

CFSSD NEWS

SPRING 2018

His Grace is Enough; Is Yours?

I believe “homeschool teacher” is one of the most challenging roles we will ever assume. This assignment becomes even more daunting when we have multiple kids in multiple grades, limited financial resources, and take into consideration our simultaneous juggling of the roles of wife, mother, cook, chauffeur, housekeeper etc....

Having so much to manage and a mile long to-do list each week means we mess up a lot! Even Mrs. Susie has-it-all-together homeschool mom that you so admire makes mistakes. I know because she’s human. Since it’s impossible to do all our simultaneous jobs perfectly, we are blessed to be able to lean on God’s grace moment by moment.

Grace can be defined as “God’s unmerited favor. It is kindness from God we don’t deserve. There is nothing we have done, nor can ever do to earn this favor.” I think that if grace was not available to us, we would all be ready to quit within the first two weeks, if not the first two days of homeschooling! I still remember those early days. After a month or so I came to the startling realization that I had just started a new fulltime job – on top of all my other jobs! No wonder it was so difficult! Fortunately we can all start fresh every morning, as Lamentations 3:22-23 says, “Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning.”

Since God liberally extends his grace to us, let’s not forget to likewise extend it to our children. If we find ourselves becoming overly legalistic, (the opposite of grace) demanding that our rules be followed, meting out severe punishments and being slow to extend forgiveness, we need to check ourselves. For a thoughtful explanation of legalism, see this link: <http://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-Christian-legalism.html>

I do not suggest that we let our kids walk all over us or that we shouldn’t have rules. I am proposing that as your children grow you may need to let go of some rules that don’t matter in the big scheme of things and focus more on rebuilding your relationship with your teen. If you have a challenging child, a book that may help you is *The Love Dare for Parents* by Kendrick.

I have read stories on the web written by homeschool graduates who endured years of abuse at the hands of parents (who, by-the-way, were still seen as role models in their churches.) I was grieved. I don’t think abuse runs rampant in homeschooling circles, but I feel sad for children who grow up in a home environment so stifling and negative that they can’t wait to leave. I pray for all of you; that you may be filled with the fullness of wisdom and grace as you endeavor to raise children for His glory.

“Grace, then, is grace,—that is to say, it is sovereign, it is free, it is sure, it is unconditional, and it is everlasting.” ~ Alexander Whyte

Praying for you and your families,

Sylvia Pierce (Reprinted with slight modifications from CFS Poway’s newsletter May 2014)



Upcoming:

May 7th-8th:

Standardized Testing

May 15:

Spelling Bee

May 19th:

Sharpen Your Vision Seminar

May 31st:

Aloha Friends
(Classics for Kids)

June 22nd:

The Tempest

June 28th-30th:

CHEA Convention

August 17th:

Much Ado About Nothing

**COMING THIS FALL—
A FIELD TRIP TO
DISNEYLAND!**

GENERAL INFORMATION

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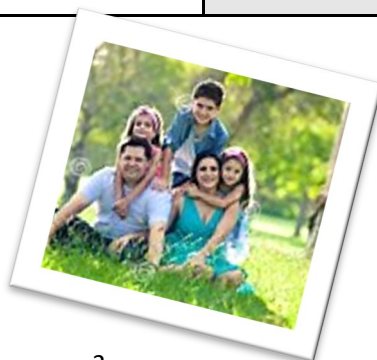
Associate Membership

If you live in an area of the county unserved by a local CFS group, you may find an associate membership appealing. You may apply for this on our website [here](#).

CFS (Christian Family Schools) of San Diego promotes, encourages, and supports private Christian homeschooling and includes a number of local support groups in communities throughout San Diego County. We organize events and activities available to members and sometimes, non-members. Additionally, CFS encourages communication among private home education leaders by hosting leadership meetings several times a year.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY PARK GROUPS SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Chula Vista	ChulaVista@cfssd.org	2nd Friday at 10:00 AM	Email for location
El Cajon	ElCajon@cfssd.org	3rd Thursday at 1:30 PM	Shadow Hill Park - rain or shine
Fallbrook	Fallbrook@cfssd.org	2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM	Email for location
La Mesa	LaMesa@cfssd.org	3rd Friday at 10:00 AM	Northmont Park
Mira Mesa	www.cfsmiramesa.org	1st Wednesdays	Breen Park
Poway	Poway@cfssd.org	Selected 1st Fridays at Noon *Rain cancels	See calendar details www.cfspoway.org
Ramona/Backcountry	Ramona@cfssd.org	2nd Friday at 10:00 AM	Dos Picos Park
Rancho Bernardo	RB@cfssd.org	2nd Saturday at 2:00 PM	Email for location
Valley Center	ValleyCenter@cfssd.org	1st Friday at 1:00 PM	Valley Center Community Church Park (off of Cole Grade Rd before library)



Sharpen Your Vision for Homeschooling

Join us for a morning of being refreshed and encouraged by Scott and Mary York! Are you weary of the day-to-day struggles of schooling your kids? Are you afraid you may be ruining them? Come be blessed as you hear from experienced homeschooling parents who will share what they have learned along the way. The fruit of God-honoring homeschooling is sweet. Homeschooling is not for the faint of heart, but if God has called you to it he will also equip you. It is SO WORTH IT!

8:45 to 9:25—Heart issues—The reason why we homeschool by Scott York

Dads—don't miss this session!!

9:35 to 10:15—Private Christian education—Why it matters

10:25 to 11:15—SB 172 goes into effect this spring, 2018. The high school exit exam and end of year grade assessments are now fully aligned to the Common Core. What does that mean for charter school families? For private Christian home educators?

Light breakfast and tea/coffee will be provided

Date: Saturday, May 19th

Where: Living Way Church at 13609 Twin Peaks Rd in Poway

Check in: 8:30 First session begins at 8:45

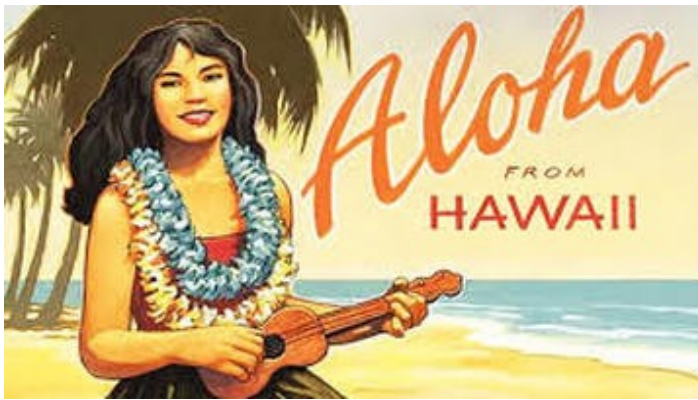
Cost: \$10 per family

Sign up: at www.cfssd.org



Child care will be provided at no additional charge for ages 4 and below if needed, but you must let us know by one week in advance if you are bringing them

Speakers - Mary and Scott York, Regional Advisory Board Members, CHEA. Mary has been married to Scott for 39 years and is the mother of seven children ranging in ages from 15 to 30. They home schooled their oldest five children all the way through high school and still have two at home. Mary has been involved in leadership with their PSP and Scott was one of the founders and first president of the STOA Speech and Debate League Board of Directors. Mary and Scott firmly believe that while academics and extracurricular activities are important, the heart issues of parenting far out weigh the former. There are things you can be doing now while your children are young that will ensure you have the opportunity to continue to be able to love, encourage and disciple your adult children once they leave your home. The Yorks will discuss the things they did right and the lessons they learned from mistakes they made. Worried about your children leaving the faith? Let's talk about it!



Classics 4 Kids "Aloha Friends"

Music not only has the power to stimulate the mind, enrich the heart and soothe the soul; it can help children to think more creatively, develop craftsmanship and discipline and learn the value of excellence.

Classics 4 Kids teams up with ukulele stars Sarah Maisel and Craig Chee to share music, stories, and culture of the islands. With special Hawaiian dance guests, this concert focuses on the uniquely versatile ukulele, music from Disney's Moana and other music inspired by Hawaii and island culture. Leave your surfboard at home, but don't miss this exciting season conclusion.

When: Thursday, May 31, 2018, 11:15 AM

Where: Balboa Theatre (downtown San Diego)
868 4th Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101

Ages: K through 6th grades, older grades may also attend, but students must be at least 4 years old to attend

Cost: Adults: \$7.50
Students: \$7.50

SIGN-UP DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, MAY 3RD.

Please allow plenty of time to get downtown and park!

Sign up and pay at www.cfssd.org

2018 Spelling Bee

Spelling Bees are a great opportunity for students to both sharpen their spelling skills and to practice being in front of an audience. Word lists can be found on the CFS website. All word lists have been uploaded to Spelling City and can be used for practice or uploaded to your own Spelling City account. Simply click on <http://www.spellingcity.com/cfsadmin/>

All K - 6th grade students from CFS local support groups are invited to register for the Bee each year. Don't miss the fun!! All students receive a certificate of participation.

Date: Tuesday, May 15th at 1:00 PM

Location: Living Way Church 13609 Twin Peaks Rd in Poway

Cost: \$8 per student

Deadline for sign-up: May 7th

Sign up at www.cfssd.org

All word lists are available to download on the website. You may click [here](#) to go directly to the page.





Join us for the *Homeschooling Event of the Year*

Keynote Speakers



Zan Tyler
Apologia Educational Ministries



Emeal Zwayne
Living Waters Publications



Hal & Melanie Young
Raising Real Men



Featured Speaker
Jennifer Pepito
The Peaceful Press and a podcast host for Wild & Free

Special 35th Anniversary member registration prices include the entire family for the 2½-day event*

New This Year!

- College Prep & College Fair Night
- Mom's Night Out
- Fun 35th Anniversary surprises and giveaways at the event!

Special Features

- Shop to Win!
- Virtual Gift Basket
- Bloggers Night Out
- Ultimate Giveaway
- High School Graduation
- Used Curriculum Sale
- Preschool Parents Attend 1 day Free
- Extensive Exhibit Hall
- 62 workshops

Exciting Topics

- History of Homeschooling in California
- Bountiful Homeschooling on a Budget
- Parenting the Pre-Teen Years
- Media Proofing Your Kids
- Raising G-Rated-Sons in an R-Rated World
- Who's in Charge?
- Homeschooling Multiple Grades
- 7 Tools for Cultivating Your Child's Potential
- Raising Our Girls to be Ladies
- Raising Our Boys to be Gentlemen
- Your Family and Hollywood
- Ambassadors for Christ
- Mission Minded Marriage
- Homeschool Organization
- Homeschooling High School Sessions
- Plus many more including Getting Started and other subject-specific workshops

Children's Convention

Teen Convention



FREE MiniConference for New Homeschoolers

- Thursday Evening
- Keynote Session
 - Introduction to Home Education Session
 - One-Hour Exhibit Hall Preview



Sheraton Pasadena Hotel on the Convention site, attendee discount!

* The family price does not include the Children's Convention or the Teen Convention.

Learn More and Register Online
www.cheaofca.org
Also, find out how to attend **FREE!**

Presented by



Subscribe to the Connection e-newsletter for updates





LIVE!

NO WAY DANNY RAY

AN EVENT TO INSPIRE AND ENCOURAGE CHRISTIANS IN EDUCATION:
PARENTS, TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND STUDENTS

6PM | MAY 15, 2018

11330 Campo Rd, La Mesa, CA

SPECIAL MESSAGES BY



Kevin Conover
EDUCATE FOR LIFE



Eric Buehrer
GATEWAYS TO BETTER EDUCATION



TEXT 619.733.2736
FOR 5 FREE TICKET VOUCHERS
BEFORE MAY 10, 2018



TICKETS
General | \$25

RegisterIllusion.com



TEXT 619.733.2736
FOR 5 FREE TICKET VOUCHERS
BEFORE MAY 10, 2018

**EDUCATE
FOR LIFE**
KEVIN CONOVER

Gateways
TO BETTER EDUCATION

CFS will have a booth at this event. Please stop by and say hello if you attend the Danny Ray event!



National Invitational Tournament of Champions
Monday, May 28th – Saturday, June 2nd

Host Housing Needed!



Do you have a spare room, a living room floor or an RV parking spot? If so, families traveling to San Diego for the national speech and debate tournament would be so blessed and thankful to stay with you for the week. Housing is a big expense for families traveling to compete. If you are able to open your home and your hearts, please call/text Beth or Dana or send an email to paradigm@hcassd.org

Beth James 619-400-7677 - Dana Belcher 858-568-8558

Details: Students will always have an adult with them. Students are between the age of 12-18. They need a place to sleep (bed, couch, or the floor) and a place to shower. You don't need to provide any meals. Guests will leave early in the morning and return in the evening between 8-10pm.

Shakespeare Plays:

"The Tempest"

Join us for an evening of fun and adventure with a professional production of this classic enchanting fantasy!

Thrown out of power by his wicked brother, Prospero, the Duke of Milan, lives in exile on a desert island. For company, he has only his daughter Miranda, the spirits who are native to the island, and his beloved books. The books are the source of his dark magic, which he uses to lure his enemies to the island so he can exact revenge. But his plot could destroy Miranda's happiness, so Prospero must choose between his own anger and his daughter's future.

This is an excellent way to introduce your middle and high school students to Shakespeare's wonderful literature in a fun and entertaining way!

WHO: CFS families in our support groups and CFS associate members

WHEN: Friday evening, June 22nd, at 8:00 PM

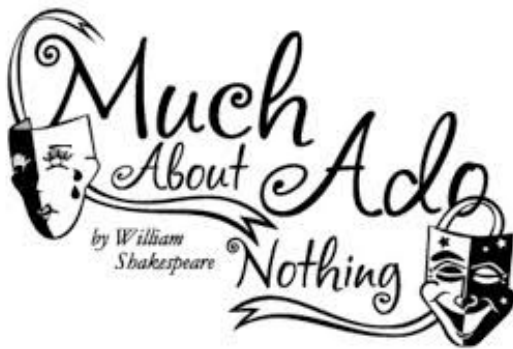
WHERE: The Old Globe, Lowell Davies Festival Theatre
(this is an outdoor venue)

COST: Students - \$26.00 Adults - \$32.00



Tickets are limited, so sign up early if interested. Only paid reservations will be honored.

Sign up and pay at www.cfssd.org **DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 30th**



Join us for an evening of fun and laughter as we enjoy a professional production of William Shakespeare's wittiest romantic comedies of all time!

Everyone can see that confirmed bachelor Benedick and headstrong Beatrice are meant for each other—except for Benedick and Beatrice themselves! While their friends try to trick the bickering pair into admitting they're in love, their young sidekicks Hero and Claudio start a romance of their own. But will false accusations, broken

promises, and even a nutty and bumbling police force prevent a happy ending? Join us for a fun filled evening with one of the greatest romantic comedies ever, in a production full of colorful characters, compassionate poetry, and Shakespeare's wittiest wordplay.

WHO: CFS families who are either in one of our support groups or are associate members

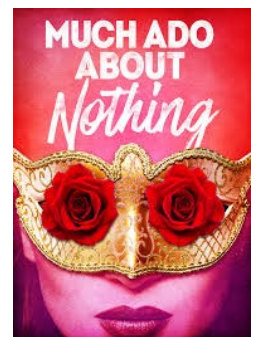
WHEN: Friday, August 17th, 8:00 PM

WHERE: The Old Globe Theatre, Lowell Davies Theatre (this is an outdoor venue)

COST: Students - \$26.00 Adults - \$32.00

Tickets are limited so don't delay! Only paid reservations will be honored!

SIGN UP & PAY: at www.cfssd.org **DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS WEDNESDAY, JULY 25th**



Worldview Camp

At Worldview Academy Leadership Camps, junior high and high school students, ages 13 and up, are challenged to think hard about their faith. They are treated like real people who wrestle with real issues—and who need answers that match the real world. Each camp features 20+ hours of lively classroom sessions and discussions, which guide students to better understand servant leadership, apologetics/evangelism, and comparative worldviews.

The Worldview Academy experience is unlike any other. Students are taught by inspired teachers, challenged by creative activities, moved by meaningful worship, and welcomed into a community of life-long friends. Students join groups of the same age and gender for the discussion of the big ideas. They are led by college-aged small group leaders from across North America who have dynamic personal relationships with Jesus Christ and the life skills and spiritual maturity to lead students in discussions throughout the week. The six days are filled with laughter, tough questions, biblical answers, and a deepening hunger for Christ.

Check the website for additional locations. The Southern California camp is being held at The Masters College in Santa Clarita from June 24-29th. Click [here](#) to register.



HSLDA's annual photo contest begins in June. Details about this year's contest will be available in May. Go [here](#) to get all the information!

Homeschooling Organizations Deserving Our Support

⇒ **CHEA** *Christian Home Educators Association of California*

CHEA is a statewide organization that provides information, support and training to the Christian home-schooling community. CHEA sponsors an annual conference which will be held in Pasadena next July. To join CHEA or for more information go to www.cheaofca.org

⇒ **FPM** *Family Protection Ministries*

FPM is the voice for homeschoolers in Sacramento. They look out for legislation that will restrict our right to home educate our children. This ministry is funded by donations. You may send contributions directly or through CHEA. With a donation of \$40 you will receive their newsletter. Find more info at <http://pheofca.org/>

⇒ **HSLDA** *Home School Legal Defense Association*

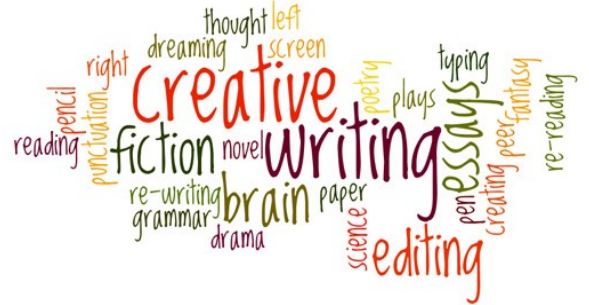
HSLDA provides low cost legal defense for all families who choose to privately educate their children at home. Membership is \$120 annually. CFS members qualify for a group discount rate of \$100. Find out more about HSLDA at <http://www.hsllda.org>

Creative Writing Boot-Camp

Writing is a life skill. You would not be able to read if you were not interested in writing. There are two things we all must continually do to perfect the craft of writing: Read a lot. Write a lot. The best way to improve reading and writing is to read and to write.

This summer one-week boot camp is for homeschoolers in middle school (gr. 6-8) and high school (gr. 9-12) who wish to become better writers. The class will focus on various genres of writing such as poetry, fiction, short story, non-fiction, etc.

About the Teachers: Glen and Cora Sykes both have education degrees from Messiah and Geneva Colleges respectively. Pastor and Mrs. Sykes have over 40 years combined of classroom teaching experience in addition to 8+ years of homeschooling under their belts. Glen is the Pastor of the Grace Brethren Church while Cora is on the Leadership Team of Christian Family Schools – Mira Mesa and home schools their son Michael.



Dates: August 6-10, 2018
Times: Middle School – 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
High School – 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Cost: \$50.00 (6th-8th gr.) \$75.00 (9th-12th gr.)
Location: Grace Brethren Church
3455 Atlas Street
San Diego, 92111

Questions: Contact Glen at gsykesrom116@aol.com

Materials Needed:

Middle school students need a 3-ringed binder, pencils and wide-rule lined filler paper.

High school students need a college-ruled composition notebook, pen (blue or black ink) and pencils. In addition each student will need to purchase a copy of *Creative Writing* by Lavonne Mueller and Jerry D. Reynolds (ISBN – 0-8442-5365-0). This book is available for about \$3.75 USED on the internet.

Class Size: In order to give each student's writing the attention it deserves, class size will be limited to ten (10) for each level (middle school and high school). Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Once registration is full a waiting list will be established. To secure your child(ren)'s place in the class(es), a non-refundable deposit of 50% of the class registration is due. Payments may be made in cash or check **payable to** Glen or Cora Sykes. Please mail your registration to Grace Brethren Church at the address above.

Writing Boot Camp Registration August 6-10, 2018

Student Name: _____ Grade in Sept. 2018: _____ Age: _____
Address: _____ Parent Phone: _____

Parent Name: _____
E-mail: _____@_____

_____ I understand that my deposit is non-refundable (unless my child is placed on the waiting list and space does not open for my child).

The Story of Bill: AB 2756 (Medina)

Status: Failed in committee at the hearing on April 25th! The bill is dead!

AB 2756 was an attempt to satisfy the huge media response surrounding the accusations of severe abuse of 13 children by their parents (in Perris, CA) who had filed a Private School Affidavit. The horrible allegations shook us all. But almost immediately, the media's focus turned to private homeschooling, and this became the perceived cause for this tragedy in the eyes of many. The conclusion was that because privately homeschooled children don't attend public school and can be isolated from the general public, private homeschoolers need to be further regulated so that this never happens again. Private homeschooling became the focus rather than better prevention of child abuse and neglect.

The introduction of the term "private home school" into the Education Code would have made it easy to separate private homeschoolers from the rest of the private schools for future regulation. AB 2756 would have punished thousands of good and loving families for something they had no part in doing. Ultimately, the ripple effect of AB 2756 would have led to the limiting of the God-given rights of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children. We fought this bill that attempted to infringe on our freedom as parents to train, educate, and care for our children privately.

AB 2756 was heard yesterday in the Assembly Education Committee. Approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people went to Sacramento to voice their opposition.

The vote was delayed due to a lack of a quorum, and when the time finally came, no member would make a motion to vote on the bill. Thus, the bill failed because no member of the committee wanted to go on record as supporting AB 2756 in any way.

Thank you to all who worked toward this victory by making phone calls, praying, writing letters, meeting with legislators in district offices and at the capitol, and to all those who attended and participated in the hearing. Cec represented CFSSD at the capitol and voiced her opposition along with numerous families who descended on the legislature to voice their concerns. See videos and pictures from the 25th on our Facebook group page.



TOP 100 UNIVERSITY

Apply Today for USD's 2018 Summer GenCyber Program

A Cyber Security Academy of Excellence For High School Students at University of San Diego Campus

*1st Camp: June 25 - 29, 2018 | 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM
*2nd Camp: July 23 - 27, 2018 | 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

The GenCyber Academy of Excellence is a week-long program focused on technical aspects of cyber security including core concepts and guided by Cyber First Principles. Activities include formal instruction, hands-on experience, field trips, and team projects. Deadline for applications is 5/13.

Who Should Apply: The audiences for this camp are incoming 10th, 11th and 12th graders with above average STEM proficiency interested in exploring cyber security as a career goal.

Cost - Free

Admission to the GenCyber Program is through an application process. Seats are not guaranteed. Visit the [web-site](#) for details and application.

***Deadline to apply is May 13th, 2018** (within the application, the student will be able to select their availability)