



2019 Homeschool Iowa Conference

Valley Church & Community Center, West Des Moines | June 6-8



ROOTED
in Christ

Workshop Descriptions in Scheduled Order

Thursday, June 6, 2019 -----

Homeschooling 101 Mini-Conference

Session A: 1:00-2:00pm

Where Do I Begin? A Workshop for New and Prospective Homeschoolers – Nancy Bjorkman

Considering homeschooling? Not sure where to begin? This workshop will define realistic and foundational goals for homeschooling that will get new families off to a solid start. We'll cover some common roadblocks and misconceptions about "what school should look like" and many practical tips for success. There will be a time for interaction and questions.

Session B: 2:15-3:15pm

Homeschooling with Confidence: Understanding Iowa Homeschool Law – Scott Woodruff

This session covers everything you need to know about Iowa's homeschool law so you can home-educate with confidence. It includes a thorough presentation of the basics with plenty of time for questions.

Session C: 3:30-4:30pm

Can Homeschooling Really Turn Out Well – Homeschool Graduate Panel Discussion

Wondering if students can emerge from a homeschool education with the skills they need to function in the real world? Can home-educated students succeed? Hear the answers from the mouths of homeschool graduates.

Special Needs 101 Mini-Conference

Session A: 1:00-2:00pm

Teaching Struggling Learners at Home: Nuts and Bolts for Success (Part 1) – Krisa Winn

This workshop offers practical resources, lists of materials, and curricula to equip you as you work with a struggling learner in your homeschool. Krisa presents ideas for designing a unique home instruction program tailored to your child’s specific challenges.

Session B: 2:15-3:15pm

Real-Life Stories from Parents Who Home-Educate Special-Needs Students – Parent Panel Discussion

Wouldn’t it be nice to hear the stories of real-life homeschooling parents who are educating children with special needs? Now you can! We’ve assembled just such a panel to share their experiences and answer your questions.

Session C: 3:30-4:30pm

Teaching Struggling Learners at Home: Nuts and Bolts for Success (Part 2) – Krisa Winn

In this second half of “Nuts and Bolts for Success,” Krisa addresses homeschooling and working, teaching multi-ages, scheduling the day, and practical teaching strategies you can use regardless of your curriculum program. Krisa explains multi-sensory teaching methods, direct instruction, and modeled teaching.

Couples Dinner

6:30-8:30pm

Balancing Marriage and Parenting – Israel & Brook Wayne

If you are married with children, you probably find that there is a huge balancing act between caring for your children and nurturing your own relationship as a married couple. This straight-forward message by Brook and Israel Wayne gives practical and Biblical advice on how to keep the fires of love alive in your marriage, even when you are busy raising children.

Friday, June 7, 2019 -----

Keynote Address 8:45-9:45am

Education: Does God Have an Opinion? – Israel Wayne

Is education a neutral subject? Does God have a preference for how He wants children to be educated? What does the Bible teach about schooling? Is there one correct path for education? Are public schools a viable option for Christians? These questions, and more, will be discussed in this engaging presentation.

Workshop Session 1—10:00-11:00am

Marriage, Communication, and Friendship – Steve and Megan Scheibner

Recognizing that a healthy marriage is the basis of a healthy home, this session is a fun and fruitful way to invest in your marriage relationship. Steve and Megan teach from their book *The Eight Rules of Communication for Successful Marriages* and finish the session with a fun-loving look at marriage and F-R-I-E-N-D-S-H-I-P. Practical advice in a guilt-free environment make the teaching real and applicable to all those in attendance.

What Are Our Roots? The History of the Homeschooling Movement – Israel Wayne

Over the past 6,000 years, homeschooling has been the primary form of education for nearly every culture worldwide. Compulsory government schooling has only been around in American since about 1840. But it is so pervasive that for most parents, public schooling is all they have ever experienced. The modern-day homeschooling movement has taken America by storm, with nearly 2 million students being home-educated nationwide. Learn about the origins of the rebirth of home-based learning, and discover God’s purposes and plans for the future of the homeschooling movement.

Creative Nature Study IS Real Science – Cindy West

There is no “right” way to incorporate nature study into your homeschool, but it can be considered as real science lessons when taken seriously. This workshop will give you a wealth of practical suggestions for adding nature study in a way that suits your family’s homeschool. Understand the importance of studying God’s creation, feel confident (even if you’re a novice), learn how to keep nature journals and learn what to do during nature study no matter where you live.

Teaching Struggling Learners at Home: Nuts and Bolts for Success (Part 1) – Krisa Winn

This workshop offers practical resources, lists of materials, and curricula to equip you as you work with a struggling learner in your homeschool. Krisa presents ideas for designing a unique home instruction program tailored to your child’s specific challenges.

Homeschooling with Confidence: Understanding Iowa Homeschool Law – Scott Woodruff

This session covers everything you need to know about Iowa’s homeschool law so you can home-educate with confidence. It includes a thorough presentation of the basics with plenty of time for questions.

Serving with Love and Loving to Serve – Dennis Gundersen

A child who learns to serve others with joy is sure to become the kind of husband or wife who brings genuine joy into their own family. The servant spirit, which Jesus said makes a person “the greatest of all,” is better caught than taught— that is, one must pick it up by being around people who love serving others! Dennis and Naomi have raised four sons who find great delight in serving others, and they know how that outlook and attitude is passed on to children.

Workshop Session 2 – 2:30-3:30pm

Homeschooling from a Biblical Worldview – Israel Wayne

Are your children prepared to face the “real world?” Learn how to equip your children to stand against the flood of secularism that threatens to drown them. What is your worldview? How are you going to transfer it to your children? Will you be more effective than the media and popular culture? Discover how to teach your children to view the core subjects (and all of life) through the lens of Scripture.

Homeschooling with Simplicity and Sincerity – Megan Scheibner

Homeschooling days are busy and it’s easy to get caught up in the rush of our daily activities! However, when we allow the busyness of our days to distract us, we run the risk of simply raising well-educated children; not spiritually-focused young adults. Join Megan, to discover practical ways to make sure that your homeschool days are building fruit for eternity, as she shares truths about the Trasher, the Stasher, and the Catcher!

Meal Management in an Age of Fast Food – Nancy Bjorkman

This workshop will explore many ideas for managing the daily chore of feeding your family and will include the benefits and methods for bulk cooking, along with several strategies for meal planning and preparation. Nancy will teach about the savings seen in time, energy, money, and stress levels, as well as the increased nutrition and enjoyment in sharing hospitality with others. We will then look at practical ways to get it all done and some of the resources available to get you on your way. Once you’ve tried it, you’ll wonder why you waited.

Teaching Struggling Learners at Home: Nuts and Bolts for Success (Part 2) – Krisa Winn

In this second half of “Nuts and Bolts for Success,” Krisa addresses homeschooling and working, teaching multi-ages, scheduling the day, and practical teaching strategies you can use regardless of your curriculum program. Krisa explains multi-sensory teaching methods, direct instruction, and modeled teaching.

Homeschooling is a Family Affair – Connie Albers

Not interested! Does things differently! Do you feel you’re doing all the schooling alone? Do you wish your spouse would help more? Homeschooling often falls on the shoulders of one parent, which can lead to feelings of resentment or frustration. Connie will share how homeschooling her five children was a family affair. You’ll learn how she asked for help, communicated her needs, and learned to let go of “her” way to allow her husband to join in the fun.

You Can Homeschool Through High School! – Cheri Frame

Homeschooling through high school might seem intimidating, but be encouraged! These can be the most enjoyable and influential years you have with your teens. This workshop takes the guesswork out of what academics you should build into your 7-12th grade plan and helps you explore electives and activities that can customize your students’ high school years to meet their graduation goals. **Teens are encouraged to attend.**

Workshop Session 3 – 3:45-4:45pm

The A to Z of a Character Healthy Homeschool – Megan Scheibner

If we homeschool simply to achieve high academic marks, we are squandering the opportunity to influence our children for Christ. Character healthy leaders are those children who have learned to elevate virtues above feelings. If we spend our homeschooling hours simply on academics and activities, we may win the praise of man, but we risk losing the hearts of our children. In our few short years with our children, we must focus on the first things first – and character is always the first thing! In this conference, Megan, a homeschooling mother of eight, will challenge you to use every opportunity to teach your children to serve God by loving others and to love others by faithfully serving God.

Keeping Your Family Safe During a Child Abuse or Neglect Investigation: Simple Strategies that Work – Scott Woodruff

You don’t know when it could be you. But knowing beforehand what to do when a caseworker knocks on your door can mean the difference between quickly resolving a child abuse / neglect investigation and watching helplessly as a caseworker takes your children away and puts them in a foster home. After helping more than a thousand families in abuse and neglect investigations, Scott offers wisdom based on experience. This presentation includes an easy-to-understand explanation of the 4th Amendment, six proven strategies, and instruction that may help you keep your family together should government agents appear on your doorstep.

Homeschooling Gifted Kids – You CAN Do It Successfully – Cindy West

How is homeschooling a gifted child different than homeschooling other children? How do you meet the needs of your gifted child? How do you keep him challenged? What happens when he’s smarter than you? How will you homeschool him and your other children at the same time? How do you keep him humble while encouraging his gifts? This workshop answers these questions and many more!

Keepers of the Books: The Vital Importance of a Home Library – Jan Bloom

Throughout history, reading and owning books has been associated with culture, learning, and wisdom. In modern times, books have yielded to electronic information systems. Jan, a vintage bookseller, believes that the older books, written true to a Christian worldview and absent many modern biases, need to be rescued from destruction, read by the students of today, and kept safe for future generations. Jan gives guidelines on choosing which books to include in a home library, which books to borrow from a public library, and which books to send to the trash. Practical suggestions on book repair, deodorizing, and organizing will also be discussed.

How to Manage a Bad Day! – Connie Albers

Can I have a do-over? Do you wish you could hit the reset button? When you have a lousy day, the last thing you want to hear is how you should enjoy every moment. You know they will grow up fast, but you just need to know how to get through today. Connie Albers understands how tough some days or weeks can be for moms. Telling you to enjoy your time might lead to more Mom guilt, causing #momfail! Connie shares practical tips she used while raising five kids and homeschooling five teenagers. You will leave knowing how to manage the bad days well.

Transcripts and Record-Keeping – Cheri Frame

Transcripts are not just for college – every student needs one. How to begin? What to include? Understand the essentials of record-keeping, the five types of records to keep, how to grade, evaluating credits, and preparing a professional-looking high school transcript. **Teens are invited to attend!**

Keynote Address (Open to the Public) 7:00-9:00pm

Living on Borrowed Time: The Nine Practices of The Proactive Parent – Steve Scheibner

As a pilot for American Airlines, Steve was very close to the events of 9/11. He was originally scheduled to be the co-pilot on AA Flight 11, the first flight to be hijacked on September 11, 2001. Through an extraordinary set of divine circumstances, Steve was bumped from that flight the night before by a pilot with more seniority. Steve tells his deeply moving story of God's providence on that terrible day in our history.

Come discover why God gave Steve a second chance, and how He now uses him to teach parents all around the world to parent with purpose and urgency, as he introduces you to The Nine Practices of the Proactive Parent.

Intensely practical and Bible based, the Nine Practices of The Proactive Parent is designed to give parents both the tools they need, and the necessary hope, to build a Christ-centered and character-driven home environment. You'll leave this event revitalized for your all-important task of parenting.

Saturday, June 8, 2019 -----

Moms & Muffins 8:15-9:15am

The Wise Wife – Megan Scheibner

Although it’s so easy to get caught up in our role as “MOM,” the greatest gift we can give our families is to show them how much we love fulfilling our primary role as “WIFE.” The Wise Wife session is jam-packed with practical ways to focus on becoming a wife who brings glory to God, delights the heart of her husband, and models a Christian marriage for her children. Being a godly wife is serious business, but you’ll get plenty of time to laugh as Megan shares some “What in the world?” differences between men and women. Come be challenged and refreshed in your most important role!

Dads & Donuts 8:15-9:15am

2ML (Second Mile Leadership for Men) – Steve Scheibner

Second-mile leaders are those counterintuitive servants of God who earn the right to be heard by developing a consistent love of virtue, a disciplined approach to gratification, and a submissive love for the authority of God’s Word. Male leadership is essential to the success of marriages, families, the church, and society. This session will teach men to Earn the Right to Be Heard, Prefer Proactivity, Reject Reactivity, Learn to Elevate Virtues Above Feelings, Build Moral Muscle, Seek Forgiveness, and Develop A Finisher’s Attitude. Powerful!

Workshop Session 4 – 9:30-10:30am

Battling with Behavior? – Steve Scheibner

• Want your teen to take more initiative around the house? • Want to reduce the “drama” level in the family? • Want to get your pre-teens, teens, and young adults excited about character healthy living? Join “America’s Parenting Doctor,” Dr. Steve Scheibner, as he reveals seven practical steps to raising the behavior bar in your home. Begin the process of moving your young people from ordinary to extraordinary.

The Difference Between Schooling & Education – Israel Wayne

Most people think of schooling when they hear the word “education.” In reality, however, the two are not intrinsically linked in any way. Learn why most people are schooled, but never truly educated, and how you can ensure your children get a great education, even without schooling.

Cradle to Grade: Preparing Your Children to Love Reading – Jan Bloom

Booklovers become world changers, but they are grown, not born. Jan, a booklover and veteran homeschooler, will give advice to help parents of young children develop strategies and lifestyles that will “till the soil” and prepare a child’s mind for the hard, but joyful, work of learning from books. Caution: Join us if you are ready to consider giving up or considerably cutting down on television and computer time. You’ll be glad you did!

“Don’t Judge Me!” A Lesson from the Front Line of Parenting – Scott Woodruff

When your child gives you that look, and says, “Don’t judge me!” you are at a crossroads, a moment of truth, a moment of great peril and great opportunity. This session will give you the tools you need to turn what could be an ugly situation into a transformative moment of healing and redemption. If your head sometimes swims when you try to figure out whether it’s right or wrong to judge your child in a particular situation, this session will plant your feet on solid ground in ways that may surprise you.

Keeping Perspective on Progress – Krisa Winn

Do you ever wonder, “Are we really on the right track?” Most likely, the answer to that question is, “Yes!” It is very possible that progress is being made, but not in the way you are hoping or expecting. In this workshop, Krisa points out the sometimes-forgotten areas of progress. She also provides teaching strategies, assessment ideas, and other resources that will help you persevere when it seems your efforts are in vain.

Kindling A Passion for Missions in a Child’s Heart – Dennis Gundersen

Dennis has led over a dozen short-term mission trips into Mexico and other nations, showing how to minister cross-culturally and even communicate in significant ways with people whose language you do not speak. Should your children or your family go on such a trip? How can you prepare them? Not everyone is meant to be a missionary, but we can all form a heart for the peoples of the world and use our gifts to serve them.

Workshop Session 5 – 1:45-2:45pm

Time and Home Management: Managing Life and Home While Homeschooling – Nancy Bjorkman

Time must be budgeted, just like money. We must determine the difference between the fixed (*what we must do*) and the discretionary (*what we would like to do*) and set our priorities. This workshop will be filled with practical tips and encouragement for everyday living as a homeschool family. Areas covered include understanding your calling, relationships, schooling, meals, household clutter and cleaning, and general household management. Attendees will leave with practical and applicable tips.

Creative Homeschooling: Practical Ideas to Add Interest to Your Day – Cindy West

Whether you’re looking for one or two ideas to spice up the learning in your home or hoping for an entire overhaul to hum-drum days, this workshop will suit your needs. Practical ideas are given for just about every subject and every age level. Fun centers, project-based learning, incentives, creative approaches to tough subjects and so much more. You will leave with a jump in your step, and your children will thank you with joyful smiles during schooltime!

Resilient and Resourceful: Keys to Affording the Homeschool Lifestyle – Connie Albers

After homeschooling five children, getting each one through college, and managing to build a retirement fund in the process, Connie shares her secrets. She knows homeschooling isn't cheap, but it doesn't have to break the budget. She discusses how rising costs, tough times, and financial shortfalls are typical to families. While it's true your money doesn't seem to go as far as it once did, it is possible to afford the call to homeschool. This presentation is packed full of practical information to help you continue your homeschool journey without going broke.

Homeschooling with a Broken Spirit – Dennis Gundersen

Homeschooling moms have a busy life! The comprehensive, multi-faceted work of it all can become overwhelming. If you, or a mother you know, have ever found yourself depressed, this is the workshop for you. As Don Francisco sang, "It ain't sin to get the blues," but it's not pleasure, either. We want it to end! Dennis has helped many a parent overcome depression and, just as importantly, find ways to still walk faithfully with God during that time of life.

Jump Start College with CLEP – Cheri Frame

Cut the cost of college tuition in half! This popular workshop will share how to accelerate the first two years of college by earning credit for subjects your student may already be studying in high school. The College Board's College Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a nationally recognized credit-by-exam program that offers 33 exams for less than \$100 each, allowing students to test out of courses generally taken the first two years of college. Whether your student is gifted, motivated, or looking for purpose, this workshop will help them save time and money earning their college degree. **Teens are encouraged to attend.**

Workshop Session 6 – 3:00-4:00pm

The Power of Affirmation – Israel Wayne

When you are trying to inspire and motivate children, there are two forces that are often exerted: positive and negative reinforcement. In this session, Israel explains the importance of affirmation as a way to inspire and motivate your reluctant child. Drawing from practical and Biblical examples, this session will help you keep those important relational connections as you are attempting to impart knowledge.

Start Your Homeschool Day Beautifully with Morning Time – Cindy West

Implementing a family gathering time each day was one of the best decisions I ever made in homeschooling. You can learn how to successfully implement a family morning time easily. Start the school day off right with worship, learning, and beauty that everyone can enjoy together. At the same time, warm those brains up for a big day of learning ahead.

Tally Ho!: Hunting for the Great Books – Jan Bloom

A show-and-tell to familiarize you with the appearance and importance of specific books, series, and authors that are worth hunting for to include in your home library. Don't overlook treasures! Jan Bloom, an experienced book hound, will equip you to be a super shopper at library sales, thrift stores, bookstores, and on the Internet.

Help for Modern Day Mompreneurs – Connie Albers

The rise of mompreneurs in the homeschooling community requires diligence if we want to achieve a healthy balance between homeschooling, work, and family needs. As a mother of five, active volunteer, business owner, and veteran homeschooler, Connie Albers discusses how to efficiently delegate, set realistic goals, and find work that fits the homeschooling lifestyle. During this presentation, she will share with you how to manage your homeschool and evaluate your workload so that your family runs smoothly. Come and learn from a mom who has lost the balance battle many times, but her resilient spirit, desire to finish well, and not short her family, will help you in your mompreneur journey.

Career Exploration – Cheri Frame

Career Exploration might just be one of the most important elements of your teen's high school experience. Yet many will graduate still uncertain about what to study in college or what career to pursue. Determining a vocation starts with understanding God's design for work and how they are specially designed to fit in His plan. This seminar helps students identify how to find their best-fit career options and equips parents with the steps and resources to walk alongside and be their students' very best career coach. **Teens are encouraged to attend.**