HUGS History

HUGS was formed in 1998 by a small group of committed Christian families who wanted to create a local support network for the growing homeschool movement. As its membership quickly grew, the group established an organizational structure complete with bylaws, membership dues, a board of directors voted by members, and regular monthly meetings. Today, HUGS is blessed with approximately 110 families whose home education efforts are enhanced by the organization's network of instructors, group sponsored field trips, and support for each other.

HUGS Statement of Faith

We believe that Jesus Christ is God's one and only Son. We believe in His virgin birth, physical death on the cross, bodily resurrection from the dead, and ascension into heaven where He lives eternally. We believe in 1 John 5:7 which states *"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one."* KJV

We believe salvation is a free gift provided by the grace of God for all who believe and accept His Son as Savior.

In accordance with the teachings of the Holy Bible as the inerrant Word of God, for all purposes of the corporation and our bylaws, "marriage" means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word "spouse" refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or wife.

We believe in the divine inerrancy of the Bible and that it alone is the source of all Truth. It alone is the measuring stick by which we choose to judge all of life.

HUGS Statement of Purpose

We believe that children are gifts from God (Psalm 127:3). We believe that parents are responsible for the training and education of the children God has entrusted to them. Each parent stands accountable to the Lord for the course that is charted and the course that is followed.

We support and respect different methods of education employed by each family.

We, as a Christian homeschooling support group, believe that it is our purpose to affirm and encourage families who have chosen to home educate their children.

We agree to maintain a Christian organization, reflecting the biblical principles of love and morality. We desire to honor and glorify God and to be a light to the community and world.

All group activities will be in keeping with Christian beliefs and standards of conduct.

HUGS Membership Guidelines

We, the HUGS Board, respect and agree not to compromise the privacy of our homeschooling families. We will not release names or phone numbers of any HUGS member to outside sources, without the express permission of that member.

As HUGS parents, you agree to maintain appropriate discipline of your own children while involved in any group activity.

As HUGS parents, you understand that our organization is solely supported by its members. All activities require parental attendance (unless noted otherwise). Field trips, holiday parties, picnics, park dates, and other activities will only be organized as long as we have volunteers to assist.

As HUGS parents, you understand that neither HUGS, nor its members, are liable for any injuries incurred during HUGS sponsored events.

As HUGS parents, you understand that HUGS disseminates information that may be of benefit to our members. However, HUGS does not endorse groups or individuals, and we encourage you to carefully research any services being considered for your family.

I, the undersigned, have read the above statements and agree to abide by the guidelines set forth as a member of the HUGS home school support group.

Name (please print)_____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Date_____ Signed _____

I have read and agree with the Statement of Faith. _____ (initials)

I have read and agree with the Statement of Purpose. _____ (initials)

Check one:
☐ First Time Member
☐ Renewing Member

The enrollment period for the upcoming school year begins June 1st each year. Membership dues are $20.00 **for all first-time members**.

For those renewing their membership, dues are $20 when enrolling **before** September 1st of the upcoming school year and increase to $30 after that date.* Membership in HUGS will expire the following August 31st unless renewed. Checks are to be made payable to "HUGS."

If mailing in registration, please include this page and dues. Send to Jessica Sturm, 1110 West First Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50023.

* If checks are returned due to insufficient funds, the person responsible will be required to reimburse HUGS for any bank charges that are incurred. Membership status will also be put on hold until membership dues along with bank charges are paid in full.

For Office Use Only
__ Check # _____
__ Cash _____