



# Homeschool Helper

*the Newsletter of the Upper Michigan Christian Home Educators*

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## A Note from Jim & Lonny

**A**s fall approaches, it is a good time to focus on priorities and goals for our families.

Sometimes the busy schedule of summer can leave us drifting, both emotionally and spiritually. Hebrews 2:1 is a gentle warning of this very thing. *“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.”*

As homeschoolers, we are not immune to drifting in the spiritual realm or in life in general. Take some time to look closely at areas of need and do the necessary adjustments. The beginning of the fall school year is a great

time to regain focus after the sometimes haphazardness of the summer events.

These suggestions may help.

How is:

- Your quiet time with the Lord
- Your relationship with your spouse (Ladies, it is so easy to put our children’s needs before our husbands. A good book to read if this is an area of need is *Created to be His Help Meet* by Debbie

Pearl, available at [www.nogreaterjoy.org](http://www.nogreaterjoy.org).)

- Training your children consistently
- Organizing your home
- Your schedule
- Systematically eliminating clutter in your life

Use these as check points. Make small adjustments that you will continue to implement over the long haul. Pray for wisdom as you go along. God bless you as you begin a new year!

Serving you because of Him...

**Jim & Lonny**



**NEW & IMPROVED**  
Check out our website at [www.umche.org](http://www.umche.org)

## Kick-Off Meeting for '06-'07

Friday, August 18 will be the “Kick-off” meeting for the 2006-2007 school year. The meeting will be held at 7:00 PM at the Bible Baptist Church in West Ishpeming. As always, feel free to bring

used curriculum, books, and other educational material to sell or give. Bring your questions, a word of encouragement, and a snack to share. For more information, call Jim or Lonny at (906) 486-4536.



## Dome Days—NEW RULES!

Dome Days at the Superior Dome in Marquette will resume in December. This is one of our best-attended and favorite activities!

There is a **NEW gathering place and coat drop-off**. Our regular meeting place at the bleachers is no longer available as college classes will be meeting there. Homeschoolers will now meet at the bleachers **ACROSS** the Dome in **Section 20** (NOT Section 3). This is a **PERMANENT** change.

NMU has some new rules for us. Please obey these rules:

1. Parents, keep children from running and actively playing in the bleachers. The bleachers are for quiet sitting only.
2. No playing in the sand pit (only for NMU students).
3. Tennis shoes (with NO black soles that mark up the floor) are required. No bare or stocking feet. No rollerblades or skateboards.
4. No scooters of any kind are allowed. Big wheels for the little ones (with plastic wheels) are acceptable.
5. Balls and jump ropes are welcome—some equipment is provided.
6. Parents must accompany their children—no drop-offs allowed.

The cost is 75 cents per child. The time is 9:30 a.m.-noon. Here are the dates!

Wed., Dec. 6

Wed., Jan. 10

Wed., Feb. 7

Wed., March 14



## Home School Art

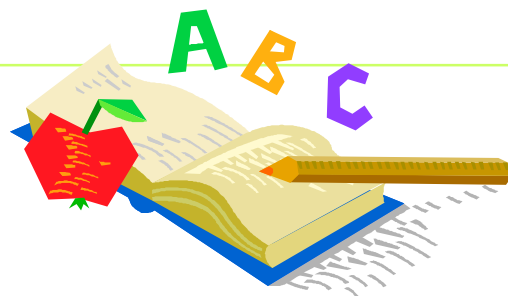
Art classes with instructor Bobbe Almer will be offered beginning Tuesdays this fall for students ages 7-15 at Michael's Arts and Crafts Store in Marquette.

"We will broaden art knowledge and skills with a new lesson and subject each week. This year, each class is a complete lesson and will include new subjects like print making, collage, clay,

and more. These are fine art lessons, not craft classes. We study fine art, famous artists, and develop artistic talents and skills. Students will create an art project during each class."

Students will look forward to Home School Art classes every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m., beginning October 3rd.

Private art lessons or art classes for groups of students at other locations may also be arranged by contacting Bobbe at (231) 631-9531 or [troutlilylane@yahoo.com](mailto:troutlilylane@yahoo.com)



## School Year Portraits

Cory's Images, independent photographer offers the chance to "capture your child's school year portraits. They grow so fast and change each year. What a beautiful way to show family and friends how your child has changed since last year.

"Packages for home schooling portraits are not the same as other portraits I offer. Call me for other prices for other specials and portraits. Only Home

schools and pre-schools get these great deals."

These pictures are not retouched or cropped. The lab will pick the best picture to use for the home school and pre-school photos.

Call and make your appointment for September 11-30, bring a friend, and have more savings.

Call Cory's Images: 249-1675 or email [Corys-Images@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Corys-Images@sbcglobal.net).

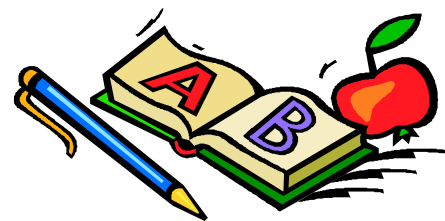
Packages:

- A. 8x10=\$10.00
- B. 2-5x7=\$10.00
- C. 4-4x6=\$10.00
- D. 8x10, 2-5x7=\$16.00
- E. 8x10, 2-5x7, 8 wallets=\$24.95
- F. 8x10, 2-5x7, 16 wallets=\$30.00
- G. 8x10, 2-5x7, 8 wallets, 4-4x6=\$30
- H. 4-5x7, 8 wallets=\$24.95

## Girls' Basketball Grades 8-12

Long time coach and Christian minister Coach Bill Hill is pursuing a vision to begin a Marquette County "Team Jesus" Basketball program for home-schooled girls in grades 8-12. An informational and interest meeting will be held at

Lake Superior Christian Church at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 3, 2006. For more information, contact Coach Bill Hill at 346-4815 or 361-2920 or email [hillcoach@aol.com](mailto:hillcoach@aol.com). Keep this vision in prayer!



## SOMETHING NEW!

A new resource is available to all homeschoolers in Marquette and surrounding areas.

On the **LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH**, beginning September 27, 2006 (through May 30, 2007), the Lake Superior Christian Church Library will be open with a trained library team volunteer to assist you from 10am to 3pm.

This quality, Bible-based, supplemental library houses 2,775 books, 600 videos/DVDs, 115 audio sets and more.

Most resources can be signed out for 4 consecutive weeks to help enhance and supplement your current homeschool curriculum, for the sake of creativity and clarity for both the home teacher and the students.

Come "Check Us Out" on September 27 at 393 N. M553 Marquette, 1/3 mile north of the Crossroads (480 & 553).

And each month when you come, enter the Monthly Library Drawing!

With any questions, feel free to call Sue Parsons at 346-6108 or email her at [slop4@charter.net](mailto:slop4@charter.net).

## Invitation to Public School

From Vicki Holworth, Superintendent/Principal of Republic-Michigamme:

"On behalf of the Republic-Michigamme School, I would like to extend a sincere invitation to all home schooled kids to attend our school for portions of a day for special classes such as music, band, physical education, computers, or higher level math or science classes. I am very proud of our students and staff and

know that they will share my enthusiasm to welcome you to our midst. We have had some changes in administration...We have an elementary staff that is second to none and a dynamic secondary staff as well. Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns. We really hope to work amiably with our home schooled students in the area."

**\*ALSO**, Fox of Marquette and Fox of Negaunee (formerly Crown Motors) continues to make Christian books and videos available for homeschoolers to sign out at 2 locations—

700 US 41, East Negaunee and 3815 US 41, West Marquette.

Visit them M, T, Th, F 8-6, W 8-8, Sat 9-1.

## Keep Our Mailing List Up-to-Date

Ruth Hill regularly redirects HSLDA weekly updates and other pertinent local homeschooling information to UM-CHE home schoolers who want to participate. If you are not already on this email and list and you would like to be added, please send your email address to [ruthehill@charter.net](mailto:ruthehill@charter.net). We will delete your address if the email is returned, so if you haven't been hearing from us

lately, we may have lost your address. If you would not like to continue to be on either the email list or the regular mailing list, please let the Janofskis know at 906-486-4536 or [Janofski@up.net](mailto:Janofski@up.net).

We could use donations at this time to cover the cost of printing the newsletter. To mail a donation, send it to UM-CHE c/o Jim Janofski, 2 Gold Drive, Ishpeming, MI 49849.

## HELP NEEDED!

Building our website has depleted our funds. We do not charge membership fees, so if you can help us out financially at this time to cover the costs of publishing the newsletter it would really be a blessing.

**HELP!**

## Tidbits of Info

**BOOK-IT and Pizza Hut for Kindergarten-6th grade:** Sign up with Sue Parsons for the BOOK-IT Reading Incentive Program at the August 18 meeting or call Sue at 346-6108 no later than Monday, August 21 to be included. (It is a nationwide program and they run out of packets quite quickly.) OR email BOOK-IT on your own, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, so you don't get left out of this excellent and FREE reading program for children K-6th grade.  
[www.bookitprogam.com](http://www.bookitprogam.com)

**God's World News:** God's World News is a Christian book club similar to "Weekly Readers." These weekly newspapers are really great for current events. Members of HSLDA get a discount, too! For ordering information, call 1-800-951-KIDS (8:30-5:00 Eastern).

**Fun Funds at GFS:** You can make your shopping dollars stretch a little further at Gordon Food Service in Marquette. GFS will contribute a percentage of purchases from U.P. homeschoolers and their supporters when they sign up for the Fun Funds Program at GFS, mentioning Upper Michigan homeschools. This program has helped to keep us going financially.

**WANTED TO BUY:** Joy Johnson is looking for Switched on Schoolhouse 8th grade math (or maybe even 7th or 9th grade) for her daughter to review some things before school starts,

so as soon as possible! If anyone knows of something similar that they could do on the computer that would be interactive that would be great, too. Philjoy  
[philjoy@chartermi.net](mailto:philjoy@chartermi.net)

**FOR SALE: Saxon Math 54,** never used. Make an offer. New it is about \$70.

**Alpha and Omega History and Geography** grade 6. New. About \$50. Make an offer.

**Alpha and Omega Science** grade 5. New About \$50. Make an offer.

[philjoy@chartermi.net](mailto:philjoy@chartermi.net)

**PIANO LESSONS:** Dennis Cowan of Marquette is taking students. He is recommended by Lynne Ivey and her boys as well as Beth Hill. The Weiring family has taken lessons from him if you would like a referral. His number is 228-2802.

**Ruth Hill in Ishpeming** teaches piano lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays for \$8/half hour. She prefers beginners to intermediate-level. She is willing to work with your schedule and books, but prefers the Alfred method. For more information, call (906) 486-4942.

**Kelley Stratton** teaches violin and piano and her mom Cathy teaches guitar for \$11/half hour. They teach at the Bible Baptist Church in Ishpeming. For more information, call (906) 376-2125.

**Diplomas:** Order quality Christian diplomas from [www.homeschooldiploma.com](http://www.homeschooldiploma.com) (phone 1-877-466-2563). Personalize your own with numerous choices of paper color, Bible verses, raised labels, padded covers, embossing, signature lines, calligraphy, and more. Beautifully done! Check them out so you can be prepared to order when the time comes. You'll be glad you did.

**Creative Homeschooling:** You are welcome to call for assistance and personal, comprehensive homeschool help from Sue Parsons, a former homeschooling mom and current homeschool consultant.

Call anytime to set up a day and time for a one-on-one parent homeschool meeting, before or during the school year. My goal is to pray with you for your homeschool, offer encouragement and insight into homeschooling, as well as assist you with enhancing your child's school curriculum so that you and your child can enjoy a CREATIVE HOMESCHOOL by coordinating textbooks with supplemental and creative helps. Consultation fee of \$25 (a reference list is available). It would be my pleasure! Don't hesitate to call. Sue Parsons 906-346-6108

**No Harbor Days or Field Trips** are planned for this year at this time. If some are added, we will probably let you know via email. If you are not on our email list, send your address to [ruthehill@charter.net](mailto:ruthehill@charter.net) to be added.



## Future Historians

As part of its education program, the Michigan Iron Industry Museum sponsors the Future Historians, a youth group open to students in grades 4-12 who are interested in their heritage. Members attend monthly meetings during the school year and learn about history through presentations, special programs, and hands-on activities.

In addition to the monthly meetings, the museum offers youth a unique learning experience during the summer months. Group members are trained as costumed interpreters and participate in the Michigan Historical Center's role

playing program at Fort Wilkins Historic Complex in Copper Harbor. Each student is assigned a character (based on actual people) who lived at Fort Wilkins or Copper Harbor during the summer of 1870. Throughout the day they talk with visitors, play games of the period, and portray the past as the present.

Training is an important part of the program. Students interested in the role playing must attend three monthly meetings. They are also required to attend three training sessions in the spring to learn role playing basics and

techniques. However, excused absences are accepted due to family plans and conflicts.

Museum staff work closely with students to provide costumes, but a limited number are available. Families are encouraged to make their own (the museum will provide patterns and materials) or shop for acceptable apparel.

Participation is free. For more information and to receive this year's schedule, contact Barry James, Curator of Education, 73 Forge Road, Negaunee, MI 49866 or call (906)

## Train Her

*Sue Parsons*

The heart of this child is ready to train.  
Train her to be a Proverbs 31 Woman;  
Giving instruction  
In the Way she should go...  
Enhancing her abilities

To be an encourager,  
To make decisions,  
To be decisive,  
To work with eager hands,  
To think ahead,  
To plan, to prepare,  
To provide food for her family,  
To keep her family clothed  
and warm in the winter and through the nights,  
To supply for her helpers,  
To maintain her health and dignity,  
To be diligent,  
To see a need and fulfill it,  
To use her talents for good,  
To honor others above herself,  
To love in all circumstances,  
To speak with wisdom and faithful instruction,  
To resist idleness,  
To watch over the affairs of her household and  
To fear the Lord, her God. (Proverbs 31:10-31)

Oh, what a blessing, to be of noble character  
And worth far more than rubies!  
Oh, to be trained from God's Word!  
The heart of this child (His child)  
is grateful;  
with love.

*Proverbs 31:30b*

*A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.*

## Train Him

*Sue Parsons*

The heart of this child is ready to train.  
Train up this child in the Way he should go...  
Train him out of obedience.  
Train him with confidence.  
Train him from God's Word,  
The only absolute Truth.  
Train him to honor and respect.  
Train to his weakness.  
Train for his future.  
Train him to have a biblical world-view.  
Train him to advance God's Kingdom.  
Train him to fear the Lord, his God.

*3 John verse 4*

*I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the Truth.*

May these original poems help to instruct and encourage you during this new school year. Written by Sue Parsons, a seasoned homeschool mom and homeschool consultant. Feel free to contact Sue for helpful ideas in creative teaching, so to teach more effectively to the heart of your children. 906-346-6108



## Statement of Purpose

1. To offer resources for Christian parents who are or will be teaching their children at home:
  - a) Support group meetings give homeschool parents a chance to meet other homeschool parents.
  - b) Once parents get to know each other, it is our desire that they will contact one another as needed for prayer or help with specific problems.
  - c) Each family needs to determine its own reasons for choosing this method of educating their children, and hopefully, the information from UMCHE will help to clarify those reasons.
2. To offer resources on curriculum, teaching aids and other homeschool information through our lending library, annual curriculum fair, bi-annual newsletter and web page ([www.umche.org](http://www.umche.org)).
3. To offer information on legal issues, legislation, and other relevant information through e-mails.
4. To offer opportunities for our children to interact with other homeschooled children through planned education and recreational activities.

**Group leader's comments:** Our group is not an anti-public school group, but a **pro-homeschool** group. We strive to keep our discussion positive and yet remain informed concerning public education issues.

Due to the number of children represented by the group, we, in general, have not encouraged parents to bring their children to the two meetings (August and January), but to make other arrangements such as obtaining a babysitter.

*Thank you so much for your interest and involvement.*

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## Statement of Faith

1. We believe the Bible to be the infallible Word of God, the supreme and final authority for all faith and life.
  2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
  3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, and His imminent bodily return in power and glory.
  4. We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is therefore lost, and only those who put their faith in Jesus Christ alone can be saved.
  5. We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose substitutionary death on the cross paid the penalty for man's sin.
  6. We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to convict men and to indwell, guide, instruct, and empower believers for Godly living and service.
  7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers through our common faith in Jesus Christ, and that individual doctrinal differences which may exist should not hinder the unity of Christian home educators.
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2006-2007

# Calendar



**Friday, August 18**.....7:00 PM..... **Regular “kick-off” meeting**

Wednesday, December 6 .....9:30 AM..... Dome Day

Wednesday, January 10 .....9:30 AM..... Dome Day

**Friday, January 19**.....7:00 PM..... **“Mid-Year-Boost” meeting**

Wednesday, February 7 .....9:30 AM..... Dome Day

Wednesday, March 14 .....9:30 AM..... Dome Day

Friday, April 20..... 7:00 PM..... Used Curriculum/Share Fair

Friday-Saturday, May 4-5 ..... Annual INCH Convention

Friday, June 1 .....6:00 PM..... Annual Picnic at Al Quaal

**Friday, August 17, 2007**.....7:00 PM..... **Regular “kick-off” meeting**

- ◆ **PLEASE** transfer these dates to your family calendar and plan to attend as many meetings and activities as possible. We don't always send reminders! (Email reminders are available from our mailing list via Ruth Hill at [ruthehill@charter.net](mailto:ruthehill@charter.net).)
- ◆ All meetings are held at the Bible Baptist Church in Ishpeming.
- ◆ Nursing babies are welcome, but please get a sitter for other children at the August 19 and January 13 meetings.
- ◆ Please bring a snack to share at these two meetings and the Used Curriculum/Share Fair.
- ◆ Questions?? Call Jim or Lonny Janofski at 906-486-4536 or email [Janofski@up.net](mailto:Janofski@up.net).

**Calendar updates are available on our website as well: check it out at [www.umche.org](http://www.umche.org).**