

Please join us for Western Plains District's
Congregational Leadership Training AND CEU Opportunity for Ministers!
Heartland Center for Spirituality, 3600 Broadway Ave., Great Bend, KS
February 10-11, 2023

Arrive as early as Thursday supper at 5:40pm and stay as late as Sunday morning to take advantage of the opportunity for refreshing personal time in addition to stimulating and inspiring training sessions (see below), as well as fellowship and other spiritual growth opportunities. **Ministers can earn CEUs for the portions running from Friday after lunch through Saturday afternoon.**

*While lodging, meals, and training costs will be underwritten by district funds, **our worship will include opportunities to bring contributions from individuals and/or congregations toward expenses to the district and to Heartland Center for their hospitality. Your generous support is encouraged and appreciated!***

Focus for our time together:

The Gospel Next Door: Tools for Joining Jesus in the Neighborhood

Description: The Gospel is more than simply God's plan for redeeming our individual spiritual lives; it includes everything ... the spiritual and the physical. In the same way, our communities, whether rural, suburban, or urban, are in need of Gospel transformation. So how might we be the benefactors and curators of this process?

Often our response is, what can we do to plant more churches or revitalize existing ones?

Instead, since the Gospel is the good news of the in-breaking Kingdom of God and reconciliation through Christ, how can the Gospel best be expressed for human flourishing in our particular setting?"

We are not called to be passive observers of the changes in our neighborhoods and communities. Instead, what might the places we reside become if Christians, individually and collectively as churches, were to join Jesus in the neighborhood to promote a Gospel-centered human flourishing?

Join the conversation and discovery at the February sessions as we engage the following essential themes related to Christians joining Jesus in our neighborhoods with a Gospel-centered human flourishing.

1. Encountering Biblical texts and how discipleship is essential to joining Jesus in the neighborhood
2. What are the realities facing the Church, and why does a congregation's purpose matter.
3. What valuable tools and resources can best help you join Jesus in your neighborhood and community?

Session Facilitator:

Stan Dueck is an ordained minister serving as the Director of Organizational Leadership and Co-coordinator of Discipleship Ministries of the Church of the Brethren. Stan is a consultant, coach, teacher, and strategic advisor. He has pastored in two churches, both planted in 1724. He is passionate about developing thriving congregations and expanding the capacity of leaders.

Stan is a graduate of Fresno Pacific College, Lancaster Theological Seminary, and the College of Executive Coaching. In addition, he has certifications in leadership, personal, and team coaching from the following organizations: International Coaching Federation, Multiple Health Systems, WBECS, Marshall Goldsmith Organization, and Global Team Coaching Initiative.

Stan, his wife Julie, and daughter Courtney reside in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

*To encourage participants to read the book before the training, the district will reimburse the cost. To order, go to <https://bookshop.org/books/the-gospel-next-door-following-jesus-right-where-you-are/9781513800387>. ***Ministers earn 1 CEU for reading the book!***

The [RSVP deadline is January 19](#).

Please notify the District Office (office@wpcob.org or 620-241-4240) that you plan to attend and include the following information:

- 1) when you plan to arrive and depart at Heartland Center
- 2) what nights you need lodging
- 3) what meals you plan to eat at the center
- 4) any special dietary needs