

Get Ready for...

**HOME**  
**Convention**  
**2019**

Homeschoolers of Maine's 29th Annual

# Homeschool Convention

March 21, 22 and 23, 2019

Wherever you are in your homeschool journey, make plans now to join us!  
**It's our biggest event of the year!**

**Are you...**

- exploring the option of homeschooling for your family?
- a new homeschooler or just getting ready to begin?
- a seasoned homeschooler with several years experience?
- a pioneer who has been homeschooling for a decade or more?
- a homeschool mom and dad in need of a weekend away?
- a homeschooling family looking for an affordable winter getaway?

**Mark your calendar now for the 29th Annual HOME Convention, where you'll find something for everyone!**

Information  
Curriculum and resources  
Guidance and support  
Educational enrichment opportunities  
Teen workshops  
Family fun  
Refreshment  
New ideas and strategies

Nationally known speakers, informative workshops and experts in the exhibit halls will help and encourage you in every way. You'll meet real people to answer all of your questions! In addition, there is the fellowship of hundreds of other homeschoolers,

We are looking forward to our next convention, and hope that you will be a part. Our schedule includes many practical and interactive programs and workshop sessions, plus inspiring general sessions and family entertainment. Start planning now to attend HOME's Annual Convention!



# Featured and Keynote Speakers

## **Rachael Carman**

Rachael had it going on—or so she thought. After surviving sixty-three months of pregnancy, countless sleepless nights, and 35,000+ diapers, this one-time control freak encountered God’s grace. And she encourages you to do the same!

In her books *How Many Times Do I Have to Tell You?* and *How to Have a HEART for Your Kids*, Rachael challenges mothers to surrender their will to their heavenly Father and draw closer to Him. She invites everyone to join her in loving God passionately and worshiping him fully while sweeping up Cheerios, doing laundry, and planning dinner. You will be affirmed in your role as a mother as Rachael speaks of her struggles with perfectionism and impatience and shares her challenges, failures, and victories amid the ever-changing seasons of life. Her honesty will surprise you, and her humor will put you at ease. You can find her many helpful articles and videos at her website.

Rachael is also a sought-after speaker. She has spoken across the United States as well as in Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Rachael loves laughing with her family, playing in the dirt, eating dark chocolate, and walking on the beach.

## **Davis Carman**

Davis got started on this homeschool adventure with a providential two-by-four on the side of his head. Nineteen years and three graduates later, he hopes to share some of the lessons he’s learned along the way to help other families enjoy the most successful, satisfying, and Christ-centered home school possible.

His mission is to help homeschooling families learn, live, and defend the Christian faith. This is accomplished in part through his work as president of Apologia Educational Ministries, the #1 publisher of creation-based science and Bible curriculum.

Davis is especially passionate about his family. He married Rachael in 1986, and God blessed them with seven children. He isn’t a perfect husband or father, but he loves being with his wife throughout the day (by working out of a home office) and immediately available to handle disciplinary matters or to experience an extraordinary Deuteronomy 6 moment in the course of an ordinary day.

He is an international speaker and advocate for home education, having served twelve years on the board of North Carolinians for Home Education as well as being the North Carolina Ambassador for the Home School Foundation. He is also a founding board member of Homeschool Now USA.

Davis is also the author of three illustrated children’s books designed to instill a biblical worldview. *Good Morning, God* is based on Deuteronomy 6, and *A Light for My Path* is an ABC book based on Psalm 119. His latest, *In the Beginning*, is based on the creation account in Genesis.

He believes that if there was ever a time to homeschool, it is now!

# The Lord Inhabits the Praises of His People

By Rachael Carman

“The Lord inhabits the praises of his people.”

I don't know about you, but I need the Lord's inhabiting of my life. I need His rhythms in my plans and steps. I need Him to abide with me as He promises. If the way to bring Him closer to me is by coming near to Him through praise, count me all in! I'll be here, hands high, crying from the depths of my soul, the very inmost parts of my spirit, voice rising from the top of my lungs, “I need you more, come, Jesus, come! Inhabit my praises! Abide in me! I want You to be an atmosphere I carry through life!”

My first experience feeling the presence of God through praise was when my husband and I had a very rough season a few years ago. My pastor's wife calls us, “the most supernatural couple she's ever seen.” The Lord certainly healed our marriage supernaturally, inhabiting our praises. Through this season, I could've chosen to withdraw and especially be angry with God. Instead, my husband and I both chose to draw closer, raise hands higher and praise Him, moment by moment, praising, worshipping and thanking Him right through tears.

Since then, I've really learned, and chosen, to recognize and feel God's abiding presence with me day after day. I seek for places to give Him glory, in all I do. I remember that old Bible school song, “Praise Him, Praise Him. Praise Him in the morning, praise Him in the noon time. Praise Him, Praise Him. Praise Him when the sun goes down.”

No matter our circumstance, it is with head held high and eyes lifted up that the Lord abides with us. Mamas, our families and our children take note of these praises and can't help but be affected by the indwelling of our sweet Lord and Savior with their mom. You know, it will rub off and get soaked deep down in their beings and some day, they'll too recall the songs, words and praises their mom sent our Savior, just like I recall those Bible song lyrics. Through my prodigal years and all the way back around to being sold out, on fire, arms high for Jesus, He surely took note of those sweet praises of my youth and has blessed me, and my family as He dwells among us, and you, through our praises.

Here are a few practical ways I praise Him morning, noon, and night.

I don't even get out of my bed in the morning before I talk to my Papa.

I praise Him, I thank Him and I ask Him for strength for the day before I even roll out of bed, make my coffee, walk the dogs, open the app with my Bible reading plan or even kiss my family good morning.

## **My day becomes an active conversation with God.**

As a busy wife, mom, blogger, travel writer, homeschooler, volunteer, board vice-chair, all of the hats that I wear (and I know you wear, too)... it's hard to set aside time to “pray without ceasing” as Paul says. But don't we know our God knows our schedule, too? My prayers become constant and active conversation with my best friend. I speak, and expect Him to answer, and He does. In thoughts, words, through people, surroundings, and experiences. When I had the blessing of traveling to Greece last year, I learned something significant about Paul's preaching to the Corinthians. He did it in the marketplace. His praises were raised and messages were given to the people right in the center of town, right in the midst of craziness amid the chaos of every day life of grocery shopping, trading wares, and entertainment. There was Paul, shouting out his praises to our Lord. I want to be like Paul, in a constant and unashamed state of praise.

## **Worshipping Him in the Minivan.**

The car rides as a busy mom seems to be never ending. So, let's use that time as just part of our day to invite him to inhabit our lives. Turn on the worship music. Singing out loud, our hope in Him affects the minds and hearts of our children and, hopefully, will stick with them as long as that Bible school song has stuck with me. I love Seeds Family Worship because their songs are simply scripture set to music. (I think personally I've memorized more verses this way than any other!) One time, we had VBS songs on in the car while we were transporting a construction worker! I'll never forget the look on his tattooed face and can only pray God's presence of our praises rubbed off on him!

## **Praise Him Publicly.**

Last week, I was at a theme park with a group of seven kids and before we ate I said, “Ok, who's praying?” Some of the kids said, “I prayed in my mind.” I said, “well, we praise Him aloud.” And that's just what we did, holding hands, right there, in the LEGOLAND diner. We pray every time we eat out. I want my kids and those I influence and encounter to know He is worthy, at all times and in all places. I hope my simple example of prayer at the theme park can leave that mark in each mind and heart.

Whatever your way of praising Him morning, noon, and night, I pray that He comes to inhabit your lives, hearts and families more than ever before and you recognize and feel His presence through your praises. Maybe there's some things I haven't thought of that you do, too?

# 4 Action Items to Help Your Homeschool Last More Than 4 Years

By Davis Carman

The great castles of old are . . . well, old. Most have been around for 700 to 1,000 years. If you think of your family's home school as a castle, how long do you envision it lasting? Will your children homeschool your grandkids? Will your grandchildren homeschool your great-grandkids? What about the generation after that?

Scripture tells us that the Lord shows faithful love to a thousand generations to those who love Him and keep His commandments (Exodus 20:6). A thousand generations? That's a long time! The fact is, you can have a pretty significant and positive impact on your descendants by loving God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength now. Wouldn't it be great if you were to persevere in homeschooling until your children graduated, and then your own children and grandchildren continued in the lifestyle?

Research by the state of North Carolina shows that roughly twenty percent of new homeschooling families stop after the first year ([www.ncd-npe.org](http://www.ncd-npe.org)). Another twenty percent drop out of home education after year two, with ten percent walking away after year three. By year four, an additional five percent exit, and the curve starts to level off. The end result is that fewer than half of families who start homeschooling continue beyond the fourth year. Clearly, building on these homeschool "castles" had barely begun.

I won't lie to you: Homeschooling is hard work. It takes perseverance and determination to stay the course. And there are no guarantees that yours will last twenty years, let alone four.

I am a strong proponent of home education. Our family has been at it for twenty-two years, and I want to see you succeed for a long time. So allow me to offer four action items to help you build a homeschool that will stand the test of time — much like an old castle.

## **Action Item for Year One: Go to a Homeschool Conference**

This is my number one piece of advice for new homeschooling families. Rachael and I were reluctant homeschoolers—I like to say God got us started with a providential two-by-four over the head. Our first year was so rocky, it seems impossible that we ever made it to a second year. But we found ourselves at a conference in North Carolina at the end of that first year. We attended several workshops, and it was as though a light bulb suddenly turned on in our heads. We drove home totally inspired to give this homeschooling thing a second chance.

## **Action Item for Year Two: Wipe the Slate Clean**

I'm very happy for families who experience a relatively smooth first year of homeschooling. But even if you made it through that inaugural year with an optimistic attitude, you'll probably encounter some rocky roads during year two. When this happens, I highly recommend you wipe the slate clean in terms of scheduling and curriculum.

This is the year to feel the freedom and take ownership of your calendar. You are in charge. So take a week off every four to six weeks. Take a couple months off when a baby is born to "do family." Join Dad on a business trip to do some educational sightseeing. Allow the flexibility of homeschooling to be a blessing.

Regarding curriculum, know ahead of time that you will probably have to discard \$500 worth of curriculum until you find the one that works best for you and your kids. The good news is that you don't have to force something to work if it just doesn't. Remember, crying is not the objective. Go easy on yourself and your children. Find something that works and makes learning enjoyable.

## **Action Item for Year Three: Relax and Enjoy Your Kids**

Although I would encourage you to relax during both year one and two, the third year is the time to resist any urges you have to become obsessive or compulsive about making "plans" for your home school. Why? Because this is a walk of faith, and although it's fine to make plans, remember that God will direct your steps (Proverbs 16:9). So don't resist His divine adjustments.

Your kids are unique. They are individuals. Each is different from his or her siblings. Not only is each child different from the others, but every year will look different from the next. Your kids are a year older, and they need new responsibilities. No doubt there will be a few tears, frustrations, stops and starts, and the occasional need for plenty of tender, loving care.

Make sure you try to relax and enjoy your kids this year. You will need to learn all over again how to enjoy them every year, so let this year be the one in which it becomes an annual occurrence.

## **Action Item for Year Four: Put Some Things in Writing**

I really want to challenge you to complete this action item and put a few things in writing during year four. By this time, you probably have an educational philosophy, whether you realize it or not. Working to articulate it in writing will help you tremendously. You might find yourself writing words like Charlotte Mason, literature-based, Christ-centered, classical, hands-on, workbooks, unit studies, or eclectic.

Other things to document include your family values and educational goals. These lists might include items like relationships, Bible, reasoning, resolve, life skills, rigor, relevance, reading, writing, science, math, music, or technical skills.

So how many years has your home school lasted to date? What is the most important action item you took that helped you make it this far? The statistics show that a little less than half of those who start homeschooling are still in the game after four years. So if those first few years are rough, please persevere and don't give up. After all, if you can just make it to year four, then "you're in the club." Along with the millions of families already on this journey, I'm rooting for you. Who knows? Yours just might last as long as those castles of old.

# Top Reasons to Attend the HOME Convention This Year

## What does the HOME Convention offer you?

- 1. Books, books and more books!** The HOME Convention is a place to see, touch and ask questions about all those homeschool products that you have seen online and in homeschool magazines and catalogs. Knowledgeable experts and experienced veterans will be standing by to help you find your way through the curriculum maze!
- 2. Bargains!** Many exhibitors offer special discounts during the convention. HOME offers a wide selection of used curriculum and resources, as well!
- 3. Inspiration!** Speakers, workshops and panel discussions bring you education and new information to use in your homeschool. Encouragement and support fosters enthusiasm and a renewed spirit. Your family deserves to have you at your best!
- 4. Family fun and fellowship at a great resort location!** We want you to enjoy your time at the HOME Convention, so we offer plenty of family friendly activities, and lots of time to socialize with other homeschoolers! Where else can you find such a reasonably priced family or winter getaway with something for everyone?
- 5. Connections!** Attend year after year to build enduring, mutually beneficial relationships. You will continually connect with new people and cultivate existing relationships. Building strong networks with other homeschoolers is vital to your success!
- 6. Time alone with your spouse!** For some couples, this event is the only time during the year that they have a chance to be together to reconnect as a couple, and refocus on specific needs and goals for their children.
- 7. Motivation!** This is just the place to fill up your tank and get going again. Don't stay stuck in a rut. Get to the HOME Convention!
- 8. Hands-on Activities!** Many exhibitors at the HOME Convention offer family friendly hands-on activities to engage convention goers, young and old alike.
- 9. Educational Programs!** Workshop tracks especially for families and teens, as well as other special programs are always a part of the event. Everyone learns and grows at the HOME Convention!
- 10. Volunteer Opportunities!** For some families, the HOME Convention offers the chance to give something back to the homeschool community. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge.

Our exhibit hall will be filled with vendors ready to answer your questions and share their products designed with homeschoolers in mind! Come shop with us!

## **2019 Exhibitors**

(So far! More to Come!)

Annie Louise Twitchell  
BJU Press/HomeWorks by Precept  
Camp Constitution  
Chewonki Foundation  
Christian Light Education  
CLYNK  
Creation Exploration \*\*  
Dirigo HOME  
Fairy Projects with Kathy Dunfee \*\*  
Heart of HOME Bookstore  
Henry Knox Museum \*\*  
Historic New England \*\*  
HOME Curriculum Consulting  
HOME Game Area \*\*  
HOME Inventory Clearance Sales  
Home School Legal Defense Association  
Homeschoolers of Maine  
HSLDA Compassion  
Lincoln County Historical Association \*\*  
Living Innovations  
Living Waters Christian Camp  
Maine Historical Society  
Maine Home Education Week  
Martel Learning Group  
Meadow Rue Merrill  
Moms in Prayer  
New England Frontier Camp  
Plexus  
Polliwog Pages  
RightStart Math  
Rod and Staff Publishing  
Roots by the River  
Spunky the Clown  
Teaching Textbooks  
TeenPact

\*\* These exhibitors will be providing interactive booths. Opportunities for hands-on activities for children and families will be offered throughout the event during times when the exhibit halls are open..

## **A Special Thank You Goes to Our 2019 Event Sponsors**

Apologia  
Cairn University  
Classical Conversations  
Gordon College  
Learning With Fun  
Living Innovations  
University of Maine Augusta

# Your hotel stay during the Convention will be relaxing, refreshing and convenient when you stay at the beautiful Samoset Resort!

The HOME Convention can provide you with an opportunity for personal retreat, a couple getaway, a moms' time out or an affordable family vacation! By choosing to stay at the Samoset Resort, you will be "down the hall and around the corner" from each workshop and the exhibit areas. All accommodations include many extras (including in-room refrigerators), and are convenient for convention breaks, naps and meal preparations. Use the resort pool and other amenities, too! Make your stay comfortable, convenient and enjoyable by staying at the Samoset Resort!

For reservations, call the Samoset Resort: (800)341-1650. Please mention Homeschoolers of Maine and our group code (HSM19) to receive the discount rate OR make your reservation online using the Special Code (HSM19). Be sure to choose Group/Block under Special Code to see current room availability. Contact Samoset Reservations above if you need assistance. The 2019 reservation deadline is February 20, 2019.

Standard Room (Garden View) - \$131.00  
Standard Room (Ocean View) - \$141.00

*Additional Nearby Locations*  
Ledges By the Bay, Rockport  
Country Inn, Rockport  
Strawberry Hill, Rockport



## WHY WAIT?

Pre-Register before **March 7**, for Convention 2019 & Save!  
**March 21, 22 & 23**

Please Print Legibly!

Parent(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Children and/or Grandparent(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to receive HOME's E-mail updates?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Already Do \_\_\_\_\_

By registering for the HOME Convention, you agree with the terms and conditions listed on our website at the following link: <https://www.homeschoolersofmaine.org/events/annual-convention/terms-conditions/>.

Convention 2019 Registration	Early Bird Before Feb. 1	Pre-Registration	At the Door	How Many	Cost
First Person in the Family	\$35	\$40	\$45		
Each Additional Family Member <small>Living in same household or grandparents</small>	\$10	\$15	\$15		
Parents of Preschoolers—First Convention/Children 6 and under <small>*A HOME Regional Representative recommendation is required Home Reps are listed on the Contact Us page at the HOME website.</small>	FREE	FREE	FREE		FREE
Exhibit Hall Only Pass <small>Friday 1:00—4:00pm Children under 12 \$8, children under 2 free</small>	\$15/ person/	\$15/ person/	\$15/ person/		
Friday Performance Only— Wizard of Oz <small>Adults \$10, Children under 12 \$6, children under 2 free (Free with full convention registration)</small>	\$10/\$6 person	\$10/\$6 person	\$10/\$6 person		
Scholarship Donation (so that others may attend)					
Join HOME for Savings & Benefits! <small>Lifetime Families \$1000+ (free convention pass for a family of 4) VIP Families \$500+/yr (free convention pass for a family of 4, 20% off each addtl) Founding Families \$100-\$499/yr (15% Convention Registration Discount) Friends of Families \$25—\$99/yr (5% Convention Registration Discount) Subscriber Family \$10—\$24 /yr Affiliate Family—FREE</small>					
Discount Amount					-

**"THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD;  
THE SKIES PROCLAIM THE WORK OF HIS  
HANDS."**

**PSALM 19:1**

Total Amount Enclosed (U.S. Dollars)

\$



Please complete form & return with payment to:  
**HOME, Convention 2019 Registration**  
PO Box 159, Camden, ME 04843-0159  
**Checks can be made out to: HOME**