

ERCHA HOMELIGHT

(Eagle Rock Christian Homeschool Association)

www.homelight.org



December 2009

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:



Elite Gym: 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays from 12:30 – 2:30

Chick Clique Bible Study: Every Monday 4-5:30pm

December – Winter Festivals - at Museum of Idaho – Free. www.museumofidaho.org

December 4th - Calvary Chapel Idaho Falls Women's Christmas Concert

December 4 & 5 – Nutcracker at Colonial Theater

December 7th – Keepers @ Home @ Calvary @ 6pm

December 11th – Youth Christmas Party - 6:30-9:00pm

December 12th – Group prayer @ Haas Home – 10am – 11am

December 12th – Ladies Cookie/Gift Exchange @ 1:30pm

December 14th – Monthly Meeting/Christmas Party @ Calvary @ 6:30pm

December 18th - Chick Clique Christmas Party

December 19th – Ladies Afternoon Out @ Perkins @ 2pm

January 15th – O! Theater at Colonial Theater

March 23rd – Cirque Mechanics Birdhouse Factory at Civic Auditorium

May – date TBA – Science Fair

DECEMBER *Christmas Party*

Come for food and fellowship for our 3rd annual Christmas Party!!! Woohoo!!!

December 14th @ 6:30pm @ Calvary Chapel in the fellowship hall.

Potluck: Families with last names A-M bring a dessert N-Z bring a main dish.

Gift Exchange: for the kids...\$4 or less unisex gift exchange (bring one for each child in your family to give away)

Ladies Christmas Cookie/Gift Exchange

Melissa is hosting a ladies Christmas cookie/gift exchange at her house on December 12 at 1:30 in the afternoon. Each lady is invited to bring 4/5 dozen cookies to share and a \$10 gift for another lady. Making cookies is not necessary, she'd rather they come than skip if that's a worry. AND this year there will be a fallback house if her house is snowed in again! So don't worry about being stuck with dozens of cookies. Please to RSVP to Melissa

SPEECH/SPEAK UP ~ 8 years & up

Do you want to learn how to communicate more effectively? Public speaking can be intimidating for some! They say that public speaking and flying in an airplane are the most common fears, (how about giving a speech why you ride in an airplane??)

We will meet at the Public Library the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 3pm starting in January. Any questions please email Carolina.

Kid's College – offered by EITC

There are new and exciting courses geared specifically to children who home school or are in private or charter schools and need supplemental education in the area of computers. EITC has state of the art computer labs and a professional computer educator with 11 children of her own. Join Shayna Hemsely-Spencer for an exciting adventure into the world of computers. \$15 classes offered on Tuesdays from 11am – Noon.

Computer typing skills – Jan. 19th to Feb. 2nd

Introduction to Word – Feb. 9th to Feb. 23rd

Term Paper/Autobiography skills – March 2nd – March 16th

Introduction to Excel – Mar 23rd – Apr. 6th

Powerful PowerPoint Presentations – April 13th – April 27th

Email tonya.nunes@my.eitc.edu for more details

Featured Websites

During our November meeting, JoAnn and others shared websites that I wanted to share with everyone. It is always nice to be introduced to new sites we can use for our schooling. Please be sure to send me any that your might use and want to share! I'll choose just a few each month:

Donna Young's Homeschool Printables & Resources www.donnayoung.org

Eclectic Education Blog – lots of preschool and younger grade links – www.homeschoolblogger.com/eclecticeducation/

Homeschool Copy Work, Dictation and Handwriting Practice – www.guesthollow.com/homeschool/printables/printablescopywork.html

www.enchantedlearning.com – great website for elementary

www.starfall.com – great website for early readers

www.edhelper.com

www.kidzone.ws – good info for students up thru 6th grade

www.familymanweb.com – A good one for the dads!

Free e- books at - www.glutenberg.org

Christian Classic Books at - www.ccel.org

Spend less, read more on - www.thriftbooks.com

www.freeclassicaudiobooks.com

www.christianaudio.com

News from CHOIS: Christian Homeschoolers of Idaho State

- [Why we need the Parental Rights Amendment](#)
- [Why the Parental Rights Amendment is important to gun owners](#)
- [Which Congressmen are supporting the Parental Rights Amendment](#)

Idaho parents wish to thank Senator James Risch, and Congressman Mike Simpson for co-sponsoring the Parental Rights Amendment. (HJ Res. 42 and SJ Res. 16). Please join us in urging Congressman Walt Minnick and Senator Mike Crapo to join their names to the ever-growing list of co-sponsors.

Send your thanks to:

- [Senator James Risch](#)
- [Congressman Mike Simpson](#)

Send your requests to:

- [Senator Mike Crapo](#)
- [Congressman Walt Minnick](#)

On-Going ERCHA Programs

Prayer: Need more prayer for homeschool families and issues? Join us the second Saturday of December for a time of group prayer specifically for the families in our group @ the Haas home. 10 – 11am. Call for directions 680-4963. If you cannot make it, but would like to submit a prayer request, please email to Kristine by the Friday before:
kristinehaas@gmail.com

Ladies Night/Afternoon Out



We are starting a Ladies Night Out. A time of getting together for food, fun and fellowship. It will be the third week of every month, alternating between Thursday nights at 7:00pm and Saturday afternoons at 2:00pm. We will meet at Perkins for coffee, pie, fellowship and just a time to get out and be with other women. So mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions you can contact Misty.

Saturday December 19th @ 2pm
Thursday January 21st @ 7pm
Saturday February 20th @ 2pm
Thursday March 18th @ 7pm
Saturday April 17th @ 2pm
Thursday May 20th @ 7pm

Pre-school Playtime

Please join us if you have children preschool through 3rd grade for a chance to play call Michele for more information.

Homelight Newspaper!

We are enlarging our newsletter into a newspaper. There will be articles on a

variety of topics, contests, games, and stories, including a student spotlight. We are in need of students who want to write, edit, and/or interview for the newspaper. This is a great opportunity for your students to grow in their writing ability, get constructive criticism for their work, and gain experience in writing and working as a team. For more information and to apply, contact Maurie.

Email: ree_haas@yahoo.com or
Call: 208-351-0433



the difference
I can make.

We all shop for groceries, sometimes two or three times a week – or more. Now turn those shopping trips into easy cash for your school, and encourage friends to do the same! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of products like Cheerios[®], Hamburger Helper[®] and Kleenex[®], in almost every aisle of the store. All you need to do is clip and send them to your school's Box Tops coordinator - each one is worth 10¢. We will save our money to buy equipment for ERCHA members to use (microscope, laminator...). You may turn them in at any meeting.



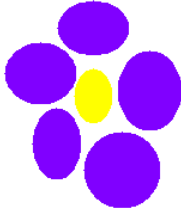
Youth!

Fun activities for homeschoolers

13 YEARS AND UP!

Friday, December 11 – 6:30-9:00pm Christmas Party @ the Haas House

Bring \$2 for pizza and soda & a gift, under \$10 for a gift exchange



The Chick Clique

A group for homeschooling girls 7th-9th grade!

Christmas Party ~ December 18th, 6pm - 9:30pm

Bring \$2 for pizza, movie, games, and snacks! All girls 7 - 9th grade are invited, even if you have not been to the Bible Study.

Bible Study "A Young Woman After God's Own Heart" meets every Monday 4-5:30.

E-mail or call Maurie for more information - ree_haas@yahoo.com

208-351-0433

Tweens: grades 3 – 6 (ages 8 – 12)

**No activity this month...catch ya again in
January☺**

Scholastic Books

Please email Melanie if you'd like to be on her distribution list for fliers of upcoming Scholastic Book Sales.



Gym Time - Elite Gym ages up to 14. The sessions will continue

monthly on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday of the month. The cost is \$4.00 per child, or \$3 if there are 4 or more children in the family. If there is anyone who is unable to pay, please let Michele know, and the cost will be provided.

Keepers at Home - A Christian girls group, invites girls 6 and older to join us for a fun year of getting to know God, each other and ourselves better. This year we are focusing on Godly character and loving others. Along with fun projects, we will have ongoing visits to a nursing home and help at a soup kitchen. Please email Michelle or Melissa at keepers@homelight.org for more information.



Spelling Bee: We will be having our own spelling bee in February. Lists will be coming soon in a separate email. Any questions or to sign up, contact kristinehaas@gmail.com

Science Fair – For the end of our school year (May 2010), please start thinking about a science project that you could share with the group. You will be asked to explain your project then share with us the outcome. Please email Rachel with any questions.

Scottish Country

Dance:

A new 6-week session begins Monday November 2, 1:30-2:30pm. Ages 5 to 17. \$30 per child for the session. We meet at Eagle Rock Dance Academy, 451 River Parkway. See www.thistleandghillies.org for more info email Kathy at shakespeare@homelight.org

Lending Library - Books available for borrow or sale. The ERCHA library continues to grow! See the attachment for a list of books. If you'd like to contribute to the library, let Kristine know and she will add the information. If you are in need of something, give Kristine a call to see if we have it.

YearBook: Alexis and Maurie are asking that you start sending photos of your activities now and during the school year so they can continually work on the 2009-2010 year book. Photos should include field trips, vacations, school time, projects, Family time and outings, Pets, Church functions, and anything else... Photos MUST BE: clear (not blurry) well lighted, large images, large enough to recognize.

This year our vision is to actually have Family Pages. That's right, each family having their own page with written dedications, prayers and verses that are special to your family. SO – please keep this in mind through out the year. We are going to start compiling little by little. We have already started to receive photos! ***You can email the photos or give a CD to Alexis.***

Great Websites

www.homelight.org – Eagle Rock Christian Homeschool Association

www.chois.org – Christian Home Schoolers of Idaho State

www.hslda.org – Home School Legal Defense Association

www.iche-idaho.org - Idaho Coalition of Home Educators

www.parentalrights.org – Protecting children by empowering parents

ERCHA ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Chalmers & Kristine Haas – kristinehaas@cableone.net

Eric & Julie

Scott & Melissa

James & Misty

Paul & JoAnn

Alexis