

# 2020 SMALL-TOWN PASTORS' CONFERENCE

April 20-22 ♦♦♦ Morton, Illinois

## 2020 Vision: Seeing as God Sees

### PLENARY SESSION SPEAKERS

**Bill Allison**



Founder and Executive Director, Cadre Ministries; former small-town youth pastor; conference speaker; author, including *The Disciplemaking Genius of Jesus*

**David Pinckney**



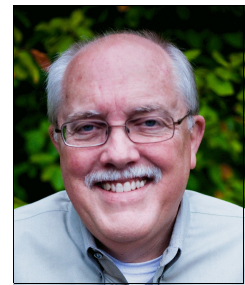
Pastor, River of Grace Church, Concord, N.H.; rural pastor's son; member, Small Town Summits leadership team; co-director, Acts 29's Rural Collective

**D.A. Carson**



Distinguished Emeritus Professor of New Testament, TEDS; prolific author, including a biography of his father, *Memoirs of an Ordinary Pastor*

**Lee Eclov**



Senior Pastor, Village Church, Lincolnshire, Illinois; prolific author, including *Feels Like Home: How Rediscovering the Church as Family Changes Everything*

### SEMINAR LEADERS

**Gloria Bagley**



**Mike Boyle**



**Megan Hill**



**Joe Humrichous**



**Adam Kipp**



**Ron Klassen**



**Steve Mathewson**



**Barney Wells**



# LEADER BIOS

## Gloria Bagley

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

## Mike Boyle

Interim pastor; longtime professor, Pastoral Ministries Department, Moody Bible Institute; former church planter in Illinois and North Dakota

## Megan Hill

Pastor's wife and pastor's daughter; conference speaker; writer and editor for The Gospel Coalition; contributor to various publications, including *Christianity Today*; author, including *Contentment: Seeing God's Goodness*, and soon-to-be-released *A Place to Belong: Learning to Love the Local Church*

## Joe Humrichous

Executive Director, Paradigm 1; former small-town pastor; Bible teacher and conference speaker; author of *The Vine and the Church: 7 Stewardships of Revival*

## Adam Kipp

Pastor, Grace Bible Church, a small-town church in Illinois; member, RHMA Board of Directors; leads small-town church service projects; DMin focus on town and country ministry; professor in RHMA's TACT Program

## Ron Klassen

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

## Steve Mathewson

Senior Pastor, CrossLife Evangelical Free Church, Libertyville, Illinois; Director, DMin Program, Western Seminary; rural pastor in Montana for 20 years; grew up the son of an RHMA Director; author, including *The Art of Preaching Old Testament Narrative*

## Barney Wells

Graduate and Seminary 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: Shepherding the Town and Country Church in a New Era*

# SEMINARS

## Tuesday Morning

### ***Disciplemaking with Youth in a Small-Town Context* Bill Allison**

We talk a lot these days about discipleship and following Jesus, but what does that really look like in youth ministry in a small-town context? We'll explore what it means to help small-town teens embrace a Jesus-like disciplemaking way of life. Bring your Bible and a sense of humor.

### ***How to Make Your Church Feel Like Home* Lee Eclov**

All good churches have a family feel about them. Drawing from his recent book, *Feels Like Home: How Rediscovering the Church as Family Changes Everything*, Pastor Lee will address specific areas we can focus on to make the most of our God-given environment and relationships in His household – areas like Sunday mornings together, care ministries, approach to guests, and more.

### ***How to Keep Going in Ministry* Megan Hill (women)**

Perhaps no one knew the stresses, strains, and disappointments of ministry better than the Apostle Paul. He was frequently lonely, misunderstood, needy, tired, and anxious. How did he keep going? In this session, we will use the example of Paul to consider practical ways that pastors' wives can keep going in ministry.

### ***The Power of Praying Together* Joe Humrichous**

The seminar will look at the practical theology of corporate prayer that will move any congregation in oneness to agree with God and His agenda for the church. This transformative prayer life of a congregation will focus the lens for a healthy church and ongoing revival for any church, any size, any where.

### ***What Does a Healthy Church Look Like in Rural America?* Ron Klassen**

Is improving stats the answer to this seminar's title (like increasing attendance and giving)? "But," you say, "I live in an isolated context with declining population." Did you know that the New Testament provides an example of a pretty healthy church (albeit with some shortcomings), small in size, located in a declining small town?

### ***Resourcing Models for Rural Church Planting and Ministry* David Pinckney**

This seminar will review at least 11 models for funding rural church plants and pastors. Frequently, resourcing for rural church planting and ministry is categorized either as bivocational or full time. There is a larger spectrum of resourcing models that presently exists, each with its benefits and challenges.

### ***Seeing Your New Rural Community: Learning How Things Work When You're Not From Around Here* Barney Wells**

Learn some important questions to ask, ways to look for answers to help you learn about your new rural community, and how to effectively minister there.

## **Tuesday Afternoon**

### ***Why Volunteers Quit and What We Can Do About It* Bill Allison**

We'll explore why good ministry volunteers quit, how to encourage volunteers, how to train volunteers (not just organize them), and the three-minute difference. Bring your Bible, pen, and a notebook.

### ***Preaching to Shape a Congregation That Functions Like a Family* Lee Eclov**

Preaching is God's #1 method of shaping His people. As preachers, we not only address the personal lives of believers but also our people's identity and relationships as God's household. Christ's radical rearrangement of relationship doesn't come easily, so effective preaching is crucial. In this seminar, we will look at our ecclesiology and give you preaching ideas and angles to take home to your church family.

***Your Church Needs Praying Women* Megan Hill (women)**

As pastors' wives, we often have unique opportunities to pray with other women – both one-on-one and in groups. In this session, we will consider the biblical priority of prayer with others. We will discuss practical ways to incorporate prayer into our ministry and to encourage the women in our churches to pray together.

***Essentials for Longevity in Rural Church Planting and Pastoring* David Pinckney**

There are 10 essentials that contribute to long-term, healthy church planting and pastoring. Some are more evident than others, but each one will either be a positive in long-term ministry or be a factor in a spiraling decline in ministry joy.

## **Wednesday Morning (repeated in the afternoon)**

***Fears, Frustrations, and Expectations vs. Unique Me* Gloria Bagley (women)**

Viewing the uniqueness, variety, and beauty of birds on Facebook this year has brought me such joy. How much more uniqueness, variety, and beauty has God poured into us to bring joy to ourselves and others. So, don't be squeezed into a mold of others' expectations! Be who you were created to be.

***Thinking About How to Have a Fruitful Retirement? Consider Interim Pastor Ministry!* Mike Boyle**

When you retire from a pastorate, it doesn't mean you have retired from ministry. When you bring pastoral experience into an intentional interim pastor ministry, you have the formula for fruitful retirement. It is time to consider an interim pastor ministry.

***The Life of the Vine in the Soul of the Church* Joe Humrichous**

We will answer the question, "How can we allow Christ to build His church and still maintain responsible leadership?" If, in fact, the mystery of "Christ in us is the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27), how do we biblically steward His life to have His best? We will learn the 7 stewardships of revival.

***Putting the Perfect Pastor Out to Pasture* Adam Kipp**

The perfect pastor makes 15 house calls a day and is always in the office when needed. The perfect pastor has a burning desire to work with kids and spends all of his time with senior saints. The perfect pastor . . . doesn't exist, but if you've felt the burden of those perfect pastor expectations, join us as we talk about putting them out to pasture and experiencing the grace that awaits us when we do.

***Sharpening Your Skills for Preaching Biblical Narrative Literature* Steve Mathewson**

Preaching the narrative literature of Scripture resembles remodeling your kitchen. It is easy to do poorly. This seminar will focus on the exegetical, theological, and story-telling skills needed to understand and proclaim the historical accounts in the Old and New Testaments.

***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!

# SCHEDULE April 20-22

## Monday

2:30-4:30 p.m.	Check-in at RHMA's Home Office – 310 E. Courtland, Morton
5:15 p.m.	Supper at Grace Church – 1325 E. Jefferson, Morton
6:30 p.m.	Plenary Session – Bill Allison
8:00 p.m.	Dessert and Fellowship – <i>Hosted by the RHMA Board of Directors</i>

## Tuesday

8:00 a.m.	Prayer Meeting with Carey Gossen
8:45 a.m.	Plenary Session with David Pinckney
9:45 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m.	Seminars
11:45 p.m.	Lunch / Free-time Options ( <i>Funk Prairie Home Museum, golf, trap shooting/fishing, Reagan Museum, Metamora Courthouse, Bass Pro Shops</i> )
1:00-2:15 p.m.	Seminars
5:15 p.m.	Supper
6:30 p.m.	Plenary Session – D.A. Carson

## Wednesday

8:00 a.m.	Prayer Meeting with Carey Gossen
8:45 a.m.	Plenary Session – D.A. Carson
9:45 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m.	Seminars (repeated in the afternoon)
11:30 a.m. (12:00 noon)	Lunch / Options • <i>Fellowship with other pastors and wives</i> • <i>Get-to-Know-RHMA</i> (Board vans for Abraham Lincoln Museum and Dana-Thomas House)
1:00-2:00 p.m.	Seminars (repeated from the morning)
2:30 p.m.	Ladies' Tea and Men's Dessert Forum
5:15 p.m.	Supper
6:30 p.m.	Closing Plenary Session – Lee Eclov

# REGISTRATION COSTS

<b>Pastor ONLY</b>	<b>\$120</b>	<b>Optional additional costs:</b>	
<b>Pastor &amp; Wife</b>	<b>\$160</b>	<b>Funk Prairie Home/Museum</b>	<b>\$5/person</b>
<b>Full-time Student</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>Lincoln Museum</b>	<b>\$10/person</b>
<b>Full-time Student &amp; Wife</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>Dana-Thomas House</b>	<b>\$10/person</b>

› *After April 6, ADD \$20/person*

› *Registration costs are non-refundable after April 6*

# ACTIVITIES

In addition to seminars, the following are options for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon.

## Tuesday

### **Funk Prairie Home Museum** *(Limit 20)*

Lafayette Funk was a founder of the Chicago Stockyards and Director of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. His family owned one of America's largest farms and created the first hybrid commercial seed corn. The 13-room home, built in 1864, has been extensively restored. The museum is home to over 4,000 specimens of gemstones and minerals, including an intact saber-toothed tiger skull! The cost is \$5.00 per person.

### **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**

Weather and interest permitting, we will schedule a golf outing. The cost will be determined based on sign-ups. We will contact you before the conference with further information.

### **Reagan Museum**

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. No cost.

### **Metamora Courthouse**

The Metamora Courthouse State Historic Site is located in Metamora, Illinois. Built in 1845, the courthouse is best known for being only one of two surviving Illinois Eighth Circuit courthouses where Abraham Lincoln practiced law. No cost.

### **Bass Pro Shops**

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!

## Wednesday

### **Abraham Lincoln Museum** *(Limit 20)*

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. The cost is \$10.00 per person.

### **Dana-Thomas House** *(Limit 15)*

Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1902 for Susan Lawrence Dana, a forward-thinking socialite living in Springfield, Illinois. The home, the 72<sup>nd</sup> building designed by Wright, contains the largest collection of site-specific, original Wright art glass and furniture. The 12,000 square foot home has 35 rooms on 3 main levels and 16 varying levels in all. The cost is \$10.00 per person.

# HOTELS

The following rates have been secured at these Morton hotels. Mention RHMA to receive these rates.

## Baymont Inn and Suites

Phone: 309-266-8888

\$99.00 - King

\$89.00 - Two Queens

(rates expire 3/20)

## Days Inn

Phone: 309-266-1600

\$80.00 - King

\$85.00 - Two Queens

(rates expire 3/27)

## Holiday Inn Express and Suites

Phone: 309-263-4400

\$116.00 - King/Two Queens

(rate expires 3/21)

## Park Inn

Phone: 309-263-5116

\$87.00 - Two Queens

(rate expires 4/3)

## Quality Inn

Phone: 309-266-8310

\$89.99 - \$94.99 - Two Queens

(rates expire 3/27)

