

# 2016 RURAL CHURCH REGIONAL GATHERING

PRESENTED BY NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

**HOSTED BY:** First Church of Christ 722 North 2nd Street, Cherokee, IA

**DATE:** Saturday, March 5, 2016. **Time:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**THEME:** Resurrecting the Rural Church

**PURPOSE:** To provide tools for developing ministry in Western Iowa rural churches.

**COST:** No Registration Fee. An offering will be received and any surplus over expenses will be given to Nebowa Christian Camp.

## About our speaker...

Brian Rudesill has been a Sr. Pastor for nearly 25 years. He recently celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary, is the father of six children and thrilled to be a grandpa. In 1997, Brian's passion for rural ministry led him to the small town of Dodgeville, Wisconsin to start a church. In that time, the church has grown to nearly 700 regular attendees spread over three campuses in Dodgeville, Platteville and Richland Center, WI. All three rural communities separated by several miles but still making an impact because of their focus on reaching people who had given up on church but not on God.

A little history on **Hidden Valley Community Church** ([www.hiddenv.com](http://www.hiddenv.com)) When Brian and his family moved to Dodgeville, they brought with them a dream to see a church that would positively impact the community and reach people who had given up on church, but not on God. On April 4, 1999 Hidden Valley had its first public services in Dodgeville. After several years they would go on to build a building that could be used by their community seven days a week. Each week, a dedicated team of volunteers transforms the gym at the Dodgeville location into an auditorium for Sunday morning services. **Then Came the Expansion...** On October 8, 2007 Hidden Valley became one church in multiple locations through video venue as the Richland Center campus had its opening service. On October 8, 2012 they had their grand opening services for their Platteville location. All video venue sites share the same passion and desire to positively impact their communities and see people connect to God and each other.

**Brian's connection** to the Rural Church Gathering is through Nebraska Christian College in Omaha, NE. Brian was invited to speak at NC's **Institute for Church Leadership** and to spend time with students and area leaders investing and sharing the journey of leadership in a multi-site rural church setting. His connection made such an impression on NC Interim President Tony Clark and Professor David Haynes that they immediately recommended him as a great match for this conference.

We welcome Brian, his wife Cherie, Prof. David Haynes along with many others who will be listening and sharing through this gathering of Western Iowa's rural churches.

**REGISTRATION** Your pre-registration is appreciated as it will help with meal and workshop planning. You can register by: **Phone** (712) 225-2667, **Online** at <http://www.cherokeefcc.com>, **Sign Up Sheet** located in church lobby, or **email** [cherokeefcc@gmail.com](mailto:cherokeefcc@gmail.com)

**Free childcare provided by experienced child care team, complete with activities.**



# 2016 Schedule and Workshop Locations

## Rural Church Conference - Cherokee, Iowa - March 5, 2016

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- 9:00 a.m. Registration** - Coffee and Donuts Available
- 9:30 a.m. Opening Session** - Welcome, Worship, and Message - *Sanctuary*
- 10:45 a.m. Workshop Sessions**
- 1. Issues of Rural Homelessness**  
Cherie Rudesill  
*MCS Room*
  - 2. Compassion Fatigue - Caring for Those Who Care**  
Korrie Waldner, Hospice Nurse CRMC  
*Sanctuary*
  - 3. Collaborative Works** - Exploring the question, "What can we do together better than we are doing apart?" - open discussion on resources, obstacles, and opportunities.  
*Chapel*
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch** - Fried Chicken, Cheesy Potatoes, Hot Vegetables, Side Salads, and Dessert  
*Fellowship Hall*
- 1:00 p.m. Nebraska Christian Presentation**  
Merger update with Hope International University  
*Sanctuary*
- 1:30 p.m. Workshop Sessions**
- 1. Leadership Development**  
Our Story, Your Story - Resources and where we can go from here.  
*Chapel*
  - 2. Prayer as an Outreach**  
Prayer Ministries in the Local Church - FCC's latest steps - your story too  
*Sanctuary*
  - 3. Personal Missions**  
Niqee Huff, Legacy Ministries  
Exploring ways to serve and care for others and follow up with shared stories from others who adopted a mission in this last year and its impact on their life.  
*Fellowship Hall*
- 2:30 p.m. Break**
- 2:45 p.m. Main Session** - Worship, Prayer, Offering, Message - *Sanctuary*
- 4:00 p.m. Closing**