



CAPE
CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF
PARENT EDUCATORS - NM

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Please Update your information



CAPE has just updated its database. We actually have two databases. One for the web site and a different one for email. The email database was just updated. If you **DO NOT** want to receive these emails any more, please go to the very bottom and click **Unsubscribe**. If you **DO** want to keep receiving these emails, then please go to the bottom and click **UPDATE PROFILE** to make sure we have your current information. We are getting requests more frequently

to communicate with specific regions of the state, so please make sure your address is current. Also, if you don't go in and update your information, you will be at risk of having your email deleted from the email database. Thank you for your help!

CAPE Fall Family Retreat

The CAPE Fall Family Retreat is coming up October 20-22. Because of an outcry from those that love the retreat, it is continuing this year. If you want to join us for family fun please find the details at: [CAPE FFR](#)



Why Homeschool?



It's time for the kids to go back to school. Most parents have spent the entire summer with their kids and are ready to send them back to school. Let the teachers deal with them. But a homeschool Mom is just beginning the busy part of her year. Why do we do this year after year? Why not just let the "experts" teach our children?

What is homeschooling all about? It is all about relationships. First and foremost, it is about our relationship with the LORD. It is also about relationships between mother and child, between siblings, and father and child. It is also about giving your child the best. Not just the best education, but the best of your time too. The benefits of homeschooling are numerous, and the disadvantages are mostly imagined.

The first benefit is about our relationship with the LORD. We start every school day with Bible time. Time with the LORD to keep our focus on Him. Reading some of the Bible and discussing what it says and why we believe what it says frequently generates discussions with my kids. We even incorporate current events as the Bible leads us. There are so many issues in the United States and the world that the Bible either comments on, or teaches us some of the history of the issues going on today. Our morals and values can be passed down in homeschool much easier than in a traditional school. Spending time in the Bible gives us an opportunity to glorify GOD by hearing His Word but also by honoring Deuteronomy 6:6-7, "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Only when homeschooling can you do this. If you send your kids to school anywhere else, then they are not with you to teach them when you sit, walk, lie down, or get up. Having this time daily, sets a foundation with the kids to understand who we are as their parents and why we think, feel, and do the things that we do. It's a time to encourage your children to have their own relationship with the LORD. After all, GOD has no grandchildren.

It also sets an understanding for the history of the United States and the rest of the world. My brother works for a Korean company. He recently commented about how they are quick to point the finger and fire someone and are paranoid about every employee. If you grow up in a world without Jesus and without forgiveness, that shapes your beliefs and your relationships. This is true for a family, a company, or a country. Those that believe that Christ doesn't belong in the schools and government don't really have an understanding of just how much the US has been shaped by Christian values. Spending time every morning in the Word really sets the foundation for all we learn.

Homeschooling also gives us a chance to really know and understand our kids. We

have time to talk to them and build a relationship. This makes the younger years more fun. You have the time and freedom to explore whatever is interesting to you and your kids. That can be animals, baking, robots, cars, or rocks. You can explore something for an hour or a semester. When you take the time to know what interests each child, you show them that you understand them and value them for who God made them to be. They know that you are listening to them and planning based on their passions. During the teen years, the relationship has been growing for years. The many years of homeschool trials help the kids to see they are blessed to be homeschooled. The sacrifices the family makes are for their benefit and that knowledge is powerful in your relationship with a teenager. This perspective is different for a homeschool teen. They are more aware that decisions are being made in their best interest. This can lead to less rebellion in homeschool teens. Not that homeschooling turns out perfect kids; it just means we have plenty of time with our kids to address the issues that come up. And since we are so involved, hopefully we find out about problems sooner than most.

With homeschooling, you can spend the time to understand how your child learns and tailor your homeschooling to their benefit. Each child is a precious gift from God. A gift to be cherished and honored. Each child is their own individual. If you have more than one, you probably already know how different they can be. Their learning styles are just as varied. There are visual learners, auditory learners, kinesthetic learners, musical learners, and social learners to name a few. The list goes on and on.

In a traditional school, they have to teach either to the average or to the bottom of the class (think, No Child Left Behind). And God bless our teachers, they have to teach to the average or lower. Can you imagine a classroom where the teacher teaches to the top student? The other kids would be lost in a day. And teaching to the bottom leaves the other kids bored and not learning at their potential. The only way to constantly make sure your child is challenged at just the right level is to be in a class of one. When you homeschool, the class moves as fast or as slow as you want it to. And sick days.... well, I'll tell you a secret if you don't tell my kids. If they are sick enough to want to stay in bed or on the couch without the TV or entertainment, then we cancel school. Otherwise, school marches on. It's amazing that with a fever of 100.1 they are running around like nothing is wrong, but the school system would say they have to stay home. Let's hope I don't get a rash of kids on the couch next week!

Homeschool gives us the opportunity to stop school for family trips, doctor appointments, or the flu. And the best part is that the kids don't miss important lessons. When I was in the 5th grade, I missed a couple of days of school. I don't remember why, but I remember taking a make-up math test. I remember the test was on long division and I missed the day they taught that you needed a zero for a place holder. The answer should have been something like 508, but I didn't know to put a zero in the middle because I missed that day in school. But with homeschooling, you never have to miss a lesson. And if you get to the test and realize that something is wrong, you can go back and revisit whatever was missed. My oldest daughter started pre-algebra. I was letting her learn more independently, so she got to grade her own homework. When we got to the test, we realized she misunderstood some important skills. We decided that she needed to repeat the lessons, and I stepped in to make sure she understood everything as we went. We agreed to do some weekly checks so we didn't fall into the same problems going forward. It was a great learning experience for her and me. This only works in homeschooling. If my daughter had missed this concept in a traditional school, they would have marched on despite her deficits. And the learning gap would have been bigger than the Grand Canyon. She would have failed the class. That would impact her college choices. Because we homeschool, none of that happened.

Homeschooling is truly an incredible gift to your family. The gift of time, relationships, and love. It is the best option for any family willing to give it a try. If you know someone who wants to give homeschooling a try and needs to know how to get started, drop us a line at capenm@cape-nm.org and we will get you started off on the right foot.

CAPE-NM | 505-898-8548 | info@cape-nm.org | <http://www.cape-nm.org>
P O Box 1506
Moriarty, NM 87035

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