

*Come and listen to my story
bout a man named Jed...*

Those words began each episode of the sixties sitcom *The Beverly Hillbillies*. And each week millions of viewers tuned in to watch the clash of cultures as Jed, Granny, and their kin interacted with posh Beverly Hills society. What may have seemed humorous in TV-land is rarely funny when it occurs in church. Cultural differences between pastors and their congregations often leave both wounded. The need to exegete not just biblical texts but one's local congregation is brought home painfully to pastors whose cultural assumptions differ from those of their parishioners.

This year's conference will center on the cultural dilemma and aims to help pastors understand and compensate for the influence of their own culturally-conditioned understandings on their perceptual and interpretational efforts.

The conference's three-fold focus includes:

- How to become better exegetes of local congregations
- The value—for long-term relationships, pastoral care, and preaching—of a better understanding of congregational assumptions.
- How such understanding assists pastors in their transformational role of aligning congregational priorities with God's purposes.

*About this year's
conference leader*

This year's conference introduces Art McPhee, who teaches mission and intercultural studies at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkart, Indiana. He has also taught at Eastern Mennonite Seminary in Virginia, Midway College in Kentucky, and in several overseas locales.



McPhee brings twenty-three years of pastoral experience in rural and urban settings to the classroom. Two of the locales he led he also planted. Along the way, McPhee served as district overseer of Mennonite Churches in Miami, Florida and as writer-speaker for denominational radio programs: the weekly *Mennonite Hour* and the daily *Art McPhee in Touch*.

The author of four books, including *Friendship Evangelism* and *Traveling Light*, he is currently at work on two more: *The Coming of the Light*, on Bible translation work, and *Pickett's Fire*, a popularized version of his PhD dissertation on Bishop J. Waskom Pickett, researcher of people movements in 1930s India and organizer of the United Mission to Nepal in 1953.

6th Annual Pastors Conference

REGISTRATION FORM

(one registration per form please)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Meeting/Church _____

Registration fee \$35.00

Send registration and payment to:
EARLHAM SCHOOL OF RELIGION
228 College Avenue, Richmond, IN 47374

Questions?
Call 1-800-432-1377 or 765-983-1423
cummiri@earlham.edu

Please indicate vegetarian preference

Schedule of events

Monday, September 29th

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8:30 - 9:00 | Breakfast |
| 9:00 - 11:00 | Session I: How to Become Better Exegetes of Local Congregations |
| 11:00 - 11:20 | Break |
| 11:20 - 12:00 | Worship |
| 12:00 - 1:00 | Lunch and free time |
| 1:00 - 3:00 | Session II: The Value of Understanding Congregational Assumptions for Long Term Relationships, Pastoral Care and Preaching |
| 3:00 - 3:30 | Break |
| 3:30 - 5:30 | Session III: Workshops
Financial Planning for Pastors
Using Case Studies in the Local Congregation
Your First Year in a Pastorate |
| 5:30 - 6:30 | Dinner |

Tuesday, September 30th

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|---------------|--|
| 8:30 - 9:00 | Breakfast |
| 9:30 - 11:00 | Session IV: How Such Understanding Assists Pastors in Their Change-agentry Role of Aligning Congregational Priorities with God's Purposes |
| 11:00 - 11:20 | Break |
| 11:20 - 1:00 | Common Meal—Art McPhee |
| 1:00 | Adjourn |



EARLHAM
SCHOOL of RELIGION

Presents

Exegeting the Congregation

Keynote Speaker: Art McPhee



Sponsored by Earlham School of Religion
September 29-30, 2003

Lodging

We offer the following suggestions for lodging while attending the conference.

**Quaker Hill
Conference Center**
10 Quaker Hill Drive
Richmond, IN 47374
765-962-5741

Lees Inn & Suites
6030 National Road East
Richmond, IN 47374
765-966-6559 or
800-733-5337

**Philip W. Smith
Bed & Breakfast**
2039 East Main Street
Richmond, IN 47374
765-966-8972 or
800-966-8972

Or visit:
www.waynet.org/lodging

Directions to reach Earlham School of Religion:

Approach Richmond via Interstate 70, exiting at Williamsburg Pike south, merging after about a mile into Northwest 5th Street. Follow Northwest 5th Street to U. S. 40 (National Road West). Turn right and prepare to turn left one block later, at College Avenue. Turn left (south) on College Avenue. The ESR Center (stone building) sits on the southwest corner. To reach the parking lot, continue south on College Avenue to the first stop sign, turn right. Turn right again at the next stop sign and take the next right into the large parking lot.

Earlham School of Religion

228 College Avenue
Richmond, IN 47374
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esr.earlham.edu

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