

PINES PRESBYTERY
TOWN AND COUNTRY CHURCH WORKSHOP

Sponsored by Committee on Ministry ~ Registration Form Attached

Camp Alabama, Choudrant, LA

Saturday, February 11, 2012

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

One of this nation's leading authorities on the subject of rural churches, Dr. David Ruesink, PhD., will be conducting a workshop at Camp Alabama on Saturday, February 11th for the small churches of our Presbytery. If your church is in trouble, i.e., facing increasing budgetary pressures, finding it impossible to call a pastor, suffering from dwindling membership rolls, or having difficulty in defining your identity or mission within your community, you won't want to miss this opportunity.

While this workshop won't magically solve any problems, it will help participants identify the problems specific to your congregation along with possible solutions to address them. After the workshop, you should be able to answer for yourself what does it mean to be "the church" where you are? What resources do you have that you can use or convert in order to meet the spiritual and physical needs in your own time and place? With what other partners can you form a strategic alliance?

This is such a unique opportunity, that **each participating church is asked to bring at least three of its members** to gather information and begin the process of becoming the church God intends for you to be now.

Congregations receiving financial support from the presbytery are strongly encouraged to participate. Attending will show that you are working to understand and address your circumstances. Attendance at the event will be looked upon favorably when presbytery sustenance to congregations is considered in the future.

There is no cost for the workshop other than for lunch which will be \$7.00 per person.

Dr. David Ruesink, Ph.D.

Dr. David Ruesink, Professor and Extension Sociologist Emeritus of Texas A&M University since 1992, specializes in continuing education for religious leaders which involves providing an understanding about the uniqueness of rural communities, the socio-economic changes taking place, and the importance of the rural church in community settings. He directs Rural Social Science Education, which includes heading an annual conference for church leaders, providing consultation for persons with town and country church interests, and networking with church-related organizations and agencies.



Professional and academic appointments held include Secretary, International Rural Church Association; Executive Secretary, Rural Church Network of the USA and Canada; Executive Secretary, Texas Rural Church Network; Board of Directors, Texas Rural Leadership Program; and Lecturer, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

REGISTRATION

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Saturday, February 11, 2012

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Church: _____ City: _____

Participants:

1. Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

2. Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

3. Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

4. Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

5. Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

6. Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

If your church will have more than six participants, please use the back of this form to list.

**In order to prepare adequately for lunch, please return by February 1st
to Presbytery of the Pines 210 N. Bonner St., Ruston, LA 71270**

or

Email names of participants to pines@pinespby.org