

2016 NM Christian Homeschool Convention Information & Policies

<u>READ THE FINE PRINT!</u> Many of the following details apply to everyone. A careful reading will clarify the registration process and make the convention much more enjoyable. Please, read the fine print! Some things change every year...like our kids!

DISCOUNTS AND DEADLINES Preregistrations save \$15 off the door price. Paid CAPE-NM members receive an additional \$10 discount off a couple's registration. Whether you are a new or current member, please take advantage of this discount. You may also join CAPE with your registration and take the discount. EXCEPTION: If the couple registration fee has been comped for any reason, the discount does not apply. Only one family per registration form. Only immediate family members (child or grandparent) qualify for additional person registration.

Confirmation packets will be posted on the CAPE-NM website (cape-nm.org) after March 30th. These will include a convention schedule, map/parking information, etc. DO NOT MAIL REGISTRATIONS AFTER April 1st. After this date, please register on site.

CANCELLATION POLICY All refund requests must be received in writing. Please mail requests to CAPE Registration, 16 Sunny Dale Rd., Edgewood, NM 87015 or email *heckendorm@cape-nm. org.* All refunds made before April 1st will be subject to a \$5.00 cancellation fee. Only 50% of the registration fee will be refunded after April 1st. No refunds will be made after April 16th.

SCHOLARSHIPS We offer scholarships for military families, pastors, missionaries, single parents, and families who are in need of financial assistance. Please email *registration@cape-nm. org* to receive a scholarship application. The member discount is not applicable; it is applied only to paid couple registrants.

VOLUNTEERS We need your help. The CAPE-NM Convention is planned and run entirely by volunteers from across NM. If you can help either before or during the convention, please feel free to email volunteers@cape-nm.org, and you will be contacted. We always need help setting up on Thursday morning and tearing down on Saturday afternoon.

<u>PUBLICITY</u> We need your help to tell other parents about this conference. For a press release for your local newspaper, contact *publicity@cape-nm.org*.

CONVENTION CHAIR FAMILIES are all volunteers who serve by sacrificing time and energy to plan, organize, and produce the annual convention. It takes every member of the family to pitch in and get the job done, so we try to honor the whole family with this title. Part of the job is to recruit apprentice families to come alongside and train; so if you are interested, speak up!

PRE-CONVENTION EXHIBIT HALL The exhibit hall will be open Thursday at 1:30 PM as a special thank-you for our pre-registered CAPE members only. Name tag pickup will begin at 1:00 PM for pre-registered attendees. From 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM the exhibit hall will be open to all convention registrants for pre-convention shopping. The registration table will be open Thursday afternoon and evening beginning at 1:30 PM. Due to space constraints, no children under age 11 may accompany parents to the exhibit hall or elsewhere in the convention. Dependent nursing babies are the only exception. ONLY paid registered convention attendees are admitted to the exhibit hall! We respectfully ask that you abide by these rules without grumbling!

CHILDREN and YOUTH The conference is designed for parent/ teacher enrichment. We do not allow children under 11 years of age into the convention or exhibit hall. There will be a children's program provided by LKidz Legacy Church Ministry that coincides with the convention. You may register your children when you register for the convention at www.legacychurch.com/children. Details on page 14.

Dependent nursing babies will be admitted free. Remember that sessions are being recorded; sit near an exit, and please step out if your baby becomes noisy. There are enthusiastic baby-walkers among our volunteer staff, so if you would like a brief break, ask your workshop host or hostess to arrange it.

Since homeschooling families are known for their togetherness, children 11 years and older may register as adults and attend with their parents. We include a few workshops of special interest to the younger people attending, but our focus is serving parent educators. Please do not leave any children unattended at any time inside or outside the convention premises.

USED CURRICULUM The very popular Used Curriculum Sale will be THURSDAY afternoon this year. Sellers' registrations must be postmarked by March 25. Please mark the box on the registration form. CAPE will supply the table for the sale. The seller's fee is \$25 which includes the cost of the table. No late entries will be accepted. Only registered convention attendees will be able to buy or sell used curriculum.

ADVERTISING There is still time to advertise in the convention program. If you have a message for our graduates or have a business you would like to promote to 1,000 homeschool families, contact the CAPE office or advertising manager at *advertise@capenm.org.*

NEED ASSISTANCE? Volunteer help is available for disabilityrelated needs. Request special assistance by contacting the Volunteer Chair Family at volunteers@cape-nm.org.

DIRECTIONS The 2016 Convention will be at Legacy Church of Albuquerque, 7201 Central Ave. NW. Legacy is located on the north side of Central.

Coming from I-40 (exit south)

Take the Unser or Coors exit and continue until you reach Central. From Unser turn east; from Coors turn west.

Coming from I-25

Take I-40 West then follow I-40 directions.

AUDIO RECORDING The general sessions and many of the workshops will be recorded. CDs will be available at the convention for \$6.00 each and most may be ordered later from CAPE-NM.

EVALUATIONS will be entered into a drawing for a free family registration in 2017. Please take the time to complete an evaluation; they help us to serve you. Forms can be found in the back of the convention program. Please drop off evaluations at the CAPE table or the registration table.

LODGING Be sure to make reservations early if you plan to stay at a local hotel; rate information is on page 16. Remember, rooms get booked quickly. Free lodging may be available through Bed & Breakfast host families; contact *registration@cape-nm.org*.

BED & BREAKFAST Each year friendly homschooling families in or near Albuquerque open their homes to those who must travel long distances. To help defray travel costs, we offer you this free lodging opportunity. If you will need Bed & Breakfast, contact the Heckendorns at *bedandbreakfast@cape-nm.org* before March 26. If you live in the Albuquerque area and are able to offer Bed & Breakfast, please also contact *registration@cape-nm.org*. This is just simple hospitality—a place to sleep (sleeping bags on the floor are an option!) and breakfast. Nothing fancy is required, but a lot of wonderful friendships have started this way! Also, if you have space or need space to park an RV, please indicate that as well.

<u>COMPANY MANNERS</u> Some church ministries continue at Legacy during our conference while we are sharing the facility. Please respect all parking and office signs and cheerfully cooperate with our security volunteers. We want to be fondly remembered and, hopefully, welcomed back. Let a volunteer know if any area of the facility needs attention.

GRACE Homeschoolers are a particularly diverse group. Our speakers and our attendees are asked to remember to extend grace—whether the difference is in appearance, practice, opinion, or doctrine. Public school teachers, parents, and students are welcome and should be loved as neighbors. We hope all attendees will feel welcome and loved.

STATEWIDE HOMESCHOOL GRADUATION RECOGNITION CEREMONY Each year CAPE-NM is pleased to sponsor the Homeschool Graduation Recognition Ceremony. The Homeschool Class of 2016 Commencement will be held Saturday afternoon at 3:30 PM at Legacy. This event will be open to the public and is a highlight of the convention for many families.

All graduates must pre-register before February 8th. Visit *www.cape-nm.org* before you contact *graduation@cape-nm.org* for graduation ceremony registration information.

FOOD A map of area restaurants will be included in the program. Many families come prepared with their own meals, which can be enjoyed as a picnic (weather permitting) with other homeschool families during the lunch or dinner hour. We are happy to announce that Legacy does allow food and drinks in the main facility, and there are places available to bring your picnic indoors. Only water bottles are allowed in carpeted areas.

BEGINNERS Parents considering home education are encouraged to attend the free Getting Started Workshop on Thursday afternoon. The workshop runs from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

WORKSHOPS If you are new to homeschooling or jumped in without a lot of preparation, there is a special series of workshops we have designed especially for YOU! Read through the descriptions (available on site in the convention program) and choose the ones that are appealing to you. If another workshop interests you, please feel free to attend. Complete workshop descriptions will also be published in our spring magazine for members only.

<u>RIBBONS</u> Volunteers, speakers, graduates, and honored guests are identified with special ribbons. A key will be published in the program. Grandparents are encouraged to stop at the CAPE registration table and receive their recognition ribbons.

HONORED GUESTS Elected and appointed officials, candidates for office, and reporters may be invited to attend as guests of the convention. They are welcome to observe and to learn more about home education and home educators. Please extend our invitation and contact Registration with information so name badges can be prepared.

SCHEDULES Every moment of the convention is action-packed! The

time and the facility are filled to overflowing with opportunities for learning, fellowshipping, shopping, and sharing. We encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity; we also encourage you to schedule time to reflect, to eat, and to rest! You may have to choose between a quick snack and a sit-down dinner in order to have time for everything. Choose wisely, according to your needs and priorities. Remember, recordings of the sessions will be available for purchase.

SHOPPING HOURS The Exhibit Hall (New Mexico's homeschool shopping mall!) will be open for a total of 16 hours — longer for volunteers and CAPE members. Plan plenty of time to shop, and then double it!

SUPPORT LOUNGE If you just need to talk to a veteran homeschool mom, or if you would like to minister to hurting or overwhelmed homeschool parents, look for the support lounge location in the convention program. If you ask anyone who has been in the support lounge, their best moments were the times of one-on-one ministry and times of encouraging new and frightened home educators who wandered in by accident!

We recognize novices' need for plenty of time to ask questions and share anxieties, so we are recruiting Mentoring Moms and Devoted Dads to be available for an hour or more to provide moral support. We will keep a clipboard (or two) at the CAPE table and use it to set up informal meetings. Veteran Christian home educators contact Volunteer Coordinators at *volunteers@cape-nm. org* to see whether this is the job for you!

VETERANS AND GRADUATED PARENTS, AKA GRAD-PARENTS There are moms and dads who have graduated their families, but love to attend for the fellowship and to keep up to speed on the latest trends. They are using their valuable experience to support homeschooling friends and neighbors. We still have to charge registration for you to attend. Remember that CAPE is a non-profit ministry, and we use convention income both to pay for the convention and to help support the ministry of CAPE the rest of the year.

GET WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS EARLY Become a CAPE member and receive complete workshop descriptions before the convention starts. You will also be supporting the work and ministry of CAPE.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS? If you still have questions, please contact CAPE at info@cape-nm.org or call 505-898-8548.

Requirements

- Couple's Pass is for mom and dad only
- Must have preschoolers
- No children over 5 as of September 1, 2015

(our intention is to interest families in home education *early*)

- Must have nominations from **two** member families
- All nominations must be received by email before **2:00 PM on April 1, 2016**
- Sorry, no refunds for pre-registered attendees



Nominate them for a free couple's pass to the convention!

Nominations

Email to <u>CAPE-NM</u> (info@cape-nm.org)

Two emails for each nomination with POPs in subject line:

- Email from family who is a paid, supporting CAPE member. (If you don't know one, contact us.)
- One from nominated family expressing an interest in attending, including names (as they should appear on name badge), ages of children, mailing address, phone number, and email address.
- Emails must be received by deadline. Incomplete nominations will be returned.

Families whose nominations are accepted will receive confirmation by email.