices that Change Your Life Forever; member, RHMA Board of Reference

**Stephen Witmer**  
  
Pastor, Pepperell Christian Fellowship, Pepperell, Massachusetts; co-founder, The Gospel Coalition's adjunct professor, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; author, including A Big Gospel in Small Places

**September 30 - October 2\***  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania  
Planting & Strengthening Churches in Small Towns

*15 specialized seminars focused on small-town ministry*

\*To those who have attended previous Pennsylvania conferences, these dates are correct! Our host church's scheduling conflict has moved our conference to Thursday Saturday noon through Saturday noon.

**RHMA**

## Information

### REGISTRATION COSTS

#### POSTMARKED BY September 16:

Pastor ONLY:	\$125
Pastor & Wife:	\$170
Full-time Student:	\$90
Full-time Student & Wife:	\$110

**After September 16: ADD \$20 per person to the total registration cost.**

REGISTRATION COSTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AFTER SEPTEMBER 16.

Registration includes lunches, suppers, and conference materials. We are sorry, but we cannot accommodate special diet requests.

### LODGING

Special rates have been secured at:

#### Hawthorn Suites

2045 Lincoln Hwy  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
Phone: 717.290.7100  
Rate: 1 King Bed - \$79.00/ \$89.00 + tax  
2 Queen Beds - \$89.00/ \$99.00 + tax

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

**Hotel reservation deadline is September 7**

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

## Schedule

**Thursday, September 30**

4:00-5:15 p.m.	Check-In at Calvary Church
5:30 p.m.	Supper
6:30 p.m.	Plenary Session with Les Lofquist
8:00 p.m.	Fellowship time

**Friday, October 1**

8:45 a.m.	Plenary Session with Stephen Witmer
10:15 a.m.	Seminars
11:30 a.m.	Lunch
12:45 p.m.	Seminars/Hershey tour at 1:00
2:00 p.m.	Free time/Amish tour at 2:00
6:00 p.m.	Supper
7:00 p.m.	Plenary Session with Phil Tuttle

**Saturday, October 2**

8:45 a.m.	Seminars
10:15 a.m.	Plenary Session with Phil Tuttle
11:30 a.m.	Lunch

**All sessions held at Calvary Church**  
1051 Landis Valley Rd.  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601  
[www.calvarychurch.org](http://www.calvarychurch.org)

# Seminar Leaders

## Ron and Joan Denlinger



Speakers, bloggers, authors; caretakers for their two special-needs children and elderly live-in parents; former RHMA church planters; spent five years on the road ministering to RHMA church planters and pastors from their RV trailer "home"

## Collin Hansen



Vice President and Content Editor in Chief, The Gospel Coalition; grew up in rural South Dakota; advisory board member, Beeson Divinity School; author, including *Gospelbound: Living with Resolute Hope in an Anxious Age*

## Miriam Lofquist



Raised in Utah by church-planting parents; served with her husband, Les, in small-town church planting ministry; conference speaker; works with future ministry wives at Shepherds Theological Seminary

For more information about RHMA, go to [www.rhma.org](http://www.rhma.org).

**RHMA**

Box 300, Morton, IL 61550

Call toll-free: 866-263-2350 • [info@rhma.org](mailto:info@rhma.org)



**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.**

## Daniel Stegeman



Pastor, Pine Glen Alliance Church, Lewistown, Pennsylvania; grew up in Western Canada; has pastored churches in Ohio, New York, and Pennsylvania; serves as an editor for The Gospel Coalition Canada

## Ellen Tuttle



Former small-town pastor's wife; serves and speaks with her husband, Phil, President of Walk Thru the Bible

## Brian Wechsler



Executive Director Emeritus – after 20 years as Executive Director – of Village Missions; served for 17 years as a Village Missions pastor in Iowa and Colorado

# Seminars

## Friday Morning Seminars

### Collin Hansen

#### Making Sense of the Rural/Urban Divide

Tim Keller has observed that cities on opposite sides of the world have more in common with each other than with their own surrounding geographic regions. What does this mean for our ministry and mission? We will seek to understand differences between urban and rural, with a focus on how we can cooperate for the sake of Christ.

### Miriam Lofquist (Women)

#### Your Soul and Your Smartphone

Smartphones are everywhere – almost all of us have one, and it goes everywhere we go. Each of us also has a soul that is eternal. We will examine what the Word of God says about the soul and what the dangers are to your soul when using your smartphone.

### Phil Tuttle

#### Overcoming Depression – The Silent Killer of God's Servants

Every year depression seems to claim more victims – especially among pastors and their spouses. In this seminar, we'll dig deep into the life of one of God's choicest leaders. Recognizing the familiar pattern of destructive choices could help you interrupt depression's downward spiral. Even better, discovering the tangible ways God intervened to restore his hope in life and joy in ministry could do the same for you.

### Brian Wechsler

#### Handling the Expectation Trap

It's been my observation that false expectations about ourselves, our family, leadership, church, and even our Lord, can rob a small-church pastor of joy and even cause him to implode. How do we recognize false expectations and develop realistic ones? We'll work together on discovering some ways to avoid the "expectation trap."

### Stephen Witmer

#### A Big Gospel in Small Places

We're to take the gospel to places, but the gospel also takes us to places. The very nature and shape of the gospel we love sends some of us to small places and provides us motivation and direction for how to minister there. We'll consider what a gospel-shaped ministry in small places will look like.

## Friday Afternoon Seminars

### Collin Hansen

#### Faithful Endurances as a Small-Town Pastor

What qualities and practices help small-town pastors endure in faith? To be sure, there's much overlap with our urban and suburban counterparts. But the unique factors are instructive in this time of high-profile pastoral defections and moral failings. We'll look at biblical, historical, and contemporary examples for encouragement to stay the course and finish the race.

### Les Lofquist

#### Gaining Respect in the Small-Town Church

Each pastor, no matter the size of his flock, must have the respect of his people in order to be an effective leader. How do you gain respect as the pastor of a town and country church? We'll discuss essential biblical considerations as well as sociological realities.

### Miriam Lofquist (Women)

#### Speaking Truth to Yourself in a World of Lies

Today, more than ever it seems, there are some things said, printed, and quoted that just are not true. As believers, we need to be certain we are not repeating lies to ourselves but instead are speaking the truth of God's Word to ourselves. We'll talk about what this looks like and ways to improve our ability to speak truth to ourselves and others.

## Seminars

### Phil Tuttle

#### Making this December Your Most Fruitful Christmas Season Yet

Every year about this time it hits us. We're thrilled Christmas is coming, but then we remember we have to find another way to share the old story in a new way. The pressure often robs us of our own Christmas joy. This seminar will expose you to a tool from Walk Thru the Bible that pastors all over the world are using to introduce all kinds of people to Jesus through the story of His mother, Mary.

### Stephen Witmer

#### Effective Small-Place Ministry: Living Inside the Circle

Fruitful small-place ministry will recognize the massive advantages of living within the circle of a small town, particularly the overlap in relationships it creates. Come to this seminar to consider practical ways in which ministers and churches can enjoy and benefit from this overlap and see it as a golden gospel opportunity.

## Saturday Morning Seminars

### Ron and Joan Denlinger

#### Caring for Others When You Have Significant Needs Yourselves

We will share our story of church planting in small towns while caring for our two disabled children. As we relate some of the challenges and pitfalls we encountered, and things we learned along the way, our hope is that you will be inspired to see how God might use your difficult circumstances to enhance – not hinder – your ministry to others.

### Les Lofquist

#### Sharpening Your Tools

Workers know that tools need to be regularly sharpened – same with pastors. What are ways pastors can sharpen their weekly sermon preparations? We will review some key principles for how to prepare an effective sermon and deliver it – geared to the pressures of the small-church pastor. The goal is realistic instruction and encouraging motivation to inspire a small-church pastor, not fill him with guilt and despair.

### Daniel Stegeman

#### Jonathan Edwards and the Small-Town Pastor

It is tempting to think that what is new and trendy is better than what is old and tested. This seminar will be a blast from the past as we look at Jonathan Edwards. You might view "America's greatest theologian" as an unlikely source of wisdom when it comes to small-town ministry. However, Edwards was a small-town pastor in frontier America and has much to teach the modern-day pastor. Ordination sermons that Edwards preached reveal three main tasks and outcomes that should occupy pastors today.

### Ellen Tuttle (Women)

#### Protecting Your Family from Your Ministry

When God called you into ministry, He asked you to make many sacrifices. We'll explore practical ways to protect your family relationships from your role at church. We'll avoid clichés and quick fixes as we grapple with this lifelong challenge.

### Brian Wechsler

#### Resilient Ministry

As a mission director of a rural church ministry for over 20 years and before that a missionary pastor, I've observed missionaries with staying power and others who give up too quickly. What are some keys to a resilient ministry, and what do you do when everything within you cries to quit? What are areas that you need to build into your ministry to enable you to "stay the course"?

# Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's name (if attending) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Ministry \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home/Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Registration cost if postmarked by September 16: Check where appropriate

Pastor ONLY  \$125 Pastor & Wife  \$170

Full-time Student  \$90 Full-time Student & Wife  \$110

Registration cost \_\_\_\_\_

After September 16: Add \$20 per person to the total cost \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Additional Costs  Hershey Trolley Works \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Amish Country Tour \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To help us plan for seminar materials and space, please indicate your choices below.

## Friday Morning Seminars

### Pastor Wife Title

Choose ONE per person

Making Some Sense of the Rural/Urban Divide

Your Soul and Your Smartphone

Overcoming Depression – The Silent Killer of God's Servants

Handling the Expectation Trap

A Big Gospel in Small Places

## Friday Afternoon Seminars

Note: The Hershey Trolley Works coincides with these afternoon seminars.

Choose ONE per person

Faithful Endurances as a Small-Town Pastor

Gaining Respect in the Small-Town Church

Speaking Truth to Yourself in a World of Lies

Making this December Your Most Fruitful Christmas Season Yet

Effective Small-Place Ministry: Living Inside the Circle

## Saturday Morning Seminars

Choose ONE per person

Caring for Others When You Have Significant Needs Yourselves

Sharpening Your Tools

Jonathan Edwards and the Small-Town Pastor

Protecting Your Family from Your Ministry

Resilient Ministry