



# Home School Newsletter

## Spring blessings

Volume 1, issue 2

Spring/Summer

LICOC  
Home School Group

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### Upcoming Events

- **LI LEAH Home school Convention - Friday, May 2nd & Saturday, May 3rd**
- **Women's Meeting - Friday, May 16th**
- **Basketball clinic— Thursdays May 22,29,5,12,19**
- **Graduation— June 28th**



## Closing of the School Year

Each year, I look forward seasonal changes; growing up in Florida, I didn't have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of changing seasons. Spring is one of my favorite! The awakening of trees, flowers and animals (and some people :) signals the coming of Spring/summer. It also signals the closing of another year. God has given us another year to imprint our children's hearts

and minds . Homeschooling stretching us and facilitates intimate, deep relationships with our children and them with one another. Is this an easy task? By no means, but the fruit is immeasurable and it will, Lord willing, impact our families for generations to come. So, as you survey this year don't focus on the uncompleted lessons, and activities—the things not accomplished. But, focus on the imprinting of

diligence, perseverance, service, love, compassion, and mercy—to name a few. The ultimate goal of academic achievement is to bring glory to God; so as we do our part God will take care of rest.

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your path"....my hope is in you all day long. Ps 25 4-5

YSIC,

Deborah Tomengo

## Future Men

As much as it may distress us, our boys are future men.

I was once leading a seminar for teacher at our Christian school and, in the course of discussion, I mentioned that many of the girls in the school would, within a few short years, be adult women and would take their place in our midst. The teacher heard all this with aplomb, but when I went on to say that within a few short year the boys they were instructing would be lawyers, airline pilots, pastor, etc. the looks on the faces of the assembled teacher ranged from concern to mild panic. Boy take a lot of faith.

This is good, because the presence or absence of faith reveals whether or not we have a biblical doctrine of our future. Unbelief is always anchored to the present, while faith looks at that which is unseen. But even here we only get half the picture. Too often we think that faith only looks at unseen heavenly things, but this truncated approach is really the result of an incipient Gnosticism. In the Bible, faith includes the ability to see that which is unseen because it is still future.

According to the text, Abraham rejoiced to see the day of Christ, not the day when he Abraham, would go to heaven. Faith conquers kingdoms, faith stops the mouth of lions, Faith turns armies to flight, and faith brings boys up to mature and godly masculinity.

But another qualification must be added. The faith exhibited by wise parents of boys is the faith of a farmer, or a sculptor, or anyone else engaged in the work of shaping unfolding possibilities. It is not the faith of someone waiting around for lightning to strike; it is the faith of someone who looks at the present and sees what it will become—through grace and good works.

Countless examples may be multiplied from any given day in the life of a small boy. Say a boy breaks a chair because he was jumping on it from the bunk bed. Unbelief sees the cost of replacing the chair. Faith sees aggressiveness and courage, both of which obviously need to be channeled and disciplined. Suppose a boy

gets into a fight protecting his sister. Unbelief sees the lack of wisdom that created the situation that could have been easily avoided; faith sees and immature masculinity that is starting to assume the burden of manhood.

Unbelief squashes; faith teaches. Faith take s a boy aside, and says that this part of what you did was good, while the other part of what you did got in the way. "this is how to do it better next time."

When Theodore Roosevelt was at Harvard, he taught Sunday School fro a time at Christ Church, until he was dismissed. A boy showed up one Sunday with a black eye. He admitted he had been fighting, and on a Sunday too. He told the future President that a bigger boy had been pinching his sister, and so he fought him. TR told him that he had done perfectly right and gave him a dollar. The vestry men thought this was a bit much, and so they let their exuberant Sunday School teacher go.

Unbelief cannot look past the surface. If there was any sin involved, unbelief sees only the sin. Faith see what was turned aside to the service of sin and seeks to turn it back again. Sin is parasitic and cannot function without some good attributes that it seeks to corrupt. Consequently, faith must distinguish that which must be preserved and developed ant that which must be abandoned as sin....

So faith is central in bring up boys, but it is important to remember that the faith is not faith in the boy. It is faith in God, faith in His promises, faith in His wisdom. Faith concerns the boy, and the boy can see that it concerns him. Parents are to believe God for their sons, which is a very different thing than believing their sons. Faith is not wishful thinking; faith apprehends the promises of God found in Scripture. "The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before thee" (Ps. 102:28) ....

God is the One who place a particular boy in a particu-

lar home. And he does so in order that those parents who believe and obey Him might come to delight in a wise son. "My son, if thin heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, when thy lips speak right things." (Prov 23:15-16)

By Douglas Wilson—Christian Home Educators of Ohio

### TELESCOPE

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. - II CORINTHIANS 4:18 NKJV

Cartoonist's Comment: By faith we can 'see' things that we cannot see with our natural eyes. By faith we can get a vision of God's plan for our lives.



"Who can find a virtuous woman, for her worth is far above rubies.." Prov. 31:10

### Keeper of the Home Tip

**Stop the Build up Before it Happens**

**I rely on micro management when it comes to most of my housework, but especially papers, laundry, and clutter we bring into the house. Daily management of these things are essential for me to prevent the build up. I rather do a little every day than get overwhelmed with the massive work needed when I let things go too long. I try to immediately get a handle on the clutter we bring into the house.**

**I put the kids to work on this, putting their coats, shoes, toys and accessories away. I have them unpack snack bags, clothes bags, etc. and put everything away. I am training them to make it a habit to do this as soon as they come in the house before they settle down to relax. I start my laundry in the morning and do at least 2 loads a day, Monday to Friday. I take off on the weekends. The papers, I put in a pile and as I see the pile growing I go through it regularly trashing most of it. It is amazing what can pile up in just a few days for our family of 5. So I do my best to stop the build up before it happens. It helps me keep my sanity.**

### Recommended Videos/DVD's

We borrowed these from the library recently and enjoyed watching how other people live in other countries. The titles are called Families in Thailand- a day in the life of 2 boys. These are two 15 in programs for 5-10 year olds. The other ones are about the same length in time and for the same age range just different countries. They are Families in Mexico, Sweden, Japan, India and Puerto Rico.

My personal favorite was Thailand.

Other videos to check out are Nest Videos. Its a Animated Series of Bible Stories and also Inventors and people who have made a difference in History. Great for kids and adults alike.

This is a movie for the ladies with a spiritual theme to it. Its called Though None Go With Me. Its a love story with a great spiritual reminder. You can borrow it from your library and don't forget your box of tissues. Just so you know it does have some pre-marital kissing in it, but other then that it is a pretty wholesome movie.

Catherin Bullinger

## Frugal favorites

### Couponing:

If you don't know already you can print coupons off the internet and use them in a variety of stores. Just make sure your store accepts these printed coupons before you go crazy printing them out. I know that Waldbaums and Best Yet do not accept printed coupons. CVS does and Stop and Shop does. But that's just for my area, again double check the ones in your area. When you combine coupons with a sale you can really save. If an item is Buy one get one free take note how it is rung up. At Rite-Aid each item that is BOG1 rings up half off each item. If that's the case that means I can use one coupon for each item and really save big. If the item rings up one for full price and the other for zero cents then you can only use one coupon and still save. Also keep a close eye on the difference between Manufacturers coupons and store coupons. Because you can only use one Manufacturer coupon per item but you can use both a store coupon and 1 manufacturer coupon per item and again save big. Also what I have learned is really read your coupons because we sometime go by the picture and we can be deceived into thinking we need to buy the item that's pictured and that is not always the case.

Another tip would be to hold on to all coupons you receive unless you defiantly know you will not use the item even if its next to nothing or free. Because a few weeks later there may be a great sale on an item and you can use that coupon that you were about to toss and get it for next to nothing. Then you will want to kick yourself for tossing it out.



If you like free samples a good site to check out would be Walmart.com. Click on "in stores now" and then click on free samples and fill in the info and wait for your sample to arrive. I have tried this a couple of times now and received many samples and have not received any other additional junk mail. I think they change samples about twice a month so check back often.

Another way to save money on items you often buy would be to do what's called "Cherry Picking". Find two stores (or more if you have the time or they are near by) that you are willing to shop at and pick up only the sales that you need from each store. When you shop at more then one store a week you have a better chance to save on the items you purchase every week because if its not on sale at one store it may be on sale at the other store. Also check the prices. Like for me Best Yet has a better price on produce and eggs then my usual grocery store, so I buy those items there unless they are cheaper at my regular grocery store that particular week.

If you don't purchase the Sunday paper and get coupons that way, maybe you can get coupons other ways and exchange with other people. Don't throw away that local paper that gets thrown on your driveway on Saturdays because sometimes maybe about once a month there are coupons in there. When you pass by those blinking machines in the grocery store grab a coupon or two from it you never know when that item may go on sale and you may use it or you can give it to someone else who you exchange with.

Catherine Bullinger

## stretching our Husbands \$'s

### Juice and making it more Nutritious

Save juice boxes and pouches for road trips and limit fruit juice at home to four to six ounces a day.

Its full of sugar and calories and kids can get vitamin C from healthier whole fruit and vegetables too.

Make a small serving go farther by diluting juice with water. Or pop a couple of frozen juice cubes into flavored seltzer for a fizzy, low sugar treat.

When you do give juice, opt for OJ. It boasts folate and potassium, and the kids versions are fortified with calcium and vitamins A and E.

(tip from "Parents Magazine")

## Volume 1, Issue 2

## Crock pot recipes



Beef Stew (My Mom's recipe with my own twist)

2 lbs. Beef cubed for stew

1 bulb of garlic- chopped

2 Large onions

1 Large Green Bell Pepper

1 Large Red Bell Pepper

1 Small Bag of Baby Carrots

3 Large potatoes- peeled and cut small

Lightly Seasoned Flour

A little canola oil

2 packets of sazón

Salt and pepper

1. Season the Meat 1-2 days in advance with your favorite seasoning.

2. Before you start cooking allow meat to become room temperature (several hours). This is very important. If

you don't allow it to rest on counter long enough meat will be tough.

3. Place a little oil in a saucepan, just enough to coat the bottom of the pan. Place seasoned beef into your flour (seasoned lightly with salt and garlic powder), and then brown beef in oil. After browned nicely transfer into the crock pot.

4. Add chopped garlic, onions, peppers, and season them with a little salt and pepper.

5. Add baby carrots and potatoes, and season them with a little salt and pepper. (I like to add celery too.)

6. Add enough water to almost cover everything.

7. Add Sazon and mix well. Try to keep meat under the water.

8. Cook on low for at least 4 hours. If you want to thicken the liquid you could transfer the food into a pot on the stove and bring to a boil. Then place 2 tbs. of corn starch with a little salt and cold water into a mug. Mix well and add to boiling pot. Mix until it thickens and then serve.

9. Serve over Rice. We eat it over brown rice with Tostones (fried green plantain). Mmmm!

Titus 2:4-5

...Train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to

Becky Young



2 cups uncooked elbow macaroni (an 8-ounce box isn't quite 2 cups)  
4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) butter, cut into pieces  
2 1/2 cups (about 10 ounces) grated sharp Cheddar cheese  
3 eggs, beaten  
1/2 cup sour cream  
1 (10 3/4-ounce) can condensed Cheddar cheese soup  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 cup whole milk  
1/2 teaspoon dry mustard  
1/2 teaspoon black pepper

Boil the macaroni in a 2 quart saucepan in plenty of water until tender, about 7 minutes. Drain. In a medium saucepan, mix butter and cheese. Stir until the cheese melts. In a slow cooker, combine cheese/butter mixture and add the eggs, sour cream, soup, salt, milk, mustard and pepper and stir well. Then add drained macaroni and stir again. Set the slow cooker on low setting and cook for 3 hours, stirring occasionally.  
Paula Deen

## Swiss Steak

This dish is delicious! (by Paula Deen)

1 round steak (approximately 1 1/2 pounds),

1 teaspoon garlic powder

Salt and pepper

All-purpose flour, for dusting

1/3 cup vegetable oil

2 cloves garlic, crushed

1 (14-1/2 ounce) can diced tomatoes

1 medium onion, cut into strips

1 medium bell pepper, cut into strips

Cut steak into serving-size pieces. Season, to taste, with garlic powder and salt and pepper. Dust meat with flour. In heavy skillet, brown both sides of meat in vegetable oil. Transfer to Dutch oven. Combine garlic, tomatoes, onion, bell pepper, and 1 tomato-can measure of water. Pour over steak and simmer over low heat until meat is tender, about 1 1/2 hours adding water, if neces-

to keep meat partially covered. Season, to taste, with additional salt and pepper. Hint: Cook this in a slow-cooker, according to manufacturers instructions, on low for a most fabulous dinner. Low heat on a slow cooker is about 200 degrees F and high heat on a slow cooker is about 300 degrees

Deb T

## Pot Roast

I have a very simple and favorite crock pot recipe.



Crock-Pot Pot Roast

1 Top or Bottom Round Roast

1 package of Lipton onion soup mix

1 can of cream of mushroom

Enough water to come almost half way up the roast.

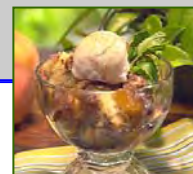
Lightly flour all sides and brown in pan with some oil. I've also

skipped this part and its still good. Put all ingredients in Crock and cook on low for about 6- 8 hours depending on size of roast.

When done cooking you can thicken the liquid and pour over roast and serve with some mashed potatoes (not us, we do low carb :( and some fresh string beans or broccoli, Yummy!!!!

Catherine B

## Peach Cobbler



2 (16-ounce) cans sliced peaches in heavy or light syrup, or in fruit juice, your choice  
1 pint fresh blueberries, optional  
1/2 cup baking mix (recommended: Bisquick)  
1/3 cup sugar  
Ground cinnamon

Topping:

2 1/4 cups baking mix (recommended: Bisquick)

1/4 cup sugar

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter, melted

1/2 cup milk

Cinnamon sugar (1/4 cup sugar combined with 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon; store in an empty spice shaker jar; shake well before each use)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Spray a Dutch oven with vegetable oil cooking spray

Drain 1 can of the peaches. Combine both cans of peaches, including the juice from the undrained can, the blueberries, if using, the baking mix, sugar, and a sprinkling of cinnamon. Place this mixture into the Dutch oven.

To make the topping: Combine the biscuit mix, sugar, butter, and milk in a resealable plastic bag. Drop bits of dough, using your fingers, on top of the peaches. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar.

Place the Dutch oven into the preheated oven and bake for 45 minutes, until the top is golden brown and crusty. By Paula Deen

This is the Q & A section. If you have any additional ideas or suggestions please pass along your ideas . Love you all. Deb T

Do you have any suggestions for keeping your records and paperwork ? What kind of filing system you have?

Catherine B

For younger kids (per-k –6th grade) I'd suggest using an according file folder for each grade. Limit the amount of work you keep to this folder. Take pictures of Lg. items (science fair , Art Gallery boards, etc.) file the pictures and get rid of boards.

For older children (7-12) It's important to save or file all course work and extracurricular activities until a major and college is chosen.

Records can be kept on a calendar, in binder with loose leaf paper, attendance log (for homeschoolers). Find the method that works best for you.

Am I doing the right thing and best thing for my kids? Those parents who have kids who are 4th grade and above, do they feel they gave their kids the best foundation as far as reading and writing goes. If not what would they have done differently? What do they think helped their kids to "get it" when it came to all the language art rules? I was talking with a sister and she said that if they don't get that foundation (reading, writing, language art rules etc.) then they will be lost after that. It will be very difficult for the child to succeed in school in the later grades. I got real scared when I heard that and doubted myself. Am I equipped enough to teach them in their strengths and weaknesses. I know that is normal and we can do all things through Christ, I guess I'm just having a mid-year crisis :)?

I also had a question about left handed kids. If anyone has one out their that is older then 6. I was just wondering if there is a different style of writing that they will automatically do because they are left-handed. How particular should I be with judging what is right and what is wrong in the way she is writing. I have seen some left handed writers (adults) and their handwriting is messier then right handed people.

Catherine B

We all ask ourselves this question from time to time. It's a little unnerving to teach a subject you don't feel confident about. But, there are many options. We can equip our selves to teach through resources and study and prayer. It may also be helpful to look for teacher manuals that give a lot details and guide you step by step for subject you don't feel comfortable teaching. You can also team up with other moms and take turns teaching different subjects. As the kids grow older consider a tutoring and co-ops. One of the beauties of homeschooling is that we can learn along side our children. And with homeschooling you can keep teaching it until they get it.

I have 2 left-handed children and they are doing well with handwriting. When looking for hand writing programs look for programs geared towards left-handers. Remember, that handwriting is a developmental skill so we can only require of them what they are developmental able to achieve. Some child just don't enjoy writing and this can lead to messy work. Maybe a special price could be offered for neat work, or offer "fun" writing assignment to child (story writing, book making, etc.).



***I would like to homeschool my daughter How do I begin? Lasonya Lee***

1. Send Notice of Intent. By July 1, a Notice of Intent to instruct your children at home should be sent to your local school district Superintendent. This letter should be brief, simply state the Name of each child and your intention to home instruct.

2. Individualized Home Instruction Plan (IHIP). This form provides details concerning the student's education for the coming academic school year. Each child between the ages of 6-16 needs a IHIP. If the child that will turn six on or before Dec 1 must be in a full time instructional program.

3. Get a copy of the Regulatory and Informational Manual for Home Education in New York State. [www.leah.org](http://www.leah.org)

4. Get information on Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA)

\*Regulatory Manual for New York State

***What curriculum should I use? Where can I buy curriculum? Lasonya Lee***

Choosing a curriculum is always an exciting process for homeschoolers. But, it's also personal one. It depends on several factors: What kind of teaching method would you like to use (traditional (textbook, workbook), computer based, eclectic (combination of methods) hands on, unit study, classical, unschooled (child directed). If your unsure take time to research each method. The learning style of your child needs to be considered , your current circumstance (new baby, young children, illness, etc.) and your families budget for curriculum material.

**A few resources for curriculum:**

check out [www.vegsource.com](http://www.vegsource.com), [www.homeschoolclassified.com](http://www.homeschoolclassified.com), [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), [www.kc-bookstore.com](http://www.kc-bookstore.com), [www.market.hslda.org/auction/xcauction.asp](http://www.market.hslda.org/auction/xcauction.asp) (members), [www.welltrainedmind.com](http://www.welltrainedmind.com)

Homeschool conventions, Homeschool book sales, other homeschooling families may also be willing to swap or sell curriculum, and Catalogs (Rainbow Resource is a good resource)

***My friend from Queens is taking her Children out of High School to homeschool them? How does she begin? Lasonya Lee***

Lasonya Lee

1. She would need to contact her local School district and provide a written notice of her intention to educate her children within 14 days of starting her home instruction.

2. She should locate a support group in her area.

3. Get a copy of the Regulatory and informational Manual for Home Education in NY State. The Manual will help with IHIP, HS requirements, standardized testing requirements, & more. [www.leah.org](http://www.leah.org)

4. Get information about HSLDA. HSDLA offer a great information on homeschooling thru High School.



Poem Happy Mother's Day

Announcements/information

The Influence of a Righteous Mother by Marnie

*As I look back over my life, and the influence that my mother had on me, I realize that the things she taught me have never left my memory. They are burned into my character and will stay there forever. A righteous mother's influence for good spans the generations and touches the lives of so many more than her own children. Her influence radiates in the lives of her children, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and out to all they come in contact.....*



**Did you know we have a New Yahoo Group? It will be a great resource for asking questions, announcements, activities posting, etc. The Yahoo Group will offer a great way to communicate with one another. Click on the link below to join.**

[http://us.rd.yahoo.com/evt=42879/\\*http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LIChurchofChristHomeschoolingGroup](http://us.rd.yahoo.com/evt=42879/*http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LIChurchofChristHomeschoolingGroup)

*The deadline to hand in Yearbook photo (to Jackie G) and information (to Becky) is May 11th.*

Yearly assessments: A written Narrative can be used for grades 1—3. For grades 4 - 8 written Narrative can be given every other year. A standardized test is required on Alternating years. Grades 9-12 are required to take standardized test yearly. If you have any question please feel free to contact me. Deb T

[www.seatontesting.com](http://www.seatontesting.com)(CAT), [www.bju.com](http://www.bju.com) (Stanford & IA)

First Posted: July 22, 2007

**Cartoonist's Comment:** A camel can endure the hardships of the desert because it has water stored in its hump. In the same way we can endure the hardships of life, if we take time to store God's Word in our

Got jokes!

Q1. What is in the middle of nowhere?

Q2. What is a caterpillar afraid of?

Q3. What did the leaves name their son?

Q4. How do you spot a Dogwood tree?

Amber Tomengo

Answers below

First Posted: June 17, 2007

**Cartoonist's Comment:** There are plenty of voices in this world telling us that we are going to fail. But if we keep our attention on the Lord and His Word, and trust in Him, we will succeed.

A1. The letter "H"

A2. Dogerpillars

A3. Russell

A4. By its bark

**CONCENTRATION**

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. - ISAIAH 26:3 ESV

**ENDURANCE**

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful. - JAMES 5:11 NKJV