



**CAPE**  
CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
PARENT EDUCATORS - NM

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## CAPE Calendar of Events

February 3-7, 2020, TeenPact  
Leadership School

February 6, 2020, CAPE at the Capitol

May 16, 2020, CAPE-NM Graduation at  
Legacy Church

June 19-20, 2020, CAPE-NM  
Homeschool Convention



## Help!!!



You may not realize it, but CAPE is a 100% volunteer organization. Everyone from board members to the adults and students helping at convention is volunteering their precious time to help homeschooling in New Mexico. These volunteers help in order to have information available on how to get started, to encourage the parents who have had a bad day, to work with Santa Fe to keep the freedom to homeschool in New Mexico. As volunteers, most of whom are still homeschooling themselves, we cannot do it alone. Putting on graduation, convention, CAPE at the Capitol, and the Fall Family Retreat take a small army. Do you have a heart for homeschooling? Would you like to help in some way? We would love you to come alongside us and help CAPE grow. We have needs for committee heads in several areas from graduation to recording and several in between. Please let us know if you are able to help, email [volunteers@cape-nm.org](mailto:volunteers@cape-nm.org)

## Keeping Our Homeschool Freedoms in NM



Dear homeschool families,

I can't believe that it's already been almost a year since last year's CAPE at the Capitol. Thank you again for your support last year to make it a success. We are once again approaching another celebration of New Mexico's Homeschool Week. This year we plan to meet in the Roundhouse on Thursday, February 6th. We are planning again to place gifts for the legislators on the floor and recognize a homeschool family in both the House and the Senate during the respective opening sessions (check the legislative calendar for times if you'd like to watch from the gallery). We will also be in the Rotunda from 10:30-11:30 to recognize the various activities and achievements by homeschoolers throughout the state. If you would like to have your organization, activities, or achievements recognized to the public please check out the link <http://tiny.cc/waxciz> and contact me. We will have a short meeting at 11:30 in a committee room (TBA) for everyone to sign in and to talk a bit about the state of legislation regarding homeschooling, followed by a group photo. Please reach out to your legislators in advance to let them know of your visit.

Please pre-register at <https://www.cape-nm.org/events-convention/cape-at-the-capitol/> . But even if you don't pre-register, we'd love to see you at the Capitol on February 6th. And please invite others to come and join us for this celebration.

Let us continue to work together to maintain our freedom to homeschool.

Amy Yee

## **We Have This Moment Today** by Marilyn Boyer



I remember so clearly one warm sunny day in May. I had seven children at the time, one just two weeks old. The kids were outside playing under the sprinkler, laughing, making up games. God spoke so clearly to my heart that day saying, "Cherish this day. Bask in this moment." I did, and I still do now. Today, four of those little boys are married, and two of the little girls are now married too. All but one have children of their own, and one of the boys is in heaven, which makes that memory even more precious to me. A dear friend of ours, Doug Oldham, sang a song that I have treasured through the years. It goes like this:

We have this moment to hold in our hands,  
To touch as it slips through our fingers like sand.  
Yesterday's gone and tomorrow may never come,  
But we have this moment today.

My prayer is that God will burn that truth into each of your hearts and cause you to "Number your days, that you may apply your hearts unto wisdom" (Psalm 90:12). Time is not forever. As a young mom, I thought the season of life I was experiencing (an infant, a couple of toddlers, a preschooler, dirty diapers, in-depth training) would last forever. It seemed impossible to imagine anything different. And yes, looking back, it now seems like each season only lasted a short time and I find myself wishing that season back again, even for just one day!

Each season has blessings all its own. It has its own struggles and challenges, but focus on the blessings. For instance, it was definitely more difficult to manage when I had three little ones and all the laundry, chores, and meals to do by myself. Yet now I look back on those days as peaceful and sweet in their own way. The little boys all took naps and I had a time of peace and quiet in the

afternoon. I set the schedule and actually had control over it. Bedtime was easy. Now, there's always so much going on that it's hard to know what to plan on.

Rick and I always used to have some quiet evening time to talk and plan. Now we have to do that when we go out to eat. Our house is always a busy place, people coming and going, and when you pull in the driveway, you never know who'll be there. And yet, there was a long season where my girls fixed all the meals, and the kids all have chores, so things are easier on that score, although the time is fast approaching where I'll be doing all those things by myself again.

I'm not saying that one season is better than another, but that each has its blessings. If we learn to focus on its blessings and not its irritations, we can learn to cooperate with it. Instead of resisting it, embrace it, throw yourself into it. Young mom, don't feel guilty for not being involved in a lot of church functions and leadership roles. There's nothing more important you can be doing with your time than investing it in your little ones and leading them to God.

God plans our "life curriculum," and, as with our children, things work best when we cooperate with His plan. Some seasons are a huge struggle. It's hard to be pregnant, feeling sick, and still responsible to train other children, but God gives grace. Look for the positives. When you're feeling really sick, let the older kids have the opportunity to practice their cooking skills and parenting skills sometimes, too. I learned through eleven years of pregnancy that when you're not feeling well, it's usually better to be up and functioning as best you can instead of focusing on how rotten you feel.

We have this moment to hold in our hands - some of those moments are wonderful, precious memories. We take lots of pictures. We've had lots of occasions through the years - birthdays, special nights out, Bible quiz nights, fun plan-and-fix-a-meal nights, picnics, cookouts, special family night supper get-togethers. Life is precious and God has blessed us so abundantly. Try to give your children some encouragement and motivation along the way, for all these things build good memories.

Family is important. Make it fun to belong to your family. We laugh a lot! It's good medicine for the soul. We've had some guests leave saying their cheeks hurt from laughing so much.

Make the most of your moments today. Loosen up, look for the positive in whatever you're going through, and make the memories you'll all be able to sit around and laugh about for years to come!

"She's so ENCOURAGING!" That's what moms say about Marilyn Boyer, homeschooling author and mother of 14. Marilyn's heartfelt speaking style is both challenging and comforting, her content based on over thirty years' experience in homeschooling her own children. Her many years in the trenches have convinced her that the most important part of an education is the building of godly character. That's why she created Character Concepts, a Bible-based curriculum for kids from preschool through high school.

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