



conference 2024

welcome

H HOME

HOMESCHOOL IOWA CONFERENCE 2024

By wisdom a house is built,
and by understanding it is established;
by knowledge the rooms are filled
with all precious and pleasant riches.

Proverbs 24:3-4

WELCOME TO OUR 2024 CONFERENCE!

Your Home Away From Home **1/3 of Emmaus Students Are Homeschool Graduates**

*Check out our many financial aid options, including a
homeschool scholarship: emmaus.edu/tuition-aid*



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BIBLE COLLEGE

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GENERAL CONFERENCE INFO

WORKSHOP RECORDINGS

With so many workshops going on at the same time, it can be difficult to choose which one to attend. Good news! Workshops presented at the 2024 Homeschool Iowa Conference will be recorded and available for sale online. Information available on page 16 or at the HI Information Booth. Please note: Some workshops, including exhibitor workshops, will not be recorded.

RESOURCES

Have questions? Need resources? Be sure to visit our volunteer staff at the Homeschool Iowa Booth or the Regional Reps Booth. Our veteran home educators love to answer your questions and encourage you along your homeschooling journey. We offer many resources that will assist you in understanding Iowa homeschool law, beginning homeschooling, homeschooling special needs, homeschooling through high school, and many other topics.

QUESTIONS AFTER THE CONFERENCE?

If you have questions once you get home, we are still available to help! Our team of Homeschool Iowa Regional Representatives would love to offer you assistance. These experienced homeschool parents are full of knowledge about local support groups, resources, curriculum, etc. Feel free to contact them with any questions you may have.

Additionally, our website is a wealth of information. Visit us online at homeschooliowa.org. We also have an online community on Facebook. Go to our Facebook page at [homeschooliowa](https://www.facebook.com/homeschooliowa), click on the "Groups" tab, then join our Homeschool Iowa Discussion Group.

CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

Please note that photos and videos are being taken during the 2024 Homeschool Iowa Conference by the Homeschool Iowa Conference Media Team. Homeschool Iowa reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at any event sponsored by Homeschool Iowa without the expressed written permission of those included within the photograph/video. Homeschool Iowa does not provide compensation or royalties in conjunction with publication or use of these images and videos. Homeschool Iowa does not offer the opportunity to inspect or approve the use of an image or video prior to our publication of any photo, video, or audio recording taken by Homeschool Iowa or those designated by Homeschool Iowa to do so. Homeschool Iowa may use the photograph/video in publications or other media material produced, used, or contracted by Homeschool Iowa, including, but not limited to: brochures, invitations, books, newspapers, magazines, television, websites, etc. Please email contact@homeschooliowa.com with any questions or concerns.

DISCLAIMERS

All speakers and speaker workshops are subject to change. For current listings, visit www.homeschooliowa.org. While Homeschool Iowa is a Christian organization and, whereas, this belief guides the structure of the annual Homeschool Iowa Conference, Homeschool Iowa does not require attendees, speakers, or exhibitors to profess (declare, assert) agreement to the Homeschool Iowa statement of faith. In the same way, while we may not admit (accept, approve) an exhibitor or hire a speaker who is specifically "anti-Christian," we do admit speakers and exhibitors that are not explicitly "Christian" but that DO provide home educators, both Christian and non-Christian, with information, knowledge, or curriculum that is relevant, useful, and beneficial.

Please note that Homeschool Iowa does not necessarily endorse everything found in our exhibit hall or heard in a workshop.

By virtue of being an education forum, the Homeschool Iowa Conference does not attempt to filter all of the content you may see or hear at our conference. Homeschool Iowa believes that parent educators are competent and qualified to discern and make informed decisions regarding what material is good for their family. The Homeschool Iowa Conference is designed to serve a diverse variety of homeschoolers, as well as those who are considering home education. Our convention is not a place to define uniformity of belief and practice.

HOMESCHOOL IOWA CONFERENCE TEAM



Welcome Home to the 2024 Homeschool Iowa Conference! We are so excited you are here! Our dedicated team has been working hard over the past year to ensure you have a great experience and leave feeling refreshed.

Please take a moment to look over the schedule, review the map of the facility, and then choose whatever looks most appealing to you! If you have questions, feel free to grab one of our team members (that's us in the blue Homeschool Iowa polos!) or one of our volunteers in the gold shirts. We will do our best to help!

If you have specific homeschooling questions, a prayer need, or just need a hug, please stop by our Regional Reps booth in the RecPlex Commons next to the Homeschool Iowa Information Booth.

We hope you will leave the conference feeling equipped and encouraged in your homeschool journey.

Kim Blom & Andrea Rectenbaugh, Conference Coordinators



Joe Bailey
Master of Ceremonies



Aaron Neely
Executive Director



Adam & Eva Conn
Speaker
Coordinators



Angie Askelsen
Regional Representatives
Coordinator



Scott & Hannah
Kratzer
Kids Trek
Coordinators



Julie Naberhaus
Teacher Certification
Coordinator & HI
Administrative Assistant



Dorcas Jarrard
Hospitality
Coordinator



Sarah Roth
Volunteer
Coordinator



Karli Roth
Volunteer
Coordinator



Molly Benson
Used Curriculum Sale
Coordinator



Tom Krueger
Alliance Recordings
Coordinator



Amber Smith
Marketing
Director



Ron Heims
Photographer



Mary Ann Krueger
Photographer



Sarah Naberhaus
Program Designer

Homeschool Iowa Board of Directors:

From left to right: Jill Oppman, George Blom, Kim Blom, Dr. Joe O'Tool, Angie O'Tool, Joe Bailey, Elizabeth Bailey, Nick Reddin, Dana Reddin, Jeremy Vos, and Jodi Vos

Since its inception in 1992, Homeschool Iowa has been served by an amazing roster of homeschooling parents who were willing to offer their time and talents to promote and protect home education in Iowa. Our current board members are dedicated to continue and build upon those past high standards of service.





REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

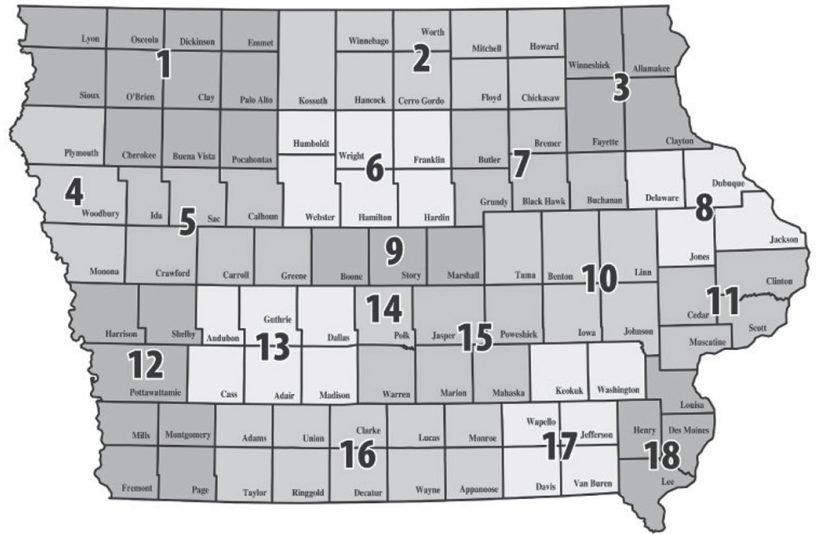
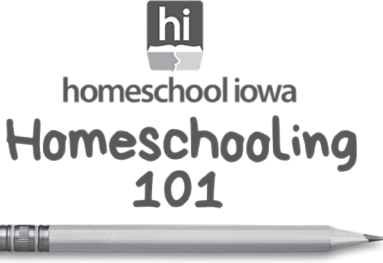
Connect with Us for Encouragement, Wisdom, and Hugs!

Our Homeschool Iowa Regional Representatives, serving in 18 regions around the state, offer localized assistance. These veteran homeschooling moms have practical skills and wisdom that come from years of experience.



Stop by our booth!
We are in the RecPlex Commons next to the HI booth.

Angie Askelsen
Regional Representative Coordinator

homeschool iowa
Homeschooling 101

Check our website, under the Events tab, for listings of our Homeschooling 101 events scheduled across the state throughout the year. These free informational sessions presented by our Regional Representatives offer information and resources needed to start a homeschool journey.



Special Needs ADVISORS

These moms have personal experience homeschooling children with special needs and have volunteered to be available to help you. They may be contacted via the Member Portal of our website.

- 
Andrea - Region 1
- 
Laurie - Region 2
- 
Kristen - Region 3
- 
Kathy - Region 4
- 
Molly - Region 5
- 
Amy - Region 6
- 
Jill - Region 7
- 
Tracey - Region 8
- 
Shellie - Region 9
- 
Terri - Region 10
- 
Brenda - Region 10
- 
Danna - Region 11
- 
Tracy - Region 12
- 
Becky - Region 13
- 
Donna - Region 13
- 
Diana - Region 14
- 
Tricia - Region 15
- 
Brandy - Region 16
- 
Kim - Region 17
- 
Autumn - Region 18

Box Lunch Pickup Info:

Pre-purchased box lunches will be available in the Commons at the Registration Booth location. (See facility map on back page.)

**11:00am-1:00pm
on Friday and Saturday.**

Tickets can be found in your attendee packet if you purchased these with your registration.

Concessions:

Snacks and light lunch options are available for purchase at the concession stand in the RecPlex Commons.



MOTHERS' ROOM

For the comfort and convenience of our parents and young children, there is a private room available for nursing, diaper changing, and other needs that arise with small children.

Located across the hall from the Hardwood Courts.

Hours:

Friday 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM | Saturday 8:00 AM – 5:15 PM

*All children must be accompanied by an adult at the Homeschool Iowa Conference.
No onsite childcare is available*



**KIDS
TREK**
Come for the adventure!

CHILD PICKUP INFORMATION

Please arrive promptly for child pickup.
**Remember to bring your child
checkout information with you.**

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM PICKUP TIMES:

Friday 4:45-5:15 PM | Saturday 3:45-4:45 PM



You are invited to enjoy

Complimentary
COFFEE & TEA

Available in the Commons area while supplies last.

Coffee Provided by Friedrichs Coffee

FAMILY FUN FEST

Friday 4:45-7:00pm

Conference Exhibit Hall

Trail Life
Adventure
Zone

Free
Snacks

On-Site
Giveaway
Drawings

Live
Demonstrations

Featured
Exhibit Hall Shopping

Meet the Speakers!

Keynote Speakers:



Ginger Hubbard



Jim Mason



Kim Sorgius Jones

Ginger Hubbard, best-selling author of *Don't Make Me Count to Three*, *Wise Words for Moms*, and *I Can't Believe You Just Said That*; speaks at women's events, parenting conferences, and homeschool conventions across the country; and cohosts the *Parenting with Ginger Hubbard* Podcast.

An enthusiastic and compelling communicator, Ginger has been interviewed on national television shows, as well as international radio programs, including Focus on the Family, Revive Our Hearts, and Family Life Today.

Jesus-saved and southern-raised, Ginger enjoys reading, writing, and spending time on Lake Martin with her husband. Ginger is a veteran homeschooling mother of two children and stepmom to two stepsons. She and her husband, Ronnie, reside in Opelika, Alabama, where they enjoy working together from home.

Jim Mason, since joining HSLDA to lead the litigation team in 2001, has represented homeschooling families in a wide range of challenging situations and has set precedents that have expanded freedom for the homeschool community.

Jim became the president of HSLDA in 2022 after serving as vice president of litigation and development for seven years. In addition to penning many of the most popular articles in HSLDA's *Home School Court Report* magazine, Jim has written columns for *National Review*, *Newsmax*, the *Sacramento Bee*, and the *Press-Enterprise* (Riverside, California). Jim also serves as the president of HSLDA Action and board chairman of ParentalRights.org and ParentalRightsFoundation.org.

Jim and his wife, Debbie, live in Stephenson, Virginia. They have seven children and six grandchildren. The Masons homeschooled all of their children through high school. In his spare time, Jim is an avid bird watcher.

Kim Sorgius Jones is passionate about helping families grow in faith so they are "Not Consumed" by life.

Her practical, transparent, and heartfelt sessions will inspire and equip you to homeschool without feeling overwhelmed by circumstances.

She has had the privilege of homeschooling her four children and loves walking alongside other families on this journey. With her M.Ed. in Early Childhood and Curriculum Development, she creates high-quality products helping families live #NotConsumed.

Additional Speakers and Workshops:



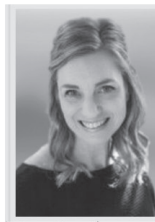
Rory Groves



Kerry Beck



Peggy Ployhar



Mandee Hamann



Nancy Bjorkman



Scott Woodruff



Diana Plorins



Dr. Joe O'Tool



Jeremy Vos



Nick Reddin



Jose Lopez



Jenny Conner



Becca Groves



Mark Davis



Brian Davis



Tim Sieber



Joni Moede

Looking for Additional Speaker Bios?



Find Them on Our Conference Web Page



START HOMESCHOOLING

Sponsored by Two Rivers Classical Academy

8:15-9:00am | Iowa Homeschool Legal Requirements – Scott Woodruff

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

9:00-9:45am | Homeschooling for Beginners – Homeschool Iowa Regional Representatives

Our Homeschool Iowa Regional Representatives, seasoned homeschooling moms with lots of experience, will give the "real-life" version of how to home educate. Insider tips and helpful resources will be included.

10:00-11:00am | Exploring Learning Styles for More Effective Instruction – Nancy Bjorkman

Gain a fresh perspective on how your children's actions and attitudes help you discover their natural bent so you can plan strategies that will help them grow into the persons they were created to be. We'll peel back the layers to reveal pieces of the puzzle that go beyond the usual "auditory, kinesthetic, and visual" discussions. This workshop will provide you with insight into your children on a new level to help you reach and teach them more effectively

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND

12:30-1:30pm | Homeschooling High School Part 1: Exploring Careers and Developing a Four-Year Plan – Diana Plorins

This workshop will consider opportunities that support your high school student's interests and abilities. We will also look at options for outsourcing coursework. You will be equipped with the tools you need to develop a four-year plan that is practical and purposeful.

2:00-3:00pm | Homeschooling High School Part 2: Showing College Readiness and Creating a Transcript – Diana Plorins

How do you show that your student is prepared for college-level coursework? How do you create a transcript that reflects your student's aptitude and ability? We will demystify the steps so you can confidently homeschool through high school.

3:30-4:30pm | Purpose over Paychecks: Career Considerations for Your Student – Rory Groves

With over 30,000 occupations currently in existence, students face a bewildering array of careers upon which to center their lives. But there is more at stake than just a paycheck. This talk will discuss what makes for meaningful work, self-reliance, and careers that reinforce, rather than undermine, family life and a vibrant home economy

Hope Tutoring: Tailored Success

CREATIVE WRITING: Unique approach uses the student's hobbies and interests as a base. Proven success for reluctant writers and gifted writers. Personalized critiques

ESSAY WRITING: Practical approach to writing basic 4-paragraph essays. Step-by-step method boosts confidence. Personalized critiques. (Tips for essay section of SAT included).

DYSLEXIA TUTORING: Using Orton-Gillingham influenced program, we connect the unique abilities of dyslexic individuals with solid reading and spelling skills. Personalized tutoring in quiet ZOOM setting. Catch up, stay on track, and succeed! *Try the first session free.*

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www.hopetutoring.net

<https://youtu.be/HxXSC0pmBTQ>



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Wilderness Challenge
12-14 Y.O. Boys

Leadership Quest
High School

Year-on-Mission
Young Adults

Friday, June 14, 2024 | 8:15am-5:45pm

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS 2024 Conference

KEYNOTE ADDRESS & SPECIAL TRACKS

8:15-9:45AM

KEYNOTE: From Fringe Movement to Enduring Institution – Jim Mason

Homeschooling in America is freer from restrictions and more accessible than ever. With so many successes, you'd think that homeschooling would have convinced critics of its place as a proven educational option. However, this year we've witnessed yet another wave of persecution aimed at home education. Christian homeschoolers have shown that we are uniquely equipped to serve and lead our culture. As individuals and as a mature institution, we must do what only followers of Christ can do: draw our neighbors to the gospel that offers forgiveness, sustenance, guidance, and reconciliation. We need to champion homeschooling as an enduring institution that continues to shape children's characters by encouraging and modeling virtue.

START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK SESSIONS

8:15-9:00 | Iowa Homeschool Legal Requirements – Scott Woodruff

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

START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK SESSIONS

9:00-9:45am | Homeschooling for Beginners – Homeschool Iowa Regional Representatives

Our Homeschool Iowa Regional Representatives, seasoned homeschooling moms with lots of experience, will give the "real-life" version of how to home educate. Insider tips and helpful resources will be included.

20% off
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FREE SHIPPING
on all BJU Press products!*

Visit the BJU Press Homeschool booth for more specials and promotions, and learn more about biblically based PreK–grade 12 textbooks, video lessons, and technology—all created to help your student develop a biblical worldview.

*This offer excludes Logos products and Testing and Evaluation products. It cannot be combined with any other discounts or promotions. Product discounts available exclusively at event.



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“

Timm Reid is caring and has your best interest in mind. He was easy to work with and always listened to my concerns. I was very pleased with the results of my personal injury case.

Joann M.
Client

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Session 1

10:00-11:00AM

FRIDAY

Secrets to Cultivating a Life-Giving Family Culture – Kim Sorgius Jones

Every family has a culture, a way of living, and every family is defined by it. Are your family's mission and culture breathing life into your days? Being intentional and purposeful is the best way to make sure your mission aligns with your worldview. You'll leave this session armed with a list of practical ideas and an encouraged heart!

Reaching the Heart of Your Child – Ginger Hubbard

Ginger will share wisdom from her best-selling book, *Don't Make Me Count to Three!* There is far more to parenting than getting children to "act" right. We have to get them to "think" right and to be motivated out of a love of virtue rather than a fear of punishment. Ginger equips parents to reach past the outward behavior of their children and address the issues of the heart. Move beyond the frustrations of not knowing how to handle issues of disobedience and into a confident approach to raising your children.

START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK SESSION

(Open to All Attendees)

Exploring Learning Styles for More Effective Instruction – Nancy Bjorkman

Gain a fresh perspective on how your children's actions and attitudes help you discover their natural bent so you can plan strategies that will help them grow into the persons they were created to be. We'll peel back the layers to reveal pieces of the puzzle that go beyond the usual "auditory, kinesthetic, and visual" discussions. This workshop will provide you with insight into your children on a new level to help you reach and teach them more effectively.

Biblical Encouragement for the Special Needs Parents – Peggy Ployhar

Speaking towards the scripture, "Train up a child in the way he should go. . .," Peggy digs into the Bible to show parents how to live up to this standard without losing their focus – or their minds. From the experience of being a parent and a foster parent of multiple special needs children, Peggy Ployhar has firsthand knowledge of the rigorous demands put on parents who are raising, training, and homeschooling children with special needs. Woven with personal stories, biblical truth, and lots of encouragement, this talk will truly speak to the hearts of parents who want to raise their special needs children as God has called them to do.

4 Steps to Raising Christian Leaders in Your Homeschool – Kerry Beck

Most homeschoolers continue to offer their children the same type of education they received; they just do it at home. There's a better way! Kerry reveals how she homeschooled her three kids to give them a love of learning, as well as the tools of learning. Her goal was to train her kids to become leaders of tomorrow, godly leaders who can think critically and biblically; godly leaders who will change the world!

Exhibitor Workshops 11:15AM-12:15PM

TEEN TRACK: Bringing Clarity to Your Calling – Mark Davis

So many teens struggle with "What's Next?" after high school. It's encouraging to know God's will isn't lost. It's been clearly revealed in His Word. This workshop walks through the New Testament, applying Biblical principles for the next steps in life.

Help! I Want to Homeschool, but I Don't Know Everything – Two Rivers Classical Academy

This session will cover how collaborative education provides a perfect support for teaching, curriculum selection, college readiness, and more. Worried about how you will teach a particular subject, like reading or chemistry? Do you wish you had a teacher walking alongside you in your homeschool journey? Two Rivers Classical Academy is a school in Des Moines that helps homeschool families by providing them with a Christian and classical education in all subjects from K-12th grade. Students spend 2-3 days on campus and 2 days at home. All lesson plans and curriculum scope and sequence are provided by the Academy. This is a full educational solution for those considering homeschooling for the first time or the veteran homeschooler desiring more support. Come learn more about this amazing opportunity!

Unlock the Puzzle with RightStart™ Math – RightStart Mathematics

Have you heard the buzz about RightStart™ Math? Come and hear about our philosophy and what sets us apart from other programs. We teach children that a real mathematical problem is like a puzzle, that math is more than memorization, and that math is fun. Come and learn what's special about our math curriculum!

Parenting the Gifted Child: Building a Humble Spirit – Distinctive Music Studios

While much attention is focused on helping homeschooled students with challenges, little attention is often given to parents who face the ultimate challenge: shepherding a child with unusual giftedness and God-given ability. With over 22 years' experience advising parents of nationally recognized students, Nathan Arnold will use this interactive workshop to help encourage parents with scriptural and practical advice that will help prepare "sharpened arrows" in their quiver for the Lord's use!

Session 2

12:30-1:30PM

Taming Your Child's Tongue – Ginger Hubbard

Are you ever embarrassed or shocked by what comes out of your child's mouth? Based on her newest book, *I Can't Believe You Just Said That*, Ginger provides a practical three-step plan to reach beyond the behaviors of tongue-related struggles, such as lying, defying, and manipulating, to address your child's heart. After all, as Matthew 12:34 tells us, "The mouth speaks what the heart is full of."

Get Off the Couch: Helping Kids Become Disciplined Workers – Kim Sorgius Jones

Do your kids "forget" to do their chores? Is their schoolwork just a box that gets sloppily checked off? Do you feel like they'll never take initiative? If you're looking for the magic pill to help your kids get off the couch and work hard, this isn't the session for you. But if you want practical ways to kick laziness to the curb, be sure to join us as we learn how to encourage and nurture our kids to be disciplined and responsible workers.

What Are Potential Effects of ESA Funding for Homeschooling? – Jeremy Vos, Homeschool Iowa Lobbyist

Many states across the nation have opened Educational Savings Account funding to homeschooling families. While Iowa currently limits ESAs to parents using private accredited schools, the possibility of expansion is real. What are the potential effects and possible concerns?

Overcoming Doubt: Your Greatest Homeschooling Enemy – Peggy Ployhar

Doubt is the number one enemy of all homeschoolers. So it stands to reason that overcoming doubt is the key to homeschool success. Peggy Ployhar, the CEO of SPED Homeschool, has 18 years' experience battling doubt in her own homeschooling endeavors. But instead of letting those doubts creep in and destroy her homeschool, she learned with each battle just how much God's grace and truth provided strategies for conquering her doubts. This talk is filled with biblical fighting strategies to equip every homeschooling parent to do battle head-on with their own doubts so they can overcome them and homeschool victoriously.

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK

(Open to All Attendees)

Homeschooling High School Part 1: Exploring Careers and Developing a Four-Year Plan – Diana Plorins

This workshop will consider opportunities that support your high school student's interests and abilities. We will also look at options for outsourcing coursework. You will be equipped with the tools you need to develop a four-year plan that is practical and purposeful.



LEARN MORE
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Communication skills open doors!

Students who engage with us build wisdom and character from constructive feedback as they learn the critical thinking skills necessary to understand and speak into the real world with compassion and integrity.



Session 3

2:00-3:00PM

The Family as It Was Designed to Work – Rory Groves

This talk provides an overview of the family economy as the basis for productive households and generational discipleship. We cover the practical steps of involving our spouses and children in work, worship, and wisdom, and how your family can begin creating a new future together today.

Engaging Early Learners – Nancy Bjorkman

What should “school” look like for early learners? What things are developmentally appropriate for the younger ages? How do we keep our “littles” appropriately occupied while homeschooling their siblings? This fun and informative session will provide a plethora of ideas specifically geared to engage your pre- and elementary-age children. Nancy will share resources, fun games, toddler tips, and easy activities all designed to help parents think outside the box when it comes to “doing school.”

Teach Your Kids to Think the Charlotte Mason Way from K-12 – Kerry Beck

Discover how to use reading and writing to teach your kids how to think for themselves. Starting with young students, Kerry takes you through, from littles to teens, showing how you can develop critical and biblical thinking skills. By the time she addresses the high school ages, you’ll know how to use great living books and writing to prepare your kids to think for themselves and make wise decisions instead of following the crowd. Plus, you’ll love her ideas on how to incorporate your read-alouds in this process.

TEEN TRACK: Coding & Robotics

PRE-REGISTRATION & FEE REQUIRED

Tim Sieber (2:00 PM – 4:30 PM)

Whether it’s 3D animation, engineering, music, agriculture, medicine, business and finance, manufacturing, film, design, political analysis, or almost any other discipline, computer science is the engine that powers the technology, productivity, and innovation of today’s digital society and is imperative for a student’s success in the workforce of tomorrow. In this workshop, participants will receive an introduction to coding and robotics while completing hands-on projects using a Chromebook and LEGO SPIKE Prime or Finch robot. Participants will also learn about resources available to homeschool students for learning more about technology and computer science. (Hardware and software are provided for participating students’ use during the workshop.)

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK

(Open to All Attendees)

Homeschooling High School Part 2: Showing College Readiness and Creating a Transcript – Diana Plorins

How do you show that your student is prepared for college-level coursework? How do you create a transcript that reflects your student’s aptitude and ability? We will demystify the steps so you can confidently homeschool through high school.

Session 4

3:30-4:30PM

A Biblical Model to Discipline – Ginger Hubbard

Do you find yourself threatening, repeating your instructions, or raising your voice in an attempt to get your children to obey? Do you feel guilty because you know you should be faithfully training and instructing your children in righteousness, but you aren’t sure how? Through personal experience and practical application of scripture, Ginger encourages and equips parents in the why, when, and how of biblical discipline.

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK

(Open to All Attendees)

Purpose Over Paychecks: Career Considerations for Your Student – Rory Groves

With over 30,000 occupations currently in existence, students face a bewildering array of careers upon which to center their lives. But there is more at stake than just a paycheck. This talk will discuss what makes for meaningful work, self-reliance, and careers that reinforce, rather than undermine, family life and a vibrant home economy.

How to Create YOUR Perfect Homeschool Schedule – Kim Sorgius Jones

You’ve tried all the things that seem to work for other people yet still can’t find the right homeschool schedule for you. Trust me, you’re not alone. Figuring out how to teach multiple ages, fold the laundry, and keep the toddlers from writing on the walls with markers can feel overwhelming. Join homeschool veteran of over 20 years and work-at-home mom, Kim Sorgius Jones, as she shares practical ways to wrangle your homeschool schedule for good.

Busy Parent Self-Care Strategies – Peggy Ployhar

Have you struggled with finding time for self-care? Maybe it seems like there just isn’t enough time in the day to take care of the house, teach the kids, and even attempt to juggle a full or part-time job. But it is possible if you know how to work self-care into your everyday living. In this talk, Peggy Ployhar, SPED Homeschool Founder and CEO and recent cancer survivor, will share her own story of near burnout and how that experience led her to many realizations about how and why it was so important to prioritize her own care to keep everything balanced in her home and how she creatively plans to ensure self-care in her busy working and homeschooling schedule. You will come away with new resolve as well as creative ideas for strategically building self-care into your own busy parenting and homeschooling life.

Exhibitor Workshops

4:45-5:45PM

Experience the Classical Education Model While Learning the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World – Classical Conversations

Experience classical education in action! We will model and practice the three arts of the trivium: grammar, dialectic, and rhetoric. Using the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World as a springboard, this interactive session will demonstrate how learning progresses throughout a student's life.

Jumpstart Your Family Devotions with Lamplighter Books – Lamplighter

Jesus used parables to teach important lessons. In the same way, Lamplighter Books are crafted with the intent of character training and teaching within the home. These stories instill moral values through role models that either demonstrate exemplary behavior or suffer consequences of making wrong choices. Learn how to incorporate these timeless books in your home and explore the possibilities that these stories offer for children of all ages!

Helping Your Technology-Oriented Child Find Themselves in God's Word – Towers of Light

Children who are gifted to work with technology can find it hard to see themselves as a part of God's story. They aren't warriors like the mighty David, prophets of God's Word like Jeremiah, or politicians saving their people like Esther. However, there are many unsung heroes of the faith who were architects, engineers, and builders. This session will highlight the faith of those accomplishing technical feats, large and small, including Noah, Hiram, and Dorcas, then close with some practical ways you can help your child connect their gifts to their faith.

The Gap Year Advantage – Tentmakers

Are you prepared for life after high school? Are you seeking authentic relationships, significance, and success while at the same time desiring to make faith relevant to your student's vocation and life? Come and hear how you or your child can grow in compassion, character, and faith while developing the imagination, moral courage, and tenacity to lead in all walks of life!

SPECIAL EVENT

4:45-7:00PM

Family Fun Fest

Join us at the end of the day on Friday for special opportunities that your whole family will enjoy while accessing an extended stretch of uninterrupted shopping in our conference exhibit hall. Everyone can participate in the activities offered in the Trail Life Adventure Zone area and watch live demonstrations, like self-defense and fencing. Amazing giveaways from our exhibitors and advertisers will be offered to those present at the Family Fun Fest. Grab free snacks, one per person, while supplies last, too. Experience this family-friendly time to shop and have fun at our conference!

Children are welcome at all conference programming, including the Family Fun Fest, with a family registration.



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Sixteen years ago, Jeremy and Katie Bents embarked on their homeschooling adventure when their eldest, now 22, began kindergarten. Nine children later, they work to continue to instill in them a passion for learning. Meanwhile, Jeremy has found his calling at Options Exteriors, specializing in guiding homeowners through the process of restoring storm damage on their homes. For those unfamiliar with the process, it can be overwhelming, but Jeremy thrives in assisting them. He takes particular joy in having his daughter, Julia, who graduated in 2022, join him in this endeavor.

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Friday Conference Schedule

Schedule Subject to Change

ROOM	8:15-9:45am		10:00-11:00am	11:00am-12:30pm	12:30-1:30pm	2:00-3:00pm	3:30-4:30pm	4:30-7:00PM	
ARENA KEYNOTE ROOM	8:15-8:45 Welcome Home Opening	8:45-9:45 KEYNOTE: From Fringe Movement to Enduring Institution Jim Mason	Secrets to Cultivating a Life-Giving Family Culture Kim Sorgius Jones		Taming Your Child's Tongue Ginger Hubbard	The Family as It Was Designed to Work Rory Groves	A Biblical Model for Discipline Ginger Hubbard		
HARDWOOD COURTS			Reaching the Heart of Your Child Ginger Hubbard	11:15am-12:15pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Help! I Want to Homeschool, but I Don't Know Everything Two Rivers Classical Academy	Get Off the Couch: Helping Kids Become Disciplined Workers Kim Sorgius Jones	Engaging Early Learners Nancy Bjorkman	How to Create YOUR Perfect Homeschool Schedule Kim Sorgius Jones	4:45-5:45pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Experience the Classical Education Model Classical Conversations	
INDOOR TURF AREA	EXHIBIT HALL 10:00AM-7:00PM							Special Event 4:45-7:00 Family Fun Fest	
COMMUNITY ROOM A/B	STARTING HOMESCHOOL SPECIAL TRACK			11:15am-12:15pm	HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK			4:45-5:45pm	
	Iowa Homeschool Legal Requirements Scott Woodruff	Homeschooling for Beginners Homeschool Iowa Regional Reps	Exploring Learning Styles for More Effective Instruction Nancy Bjorkman	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Unlock the Puzzle with RightStart™ Math RightStart Mathematics	Homeschooling High School Part 1 Diana Plorins	Homeschooling High School Part 2 Diana Plorins	Purpose over Paychecks: Career Considerations for Your Student Rory Groves	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Jumpstart Your Family Devotions with Lamplighter Books Lamplighter	
COMMUNITY ROOM C			Biblical Encouragement for the Special Needs Parent Peggy Ployhar	TEEN TRACK Bringing Clarity to Your Calling Mark Davis	Overcoming Doubt: Your Greatest Homeschool Enemy Peggy Ployhar	TEEN TRACK Coding & Robotics PRE-REGISTRATION & FEE REQUIRED Tim Sieber		4:45-5:45pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Helping Your Technology-Oriented Child Find Themselves in God's Word Towers of Light	
ACTIVITIES ROOM	8:15-8:45 Teacher Credit Course Orientation Julie Naberhaus		4 Steps to Raising Christian Leaders in Your Homeschool Kerry Beck	11:15am-12:15pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Parenting the Gifted Child: Building a Humble Servant Distinctive Music Studios	What Are Potential Effects of ESA Funding of Homeschooling? Jeremy Vos	Teach Your Kids How to Think the Charlotte Mason Way from K-12 Kerry Beck	Busy Parent Self-Care Strategies Peggy Ployhar	4:45-5:45pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP The Gap Year Advantage Tentmakers	6:00-7:00pm Teacher Credit Course Optional Session

hi conference 2024

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TAKE THE CONFERENCE HOME



Saturday Conference Schedule

Schedule Subject to Change

ROOM	8:00-9:00am	9:30-10:30am	11:00am-12:00pm	12:15-1:15pm	1:30-2:30pm	3:00-4:00pm	4:15-5:15pm
ARENA	How To Teach Your Child To Learn Independently Kim Sorgius Jones	Note to Self: The Vital Role of Homeschooling Dads Jim Mason	Homeschooling: The BIG Picture Nancy Bjorkman		The Once-a-Year Plan: Taking the Overwhelm Out of Homeschool Planning Kim Sorgius Jones	How to Parent Without Provoking Your Children to Anger Ginger Hubbard	KEYNOTE How To Help Your Kids Live #NotConsumed in Today's Culture Kim Sorgius Jones
HARDWOOD COURTS	Women's Morning Workout and Worship Peggy Ployhar	How to Control the Chaos and Clutter of Homeschooling Kerry Beck	Youth Can Do Hard Things: Instilling a Work Ethic In Your Children Before It's Too Late Rory Groves	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP How to Keep Your Kids from Saying, "I Don't Believe those Bible Stories Anymore" Truth in Time	Hands-On Workshop for Using Unit Studies Through High School Peggy Ployhar	Father's Day: Vision and Provision Rory Groves	
INDOOR TURF AREA	EXHIBIT HALL 8:00AM-4:00PM						
OVERLOOK ROOM	How Charlotte Mason Helped Me Simplify My Homeschool Kerry Beck	Helping Children and Teens Develop their Relationship with God Joni Moede	Homeschooling Your Struggling Learner with Confidence Peggy Ployhar	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Practical Paths for Authentic Communication: Equipping Students to Speak Truth with Integrity NCFA	The Power and Influence of Healthy Marriages Brian Davis	3 Tips to Homeschool Multiple Ages at the Same Time Kerry Beck	
COMMUNITY ROOM A/B	Homesteading as a School Subject Rory Groves	The Slow Brain & The Fast Brain Joe O'Tool	Breadmaking Becca Groves	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Fostering a Christ-Seeking Spirit in Your Teenage Daughter Bright Lights	Help Your Child Discover Their WIN Jose Lopez	The Split Brain: Right Brain and Left Brain for the Student and Teacher Joe O'Tool	
COMMUNITY ROOM C	Parenting with Grace Scott Woodruff	Flipping Special Education Homeschooling Peggy Ployhar	TEEN TRACK You Are More Than Your Screen Mandee Hamaan	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Science Education, Not Indoctrination C02 Coalition	TEEN TRACK Coding & Robotics PRE-REGISTRATION & FEE REQUIRED Tim Sieber		
ACTIVITIES ROOM	Kids' Brains and Screens Mandee Hamaan	Laying a Foundation of Mathematical Reasoning Jenny Conner	Embracing AI: A Homeschooler's Guide Nick Reddin		Protecting Homeschool Freedom Jeremy Vos, HI Lobbyist	How to Breathe Life Into High School Mathematics Jenny Conner	

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Attendee Survey



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Class of 2018



Dana Blomberg
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EX-5244

Saturday, June 15, 2024 | 8:00am-5:15pm

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

2024 Conference

Session 5

8:00-9:00AM

How To Teach Your Child to Learn Independently –

Kim Sorgius Jones

You can't do everything, but did you know that you shouldn't even try? In this session, you'll learn how independent learning decreases burnout, helps students excel, and equips them for life. This workshop will give you the tools to guide your child as they gradually transition to learning independently, whether you have preschoolers or high schoolers!

Women's Morning Workout and Worship – Peggy Ployhar

Morning workout time and worship can be a catalyst in improving your connection with God and worship of the Lord. In this session, we will use a playlist of worship music to lead the group through a warm-up routine, light conditioning exercises, and stretching that can be modified to any ability. This session is a great way to start your day with a focus on Jesus and movement to awaken your soul.

How Charlotte Mason Helped Me Simplify My Homeschool – Kerry Beck

When I ask homeschoolers their biggest challenge in homeschooling, I often hear, "stress, anxiety, burnout, overwhelmed with it all, consistency, procrastination, too busy, too many activities." Can you relate to these? It's tough to homeschool and, take your pick: keep up with the laundry, serve three meals a day, find time for your husband, make life fun for everyone, and stay focused on Jesus. Let's take a step back and see how principles from Charlotte Mason can help you simplify your homeschool and reduce your overwhelm. These practical strategies can be used in anyone's homeschool.

Homesteading as a School Subject – Rory Groves

In every generation, except the last two or three, parents have taught their children how to grow their own food, keep animals, and provide for their basic needs. With wit and wisdom, this talk presents some ways parents can teach their children homesteading skills and mend the chain that has been broken from the generations before ours.

Parenting with Grace – Scott Woodruff

Every parent wants grace to be the biggest part of how they interact with a child who has done wrong. But a parent looking back often sees regretfully that in the heat of the moment, they fell short of the way they wish they had acted toward the child. Anger, fear, and judging are the three main suspects that can overwhelm the deep desire to act graciously. This presentation will lay down a solid biblical foundation for dealing with those so they can no longer hijack our heart's desire to transmit grace to a child.

Kids' Brains and Screens – Mande Hamaan

This workshop is a condensed version of ScreenStrong's Kids' Brains & Screens Course, that offers a basic overview of the science behind healthy brain development, the effects of screens on the developing brain, symptoms of screen overuse, and solutions to prevent and reverse the effects of addictive screen habits



Protecting Our Freedoms

One of our goals as an organization is to protect our homeschooling freedom in Iowa. In order to reach that goal, we carefully monitor legislation that would affect homeschooling. Additionally, we provide recommendations to our legislators as they consider laws that would affect homeschooling.

We are thankful for our lobbyist, Jeremy Vos, and our Legislative Advocacy Team who help us with these goals. We also appreciate the many individuals who have signed up for our VoterVoice tool in order to receive updates and communicate with their legislators regarding important legislation. To learn more, visit the Legislative Updates page of our website: homeschooliowa.org (under the Iowa Law tab).



Jeremy Vos
Homeschool Iowa Lobbyist

Sign up for VoterVoice to receive

Legislative Updates

Session 6

9:30-10:30AM

Note to Self: The Vital Role of Homeschooling Dads – Jim Mason

Are you a homeschooling dad like I am? Do you need an occasional booster shot like I do? Come, let us reason together, encourage one another, bear each other's burdens, and leave refreshed to carry out our vital role

How to Control the Chaos and Clutter of Homeschooling – Kerry Beck

Is your laundry all over the kitchen table? Are Legos® strewn across the living room floor? Can you find the kids' history book? Do you feel like you're drowning in chaos and clutter? Be encouraged to know that you are not alone. Kerry may be an empty nester, but she vividly remembers those days of homeschooling in the trenches. She relives those days with her grandkids. Kerry shares three tips you can start using immediately to control the chaos and clutter of homeschooling.

Helping Children and Teens Develop Their Relationship with God – Joni Moede

So many young adults are walking away from the faith. How can parents help the young people under their roof develop that personal relationship with God, to make it theirs and not just something they read about or hear about in the lives of others? In this workshop, tools will be presented to help them become aware and remember the individual works of God in their own lives.

Flipping Special Education Homeschooling – Peggy Ployhar

Just as a house in shambles needs to be flipped to renew its purpose and extend its use, the typical methods for teaching special needs students in the homeschooling environment need to be flipped if parents want to see better educational results for their students than the typical model provides. In this talk, Peggy Ployhar, the Founder & CEO of SPED Homeschool, will dive into the history of the special education system and where many of the current practices of teaching students with special needs stem from and how they have affected our preconceived notions on how to best teach a student with special needs. Then, with a twist of hope, she will also share how parents can take advantage of their homeschooling freedoms to flip these practices and homeschool their special needs students with renewed purpose to pursue their student's God-given gifts and talents.

The Slow Brain and The Fast Brain – Dr. Joe O'Tool

Does your child (or do you) display primarily reflexive/impulsive problem-solving or deliberate/meticulous problem-solving? Do either of you struggle getting out of the box or taking time that is needed to think something through? Developing understanding of these two default modes of thinking can create better decision-making and problem-solving in school and all of life. In this session, we'll explore the principles of neuroscience that lead to brain activity, connectivity, and function. We'll ask questions to make the jump from principles of science to applications for learning. Learn how cognitive tasks work, how the brain problem solves, and how to improve focus (both more and less). Lessons will be shared from both clinical and learning environments, and homework will be given to parents to help apply these general ideas into your home. Dr. Joe has an engaging way of making the complex simple. And while his two sessions aren't connected, it will be helpful to attend both as you will learn two sides of a coin (how information is processed and how an individual relates to the surrounding world). Dr. Joe's second workshop is in Session IX.

This session is more focused on internal processes than external interpretation.

Laying a Foundation of Mathematical Reasoning – Jenny Conner

Many of us learned how to do math but may still lack the understanding of the "why" behind the procedures. How do we teach our children to reason mathematically? How do we move beyond rote memorized processes and encourage true mathematical thinking in our students? Join us for this very practical workshop where Jenny will demonstrate how to guide students toward discovery of the rationale underlying key mathematical concepts. We will learn the art of questioning as well as how to use a handful of simple yet powerful illustrations applicable across curriculum. Laying a foundation of mathematical reasoning will fill us with awe at the truth, beauty, and goodness of math... and the God who created it!

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS:

Friday
10:00am-7:00pm

Saturday
8:00am-4:00pm

Visit Our Vendor & Speaker Displays Exhibit Hall Feature Time:

Friday:
11:00am-12:30pm
4:45-7:00pm

Saturday:
12:00-1:30pm

Homeschooling: The BIG Picture – Nancy Bjorkman

Come and discover, or encounter anew, a bigger vision of what homeschooling can be for your family. Find encouragement as you reconsider your goals and put into perspective the pieces of the puzzle. We'll talk about both academic and nonacademic objectives and practical ways to fit it all together to help you and your children find out who they were created to be and what the changing seasons might hold for you

Youth Can Do Hard Things: Instilling a Work Ethic In Your Children Before It's Too Late – Rory Groves

Most students today are graduating from college completely unprepared for the working world, and employers are growing increasingly concerned. Give your young person an advantage in life by teaching them a work ethic before it's too late.

Homeschooling Your Struggling Learner with Confidence – Peggy Ployhar

Are you feeling inadequate about starting the homeschooling journey with a struggling student or one who has a 504 plan or IEP? Peggy Ployhar, SPED Homeschool Founder & CEO, says that when she started homeschooling, she would have probably been voted as the parent least likely to succeed in homeschooling. Yet, 18 years later, she's not only graduated two children from her homeschool but has also spent the last 15 years coaching other special education families towards homeschooling success. In this session families will be equipped with the top five keys to homeschooling a struggling learner with confidence as well as practical ways to put aside the things that may hinder applying these solid educational principles.

Breadmaking – Becca Groves

This is a demonstration workshop walking you through the start-to-finish process of making sourdough bread while being fed an encouraging word. As homeschool moms, our daily work can begin to feel quite monotonous. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner come around at lightning speed, the cleanliness of the house falls short in a picture-perfect world, and the work of character training is constant. This session will be a conversation in how the rhythms of daily work and daily obedience can actually transfigure ordinary work into something very holy.

TEEN TRACK: You Are More Than Your Screen

Mandee Hamaan

This workshop is based on the ScreenStrong Student Course. Students will learn the facts about basic brain science and how addictive technology, like social media and video games, affect a healthy brain. They will feel encouraged and excited to live life off the screen.

Embracing AI: A Homeschooler's Guide – Nick Reddin

Join Nick as he helps you explore practical ways to integrate AI into your homeschool routine. He will show you how to create a future-ready homeschooling environment with virtual tutors, AI-driven content recommendations, and live examples. You'll learn how AI works, what tools are available, and how it can enhance your teaching and your child's learning.

Save the Date!

We've already started planning next year's conference, and we hope you'll join us!

Save the date; then watch our website for updates coming later this fall.

June 6-7

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Exhibitor Workshops

12:15-1:15PM

How to Keep Your Kids from Saying, "I Don't Believe those Bible Stories Anymore" – Truth in Time

Demonstrating the historical reality of the ancient Old Testament is essential for the Christian faith. The attack on our children and families today is strong and relentless, as even some prominent Christian leaders have abandoned the historicity of the Old Testament. Our faith is not based upon mythology or legend. It is based upon the living God at work in the lives of real people, in the real world, in real history. We must pass this on to future generations so that when they ask the question, "Is Christianity really even true?" we can point them to real-world evidence and data, offering them a solid foundation from which to serve as kingdom builders for Christ in their world. This workshop will address this topic in a general sense, as well as give some specific examples of the historical reality of the ancient Old Testament, matching biblical accounts with real-world history in amazing and unique ways.

Practical Paths for Authentic Communication: Equipping Students to Speak Truth with Integrity – NCFA

Young people can learn effective communication skills through competitive speech and debate! It is imperative that these skills are taught regardless of natural ability or desire. We must equip them for the culture wars and how to speak and defend truth with confidence. Hear the National Christian and Forensics Communication Association's (NCFA) vision and how to engage now.

Fostering a Christ-Seeking Spirit in Your Teenage Daughter – Bright Lights

How can parents encourage their daughters to be wholeheartedly devoted to Christ, desiring to use their teenage years for Him? Discover how a discipleship emphasis in the home can help imbue preteen and teenage girls with a vision for ministry, help them cultivate strong relationships with their parents, avoid rebellion, and have a direction for their lives. In this workshop, parents will learn practical ways to inspire young ladies to be strong for the Lord in their youth.

Science Education, Not Indoctrination – CO2 Coalition

Dr. Sharon Camp has 21 years of science education experience. She has carefully curated science lesson plans that teach students critical thinking skills and the scientific method. She will teach workshop participants how to use the set of free lesson plans that she'll distribute to attendees.



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Capitol Day 2025

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025

More information will be posted on our website under the Events tab

The Once-a-Year Plan: Taking the Overwhelm Out of Homeschool Planning – Kim Sorgius Jones

So you've got a box full of unused planners and half-erased lesson plan books. Trust me, you're not alone! From curriculum to the daily schedule, there is a simple way to plan your whole school year in just ONE week. Reclaim your Sunday nights and your sanity by joining veteran homeschool mom, Kim Sorgius Jones, for this practical session.

Hands-On Workshop for Using Unit Studies Through High School – Peggy Ployhar

Many parents slowly progress away from hands-on learning as their student nears high school level classes. But for students who have difficulty with understanding abstract concepts through traditional instruction, the removal of multi-sensory and discovery-style instruction makes the leap to high school not only challenging but also often very discouraging. In this talk, Peggy Ployhar, the CEO of SPED Homeschool, covers practical ways to build high school credit courses for a homeschool student using unit studies and encourages her audience to do the same in this interactive workshop. You will leave this talk encouraged and equipped to start (or continue) your homeschooling high school journey using unit studies.

The Power and Influence of Healthy Marriages – Brian Davis

Weeds find the tiniest cracks to take root. The same is true for marriage. Financial stress, communication breakdowns, and unresolved conflicts constantly apply pressure to your marriage. This adventure will help couples develop fun and healthy ways to connect with their spouse. Participants will experience how knowing who they are can produce a joyful style of communication. They will learn new habits and practices as they speak from their heart.

Help Your Child Discover Their WIN – Jose Lopez

Does your high schooler dread the question, "So what are you doing after you graduate?" In this workshop, homeschool parents and students will learn about the Discover Your WIN "What is Next" model, which will provide practical ideas on how to identify and pursue potential career paths. Regardless of whether your homeschooler is interested in college, learning a trade, or entering the workforce, the Discover Your "WIN" model can help with developing a plan for next steps after homeschool life.

TEEN TRACK: Coding & Robotics

PRE-REGISTRATION & FEE REQUIRED

Tim Sieber (1:30 PM – 4:00 PM)

Whether it's 3D animation, engineering, music, agriculture, medicine, business and finance, manufacturing, film, design, political analysis, or almost any other discipline, computer science is the engine that powers the technology, productivity, and innovation of today's digital society and is imperative for a student's success in the workforce of tomorrow. In this workshop, participants will receive an introduction to coding and robotics while completing hands-on projects using a Chromebook and LEGO SPIKE Prime or Finch robot. Participants will also learn about resources available to homeschool students for learning more about technology and computer science. (Hardware and software are provided for participating students' use during the workshop.)

Protecting Homeschool Freedom – Jeremy Vos

Hear from our Homeschool Iowa Lobbyist, Jeremy Vos, about our efforts to keep homeschooling rights secure. Find out about proposed legislation and learn how you can be a partner.

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TOP REASONS

to launch a Trail Life Troop in your community

► **Adventure Awaits!** Give yourself a break from your boy's pent-up boundless energy. Send him outside camping, hiking, and exploring the outdoors with dad and/or a community of dad-likes, who are focused on developing the next generation.

► **Hands-On Homeschooling:** Forget boring textbooks! Trailmen learn by doing, giving a whole new meaning to "homework" that involves more than just staring at screens or pages.

► **Real Social Networking:** Boys can't help but like and share about their time at Troop meetings and campouts. But not in a digital way! A Trail Life Troop is where homechoolors like adventure, share new experiences, and build a squad that's more family than friends.

► **Trail Map to Manhood:** Trail Life isn't just a club; it's a boy's treasure map to manhood. Boys have a clear path marked by rites of passage, and complete with awards and ceremonies that make growing up an adventure.

► **Epic Proportions:** If Trail Life were a movie, it'd be an epic tale where scriptural roots set the stage for boundless adventure, and unexpected challenges grow courage and camaraderie, forging legendary men of character and conviction.



Join the Adventure! Scan the code to see the rest of the Top 10 and to chat with a Trail Life chartering expert who can help kickstart the journey with your church today!

<https://www.traillifeusa.com/Top-10>



How to Parent Without Provoking Your Children to Anger – Ginger Hubbard

Does your child have a comeback for everything you tell him to do or always try and get the last word, even if it's mumbled under his breath? Does he become mad and lose control when you discipline him rather than repenting? Or does he seem indifferent, giving the impression that discipline doesn't faze him in the least? Through biblical insights and powerful drama, learn how to avoid the snares of parent-provoked anger and raise emotionally healthy children.

Father's Day: Vision and Provision – Rory Groves

Traditionally, fathers were revered as the "Paterfamilias"—the Head of the House. In modern times, the father's role has been diminished, usurped, and mocked. But there can be no substitute: The father having vision is the pattern for the family, and the vision for its future begins with him.

Three Tips to Homeschool Multiple Ages at the Same Time – Kerry Beck

Most homeschoolers have more than one child at home, but how do they balance it all? If you need help homeschooling multiple kids, you're in the right place. Kerry shares three tips that worked for her during her 10 years of homeschooling all three of her kids. Get rid of the overwhelm from all those lesson plans and use these tips to simplify your homeschool.

The Split Brain: Right Brain and Left Brain for the Student and Teacher – Joe O'Tool

Do you find it hard to relate to and teach your children who have different learning/processing styles than you do? Understanding how your student processes information can be the key you need to help them unlock a love of learning. In this session, we will be exploring the neurobiology behind information processing and decision-making. The focus will primarily be on how the right brain and left brain function and work together. As we develop applications for understanding communication, you'll begin to understand why the same message can have vastly different meanings for two people. Take-home applications will help improve communication, relating, and efficiency in learning. Dr. Joe has an engaging way of making the complex simple. And while his two sessions aren't connected, it will be helpful to attend both as you will learn two sides of a coin: how information is processed and how an individual relates to the world around. Dr. Joe's first workshop is in Session VI.

This session is more focused on external interpretation than internal processes.

How to Breathe Life into High School Mathematics – Jenny Conner

"The Principality of Mathematics is a mountainous land, but the air is very fine and health-giving." ~ Charlotte Mason

Is this indicative of junior high and/or high school math in your home? Are you enjoying the fine air and taking in the summit view, or does the air feel thin and your student is seemingly stuck hiking in a circle? In this workshop, we will learn how to help students retrace their steps in order to build a more solid understanding of place value, fractions, decimals, integers, and exponents. Then with this firm ground under our feet, we will navigate how to breathe life into your upper-level math lessons through hands-on discovery and practical examples of algebra and geometry concepts. Come explore with us. A world of truth and beauty awaits to be found in this mountainous land!

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

4:15-5:15PM

How To Help Your Kids Live #NotConsumed in Today's Culture – Kim Sorgius Jones

As parents, we desire to disciple our kids and help them grow the authentic faith they need to live #NotConsumed by the hard things in life. Join Kim as she shares her journey as well as ideas and resources for reaching the hearts of our kids as we help them develop a real-life faith that impacts their todays and shapes their tomorrows.



K-8 HOMESCHOOL CURRICULUM

WE MAKE LEARNING FUN!

- INTERACTIVE LESSONS AND EXCITING TEACHING VIDEOS
- EDUCATIONAL GAMES
- OPTIONAL SOCIAL FEATURES:
YOUR CHILD CAN JOIN OUR SAFE, MODERATED ONLINE COMMUNITY
- LEARN FROM ANYWHERE!
- WORK AT THEIR OWN PACE

WHY CHOOSE MIACADEMY?

- Our parent portal lets you have total control over your child's learning, so you can customize their lessons to fit their needs!
- With core subjects like Reading and Math, plus electives like Life Skills and Physical Education, Miacademy has everything you need to give your child a well-rounded home education.
- Exceptional customer support to answer any questions and make your homeschool journey smoother.

[PARENTS.MIACADEMY.CO](https://parents.miacademy.co)

USE CODE [HS10WA20](#) TO SAVE UP TO 20% ON MEMBERSHIPS!





Exhibitors

American Church Group of Iowa/ Brotherhood Mutual

American Church Group of Iowa/Brotherhood Mutual offers liability insurance for homeschool groups meeting across Iowa and Nebraska.

BadgerMomma.org

BadgerMomma.org offers Bible-based books on homeschooling, marriage and family, child training, creation, and infant education.

Beyond Speech Tx

Beyond Speech Tx offers speech and language assessment, therapy, consultation, and parent/child advocacy, both in person and online.

binSpire LLC

The innovative binSpire rental subscription program takes the hassle out of organizing sensory activities. Every two weeks, a binSpire representative will deliver a new sensory rental bin to the family's doorstep and pick up the previous bin, ensuring a continuous stream of engaging experiences. Say goodbye to cluttered closets and hello to hassle-free educational sensory play.

BJU Press Homeschool/HomeWorks by Precept

BJU Press Homeschool is a publisher of K-12 textbooks and video courses for homeschool families. HomeWorks by Precept is a partner with BJU Press Homeschool because they share core values of Biblical worldview, academic excellence, and critical thinking. Their consultants draw from personal homeschool experience and knowledge of BJU Press Homeschool curriculum to offer solutions that help you to prepare lessons, become more efficient in homeschooling, and be able to meet your child's unique learning needs.

Bright Lights Ministry

Bright Lights Ministry is a girls' discipleship ministry that offers resources for moms to use with their daughters as well as small groups. These resources include curriculum for their small group sessions, books authored by Sarah (Mally) Hancock and Grace (Mally) Moffitt, and online conferences. This year, they are also offering a live conference in September for mothers and daughters at the Ark Encounter in Kentucky.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Choice Charter School, Inc

Choice Charter School is an online free public high school that offers individual learning paths for the students who can't/won't go back to traditional schooling and whose parents need a viable alternative support to homeschooling. Parents and students have a lot of autonomy when choosing classes and career pathways at Choice Charter School.

Christ Is Lord Academy

Christ Is Lord Academy is a Christian collaborative and classical hybrid school in Earlham, Iowa. It offers two days of in-classroom instruction paired with two days of homeschool. Christ Is Lord Academy exists to assist families in their God-ordained responsibility to teach their children about God, His world, and the truth that Jesus is Lord over all. It also exists to provide a godly in-classroom alternative to public school education.

Classical Conversations

When you homeschool with Classical Conversations, you'll be connected with a local community of like-minded families who not only learn together, but do life together. Classical Conversations equips homeschool parents with the confidence to raise bright, observant students who have a lifelong love of learning.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

CO2 Coalition, Inc.

As a non-profit organization, CO2 Coalition offers free science education materials for homeschool educators. Their science materials are created by leading scientists. They promote sound scientific education, not indoctrination.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Developing Great Relationships

(Brian Davis)

Developing Great Relationships offers biblically-based marriage enrichments and marriage intensives.

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Discover Your WIN

(Jose Lopez)

Discover Your WIN offers post-secondary planning and consultation assistance to homeschooling families.

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Distinctive Music Studios

Distinctive Music Studios provides live online music lessons from 17 skilled faculty in numerous instruments including piano, guitar, voice, violin, cello, flute and trumpet. For more than 21 years, we have enjoyed the privilege of helping home school families move to the next level in their music instruction with live one-on-one lessons (not pre-recorded) in the convenience of their own home, helping each student progress to their highest potential for the Lord's glory!

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Emmaus Bible College

Emmaus Bible College is a Bible college in Dubuque, Iowa, that offers many bachelor's and associate's degrees and a host of certificate options. They offer Christ-centered and biblically-uncompromised professional degrees.

CONFERENCE SPONSOR

Enrichment Therapy & Learning Center

Enrichment Therapy & Learning Center offers individualized evaluations and support for speech, language, reading, math, writing, dyslexia, executive functioning social skills, myofunctional disorders, and feeding and swallowing disorders. We are a bridge for academic and communication success.

Faith Baptist Bible College

(Mark Davis)

At over 100 years old, Faith Baptist Bible College is one of the oldest and most affordable Bible colleges in America. Their beautiful 52-acre campus in Ankeny is part of one of the fastest growing communities in the United States. With an emphasis on discipleship and spiritual growth, a sincere interest in the lives of their students by their staff and faculty, and their fully-accredited academic offerings, the real question is, "Why not Faith?"

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Gather & Grow

(Rory Groves)

Gather & Grow hosts family-centered events on our farm in Northfield, Minnesota. They also publish newsletter and literature to support Christian families.

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Genesis Apologetics

Genesis Apologetics is committed to providing Christian families with biblically- and scientifically-based answers to the evolutionary theory and other major questions that often pull people away from Christ. Their goal is to strengthen the faith of God's children by grounding them in biblical truth and equipping them to discern error. Their ministry provides practical and easy-to-understand web, video, and written products for pastors, parents, teachers, and students. The materials provided will be those that are "core" to the creationist position.

Ginger Hubbard

Ginger Hubbard offers biblical encouragement and practical advice to help parents reach the hearts of their children for the glory of God.

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Grace & Truth Books

Grace & Truth Books is a Christian bookshop where you can always find solid biblical content every time, every book. They aim at the formation of a strong Christian character that makes eager disciples and worshipers of God. For over thirty years, they've published some of the finest character-building stories that have ever been in print to prepare every member of your family to walk with God. Their Bible study and historical sections are likewise designed to equip you to be strong in His Word.

Hannibal-LaGrange University

Hannibal-LaGrange University is a small Christian liberal arts university that is located in northeast Missouri. They believe that students need to learn to use their "Knowledge for Service" when they go into the world, and this is reflected in their core values: biblical worldview, educational relevance, community mindset, transformational leadership, and generational impact.

HCC Media

Hillsdale Community Church has a media department that publishes curriculum and other books and literature. At the Homeschool Iowa Conference, they will offer high school curriculum for entrepreneurship, a workbook on evangelism, and other helpful resources.

Heartland Christian College

Heartland Christian College is a two-year, fully-accredited college offering an associate's degree in biblical studies. Their mission is to equip and prepare students to be servants of Jesus Christ, lifelong learners, and effective workers in local churches and communities around the world.

HEPPNER'S LEGACY Homeschool Resources

(Nancy Bjorkman)

"It is our ministry and mission to help you succeed in the comprehensive education of your children,"[™] say Brad & Nancy Bjorkman, owners of Heppner's Legacy Homeschool Resources. For nearly four decades, they've worked individually with families to find methods and resources to make home education a success. They have carefully selected a wide array of excellent products that you can trust, for all ages and subjects, including many hard-to-find items. Heppner's provides curricula, manipulatives, science supplies, fiction, biographies, audios, maps, timelines, unit studies, games, and much more. Special orders are welcome. Their motto is: "Come for the Books. Stay for the Therapy"[™].

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Hidden Acres Christian Center

Hidden Acres Christian Center offers homeschoolers many opportunities, including summer camps and summer camp staff jobs. They also offer a Ministry School gap-year program in partnership with Emmaus Bible College for college-age students interested in living, learning, working, and growing at a Christian camp. Students will be able to receive up to 24 credits from an accredited Christ-centered college while living and working at Hidden Acres.

Hope Tutoring

Gwen Simmons, with Hope Tutoring, is the creator and instructor of creative writing and essay writing correspondence courses. Both are fresh, practical, and include personalized critiques of each assignment. She is also a reading and spelling tutor for dyslexic students,

and she gives personalized instruction in a homey Zoom setting using the Orton-Gillingham method. She has a B.A. in English, has homeschooled for 12 years, and has worked extensively with homeschool students.

How to Homeschool My Child

(Kerry Beck)

Kerry Beck, one of our 2024 Homeschool Iowa Conference speakers, offers unit studies, leadership courses for moms, and Bible lessons through How to Homeschool My Child.

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Home School Legal Defense Association

(Scott Woodruff & Jim Mason)

HSLDA passionately advocates for the freedom to homeschool and offers support for every stage of your homeschool journey. If you're considering becoming a member, at the conference is the best time with these exclusive, never-before-offered discounts: \$35 off your first year when you sign up on-site for their annual membership (renews at standard rate) or \$500 off their \$1,500 Lifetime membership.

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Huntington Learning Center - West Des Moines

Huntington Learning Center of West Des Moines provides tutoring and test prep programs. They can help build your student's skill sets, confidence, and motivation so that they can excel both in school and in life. As a tutoring and test prep center in the West Des Moines area, they deeply understand the anxiety, frustration, and challenges parents in our community face when their children fall behind in school. Through their individualized K-12 tutoring and test prep programs, their highly qualified teachers can focus their one-on-one tutoring sessions on the areas a student needs most.

Iowa Extracurricular Activities

Visit the Iowa Extracurricular Activities booth to find information on local extracurricular activities in Iowa and on how to start a new activity or program in your area of the state.

Iowa Right to Life

Iowa Right to Life exists to help change hearts and minds about the sanctity of life. Their belief is that all life has inherent value from fertilization to natural end. They have resources available that can be used to incorporate truths and information into teaching about the sanctity of life.

Kelly Family Games

Kelly Family Games design and produce family-friendly card and table games with the aim to bring families together around a fun time of enjoying each other. They believe God created the family to be a blessing, and one way to enjoy that blessing is to play games together face to face.

Kevin T Ford, Author of Lepunia

Kevin T. Ford is the author of a new middle-grade animal fiction novel. He is a homeschooling dad of four. Kevin wrote Lepunia: Kingdom of the Gallopers specifically with homeschooling families in mind. It is full of traditional virtues and values and would be a great addition to any family's bookshelf.

Lamplighter Publishing

Lamplighter Publishing offers books and audio dramas that promote and inspire Christlike character.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Lifestream Clinic

(Dr. Joe O'Tool)

Lifestream Brain + Body Clinic has recently launched a learning, behavior, developmental program for ages 5-15 called NeuroGro. Along with that, they offer care for concussions, whether it is accident or sport related, as well as regular chiropractic care and sports physicals.

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Little Ol' Cookie House

Little Ol' Cookie House is a small family-owned business with over 35 years of making their own cookie dough to sell to fundraising groups.

Maranatha Baptist University

Maranatha Baptist University is a Christian liberal arts university offering a variety of two- and four-year degrees in fields of study, such as church ministries, theology, business, nursing, education, music, science, humanities, etc. They also offer graduate degrees and operate a theological seminary.

Mount Carmel Ministries

Mount Carmel Ministries is launching a Bible School and College Community on their camp property. They will have places for students to live together in a Christian community and to grow in their understanding of the Bible. Their main goal is to connect with students in the time frame of transitioning out of high school. They want to be a safe and welcoming place for young people to grow in discipleship.

My Very First Quilt

My Very First Quilt provides video lessons and kits to teach kids how to quilt.

Natural Health Improvement Center of Des Moines

Natural Health Improvement Center of Des Moines offers holistic health services for the whole family.

NCFCA Christian Speech and Debate

Through regional and national competitions supported by exceptional training and an elite qualification system, NCFCA Christian Speech & Debate provides a proven framework that challenges students to grow their communication skills.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Not Consumed

(Kim Sorgius Jones)

Not Consumed Ministries offers Bible studies for families and homeschool materials to help you grow in faith!

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Reasons for Hope

Reasons for Hope offers apologetics teaching, training, and curriculum. Their IMPACT curriculum trains and equips young adult believers to stand boldly on the Word of God. It helps them know why they believe what they believe so that, in turn, they can live and share their faith with confidence.

RightStart™ Mathematics

RightStart™ Mathematics is a complete elementary and middle school mathematics curriculum that uses visualization of quantities, deemphasizes counting, and provides strategies and games for learning the facts. The primary learning tool is the AL Abacus, a specially designed two-sided abacus that is both kinesthetic and visual.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Rod & Staff Publishers

(Truth and Life Ministries)

Here you'll find a complete Bible-based curriculum to assist Christian parents in the work of raising their children in the nurture and fear of the Lord. They also have many preschool books and character-building storybooks for the whole family.

Rooted in Christ Studio

Rooted In Christ Studio offers Christian and homeschool-themed t-shirts, accessories, and much more!

ScreenStrong

(Mandee Hamaan)

ScreenStrong offers workshops and curriculum to help parents reclaim their kids from toxic screens (social media, video games, and pornography). Their science-based solutions are not screen-free. Instead, they replace toxic screen use with healthy activities, life skill development, and family connections.

CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Simple Turn

Simple Turn offers a health education curriculum that can provide homeschooling families a complete health education enabling them to live their healthiest, most impactful lives.

Sonlight Curriculum

Sonlight is an easy-to-use literature-based Christian homeschool program with complete lesson plans, schedules, and materials from preschool through high school. It includes all you need to teach history, math, science, language arts, and more. Experience education the way you wish you'd been taught, using literature! Save time, save money, and build relationships.

Teaching Textbooks

Teaching Textbooks is the award-winning homeschool math app that experts describe as beyond open-and-go. Their Math 3 through Pre-Calculus courses lift the entire burden of math education off the parent, and Teaching Textbook apps work on virtually any device, even offline so students can take their work with them.

TeenPact

TeenPact Iowa trains students ages 9-19 in the political process through hands-on experience to protect their freedoms and to share their faith.

Tentmakers

Tentmakers exists to equip and empower disciples to be biblical tentmakers who live out their God-given calling while transforming culture through Christ one relationship at a time. They do that by offering experiential training, providing partnerships with churches for a year on mission to those who have gone through their 40-day training. This is an excellent gap-year experience for high school graduates. They also offer other expediences that can be found on their website.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Towers of Light Christian Resources

Towers of Light Christian Resources offers multimedia language arts curriculum for Grades 2-6. They provide multimedia curriculum and innovative technology to support your homeschool. Towers of Light will be releasing their full-year curriculum in partnership with multiple content providers to support accelerating language arts with the Read While Listening method.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Trail Life USA

Trail Life is an experiential learning experience that provides boys with a tangible award system, terrific outdoor adventures, and significant real-world challenge. As boys take the lead in planning and executing weekly troop meetings, adventure trips, and service projects in their communities, they grow in character and discover their gifts and abilities. In Trail Life USA, fathers and sons leave the whirling world of daily duties and digital distractions behind to be immersed in an environment where relationships form naturally, time seems to slow, and boys are able to listen, to connect, and to grow. Discover what 60,000+ members (and homeschool families in all 50 states) have discovered.

Experience Trail Life!

CONFERENCE SPONSOR

(Check their special activity displays out at our Friday Family Fun Fest in the Exhibit Hall!)

Truth Family Chiropractic

Truth Family Chiropractic offers chiropractic care and nutrition/functional health testing and counseling. Their goal is to help people in Central Iowa enjoy life again by discovering the truth of natural health.

Truth in Time

After twenty years in church ministry, God has called the Hall family to bring their passion for clearly communicating truth to the ministry of Truth in Time. Their sessions include The Exodus in Real-World History, Mt. Sinai in Real-World History, Manna in Real-World History, and more. Their family also ministers in music (vocal, piano, harp, other instruments; and multimedia). Their ministry is based on the research work of The Biblical Chronologist, Dr. Gerald Aardsma, and they offer his books for purchase, as well as some of their own music CDs.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Turning Point USA

Turning Point USA is an educational nonprofit that offers free resources and trainings to homeschool students to promote their conservative values. TPUSA believes it's important for young Christian students to be civically engaged and empowered to be the future leaders of our country. They offer free trainings, presentations, activism grants, staff support, and supplies to students to start student-led groups to promote their values among their peers and in their communities.

Two Rivers Classical Academy

Two Rivers Classical Academy is a classical collaborative christian school in the Des Moines area. It utilizes a collaborative model (sometimes called "hybrid school" or "university model") in which students enjoy small classes with professional teachers two days per week and continue the lesson plan at home with their parents the remainder of the week. As a collaborative school, TRCA is different from traditional schools, traditional homeschooling, and co-op programs in that the Academy handles curriculum choices, daily lesson plans, and grading. This allows parents to focus on teaching their children with confidence.

ALSO OFFERS AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

AND IS OUR START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK SPONSOR

Vero Health Center

Vero Health Center offers health treatments for those seeking holistic options, working to return the body to its full God-given potential. (Vero means truth in Italian.) They approach health concerns by looking at the root of the problem rather than treating symptoms alone. They offer free neuro screenings with discounted initial consultation prices, and they work to meet health needs in previously unexplored ways. Vero is excited to meet homeschooling families, recognizing and supporting their personal choice on the journey towards optimal wellness!

Woodlands Prayer & Retreat Center

The Woodlands Prayer & Retreat Center is a lovely house available for usage similar to an airbnb. It is located in Southwest Iowa on 50 acres of woodlands with ravines and trails for hiking and exploring. With four bedrooms and four bathrooms, it offers a great moms' retreat or family get-away opportunity.



conference 2024 exhibit hall

MidAmerican RecPlex | West Des Moines | June 14-15, 2024

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Family Fun Fest Demonstrations
Friday 4:45-7:00pm

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Trail Life™



EMMAUS BIBLE COLLEGE



TEENPACT®
LEADERSHIP SCHOOLS
IOWA



homeschool iowa
Foundation

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Two Rivers
CLASSICAL ACADEMY



faith baptist bible college
and theological seminary



Conference Facility Map

-  HI Booth
-  Registration
-  Restrooms
-  Concessions
-  Stairs
-  Elevator
-  Vending
-  Mother's Room

OVERLOOK ROOM
(Mezzanine Level)



KEYNOTE ROOM

EXHIBIT HALL

HARDWOOD COURTS

COMMONS

A/B

C

MAIN ENTRANCE

ACTIVITIES ROOM

COMMUNITY ROOMS