

THE ECLECTIC REPORT

North Dakota Home School Association P.O. Box 1066 Devils Lake, N.D. 59301 701.662.6347 office@ndhsa.org www.ndhsa.org

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- Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." (John 11:25-26)
- Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." (John 18:37)
- And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place call the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross: Jesus of Nazareth, The King of the Jews. (John 19:19)
- Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb So there they laid Jesus. (John 19:41)
- Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. (John 20:1)
- And Jesus came and spoke to them saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)
- "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:1-3)

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The NDHSA is a 501c3 non-profit.
We rely on memberships
and donations to keep operating.



From our newest NDHSA BOARD MEMBERS: Thor and Amber Sand

By Thor Sand

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce my wife and myself as the newest members of the NDHSA board, Amber is my wife and my name is Thor. We live on our farm near Ellendale with our 6 children, one of whom is off to college at Presentation for nursing. Our children are Kelsie (20), Lily (16), Emma (14), Roscoe (11), Nina (7) and Barnabas (5).

I work with my Dad on a cow/calf/feedlot ranch and grow corn, soybeans, and alfalfa. I also have been blessed to be able to serve as a County Commissioner for the last 7 years.

Amber has been tasked with the more difficult and important task of taking the lead role in schooling our children and caring for the home. We have been homeschooling for roughly 10 years. We are grateful and excited for the opportunity to serve the homeschooling community of North Dakota.

We have been attending the state convention for most of the 10 years and have found much encouragement. The speakers that we have heard over the years have inspired us, challenged us and given us tools and knowledge that equipped us to raise our children in a Godly manner. The things that we have learned have had an immeasurable impact on our family. We hope and pray that you will continue to attend or consider attending conventions in the future. While online resources can be beneficial, it cannot replace the interaction with speakers and other people who desire to raise their children in a way that is honoring and glorifying to the Lord. It amazes me the connections and friendships that are made over a few days spent learning and interacting each year.

When we started homeschooling it was a, "let's see how this goes" kind of thing. As we learned more it became a conviction that it was what we had been called by God to do. I don't think it would be an overstatement to say that we would have given it up many times over if not for the support and renewed conviction we received from attending the NDHSA convention. We are so thankful for the people that do what it takes to put on the convention each year. I don't know of any other place that has such a diverse group of people from different denominations that can come together to praise God and equip families to better love and support each other in Christ's name.

At the time of this writing, the corona virus has shut down almost every gathering of any type in the US. We are very thankful that we were able to have a great convention in North Dakota this year. We know that this will not be the case in many other states. There are many speakers and organizations that rely on income generated from the yearly convention cycle. I'd ask that you would keep them in your prayers and if possible consider giving a gift or ordering material that you may benefit from and help them out in a difficult time. I know that there are many other businesses and occupations that will be adversely affected as well.

Know that we will be praying for you. Pray for God's will and that His purposes will be accomplished in a difficult and trying time.



BOARD COLUMN

By Ken Knight

Homeschooling and the Corona virus ... I know, I know, all you ever hear about is CoVID-19. All the news ever focuses on is what's next with the virus? How may confirmed cases? How many hospitalizations? How many deaths? Therefore, you ask me, "Do we really need to talk about it in our homeschool newsletter?" No, we don't *have* to talk about it here, but history is in the making.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, after the Twin Towers fell, I looked at my children and told them, "Our country will never be the same." I was right – the Patriot Act was passed, airport security was radically increased, the office of Homeland Security and the TSA (Transportation Security Administration) were created. None of these made life easier, but life went on. History is in the making. Unless all the Islamic countries of the world unite under ISIS, obtain nuclear weapons and begin a world-wide eradication of non-Muslim countries, this will be the story of the decade, if not the century. So, what do we do?

First, don't panic. fret, worry, be anxious or alarmed. If you are tempted to do any of these, remember that God is still on the throne. He still loves us regardless of what is going on in the world and His permissive will shall be carried out. That alone should give you peace, a peace that "...passeth all understanding" as we trust our God, claim the promises of Christ, and rest in the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Second, be thankful you are already homeschooling. You have your curriculum, you are still teaching your children the same as you did six months ago, and you'll finish out the year in like manner. My sister teaches school in the interior of Alaska and of course their schools are closed, but the teachers are expected to create worksheets and/or digital lessons for their students for the rest of the year. Teacher's everywhere are scrambling to complete objectives and meet deadlines. For us – school just goes on – we have our books, programs, even supplies and we'll finish on schedule.

Third, after being thankful, try keeping a journal of the events, especially when they directly affect you. Has dad been laid off from work or is he working from home? In years to come, your journal will be a primary source of history. So maybe you're not a writer – create a blog or save news clips into a file to keep for future reference. Be sure to add your personal thoughts and feelings as well as those of your children. They may only remember "We couldn't find toilet paper!" or "Some shelves in the store were empty!" or "We had to stay at home."

Last, but definitely not least, **use the current situation to strengthen your family.** How? When we work together to overcome a problem or to create something it brings us closer together, thus strengthening the family ties. Overcoming a problem? Let's look at some of them:

- Dad not working? Finances tight? Create a budget and determine a plan that will get you through this. If you don't have one already now would be a good time to get one. Explain to the children why you can't buy or do some things that you have done in the past. Find ways to cut corners and be frugal. Our governor encouraged businesses to be creative when he placed restrictions on them. Be creative. Can you sell things online? Do you have an emergency fund you can tap into to tide you over? Have you been wanting to write a book, make furniture, create a new program/game for the internet? Work on these, especially if the children can be involved. These projects might not be immediate sources of income, but they could replace those emergency funds in the future. Don't forget the positive side of Dad not working – he can help teach.
- Dad working from home? Give him the time and space he needs to do his job, even if it requires rearranging the house, changing schedules, etc. Is it possible to use this time to teach the children about dad's job? Can they observe? Maybe help?
- Quarantined – either by prudent choice or government mandate – and going crazy? Do fun things together like:
 - Play board games - We received a new board game for Christmas and have been so busy we hadn't had a chance to play, until last week; play card games - bored of the same old card games? Google "historic card games" and learn some new "old" games;
 - Plan a garden – it's probably too early to plant;
 - Remodel a room in the house;
 - Reorganize the basement (or maybe garage) to create a play area;
 - Start spring cleaning – one room a day;
 - Build something – Several years ago we built a playground for the grandchildren and had great fun doing it;
 - Create a family scrapbook – everyone can do something for that;
 - Produce a play, film it and send it to Grandma and Grandpa.

Spring of 2020, in North Dakota and in America (if not in the World) will forever be associated with the corona virus but this trial WILL pass and life WILL go on, and like 9-11 our world will never be the same. Endeavor that in your family it is a positive change. A preacher once said, "Perhaps the problem you are facing is the blessing you are seeking." May you find some blessings in this trial.



NDHSA 2021 Convention - Bismarck Civic Center - Feb.18-20

Homeschool Day at the Capitol - Feb. 18,2021

Find a support group near you at:
www.ndhsa.org
Click on support groups.

For legal assistance
JOIN
Home School Legal
Defense Association.
www.hslda.org

Send clipped labels for **BOX TOPS** for
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Laurie Morstad
9175 80th St. NE,
Hampden, ND 58338
Check expiration dates.



Visit here for a great article published by
the Fargo Forum.

<https://www.inforum.com/news/education/5020600-What-parents-turned-teachers-can-learn-from-longtime-home-schoolers>



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pieces of art available FREE online:

<https://www.si.edu/openaccess>

NDHSA Convention NEWS:

Attendance - Around 800! GenJ - 50 young adults

Silent Auction Income - \$1,133 (Hey, a great fund raiser!)

Offerings - \$7,186 (The most in almost a decade. Praise the Lord for His supply through ND homeschoolers!)

The Convention on the Rights of the Child Is Back in Congress

From parentalrights.org

In February, Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) introduced a resolution, [House Resolution 854](#), to call for the US Senate to ratify the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child** (the Convention, or CRC). In so doing, she once more opened the door—or at least knocked on it—for international law to override parental rights in our country.

On November 20, 1989, the UN General Assembly approved the CRC and opened it for ratification. Within ten months, the requisite 20 nations had adopted the treaty, bringing it into force. Since then, every nation except the United States has ratified the CRC.

The United States signed the treaty under President Bill Clinton in 1995, signaling our intention to become a party to it. But it has never been ratified with the constitutionally required consent of two-thirds of the Senate as our Constitution requires, so we remain the lone holdout.

But there are three solid reasons we cannot, we *must not*, join the Convention.

[Read More](#)

Something FABULOUS from a FABULOUS magazine

The Old Schoolhouse magazine is offering a unique coupon code for anyone who inquires directly with our organization to try their online, preschool through high school full-curriculum option, SchoolhouseTeachers.com, FREE for 3 months. With over 400 courses and numerous additional tools and streaming learning videos available, families can find what they need for a strong finish to their school year. This is a no-strings-attached offer; no credit card or other payment method is needed to sign up.

Any family who chooses to continue subscription to SchoolhouseTeachers.com beyond the 3-month free period can join at a heavily discounted rate of \$99/year, using a coupon code unique to our organization. (Normal retail price is \$224.97/year)

The NDHSA is set up as a SchoolhouseTeachers.com affiliate, meaning that for each member who chooses to join at the discounted rate (using the link assigned specifically to our group and our unique coupon code), our organization earns a 25% cash commission we can use in any way we see fit. That means almost \$25 of passive income for our organization for each new membership brought in through this partnership—as well as each year that member renews going forward.

Go to www.ndhsa.org



The Blessing

From *Above Rubies*, Feb. 2020, No. 97

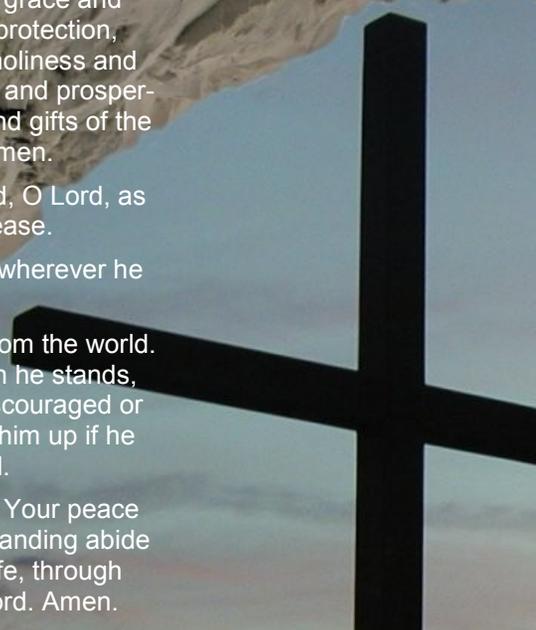
God bless you with grace and peace, power and protection, health and healing, holiness and godliness, abundance and prosperity, and all the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Watch over Your child, O Lord, as his days increase.

Bless and guide him wherever he may be.

Keep him unspotted from the world. Strengthen him when he stands, comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful, and raise him up if he should fall.

And in his heart may Your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of his life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Psalm 106:9 So He led them through the depths, as through the wilderness.

"Led" means there "caused to go on." We all want to go on, not through the shallows but through the depths of prayer.

I have found that to let oneself wander far at ... times is what most surely leads to wandering thoughts in prayer. Instead, let us allow all sorts of things to act as reminders, as calls to prayer. For example, once when held up by traffic on the road, the friend with me talked of someone who was lonely; thereafter, to be held up on the roads reminded me to pray for the lonely of the earth.

Then there is the flash of memory. A name, place, person, or something seen or heard or read flashes for one second across the mind. It can be lost or turned to prayer; the choice is with us.

As we go on practicing prayer in this simple way we can trust that He who caused His people to go through the depths as through an open wilderness will cause us also to go through these deeper places of prayer. The patient Spirit will help us in our weakness, for though we do not know how to pray as we ought He himself prays for us (Romans 8:26).

From *Whispers of His Power* by Amy Carmichael

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NDHSA Statement of Faith

We believe in Almighty God, the Author of all creation, eternally existing in three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; the Bible as the inspired, infallible, written Word of God, complete in 66 books and our sole basis of faith and practice; the fallen state of man, guilty by nature and by act and therefore condemned before God; the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, except without sin, the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sins, His visible bodily resurrection demonstrating His power over death and sin, His personal return; and regeneration by God, the Holy Spirit when we accept His free gift of salvation by His grace, through our personal faith, and not by any works we can do.

Mission statement

To provide a comprehensive home education information system to support, train and protect every willing North Dakota individual, family and church in the methods of privately funded, parent-directed home education.

NDHSA Statement of purpose

1. Encouraging and assisting Christian families in the education of their children according to Biblical principles;
2. Providing to home educators and the general public information pertaining to the Biblical, academic and legal aspects of home education;
3. Entering into activities, in filling out contracts necessary, incidental or beneficial to the accomplishment of the nonprofit purposes of this corporation.

The Eclectic Report

Gail M. Biby, editor

The *Eclectic Report* is published monthly by the NDHSA and is provided free to anyone who asks. The NDHSA is a Christian 501(c)(3) organization funded by the gifts and memberships of interested parties. No substantial part of the activities of the NDHSA is used for the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, promote any political campaign, or on the behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Legal issues are for instructive purposes only and do not constitute the giving of legal advice. If you need legal advice concerning homeschooling, contact Daniel Beasley, Home School Legal Defense Association attorney of reference for North Dakota, if you are a member family, or contact an attorney familiar with homeschool law. Any comments or opinions are those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NDHSA board or staff members. Bylined articles ditto! Advertisements likewise. If you have something that may be of interest to homeschoolers, or if you have comments or corrections, send them to the editor at billbiby@msn.com.

Gail M. Biby is the publications editor for the NDHSA and has been joyfully working with parent educators for almost 30 years. She has served on the advisory board for Lamplighter Publishing, writes a newsletter for her church gals, and volunteers with Caring Hearts Jail Ministry and Metropolitan Prison Pen Pals Ministry. She and her husband Bill are recipients of the 2017 NDHSA Homeschool Pioneer Award. Contact her: billbiby@msn.com She is blessed beyond measure and once had a very long bucket list. She now prefers buckets of June berries.

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North Dakota Home School Hall of Fame Inductees

2014 Rev. Clinton & Judi Birst, Mark & Lynette Dagley, Dr. Ray & Rita Larsen, Gerald & Sheryl Lund

2015 Neil and Chris Toman, Dr. Graef Gannon, Rev. Edward and Sue Huntington

2016 Michael Farris J.D., Rev. Thomas & Peggy Patzer

2017 Bill & Gail Biby, Morris & Jackie Conklin, Allen & Barb Entzel

2018 Linus & Anna Evinger

2019 Dr. Brian Ray, the Sack-Headed Anonymous HSer

2020 Leroy and Ann Nelson, Greg Lange, esq.



PRAYER

- **PRAISE** God for His continued mercy over our land.
- **PRAY** for those who are anxious and fretting about the corona virus and its ramifications.
- **ASK GOD** to strengthen those who are weary; ask Him to renew the homeschooling mom's courage and perseverance. Pray for those who have given up. Pray for those who are thrust into the role of homeschooling.
- **REMEMBER** the lost. If one dies apart from Christ, one is eternally lost...think about it. Speak to them.
- **INTERCEDE** for your spouse, your pastor and family. Pray we will be faithful, obedient, and willing to throw away all excuses that keep us from denying self, taking up our crosses, and following Jesus.
- **PRAY** for all who are confined in nursing homes and not allowed visits. It's lonely.
- **ASK GOD** to strengthen our resolve in all manner of godly living. Courage, Lord, give us courage.
- **PRAY REGULARLY** for the NDHSA board of directors as they continue to provide vision and wisdom.
- **THANK** God for new board members Thor and Amber Sand.
- **PRAISE GOD** for Home School Legal Defense Association; for Daniel Beasley, HSLDA rep for ND; for their continued careful monitoring of federal legislation; for their continued work to expand freedom for homeschoolers.
- **REMEMBER** the suffering Church around the world. Often. Nigeria, Egypt, Kenya, Cameroon, Sri Lanka. Christians are dying daily. Don't forget.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!