



Vol. 15. Issue 6

The Educator

T.E.A.C.H.ERS

The Elkhart Area Christian Home Educators



February 2012

Psalm 31: 24 "Be strong and let your heart take courage. All you who hope in the LORD."

Hebrews 12: 2 "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and the perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."



Teachers Heartlight

I know that at this time of year many people are talking about their New Year's resolutions: plans to get organized, diets, fitness goals, etc. I confess, I don't make resolutions at the beginning of each year. I do think this is a great time, as homeschoolers, to start thinking about the direction we want our homeschool to take in the following year.

I'm not just talking about the calendar year, but about the next school year: 2012 - 2013. As you look back on the months of August through December what has gone well in your school, what hasn't gone well? What do you want to do more of next year, what do you not want to do at all? Are you happy with the curriculum your students are using? Are they excelling as much as they are able? Are there activities to add which would benefit your students? Or, have you become too busy and need to find ways to simplify your schedule?

This is such a great time of year to begin asking those questions. Do you know someone who is using a different curriculum that you'd like to find out more about? Ask them about it, research and find out if it would benefit your students. Are you looking for sports opportunities, music lessons, or academic activities? Start asking around, find other homeschool families who are active, can they point you in the right direction?

One of the great things about being a part of a homeschool support group is that we have access to many families with such a wide range of experience! I often tell people, "If I don't know the answer I can likely find someone who does." I'll never claim to know everything about homeschooling, but as a connected community I can find someone else who can help. Just this past year, our family has gotten involved in a new activity because we were able to connect through another family's experience and knowledge.

Have you joined TEACHERs, but haven't really connected with other families yet? Keep watching the newsletter for opportunities to get your students involved in activities as well as time for parents to fellowship with each other. Do you need information on a specific area of homeschooling? Take the time to get in touch with a member of the TEACHERs board. We're here to help, even if that means us pointing you to someone else for help and information.

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