



conference 2023

WELCOME HOME



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 2023 Conference!

You're their first teacher. Be their
BEST TEACHER.

*Classical
Conversations*
Classical Christian Community



Classical Conversations® is the homeschool program that helps you **cultivate** an inquisitive, thoughtful child through an intentional, **community-based** approach. Learning together with families like yours, you're **equipped** with the tools and support to teach a Christ-centered worldview that's rooted in the classical model.



TO LEARN MORE, VISIT

CLASSICALCONVERSATIONS.COM/IOWA

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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 2023 Homeschool Iowa Conference will be recorded and available for sale online. Information available on page 14 or at the HI Information Booth. Please note: Exhibitor Workshops, Make & Take Workshops, and Teen Track Workshops (with the exception of Kristin Lackie's) 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 email them with any questions you may have.

Additionally our website offers a wealth of information. Visit us online at homeschooliowa.org. We also have an online community on Facebook. Go to our Facebook page @homeschooliowa, click on the "Groups" tab, and join our Homeschool Iowa Discussion Group.

CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

Please note that photos and videos are being taken during the 2023 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 conference is not a place to define uniformity of belief and practice.

HOMESCHOOL IOWA CONFERENCE TEAM



Audra Rectenbaugh (left) and Kim Blom (right)

Welcome Home to the 2023 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 or one of our volunteers in the green 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 & Audra Rectenbaugh, Conference Coordinators



Joe Bailey
President



Aaron Neely
Executive Director



Adam & Eva Conn
Speaker Coordinators



Heather Oppman
Registration
Coordinator



Cathy Sorensen
Regional Representatives
Coordinator



Scott & Hannah
Kratzer
Kids Trek
Coordinators



Julie Naberhaus
Teacher Certification
Coordinator & HI
Administrative Assistant



Dorcas Jarrard
Hospitality Coordinator



Jill Oppman
Volunteer Coordinator



Sarah Roth
Volunteer Coordinator



Sarah Farrand
Moms' Room
Coordinator



Molly Benson
Used Curriculum Sale
Coordinator



Tom Krueger
Alliance Recordings
Coordinator



Amber Smith
Social Media Coordinator



Ron Heims
Photographer



Mary Ann Krueger
Photographer



Sarah Naberhaus
Program Designer

Homeschool Iowa Board of Directors:

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

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

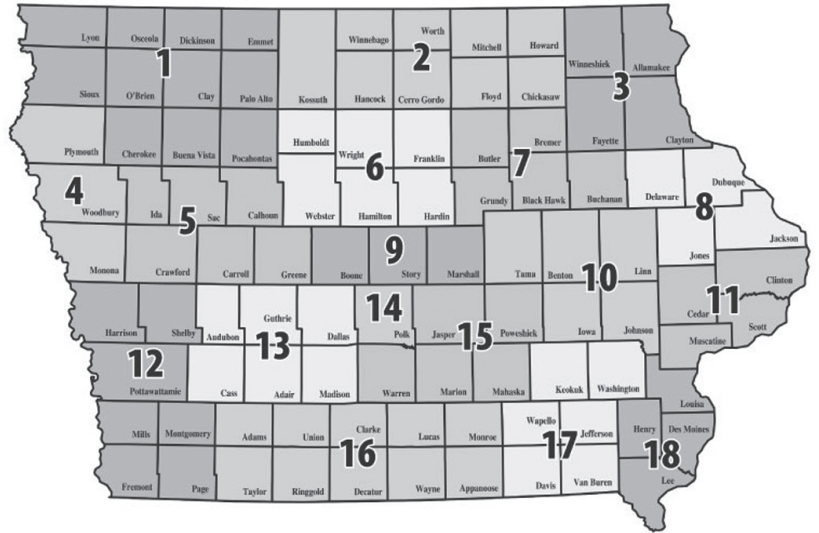

Connect with Us for Encouragement, Wisdom, and Hugs!

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.


Cathy Sorensen
Regional Representative Coordinator

homeschool iowa
**Homeschooling
101**



Our Homeschool Iowa Regional Reps host local events around the state providing information on how to start homeschooling.



Scan the QR code or visit the HS 101 page in the Events section on our website for a complete listing of dates and locations.




Erin Kim

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.



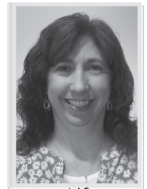
Andsea
Region 1



Rhea
Region 2



Kristen
Region 3



Kathy
Region 4



Molly
Region 5



Tia
Region 6



Jill
Region 7



Teresa
Region 8



Shellie
Region 9



Terri
Region 10



Brenda
Region 10



Danna
Region 11



Tracy
Region 12



Karen
Region 13



Denna
Region 13



Diana
Region 14



Angie
Region 15



Kelly
Region 16



Kim
Region 17



Autumn
Region 18



KIDS TREK

Come for the adventure!

CHILD PICK-UP INFORMATION

Please arrive promptly for child pick-up.
Remember to bring your child check-out information with you.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM PICK-UP TIMES:
Friday 5:00-5:30 PM | Saturday 4:00-4:30 PM

Special Needs MEET & GREET

Saturday | 12:15-1:15pm

IF YOU ARE THE PARENT OF A SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD, you are invited to bring your lunch up to the Mezzanine on the second floor for an hour of connection and encouragement with other parents of special needs children.

2nd Generation Homeschoolers MEET & GREET

Friday | 11:00am-12:30pm

HOMESCHOOLED AND NOW HOMESCHOOLING YOUR OWN KIDS? Bring your lunch up to the Mezzanine on the second floor for an hour of fellowship with other 2nd generation homeschoolers! Take time to share your experiences and make some new connections.

Box Lunch Pick Up Info:

Pre-purchased box lunches will be available in the Commons, near the Registration area.

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.

FRIDAY NIGHT: pizza by the slice will be available for purchase at the RecPlex Concessions near the Hardwood Courts.



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.

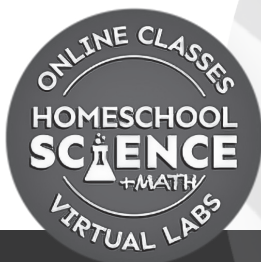
Located across the hall from the Hardwood Courts.

Hours:

Friday 8:00 AM – 8:30 PM | Saturday 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

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

HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE ONLINE CLASSES & LABS



Get your **FREE**
"Homeschool Mom Strong"
Magnet

HomeschoolScienceProfessor.com



Meet the Speakers!

Keynote Speakers:



Dr. Kathy Koch

Dr. Kathy Koch (pronounced "Cook") is the Founder and President of Celebrate Kids, Inc., a Christian ministry based in Fort Worth, TX.

She is an internationally celebrated speaker and popular radio guest who has influenced thousands of parents, teachers, and children in 30 countries through keynote messages, workshops, seminars, assemblies, and other events.

Her practical, relevant, results-oriented concepts and engaging, honoring, and humorous speaking style draw enthusiastic raves from children, teens, parents, and educators. They leave her events armed with new beliefs, attitudes, and practical tools and increased hope in God to build healthy relationships and increase success in family, life, and school.



Todd Wilson

Todd Wilson is a dad, granddad, writer, conference speaker, and former pastor.

Todd's humor and down to earth realness have made him a favorite speaker at homeschool conventions, retreats, and churches across the country.

As founder of Familyman Ministries and the Smiling Homeschooler, his passion and mission are to remind dads and moms of what's most important through weekly e-mails, podcasts (The Familyman Show & The Smiling Homeschooler), seminars, and books and products that encourage parents.

Todd, and his wife Debbie, homeschool two of their eight children (six have graduated from their homeschool with four married) in northern Indiana and travel America in the Familyman Mobile.



Sonya Shafer

Sonya Shafer is a popular homeschool speaker and writer, specializing in the Charlotte Mason Method.

She has been on an adventure for more than 20 years studying, researching, practicing, and teaching Charlotte's gentle and effective methods of education.

Her passion for homeschooling her own four daughters grew into helping others and then into Simply Charlotte Mason, which publishes her many books and provides a place of practical encouragement to homeschoolers.

Additional Speakers and Workshops:



Kristin Lackie



Mike Schutt



Elizabeth Hoksbergen



Dana Blomberg



Scott Woodruff



Nancy Bjorkman



Cathy Angel



Ali Roemhild



Jeremy Vos



Dr. Joe O'Tool



Shawn Sandersfeld



Dr. Dusty & Rae Hess



Crystal Wieland



Lori Heschke



Mandy Berkley



Donna Owen



Amy Rutekin



Tessa Teel



Larry Hanthorn

Looking for Additional Speaker Bios?



Find Them on Our Conference Web Page



START HOMESCHOOLING

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 Homeschooling Methods – Nancy Bjorkman

This engaging workshop will review several different teaching approaches found in homeschooling, and then help attendees identify resources and curricula to fit their family's particular style. Just getting started in homeschooling? Needing to refocus and redefine what homeschooling could look like for your family? Come benefit from Nancy's over 30 years of experience and enjoy her dynamic style.

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND

10:00am-Noon | College & Career Fair

12:30-1:30pm | Homeschool Through High School with Confidence – Kristin Lackie

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 guess work 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 with you.

2:00-3:00pm | Simple Transcripts and Recordkeeping – Kristin Lackie

Transcripts are not just for college – every student needs one. How should you begin? What should you include? Understand the essentials of record keeping, the important records to keep, how to grade, evaluate credits, and prepare a professional looking high school transcript. Teens are invited to attend with you.

3:30-4:30pm | Laying the Foundation for Life after Graduation – Dana Blomberg

As homeschooling parents, it is imperative that we focus on providing a quality education for our kids. But more importantly than meeting the educational needs for our students, the bigger responsibility is to prepare them spiritually for life beyond high school AND college. We will look at the most crucial foundations that need to be laid as we train our children:

- Foundation of Embracing the Gospel
- Foundation of Applying the Gospel to everyday
- Foundation of a Biblical Worldview
- Foundation of Critical Thinking

START HOMESCHOOLING SPONSOR

Two Rivers Classical Academy

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPONSORS

Des Moines Area Community College [DMACC]

Emmaus Bible College

Faith Baptist Bible College

COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

Exhibitors

Chick-fil-A University

Crown College

Des Moines Area Community College [DMACC]

Des Moines University

Emmaus Bible College

Faith Baptist Bible College

Grand Canyon University

Hannibal-LaGrange University

Hidden Acres Christian Center

Iowa Association of Independent Colleges & Universities

Mount Carmel Ministries

Northwestern College

Oak Hills Christian College

TeenPact

Upper Iowa University - Des Moines



WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SPECIAL TRACK SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS?

Scan the QR Code or visit the Exhibit Hall page on our website, under the “Conference” tab.

Friday, June 9, 2023 | 8:15am-8:30pm

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS 2023 Conference

OPENING & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

8:15-9:45AM

Identity: Who Do Your Children Think They Are and Why Does it Matter? – Dr. Kathy Koch

Identity – how children define themselves – is extremely important. How they see themselves controls their behavior. Therefore, identity influences their

academics, relationships, future, hopes, and so much more. Why is it complex today? Why are so many children confused? Learn how to parent so children will have a healthy identity and believe the most important identities of all.

ALTERNATIVE PRE-SESSIONS

8:15-9:45AM

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.

9:00-9:45 | 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.

SPECIAL TEEN TRACK WORKSHOP

8:45-9:45 | Self Defense – Amy Ratekin

Amy will lead participants in gaining empowering life-saving skills. Teens will learn how to identify and respond to a threat, as well as what to do and why. The workshop will offer physical techniques that can be used against an adult attacker and how to verbalize in a threatening situation. Amy will share abduction prevention skills and help participants rehearse 911 scenarios.

Session 1

10:00-11:00AM

Get REAL! – Todd Wilson

Are you convinced that every homeschooling family except yours is great? Do you believe the lie that others are more organized, better prepared, have smarter kids, are wiser parents, and have a child in the national spelling bee? Well, let me set the record straight...that's not the way it is! The truth is most moms feel inadequate. Homeschooling moms fear that they're letting their kids down in their education and in example. They feel like their house is out of control, their children are beasts, and the sizzle has left their marriages. Join us as we unleash the power in being REAL. You'll never be the same again.

START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK SESSION

(Open to All Attendees)

Exploring Homeschooling Methods – Nancy Bjorkman

This engaging workshop reviews different homeschool teaching approaches and helps attendees identify resources and curricula to fit their family's particular style. Just getting started in homeschooling? Needing to refocus and redefine what homeschooling could look like for your family? Come benefit from Nancy's over 30 years of experience and enjoy her dynamic style.

Confusing Times, Confused Neighbors – Mike Schutt

We can all agree that we are currently living in confusing times. Who can tell the difference these days between what is real and fake? Who is right and who is wrong? Who can we trust? People are very confused, trying to answer the big questions about what it means to live the good life, what their purpose is, and how they know what is true. This session will address some of the root causes of our confused age and suggest some ways we can help ourselves and our neighbors think more clearly about the world around us.

MAKE & TAKE WORKSHOP

(Advance Registration Required)

Toddler Busy Bags – Crystal Wieland

Busy bags are a fun way to keep preschoolers engaged in creative learning play. Come learn about using and creating Busy Bags with components that may be reconfigured to create new ways to learn and play. You will leave with five busy bags and ideas on how to use them in different ways.

Exhibitor Workshops **11:15AM-12:15PM**

Moms Encouragement Tea Party – BJU Press

Come fill your cup with a warm cup of tea and fill your heart with encouragement. Enjoy working through activities that will encourage you on your homeschool journey.

Supernatural Selection – Master Books

Hear how even creationists have not truly defined natural selection correctly. New evidence in epigenetics is blowing evolution out of the water and revealing how natural selection is a form of idle worship.

Why Is My Child Struggling with Reading? – Aspire Academy

Have a child who is struggling to read, write and spell? Want to learn the signs of dyslexia in preschool, elementary, middle, and high school? It is never too late because all children who struggle with it can be brought to grade-level reading or have reading struggles prevented. Heidi Kroner will present what dyslexia is, why it occurs, how to help a child with the signs of dyslexia become a more fluent reading, writer, and speller, and how to identify it at any age.

Session 2 **12:30-1:30PM**

Five Flavors of Homeschooling – Sonya Shafer

The world of homeschooling is a lot like the world of food. You know that you want to provide nutritious meals for your children's minds, but there are so many possibilities for what that food could look like and taste like. Join Sonya for a simple overview of five main flavors of homeschooling: traditional, classical, Charlotte Mason, unit studies, unschooling. Find your preferred flavor and learn how to shop for a successful homeschool menu.

Every Dad, a Homeschooling Dad! – Todd Wilson

You may not crack open a book, work through a curriculum, or call it school, but it's your job to train your children. Join me as we look at the trials, triumphs, and tribulations of training our children. Now don't worry, I won't make you feel guilty or give you a forty-six-point outline, but I promise to tell it straight and to encourage you in the best job there is: fathering.

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK SESSION

Homeschool Through High School with Confidence – Kristin Lackie

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 guess work 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 with you.

Understanding Dyslexia – Elizabeth Hoksbergen

Now, that you understand the science, this session provides you with a road map to help your child overcome learning challenges caused by dyslexia. We will outline the different options for identification (from online to informal screening to full psycho-educational evaluations) as well as guiding principles for selecting effective intervention. Additionally, we will discuss critical accommodations and highly effective strategies to infuse throughout daily learning activities. All the essentials to ensure your child succeeds will be provided in a customizable road map.

TEEN TRACK WORKSHOP

Government Involvement – Tressa Teel

This workshop will cover the basics of how Iowa's legislature works in an exciting and interactive way! Learn how a bill becomes a law in Iowa, participate in mock committees, and more. This teaching is designed for those wanting to learn more about Iowa's political process and how they can be involved

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Session 3

2:00-3:00PM

FRIDAY

8 Great Smarts: All Children Are Smart—Help Them Believe It! – Dr. Kathy Koch

All children are smart and probably smarter than they realize. Knowing they're smart empowers them to believe in their todays and tomorrows, to expect some learning to be easy, and to study when something isn't. The eight intelligences are relevant for our teaching and reteaching. In addition to learning, they're also relevant to our children's spiritual growth, behavior, relationships, and career choice. Asking "How am I smart?" instead of "Am I smart?" can change everything!

Time and Home Management – 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.

The Roots of Order – Mike Schutt

This lecture introduces students to the foundations of law and justice, including the source of law, the definition of liberty, and the principle of jurisdiction based on God's delegated authority to separate and interdependent human governments—state, church, and family.

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK SESSION

Simple Transcripts and Recordkeeping – Kristin Lackie

Transcripts are not just for college – every student needs one. How should you begin? What should you include? Understand the essentials of record keeping, the important records to keep, how to grade, evaluate credits, and prepare a professional looking high school transcript. Teens are invited to attend with you.

Handwriting Fluency Plus Reading Fluency Equals

Success – Cathy Angel & Ali Roemhild

Teach handwriting explicitly and effortlessly. Students need to learn the basic handwriting forms that we call "Squiggles". These Squiggles will enable your children to write all the letters of the alphabet effortlessly. We will also address the importance of teaching cursive!





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Give your child a quality education with a biblical worldview. Stop by our booth to see how we can support you in your homeschool journey from start to finish. While you're at it, get exclusive product discounts and free shipping! With BJU Press products, you can be confident that you are giving your child an excellent education with a curriculum that supports you every step of the way.

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

bjupresshomeschool.com

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An Unbeatable Home Team – Todd Wilson

Marriage is hard. . . in fact, it's real hard! Yet when it is right and good, it can withstand anything. It doesn't matter what the economy does, the status of your bank account, the condition of your home or vehicles, or what your children dish out. . . because when a husband and wife are right, they're unbeatable. On the flip side, when a husband and wife feel distant or apathetic, it only takes the slightest breeze to ruffle a bunch of feathers. The truth is a mediocre marriage sucks the joy right out of life and your homeschool. The economy can swing up, your checking account can be healthy, your home and vehicles can purr like kittens, and the kids can behave like angels, and life still. . . stinks. That's because marriage matters. Join Todd Wilson, The Familyman, for a time of laughter and encouragement as he shares real life stories, problems, and frustrations along with practical, simple solutions to having a marriage that can't be beat!

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK SESSION**Laying the Foundation for Life after Graduation – Dana Blomberg**

As homeschooling parents, it is imperative that we focus on providing a quality education for our kids. But more importantly than meeting the educational needs for our students, the bigger responsibility is to prepare them spiritually for life beyond high school AND college. We will look at the most crucial foundations that need to be laid as we train our children:

- Foundation of Embracing the Gospel
- Foundation of Applying the Gospel to everyday
- Foundation of a Biblical Worldview
- Foundation of Critical Thinking

Reaching Your Child's Heart – Sonya Shafer

A mommy-to-mommy challenge about priorities in your home school. Sonya shares six ways to reach your child's heart—taken from Elizabeth's example in Luke 1—and four obstacles that can keep us from reaching the heart. This workshop puts the emphasis on the things that are not seen. It reminds parents of the importance of focusing on our children's hearts and gives practical ways to do that: being available and approachable, being Spirit-led, giving affirming words, setting aside our own agendas, pointing out how God is at work, and encouraging our children to take God at His Word.

MAKE & TAKE WORKSHOP (Advance Registration Required)**Personalized Journal – Lori Heschke**

Together we'll be personalizing journal covers with flower-embellished monograms using watercolor pencils and pens. Compiled over time as a keepsake or given as a gift, this unlined journal is designed to be filled with hand-lettered verses, nature-inspired sketches and/or mixed media collage - whatever cultivates wonder and attentiveness for you. All skill-levels are welcome; you will be guided through the process and can make your journal as intricate or simple as you desire.

Top 10 Strategies to Engage Your Learner – Elizabeth Hoksbergen

Well, the title of the session says it all! Learn about the best strategies to promote your child's interest and engagement while minimizing frustration, shut-down, and avoidance tactics. From ways to enhance memory function to leveraging your child's cognitive strengths to tapping into the motivational power of interactive calendars, this session is fun and has something for every child.



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a Complimentary
Consultation



Elizabeth Hoksbergen, EdS
Wilson® Credentialed Trainer



WILSON Reading System®
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Exhibitor Workshops

4:45-5:45PM

FRIDAY

5 Tools to Help Your Children Think Well – Classical Conversations

Come hear about the tools that teach your children how to think well and develop understanding of any subject, topic, or trade. Using the pyramids as a springboard, we will model these tools allowing you to experience them yourself!

Homeschooling with Dyslexia – Tutorburg

As home educators we know the importance of teaching the 3R's Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. But what do we do when our child gets stuck in reading and writing? This session will offer information a brief overview of dyslexia and dysgraphia and focus on the importance of early intervention, the use of structured literacy, and how to select curriculum. Recommendations for at home accommodation along with encouragement for survival when the days seem long, and the years seem short. Training today, preparing for tomorrow.

Earn a Bachelor's Degree During High School – Dual Credits at Home

Earning an accredited degree during high school can save your family years of time and thousands of dollars. In this informative session, Stephen will show you how to replace high school-level studies with college-level studies, using the tried and true credit-by-exam method that every family can follow..

Integrating Bible Study into Your Homeschool Routine – Emmaus Worldwide

Each homeschool day is packed with activities. Unfortunately, it seems that if anything is going to be sacrificed for the sake of time, it is Bible Study. While it isn't required in curriculum, Bible Study is necessary for your child's spiritual growth. We will discuss several ways to make sure this important part does not get left behind.

SPECIAL EVENT (Included in Conference Registration)

7:30-8:30PM

The Amazing Chemistry Show – Josh Denhart

The Amazing Chemistry Show will engage and inspire your family with an incredible fast-paced science stage production. This exciting family experience includes explosions, colored foam, liquid nitrogen, and glow-in-the-dark solutions! Your children will be captivated by the impressive demonstrations of science in action.



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Friday Conference Schedule

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: Identity: Who Do Your Children Think They Are and Why Does it Matter? Dr. Kathy Koch	Get REAL! Todd Wilson	Lunch Break & Shopping Meet & Greet 2nd Generation Homeschoolers Upper Mezzanine	Five Flavors of Homeschooling Sonya Shafer	8 Great Smarts: All Children Are Smart: Help Them Believe It! Dr. Kathy Koch	An Unbeatable Homeschool Team Todd Wilson	Supper Break & Shopping Special Event 7:30-8:30 The Amazing Science Show Josh Denhart
	Start Homeschool Special Track <small>Details on Page 8</small>			11:15am-12:15pm				4:45-5:45pm
HARDWOOD COURTS: COURT 1	8:15-9:00 Iowa Homeschool Legal Requirements Scott Woodruff	9:00-9:45 Homeschooling for Beginners Homeschool Iowa Regional Reps	Exploring Homeschooling Methods Nancy Bjorkman <i>Open to All Attendees</i>	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Moms Encouragement Tea Party BJU Press	Every Dad, a Homeschooling Dad! Todd Wilson	Time & Home Management Nancy Bjorkman	Reaching Your Child's Heart Sonya Shafer	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP 5 Tools to Help Your Children Think Well Classical Conversations
	HARDWOOD COURTS: COURT 3		Confusing Times, Confused Neighbors Mike Schutt	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Supernatural Selection Master Books	Understanding Dyslexia Elizabeth Hoksbergen	The Roots of Order Mike Schutt	Top 10 Strategies to Engage Your Learner Elizabeth Hoksbergen	4:45-5:45pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Homeschooling with Dyslexia Tutorburg
INDOOR TURF AREA	EXHIBIT HALL 10:00AM-7:00PM							
COMMUNITY ROOM A/B/C	High School & Beyond Special Track <small>Details on Page 8</small>							4:45-5:45pm
	10:00am-Noon COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR				12:30-1:30pm Homeschool through High School with Confidence Kristin Lackie	2:00-3:00pm Simple Transcripts and Recordkeeping Kristin Lackie	3:30-4:30pm Laying the Foundation for Life after Graduation: Dana Blomberg	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Earn a Bachelor's Degree During High School Dual Credit at Home
ACTIVITIES ROOM	8:15-8:45 Teacher Credit Course Check-In	8:45-9:45 TEEN TRACK Self Defense Amy Ratekin	MAKE & TAKE WORKSHOP: Toddler Busy Bags Crystal Wieland <i>Size Limit - Extra Fee</i>	11:15am-12:15pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Why Is My Child Struggling With Reading? Aspire Academy	TEEN TRACK Government Involvement Tressa Teel	Handwriting Fluency Plus Reading Fluency Equals Success! Cathy Angel	MAKE & TAKE WORKSHOP: Personalized Journal Lori Heschke <i>Size Limit - Extra Fee</i>	4:45-5:45pm EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Integrating Bible Study into Your Homeschool Routine Emmaus Worldwide

SHARE YOUR IMPRESSIONS







conference 2023
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conference 2023
Recordings

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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 KEYNOTE ROOM	Laying Down the Rails: The Power of Good Habits Sonya Shafer	The FOUR Homeschool Temperaments Todd Wilson	Change: Teach Them, Don't Tell Them Dr. Kathy Koch	Lunch Break & Shopping Meet & Greet Special Needs Upper Mezzanine	Keep It Simple: Teach Your Whole Family Together Sonya Shafer	Resiliency: Help Children Embrace Life with Confidence Dr. Kathy Koch	KEYNOTE Choosing the Hard Things or How to Keep Going When You Feel Like Giving Up Todd Wilson
HARDWOOD COURTS	Technology's Influence Over Kids' Beliefs and Behaviors Dr. Kathy Koch	Meal Management in the Age of Fast Food Nancy Bjorkman	When More Is Less: A Call to Simplicity Sonya Shafer	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Multi-Age, Multi-Grade? BiblioPlan	The Right Parent for Your Child: You Scott Woodruff	Protecting Homeschool Freedom Jeremy Vos	
INDOOR TURF AREA	EXHIBIT HALL 8:00AM-4:00PM						
OVERLOOK ROOM	How to Homeschool Your Teenage Son Shawn Sandersfeld	Truth Mike Schutt	The Cultural War on Health Dr. Dusty & Rae Hess	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Fulfilling the Great Commission thru Fiction Imagination Investigation	Healthy Cultures Start with Healthy Families Dr. Dusty & Rae Hess	Post-High School Menu: Apprenticeships & Career Appetizers Shawn Sandersfeld	
COMMUNITY ROOM A/B	From Games to Reading Cathy Angel	Is Our Marriage Ready For Them to Leave the Nest? Dana Blomberg	Homeschool Graduate Panel	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Math with Mrs. Brown Math with Mrs. Brown	Unlock Your Beginning and/or Struggling Reader's Potential Cathy Angel	Jumpstart College with CLEP Kristin Lackie	
COMMUNITY ROOM C	Is it a Learning Difference or Defiance? Elizabeth Hoksbergen	Getting Through the Toughest Day of Your Life: Lessons from the Book of Job Scott Woodruff	Handwriting: A Nemesis or a Hero? Cathy Angel	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP Math with Mrs. Brown Math with Mrs. Brown	CogniStrong: The Neuroscience of Play and Learning Dr. Joe O'Tool	Understanding Your Child's Unique Cognitive Profile Elizabeth Hoksbergen	
ACTIVITIES ROOM	MAKE & TAKE: Welcome Home Signs Mandy Berkley <i>Size Limit - Extra Fee</i>	TEEN TRACK Financial Freedom for Teens Larry Hanthorn	TEEN TRACK But Mom, How Do I Study? Kristin Lackie	EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP So You Want to Be an Author? Daughter of the Wilds	Vocation Mike Schutt	MAKE & TAKE: Sourdough Bread Donna Owen <i>Size Limit - Extra Fee</i>	

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 14-15

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SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

2023 Conference

Session 5

8:00-9:00AM

Laying Down the Rails: The Power of Good Habits – Sonya Shafer

Discover the secret to smooth and easy days: habit training. Learn how to instill good habits, which habits Charlotte Mason encouraged parents to cultivate in their children, and practical tips for cultivating the Top Three. Sonya will use lots of stories and examples to communicate the general principles for forming any habit and some practical tips for cultivating the top three: obedience, attention, truthfulness.

Technology's Influence Over Kids' Beliefs and Behaviors – Dr. Kathy Koch

Could technology be the root of some of your biggest concerns about your children's behavior? Yes! Are they complaining and arguing, self-centered, prideful, angry, and unsure what to do after graduation? You're not alone! Dr. Kathy will help you understand the role of technology and practical things to do so children mature even as they keep using technology.

How to Homeschool Your Teenage Son – Shawn Sandersfeld

Parenting a teenage son can be challenging enough—what happens when you're homeschooling him, too? Homeschooling dad, Shawn Sandersfeld, will present some real-life examples of the strategies and approaches that have worked with his seven sons.

From Games to Reading – Cathy Angel

Change your laborious reading instruction into a class that both you and your child will look forward to every day! Find out how easy it is to make reading time engaging and fun!

Is It a Learning Difference or Defiance? – Elizabeth Hoksbergen

Dyscalculia often causes parents and children alike to want to run for the hills anytime math is even mentioned. This session will clarify what causes dyscalculia, how it presents in the learning environment, and key strategies to navigate learning and apply math skills successfully. If your child struggles with quantitative reasoning, math concepts, calculation, and math fact automaticity, this session will empower you with effective strategies to help your struggling student learn (and maybe even like) math.

MAKE & TAKE WORKSHOP (Advance Registration Required)

Welcome Home Signs – Mandy Berkley

In this workshop you will stain/paint your base sign and frame, choose a "Welcome Home" stencil, trace out your design and paint it, followed by assembling your sign with an air nail gun. No experience needed. You will walk away with an adorable 9x12 sign that can be hung on a wall or used as a shelf sitter.



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 Legislative Advocacy Team and Jeremy Vos, our Lobbyist, 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

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Legislative Updates



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CALENDARS FOR

Capitol Day 2024

MONDAY,
MARCH 4, 2024

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

Session 6

9:30-10:30AM

The Four Homeschool Temperaments – Todd Wilson

Frustrated by the fact that what works for your homeschooling friends doesn't seem to work for you or what works for one of your children doesn't work for all your children? For the first time ever discover the FOUR homeschool Temperaments. You'll discover if you're a Falcon, Owl, Swan, or Sand Piper and how to homeschool in light of those traits. You'll laugh, nod your head in agreement and find yourself saying, "That finally makes sense." During our time together we'll discuss tips for each temperament, how to teach your children who may NOT be your temperament, and what types of homeschool curriculum works best for your temperament. This is going to be fun as you discover your homeschool temperament!!

Meal Management in the Age of Fast Food – Nancy Bjorkman

Explore many ideas for managing the daily chore of feeding your family, including the benefits and methods for bulk cooking and 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 the how-to's for getting it done and some of the resources available to get people on their way. Once you've tried it, you'll wonder why you waited.

Truth – Mike Schutt

An introduction to epistemology. Truth is revealed, and truth is a person. Discipleship is a practical outgrowth of the pursuit of truth. We discuss the source of truth, how we know what we know, and the means through which God reveals Himself. In this lecture, Mike spends a few minutes exploring potential conflicting views of revelation, particularly as they relate to the scientific method and scientism. We also examine the nature of discipleship and its relationship to one's view of truth.

Is Our Marriage Ready for Them to Leave the Nest? – Dana Blomberg

From the moment our babies enter our lives until their graduation day (and sometimes longer) they require an incredible amount of attention, affirmation, and training and ultimately TIME. At the same time, marriage needs a constant effort toward the goal. It is hard to keep those two in balance. But by the grace of God, and by His strength, He gives us the tools to maintain and grow a marriage through the trials and triumphs of kids in the home. Then one day, when the youngest leaves the nest, you aren't looking at each other as strangers. God has a plan for your marriage to thrive THROUGH and BEYOND your years of homeschooling. We will look to the Bible for practical, foundational ways to pour into your marriage while you pour into your kids.

Getting Through the Toughest Day of Your Life:

Life's Lessons from the Book of Job – Scott Woodruff

Sooner or later, we all have it: the most absolutely horrendous day of our lives. Maybe it's a whole week! You know the story: Job goes through terrible suffering, God responds, and Job's fortunes are restored. But there's more to the story. In this session, Scott reveals the powerful, hidden tools within Job's story that can help you not just survive, but overcome, when your day of testing comes. It could turn out to be your finest hour.

TEEN TRACK WORKSHOP

Financial Freedom for Teens – Larry Hanthorn

Come and participate in this fast-paced, fun, and informational workshop. We will explore Biblical principles together and learn practical ways to give generously, save and invest regularly, and spend wisely, which will lead you from financial stress and into a lifetime of financial freedom.

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Session 7

11:00AM-NOON

SATURDAY

Change: Teach Them, Don't Tell Them – Dr. Kathy Koch

Are you frustrated because your children aren't changing in ways you want them to? Learn subtle attitudes and habits that make change difficult so you can decrease their effects. Then learn strategies, relevant Scripture, and a change process that will work!

When More Is Less: A Call to Simplicity – Sonya Shafer

It's easy to get caught up in the mentality that we've got to add more: we must do more, we must get more, and our children must study more. More, more, more! But the funny thing is that when we keep adding more, we usually end up with less of what really matters. Discover the richness that simplicity can bring to your schedule, your home, and your children's education.

The Cultural War on Health – Dr. Dusty & Rae Hess

Today, more than ever, it's important to understand the significance of the relationship we, and our kids, have with food, movement, relationships, self-responsibility, and technology. In this workshop we bring awareness to how current culture might not have the next generation's best interest in mind and how to be proactive in your family's relationship in living a healthy lifestyle.

Handwriting: A Nemesis or a Hero? – Cathy Angel & Ali Roemhild

Teach handwriting explicitly and effortlessly. Students need to learn the basic handwriting forms that we call "Squiggles". These Squiggles will enable your children to write all the letters of the alphabet effortlessly. We will also address the importance of teaching cursive!

SPECIAL PANEL

Homeschool Graduates

Are you just starting your homeschool adventure or perhaps completing the early stages of your homeschool journey? Do you sometimes wonder if homeschooling can bring the results you hope to achieve? Meet our panel of homeschool graduates and hear them share how their home education experience prepared them for their futures and launched them successfully into adulthood.

TEEN TRACK WORKSHOP

But, Mom, How Do I Study? – Kristin Lackie

Students are often expected to have strong study and organizational skills, but they are rarely taught what that means. This workshop includes practical information geared toward developing effective study habits like setting goals, managing time, organizing spaces, improving reading comprehension, taking notes, taking tests, and finding balance. You will be prepared to help your middle and high school students succeed in academics, in employment, and in life. Teens are encouraged to attend with you.

Exhibitor Workshops

12:15-1:15PM

Multi-Age, Multi-Grade – BiblioPlan

Are you longing to find ways in your day to bring all your children together around the table? Do you need refreshing tips that show you how to combine subjects in a way that meets the needs of all your children – on their levels and in their styles of learning? Are you wondering which subjects you can do together? Are you weary of juggling different grade levels? Spend some time with Teresa Jones from BiblioPlan as she shares numerous practical helps for teaching history, literature, writing, Bible, geography, art, science and more across multi-age levels drawing from both a classical style and a Charlotte Mason approach.

Math with Mrs. Brown – Math with Mrs. Brown

It is not often you hear "God" and "math" spoken in the same sentence. This free online curriculum includes personal video lessons and video solutions to help your child learn mathematics the way God designed it. These free guided notes and practice problems are also printable and downloadable so your child can work at their own pace. Included throughout are experiments, art projects, and the history of mathematics.

So, You Want to Be an Author? – Daughter of the Wilds

Have you had a story burning inside your head for years and just don't know what to do with it? Do you love to write, but the idea of publishing a book terrifies you? This session will help you learn basic knowledge and skills of where to start with your writing dream.

Playing-Based Music Lessons – Passion Studios

"I've always wanted to play that instrument..." Does this sound like you? Over 270 students at Passion Studios learn fantastic sounding music right away from their first lessons, playing 30-50 classical, contemporary, jazz, blues, and accompaniment songs in their first year, as well building improvisation and composition skills through the Simply Music method. Attend this one-hour session to learn more about the multi-sensory Simply Music approach, what sets Simply Music apart from other traditional learning methods, and see a sample lesson in action. You'll also learn about Passion Studios history, meet an instructor, hear their personal story, and get answers for any questions you may have.

Fulfilling the Great Commission Through Fiction – Imagination Investigation

Many Christians are familiar with Jesus' Great Commission found in Matthew 28:18-20. There Jesus instructs His followers to go and make disciples. Often this brings to mind street evangelism, mission trips, and gospel conversations. All those are good and should be done, but they are not the only methods open to us. Therefore, this class will explore one of those other options: how we can use fiction to fulfill different aspects of the Great Commission with our families, our friends, and even ourselves.

Session 8

1:30-2:30PM

Keep It Simple: Teach Your Whole Family Together – Sonya Shafer

Save time and money by teaching most school subjects to all of your students together. Join Sonya for practical strategies to lower your stress level, provide a well-rounded education, and help you and your children build sweet memories. Learn how to keep it simple by teaching your whole family together with Charlotte Mason methods.

The Right Parent for Your Child: You – Scott Woodruff

Parenting can bring out the worst in us. Every unresolved conflict and unhealed wound threatens to destroy us as soon as we enter on the perilous path of parenting. So why in the world could you possibly think you could adequately parent your child? Because a shocking, miraculous divine grace has chosen you. God knows every one of your failures and flaws, and He still picked you to be the parent of your child! In this session, Scott presents God's plan of redemption as it is worked out through broken parents rearing chosen children. Parents who have bought into the pessimism of our age and are ready to give up will leave this session with powerful reason for hope, excitement, and confidence.

Healthy Cultures Start with Healthy Families – Dr. Dusty & Rae Hess

Are you interested in learning simple ways to equip your family on how to apply health on a daily basis? This workshop is focused on empowering the family, wherever they are in their health journey, to maximize their time by investing in areas that will create life changing results.

Unlock Your Beginning and/or Struggling Reader's Potential – Cathy Angel

If you aren't teaching the Six Types of Syllables to your child, you are missing a huge support for decoding and spelling! Come see how easy it is to teach and apply this learning!

Cogni-Strong: The Neuroscience of Play and Learning – Dr. Joe O'Tool

Can you train your brain? Can physical activity improve the academic achievement of your students? Can movement enhance general health and wellbeing? Can exercise decrease stress, anxiety, depression, and other symptoms such as ADHD in an individual? Just 50 years ago the idea that the adult brain can change in any way was considered nonsense. Researchers accepted that the immature brain is malleable, but also believed that it gradually hardens into a permanent structure by the end of childhood. Also, it was generally accepted that humans were born with a finite number of brain cells, and that the brain was incapable of regenerating itself. Damage or injuries could never be fixed. Nothing could be further from the truth! The brain's ability to change is called neuroplasticity. Neuroplasticity is essential in learning. Dr. Joe O'Tool will give a scientific understanding of the brain, the role of exercise in learning, and specific actions you can take with each individual student to maximize learning and minimize stress!

Vocation – Mike Schutt

This lecture presents the basics of the Christian view of "calling" in all areas of life—family, church, work, and country. What does it mean to be "called" to a job or to a role in one's family, and how does it help to think about life through the lens of calling? The discussion answers the questions "how do I know my calling?" and "are some jobs more "Christian" than others?"

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Session 9

3:00-4:00PM

SATURDAY

Resiliency: Help Children Embrace Life with Confidence – Dr. Kathy Koch

Are your children easily frustrated by their mistakes? Do they give up quickly or resist taking risks? Do they complain that things are too hard? They need to be resilient so they can bounce back quickly from difficulties and disappointments. Resilient children have healthier mental health, are problem solvers, and aren't afraid of using effort. Dr. Kathy's practical techniques work, and you will be able to parent so resiliency is more likely.

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.

Post-High School Menu: Apprenticeships & Career Appetizers – Shawn Sandersfeld

This workshop will address ways to discover the gifts and talents of your child and merge them into opportunities as they complete high school and beyond.

Jumpstart College with CLEP – Kristin Lackie

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) along with Prometric's DSST program are nationally recognized credit- by-exam programs that offer over 70 different exams, 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 save time and money earning a college degree. Teens are encouraged to attend with you.

Understanding Your Child's Unique Cognitive Profile: How Reasoning Abilities, Oral Language, Processing Speed, and Memory Function Impact Learning – Elizabeth Hoksbergen

If you have ever wanted a deeper understanding of your child's cognitive profile and what makes learning difficult or easy for him or her, this is for you. We will take a quick, yet deep dive into the science of learning, various cognitive abilities, indicators for high or low function in each area, and basic strategies to strengthen areas of weakness. This session will help you better understand your child's God-given constellation of strengths and weaknesses.

MAKE & TAKE WORKSHOP *(Advance Registration Required)*

Sourdough Bread – Donna Owen

Come and learn to make beautiful, nourishing sourdough bread. Return home with a starter, notes, and encouragement! "Breadmaking cultivates both patience and expectation, a tension that requires us to slow down and pay attention. The bubbles. The rise. The folds. Each stage invites us to pause, to notice, to listen." -Bethany Douglass

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

4:15-5:15PM

Choose the Hard Things (or How to Keep Going When You Feel Like Giving Up) – Todd Wilson

Homeschooling is hard, parenting is hard, and marriage...well, that's way hard. And that's OK and even normal. Trouble is we don't like hard. We want easy, fast, and cheap, and at the same time we want successful results. But the truth is that good things are hard and hard things are good, and they go hand in hand. Sadly, most people don't ever experience the good because they can't handle the hard. They put the hard thing off, hoping it will get easier, or they avoid it all together, and all they end up with is a pile of regrets.

Here's the good news: you can handle the hard. In fact, if you're faced with two choices, pick 'HARD.'

Bring your conference experience to a climatic close, soaking in Todd's humor-filled inspiration as he shares how to embrace the hardness, keep your eyes on the joy, and experience God's best for you.



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Exhibitors



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Academy of Excellence

Academy of Excellence provides a complete educational experience for personalized Christian education. Their certified Christian teachers provide live group and one-on-one meetings throughout the week. They provide all curriculum, student work feedback, extracurricular and elective options, and certified transcripts.

Apples of Gold (Elizabeth Hoksbergen)

The home of EduNurture, Apples of Gold provides diagnostic testing and customized solutions, rooted in the science of learning. Led by a team of educational psychologists, they provide in-depth recommendations for individualized accommodations and instruction. Additionally, they provide official Wilson Reading System® options and high-fidelity structured literacy (phonological and orthographic processing, decoding, spelling, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and oral language development) via therapeutic-grade in-person or online services. They also offer ACT preparation and subject tutoring for older students. They are also Iowa's only authorized provider of Fast Forward, a cognitive abilities development program.

Apologetics Fiction

Keith Robinson, with Apologetics Fiction, offers a variety of science-fiction and action-adventure novels that incorporate apologetics into the plots.

ArtEd4Kiddos

ArtEd4Kiddos kits provide quality, comprehensive art learning for students ages 5-11. Kits include links to video tutorials, instructional videos that teach art vocabulary, content and history as well as all the art materials required. The ArtEd4Kiddos team likes to think of themselves as the fairy godmothers of art education.

Aspire Academy

Aspire Academy is a learning center that helps students who struggle with reading, writing, spelling, and handwriting. They use the Wilson Orton-Gillingham method that focuses on teaching the five building blocks of reading with a strong phonics emphasis. Their methods help children "crack the code" in a systematic, cumulative, student-paced process. They also teach the IEW Structure and Style program for students who struggle with writing, and they screen for dyslexia.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

BiblioPlan

BiblioPlan is a Classical Christian history and literature curriculum with a Charlotte Mason flair. It is extremely flexible for homeschooling families, homeschooling co-ops, and Christian schools. It is K-12 and not only covers history and literature but also incorporates, Bible, Church history, geography, writing and art.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

BJU Press Homeschool/HomeWorks by Precept

BJU Press Homeschool provides a complete curriculum for preschool through 12th grade woven with a biblical worldview, critical thinking skills, and hands-on learning with instruction options using traditional parent-led textbooks and professionally-taught video courses.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Brain Balance of Des Moines

Brain Balance of Des Moines is a developmental program to help children struggling with a variety of concerns including ADHD, learning disabilities, autism, sensory processing, anxiety, social skills, and behaviors.

Celebrate Kids (Dr. Kathy Koch)

Celebrate Kids, founded by Dr. Kathy Koch, exists to offer peace to anxious students, extend hope to depressed teens, and provide encouragement to discouraged moms and dads who want the best for their children.

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Classical Conversations

Classical Conversations connects you with a local community of like-minded families who not only learn together, but do life together. They equip homeschool parents with the confidence to raise bright, observant students who have a lifelong love of learning.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Cooper & Kid

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Award-winning online art lessons for aspiring artists of all ages are available through Creating a Masterpiece.

Credits Before College (Kristin Lackie)

Credits Before College helps parents understand how to implement debt-free college strategies for their family. Students who earn credits before college save time, save money, and have a proven higher completion rate. Combined with dual enrollment and career advising, this is the best offensive strategy to graduating college without debt.

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND SPECIAL TRACK SPEAKER

Crown College

Crown offers dual enrollment, undergraduate, and graduate degrees. They also offer classes in online, on campus in Minnesota, and hybrid in Omaha.

ALSO A COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR EXHIBITOR

Daughter of the Wilds

Do you have young readers looking for their next fantasy read? Want a clean adventure with lots of action? Try the Arda series! Daughter of the Wilds and The Prince and the Dragon are a gateway into a realm full of magic swords, daring adventure, and much more. Satisfied readers have shared how much they loved these wholesome adventures!

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Developing Great Relationships

Developing Great Relationships offers Biblically based marriage enrichments and marriage intensives.

Dual Credit at Home

Dual Credit at Home gives high schoolers the opportunity to earn both high school and college credits at the same time! Their daily Study Plans guide students in taking accredited exams for college credit. Who knew that getting a head start on a college degree could be so easy?

ALSO A COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR EXHIBITOR

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Embrace Life Chiropractic

A neurologically-based chiropractic office, Embrace Life Chiropractic specializes in the care of families and children. They are a Christian & faith-based business and do not do the traditional twisting, popping, and cracking sometimes associated with chiropractic providers. At this event, they will offer free informative and fun evaluations and talk with families about health.

Emmaus Bible College

A 4-year private accredited undergraduate Bible college, Emmaus offers over 35 professional and ministry-oriented majors and minors.

Distance learning options are also available.

Students with a homeschool diploma are eligible for a \$500/year scholarship at Emmaus, renewable for all 4 years.

ALSO A COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR EXHIBITOR

Emmaus Worldwide

Emmaus Worldwide provides structured Bible curriculum for homeschoolers.

It is not core subjects from a Christian perspective, but intentional Bible study, designed so that school-aged children can learn to study their Bible independently.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Enrichment Therapy & Learning Center

Enrichment Therapy & Learning Center provides individual speech, language, reading, math, social, expressive writing, handwriting skills, and dyslexia support. They create an individualized plan for each student based on their skill level and unique learning style. Enrichment Therapy & Learning Center also provides free screenings for all of their services to determine if an evaluation would be recommended, and they offer dyslexia testing, diagnosis, and support.

Faith Baptist Bible College

At over 100 years old, Faith Baptist Bible College is one of the oldest Bible colleges in America.

They are also one of the most affordable!

Their beautiful 52-acre campus in Ankeny, Iowa, is part of a growing, vibrant community—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?”

ALSO A COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR EXHIBITOR

Familyman Ministries (Todd Wilson)

The Familyman serves as your one-stop source for everything-dad. Along with encouraging products, you'll find all kinds of real life stories, examples, and practical advice to becoming the dad your family needs.

They also offers books for homeschooling moms, apparel items, and other products.

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER

First Frets Guitar & Ukulele Lessons

First Frets offers online guitar and ukulele lessons. They have both family and individual plans available. Sign up at their booth to lock-in a steep discount.

Generous Family

Generous Family offers the Generous Students™ Homeschool Edition, a 26-week curriculum designed to teach children about the importance of living generously. It is based on the 7 Ways of Living Generously, including thoughts, words, time, money, attention, influence, and sharing your belongings. The curriculum features daily scripture connection, activities, games, historical connections with Generosity Heroes, and extra opportunities to provide an opportunity for families to learn and practice generosity together.

Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa

Girl Scouts bring their dreams to life and work together to build a better world. Through programs from coast to coast, Girl Scouts of all backgrounds and abilities can be unapologetically themselves as they discover their strengths and rise to meet new challenges. Backed by trusted adult volunteers, mentors, and millions of alums, Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

Godstruck Ministries

Godstruck Ministries offers Scripture CDs, Bible curricula, sign and movement videos, miscellaneous business products.

Grace and Truth Books

Grace and Truth Books provides Christian books for families, featuring their line of character-building stories for children.

Growth Reading Center

Growth Reading Center offers one-on-one online dyslexia tutoring geared specifically to help children with reading and spelling and to give them the confidence they need to reach their full potential.

Hannibal-LaGrange University

Hannibal-LaGrange University is a small, Christian liberal arts university located in Hannibal, Missouri. It espouses a biblical worldview, and the importance of our students having a relevant education so that they can engage the community around them and become transformational leaders that will impact generations to come.

ALSO A COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR EXHIBITOR

HEPPNER'S LEGACY Homeschool Resources (Nancy Bjorkman)

For nearly four decades HEPPNER'S has 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. They provide curricula, manipulatives, science supplies, fiction, biographies, audios, maps, timelines, unit studies, games, and much more. Plan ahead for your visit to the Heppner's Legacy booth at the Homeschool Iowa conference where they will have over 4,000 titles for you to peruse. Special orders welcome. This is where you'll find speaker, Nancy Bjorkman, when she's not presenting a workshop.

START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK SPEAKER

Hills of Zion

Hills of Zion offers Christian historical fiction and devotional literature for students and the family, especially curated for the homeschool setting.

Home School Legal Defense Association (Scott Woodruff)

A nonprofit advocacy organization established to defend and advance the constitutional right of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their children and to protect family freedoms. This is where you'll find speaker Scott Woodruff, when he's not presenting workshops.

START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK SPEAKER

Homeschool Resource Center

Homeschool Resource Center seeks to provide a physical facility for the local homeschool community to use for co-ops, groups, athletics, conferences and more.

Imagination Investigation

Imagination Investigation offers high quality Christian fiction and nonfiction resources concerning discernment and media.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Iowa Reading Research Center

Iowa Reading Research Center provides professional learning, technical assistance, and family resources.

Iowa Right to Life

Through grass roots lobbying, educational efforts and public-awareness programs, Iowa Right to Life has been on the front lines, working with thousands of pro-lifers across Iowa to promote the value of human life. Iowa Right to Life offers education and resource information which equips people to articulate their “right to life” position.

Lamplighter Publishing

Lamplighter Publishing offers books and audio dramas with engaging stories that will lead to a heroic partnership with God.

Making Reading Heavenly (Cathy Angel)

Offering reading, spelling, and handwriting products that help reluctant and beginning readers. Products focus on explicit phonics instruction, teaching through engaging games, and building knowledge of the six types of syllables using the Orton-Gillingham method.

Their Writing With Rhythm handwriting program offers a multi-sensory approach using video links that provide instruction. Cathy Angel is a speaker at our conference this year.

Making the Grade

Learn college-level study skills from Mark Pruitt, “Captain College.” Mark offers 4 Study Steps in his book and training sessions that will help your student improve study skills.

Master Books

Master Books is the leading publisher of biblical apologetic books and resources since 1976. Whether you're new to homeschooling or a seasoned pro, they are here to help you succeed with their award-winning, faith-based homeschool curriculum. **ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP**

Math with Mrs. Brown

Math with Mrs. Brown offers: free online mathematics curriculum with God at the center, 190 video lessons and solution videos for each 7th-12th grade book, and free printable materials that include guided lesson notes and practice problems.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Nebraska Scientific

Nebraska Scientific offers STEM related products, dissection specimens, chemistry experiments, science and math related books, and more.

The Network

The Network is a homeschool high school co-op in Des Moines offering over 30 high school classes.

Passion Studios

Passion Studios is a playing-based music lesson studio located in Ankeny, Iowa, offering piano, guitar, ukulele, drum and early childhood music lessons. They are among the top 1% of instruction schools for Simply Music students internationally! Their multi-sensory approach has students playing 30-50 songs with both hands in the first year. At the core of all we do, we believe everyone has their own unique musical voice, and we exist to unlock it.

ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP

Portals Academy

Portals Academy provides a literature-to-project-based program for learning so that anyone can foster a Christian education. They provide homeschoolers, micro-schoolers, and private schools with curriculum that includes detailed daily lesson plans with supplemental audio, videos, games, and projects for multi-modal learning. They also provide on-call teacher support and professional development to support educators as they facilitate learning for their students.

RightStart Mathematics

RightStart™ Mathematics is a complete elementary and middle-school mathematics curriculum that uses visualization of quantities, de-emphasizes 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.

Rod & Staff Publishers (Truth and Life Ministries)

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 story books for the whole family.

Rooted in Christ Studio

Rooted in Christ Studio offers Christian and homeschool-themed apparel, accessories, home decor, and more. They are a Christian homeschooling family with a mother and daughter team specializing in custom designs about their passion: representing Christ and homeschooling.

Sattler College / Ekklesia Press

Sattler College is an under-grade entity that is extremely affordable compared to other private schools. Their program requires one year of both Greek and Hebrew studies along with discipleship. Ekklesia Press offers a line of books that encourages believers to be who the Ekklesia God designed us to be instead of just religious people.

Simple Turn (Dr. Dusty & Rae Hess)

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.

Simply Charlotte Mason (Sonya Shafer)

Simply Charlotte Mason offers enjoyable curriculum, living books, and enriching fine arts for a Charlotte Mason-style education.

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Sonlight

Complete literature-based Christian homeschool curriculum you're guaranteed to love. Easy-to-use homeschool program with complete lesson plans, schedules, and materials from preschool through high school.

Teaching Textbooks

Teaching Textbooks, an award-winning homeschool math app, offers Math 3 through Pre-Calculus courses that lift the entire burden of math education off the parent. Their apps work on virtually any device, even offline, so students can take their work with them.

Tutorburg

Tutorburg offers private tutoring for Dyslexia: Barton Reading and Spelling System, LiPS, Foundation in Sounds, IEW, & HWT.

They also provide educational consulting: choosing curriculum, assessing needs, planning support. **ALSO OFFERING AN EXHIBITOR WORKSHOP**

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.

SPONSOR OF START HOMESCHOOLING SPECIAL TRACK

Upper Iowa University -Des Moines

Founded in 1857, Upper Iowa University is a private, nonprofit corporation providing undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the classroom, online, and via self-paced learning (both web and mail) to 5,000 students annually. UIU's residential campus is located in Fayette, Iowa. They also have 23 locations across the United States (Arizona, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, Wisconsin).

ALSO A COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR EXHIBITOR

Worldview Academy (Mike Schutt)

Worldview Academy is a leadership and apologetics summer camp. Mike Schutt, from Worldview Academy, is a speaker at this year's conference.

Visit Our Vendor & Speaker Displays Exhibit Hall Feature Time:

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

**Saturday:
Noon-1:30pm**

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS:

**Friday
10:00am-7:00pm**

**Saturday
8:00am-4:00pm**

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Thank You to our Sponsors!



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faith baptist bible college
and theological seminary











Two Rivers
CLASSICAL ACADEMY

DMACC
DES MOINES AREA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Life's Calling™



EMMAUS
BIBLE COLLEGE

Conference Facility Map

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

OVERLOOK ROOM
(Mezzanine Level)



MEET & GREETES
(Mezzanine Level)

KEYNOTE
ROOM

EXHIBIT
HALL

HARDWOOD
COURTS

COMMONS

A/B

C

MAIN
ENTRANCE

ACTIVITIES
ROOM

COMMUNITY ROOMS

