

CARE SHARE DARE

Courage in a CARING COMMUNITY

2012 RURAL MINISTRY CONFERENCE

Location:

All sessions at Best Western Plus Hotel in Dubuque

Accommodations:

To make hotel reservations at the \$69 group rate (plus local and state tax) contact Best Western at (800) 336-4392 and use group name Rural Ministry Conference.

Registration:

NEW Lower Rates—Save \$30!

Registration is limited to the first 200 people and includes lunches and dinners. Does not include lodging.

Early bird rate due by Feb. 6th:

1 person: \$150
2 or more: \$130/person

Standard is due March 1st:

1 person: \$165
2 or more: \$145/person

SAVE \$50!

If you are a pastor who has been serving in a rural congregation for less than 5 years, you save \$50!

Register at www.ruralministry.com

NEW This Year:

Under the heading of "Sharing" from our theme we invite you to take advantage of two opportunities: A wiki of best practices in rural and small town congregations; and we invite pastors to share their 5 minute reflections and wisdom on rural ministry. These 5 minute talks will be videotaped during the conference. [Learn more at www.ruralministry.com](http://www.ruralministry.com)

Support:

Bread for Life Mission Endowment
Ralph L. Orth and Erna Graening Orth Endowment for Rural Ministry
John D. Wuethrich Endowment
Presbyterian Church of the United States of America
United Church of Christ
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Merklein Foundation

31ST ANNUAL RURAL MINISTRY CONFERENCE MARCH 4 - 6, 2012

OUR LEADERS AND SPEAKERS:

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dwight DuBois

"Courage in the Country: Dying to Ourselves, for the Life of the World"



Pastor DuBois will apply Jesus' paradoxical challenge to the times in which we live: "Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." Is it possible that congregational health and vitality can be found, not in the latest program or technique, but in our willingness to give ourselves away?

The Rev. Dwight L. DuBois, MDiv, STM, is an ordained pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Having served parishes in Mississippi, South Carolina, and Iowa, he now serves as the director of the Center for Renewal at Grand View University in Des Moines, Iowa. The Center sees renewal as the ongoing conversion of the church, through which we rediscover the ability to discern, proclaim, and participate in God's redemptive mission in the world. In order to foster renewal, we promote discussion, offer events, and provide services for individuals and congregations. www.renewingchurch.org

Plenary Speaker: Dennis Campbell

"Is There Room for Family in a Family Farm? Agriculture and the Changing Dynamics of the Rural Landscape"



Dennis Campbell is a 6th generation Clinton County, Iowa farmer. He has an MBA from the University of Iowa and a bachelor's in Agricultural Education and Business from Iowa State University. He has served as a district sales manager, market research manager of Crop Protection Industry and manager of Campbell Grain Farms. His interests include ensuring room for the next generation in the production agriculture industry of tomorrow, biofuels and producing the food to address increasing global populations and demand for increased standards of living.

Plenary Speaker: Dr. Kris Stache

"Communities of Mutuality: Lived Practices of the Faithful"



Dr. Kris Stache has been called as Assistant Professor of Missional Leadership and Director of Certificate Programs and Distributed Learning at Wartburg Theological Seminary. Prior to the move to Dubuque, Kris taught as an adjunct faculty member at Luther Seminary and served as the Managing Director of Partnership for Missional Church at Church Innovations Institute in St. Paul, MN while completing her PhD. In addition to academic teaching, Kris has also served in parish settings as Director of Ministry Development, Director of Life Ministries, Director of Children's Ministry, and Youth Director, as well as an English language instructor/missionary in Japan. Kris brings a holistic, missional, and community-centered vision to her teaching and ministry. Kris, her husband, Alan and their four children live in Dubuque.

Workshops:

“Getting Practical with the Keynote Speaker” Dwight DuBois

So how do we do what the keynote presenter suggests? What does it mean to support and affirm the ministry our people are doing in the world? What implications does that hold for congregational ministries? Pastor DuBois will explore the possibilities and the stumbling blocks for those who would consider turning the focus of their congregation inside-out.

“Daring to Rethink Ministry”

Jim La Doux

Do you sense that what worked in the past is no longer working but you're not sure what to do differently to get a different result? This workshop will highlight research that leads to a culture of vibrant faith formation and identify the most effective methodologies that move people beyond their comfort zones to explore new pathways for experiencing Jesus in their life.

“Daring to Engage Parents and Grandparents in Forming Faith”

Jim La Doux

Three decades of research on faith formation shows the important influence parents and grand parents have on the spiritual lives of young people. This workshop will address how to pass the baton of faith formation back to parents and grandparents, and how to equip them to be successful in this endeavor.

“Seeing the Holy in the Ordinary” Ginger Anderson-Larson

Group spiritual direction or guided conversation that assists individuals in seeing more clearly the activity of God's Spirit leading and guiding their daily living. Is it just a day when all goes well, or an ordinary day, or a day you hope you never have to live again, or is it a day in which, upon reflection, you can see God's presence with you no matter what has happened? Guided conversation and the listening and questions of companions contribute greatly to this process!

“Beyond Church Walls: Engaging Rural Communities in Mission and Transformation”

Joan Fumetti

We are changed at those surprising moments when we come to see the world through new eyes. This workshop will offer stories and tips on creating opportunities for rural communities to discover a sense of unity and call in the midst local and global diversity, changing our perceptions and perspectives.

“Addressing Rural Poverty and Human Development” Jim Ennis

The National Catholic Rural Life Conference is partnering with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development to address root causes of rural poverty and justice. A brief overview of poverty in rural areas will be given. The partnership between the NCRLC and the CCHD will be described and then methods for applying for community controlled grants through the CCHD to address these issues will be given.

WORKSHOP LEADERS:

Rev. Dr. Dwight DuBois See front for biography.



Jim La Doux serves as the Director of Coaching & Training at Vibrant Faith Ministries in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He has been instrumental in developing coaching process that helps individuals, families and congregations integrate principles and practices that lead to vibrant faith for all ages. Jim received his Masters of Management Arts degree from Metropolitan State University and has received extensive training in organizational development, team building, gifts-based ministry and strategic planning. In partnership with Wartburg Theological Seminary, he oversees Vibrant Faith Ministries' Youth & Family Certification Schools that are held throughout the United States. Jim lives in Burnsville, Minnesota, has been married for 20 years and enjoys being a parent to his two young sons, Brett and Kenton.



Pastor Ginger Anderson-Larson currently is pastor of Zion and St. John Shared Ministries at Wyoming and Olin, Iowa. Having formerly served as Director of Spiritual Formation at Wartburg Theological Seminary she continues to offer individual or group spiritual direction to those who seek it out. Her training was received at St. Ambrose University in Davenport.



Rev. Joan Fumetti was raised a city girl and introduced to rural and small town ministry as a student pastor in Wisconsin; she went on to serve in other such settings in Iowa and Minnesota. While serving in Fredericksburg, Iowa the community started the state's first 'growing project' for the Foods Resource Bank. As Director of Growing Project Support for FRB Joan worked with rural congregations in a 5 state area, connecting Midwestern and global farmers to grow lasting solutions to world hunger. She volunteered as Wartburg's Director of the Center for Theology and Land during an interim period. Now retired, Joan and her husband Tim have recently returned to her Des Moines area childhood home with plans to be 'urban farmers.'



James F. Ennis is executive director of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, an 88-year old non-profit organization serving the rural church, rural people and their communities throughout the US through education and advocacy assistance. Jim was former director of Food Alliance Midwest, a Minnesota-based affiliate of the national nonprofit organization, promoting sustainable agricultural practices. He earned a MBA degree from the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, and he holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Davis, where he studied agricultural and managerial economics. Prior to attending the University of Minnesota, Jim served for three years with a Christian mission organization, starting up and leading a college student ministry at the University of Zambia in Lusaka. Jim is married with five children, ages 22 to 10 years.

BIBLE STUDY LEADERS:



Dr. Craig Nesson is Academic Dean and Professor of Contextual Theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. He teaches courses in the areas of contextual theology, pastoral theology, and theological ethics. He has oversight of the seminary's internship program. Dr. Nesson has served eleven years as a parish pastor in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Cape Girardeau, Missouri. His theological interests include ecclesiology, theological ethics, liberation theology, and family systems theory. In addition to other articles, reviews, and books, Dr. Nesson is the author of *Shalom Church: The Body of Christ as Ministering Community* (2010), *Beyond Maintenance to Mission: A Theology of the Congregation* (2010, Revised Edition), and *Transforming Leadership: New Vision for a Church in Mission* (2008—with Norma Cook Evert).

Register online today at
www.ruralministry.com



CENTER FOR
Theology & Land



Wartburg
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

CARE SHARE DARE



Courage in a CARING COMMUNITY

2012 RURAL MINISTRY CONFERENCE

WARTBURG THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

During the rural ministry conference, we invite pastors who have served rural or small town churches to share their reflections and wisdom on rural ministry. What would you like pastors new to rural or small town ministry to know, based on your experience? What have been the joys and sorrows of your ministry? These 5 minute talks will be videotaped and then burned on CDs to be shared with all conference participants. Signup times for videotaping will be available at the registration table.

RURAL MINISTRY CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

Please note: All sessions take place at the Best Western Plus Hotel, 3100 Dodge Street, Dubuque, IA

Sunday, March 4, 2012

- 3:00 pm Registration, Refreshments, and Displays
- 5:30 – 8:00 pm General Session and Dinner – Julien A, B & C
- 5:30 pm Welcome, *Stan Olson*, President of Wartburg Seminary
- 5:45 pm Devotions and Hymn, *Ann Fritschel*
- 6:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Presentation: *Dennis Campbell: Is There Room for Family in a Family Farm? Agriculture and the Changing Dynamics of the Rural Landscape*
After presentation – times for videotaping

Monday, March 5, 2012

- 7:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am General Session: **Bible Study** – *Craig Nessan* – Julien A, B, & C
- 9:45 am Break – Julien D (Display area)
- 10:00 – 11:15 am General Session: *Dwight DuBois: Courage in the Country: Dying to Ourselves, for the Life of the World*
- 11:15 – 12:15 am Lunch
- 12:30 – 1:30 pm **Concurrent Workshop Sessions, Round One**
Getting Practical with the Keynote Presenter
Daring to Rethink Ministry
Seeing the Holy in the Ordinary
Beyond Church Walls: Engaging Rural Communities in Mission and Transformation
Addressing Rural Poverty and Human Development
- 1:45 – 2:45 pm **Workshop Sessions, Round Two**
Getting Practical with the Keynote Presenter
Daring to Engage Parents and Grand Parents in Forming Faith
Seeing the Holy in the Ordinary
Beyond Church Walls: Engaging Rural Communities in Mission and Transformation
Addressing Rural Poverty and Human Development
- 2:45 – 3:00 pm Break
- 3:00 – 4:00 pm **Workshop Sessions, Round Three** (same as Round Two)
- 4:30 – 5:30 pm Time for Denominational Gatherings
Separate rooms for United Methodists, UCC, Presbyterians, Lutherans, and others who may request a meeting space
- 6:00 – 7:30 pm Friend of Rural Ministry Award Dinner – Julien A, B, & C
- 7:00 pm Award and short speech by recipient, *Joan Fumetti*
- 8:00 pm Taize Worship Service – room TBA

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

- 7:00-8:30 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am General Session: **Bible Study** – *Craig Nessan* – Julien A, B, & C
- 9:45 am Break – Julien D
- 10:00 am General Session: *Kris Stache: Communities of Mutuality: Lived Practices of the Faithful* – Julien A & B
- 11:00 am General Session: **Closing Worship Service** (UCC)
- 12 Noon Boxed Lunches and Farewell *Those who wish to do so may participate either in a lunchtime evaluation of the conference.*



31st Annual Rural Ministry Conference



EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

CARE-SHARE-DARE, Courage in a Caring Community March 4th - 6th, 2012

Name(s) _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Email _____

Confirmations will be sent electronically, if email is provided.

Church Name _____ Denomination _____

I would like Continuing Education Credits YES NO *One continuing education credit is available.*

Please check here if you are traveling to Dubuque by plane and need transportation between your accommodations and the conference.

Workshops

Please choose your top three workshops:

___ Dwight DuBois **"Getting Practical with the Keynote Presenter"**

___ Jim La Doux **"Daring to Rethink Ministry"**

___ Jim La Doux **"Daring to Engage Parents and Grandparents in Forming Faith"**

___ Ginger Anderson-Larson **"Seeing the Holy in the Ordinary"**

___ Joan Fumetti **"Beyond Church Walls: Engaging Rural Communities in Mission and Transformation"**

___ Jim Ennis **"Addressing Rural Poverty and Human Development"**

NEW Reduced Registration Fees – Save \$30!

(Conference fees include lunches and dinners)

Early Bird fees: (due by February 6, 2012): \$ _____

1st person - \$150, 2 people or more - \$130/person

Standard fees: (due by March 1, 2012): \$ _____

1st person - \$165, 2 people or more - \$145/person

Registration option for Sunday only: \$ _____

(includes worship, banquet, keynote), \$35/per person

SAVE \$50! \$ _____

New this year! **Subtract \$50 from total** if you have been serving in a rural congregation for less than 5 years.

Total: \$ _____

For group rates copy form, complete and mail together. Return forms for early bird registration by February 6, 2012. Standard registration is due by March 1, 2012. Cancellations made after March 1 may receive only partial refunds.

Please note: *In order to emphasize the importance of informal discussion and fellowship during mealtimes, the cost of registration and meals has been combined.*

Special meal needs: _____

Method of payment: Check Visa MasterCard Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Cardholder Signature _____ Cardholder Address _____

Mail registration and payment to:

Center for Theology & Land
PO Box 5004
Dubuque, IA 52004-5004

Please make checks payable to Center for Theology & Land

Or, register and pay online at www.ruralministry.com