

# Homeschool Wyo

2021 Convention | Cheyenne, WY

MAY 14 - 15, 2021



# Notes



The Homeschool Neighborhood is our NEW, private, online community created just for homeschoolers in Wyoming. With the growing concerns over online censorship and privacy, we wanted to create a **safe space** just for you and your groups! Join our statewide group as well as other local, and topic specific groups or start your own group with your co-op or friends! It's **FREE!**

Come and be our Neighbor today! [homeschoolwy.org](http://homeschoolwy.org)

Are you beginning Homeschooling or just wanting to refocus? **Homeschool University** will take the guesswork out of how to get started in homeschooling in Wyoming. This 14-day course is a valuable resource and will help you to persevere through struggles to finish strong!

\$29 discount for Homeschool Wyo Partners!  
[homeschoolwy.org](http://homeschoolwy.org)

## WELCOME

# Run the Race

HOMESCHOOL WYO  
WITH ENDURANCE  
HEBREWS 12:1-2

### HELLO & WELCOME,

Together again!! Across the country, homeschooling became the norm in 2020 and, even as schools reopened, some families chose to stay the course and continue with this homeschooling lifestyle. With that in mind, the Homeschool Wyo Board would like to welcome YOU to our Run the Race Homeschooling Conference this year! We would like to thank our volunteers for helping to make this happen and we hope that you can feel the sense of pride we take in making our convention special for each and every attendee. Whether you are new to homeschooling or well into your journey, we are sure you will find some encouragement, have a few laughs, and come away feeling equipped to Run this Race with Endurance!

The book of Hebrews reminds us that we are to throw off everything that hinders and entangles us and RUN WITH ENDURANCE fixing our eyes on Jesus who perfects our faith! During this powerful weekend, we will be encouraged to do just that, fix our eyes on Jesus, and run the race He has marked out for us. We pray that through our insightful speakers and wonderful exhibitors, you will leave ready to Run with Endurance - no matter what lies ahead.

Be sure to check out our fantastic Exhibit Hall. where you will find curricula, homeschool support materials, and more. Some exhibitors will be familiar old friends, while others are here with fresh new ideas and products to help you on your homeschooling journey.

**Homeschool Wyo** is more than just a convention, it's also **YOUR state organization for homeschooling**. When you partner with us, you are helping to protect homeschooling freedoms, equip families to homeschool, and connect homeschool families in stronger community across this great state of Wyoming. Homeschool Wyo defends and advocates for homeschool and parental rights in Wyoming. Will you stand guard with us? We need **your support and partnership** to ensure Wyoming families are free to homeschool for generations to come!

Have a great convention!  
In your service and His,

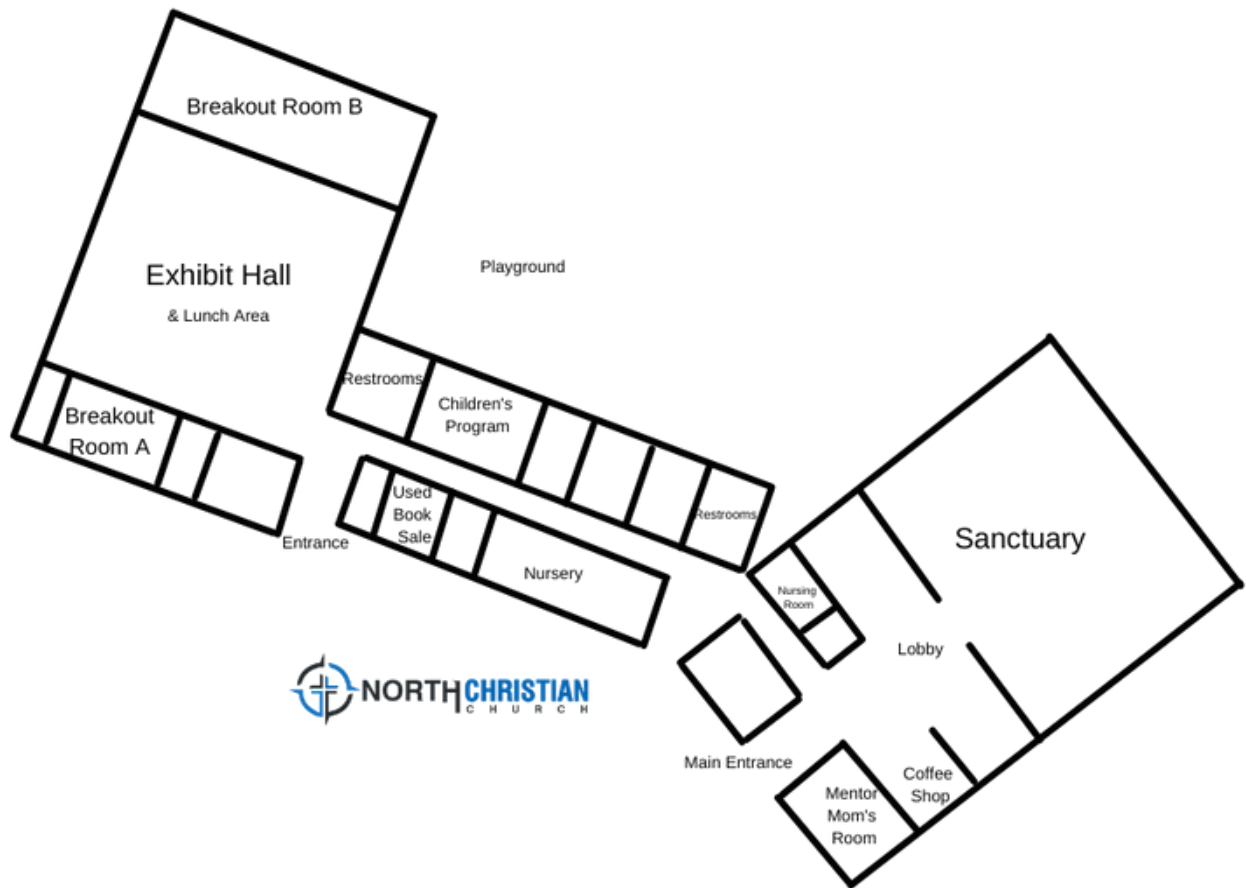
*Lindsey Sears*

and the HOW Board of Directors

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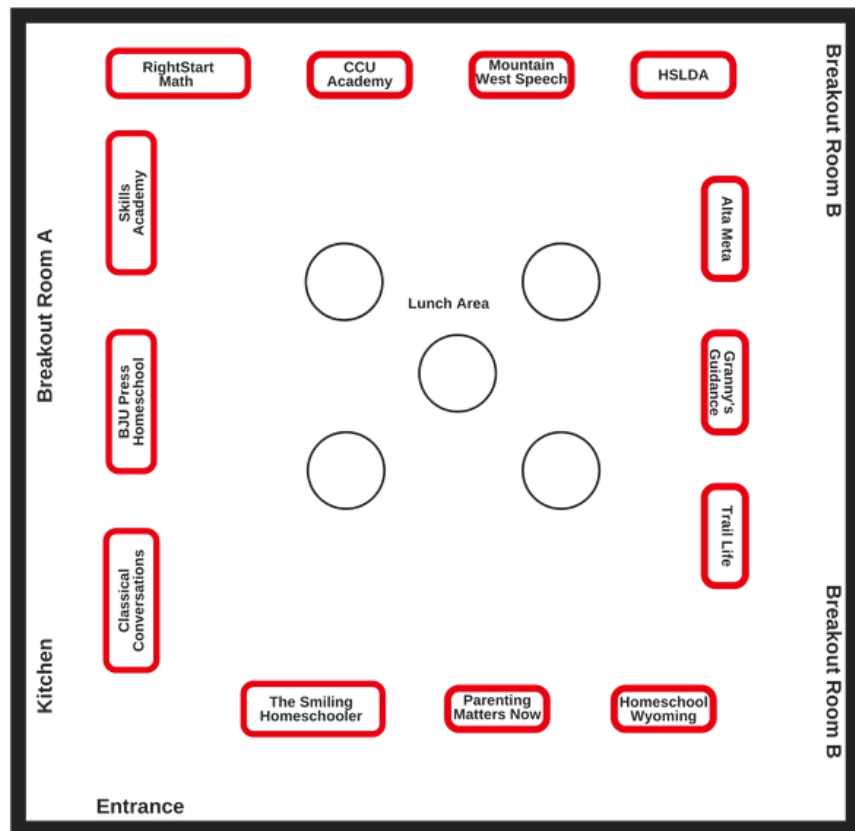
# Venue Map



## Exhibit Hall Map



homeschoolwy.org



## SPONSORS



## CLASSICAL CONVERSATIONS

*ClassicalConversations.com*

We believe that the purpose of education is to know God and make Him known. Classical Conversations communities meet one day per week. The parents are always the primary teacher. One parent-tutor/director guides students through all subjects, modeling the skills to be learned and demonstrating the integration and unity of all the subjects within a Christ-centered worldview.

## VENDORS



### ALTA META HOMESCHOOL AUXILIARY

*altametallc.com*



### BOB JONES UNIVERSITY PRESS

*BJUpresshomeschool.com*



### CCU ACADEMY

*ccu.edu/academy*



### THE SMILING HOMESCHOOLER

*familymanweb.com*



### GRANNY'S GUIDANCE

*grannysguidance.wixsite.com/  
website*



### HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION

*hslda.org*



### HOMESCHOOL WYO

*homeschoolwy.org*



### MOUNTAIN WEST SPEECH SERVICES

*mountainwestspeechservices.com*



### PARENTING MATTERS NOW

*facebook.com/  
Parentingmattersnow*



### RIGHTSTART MATHEMATICS

*rightstartmath.com*



### SKILLS ACADEMY

*skillsacademyus.com*



### TRAIL LIFE TROOP

*trailifeusa.com*



## SPEAKERS



### **TODD WILSON**

*familymanweb.com*

TODD WILSON, is a dad, grand dad, writer, conference speaker, and former pastor. Todd's humor and down to earth realness have made him a favorite speaker at events across the country.

As founder of Familyman Ministries and the Smiling Homeschooler, his passion and mission are to remind dads and moms of what's most important.

Todd, and his wife Debbie, homeschool three of their eight children (five have graduated from their homeschool with four married) in northern Indiana and travel America in the Familyman Mobile.



### **ROGER & JAN SMITH**

*facebook.com/Parentingmattersnow*

The Smiths hail from Louisiana where Roger is a medical doctor, and Jan manages their horse farm and businesses. All four of their adult children were homeschooled until the college years, and home education has been an exciting journey for them.

They continue to serve in their church as mentors and teachers, as well as serving on the board of their state and national homeschool organizations. Dr. Smith has a weekly video blog on parenting, Parenting Matters Now, on Facebook.



### **JAN LOFTUS**

Jan Loftus was the lobbyist for Homeschoolers of Wyoming (HOW) from 2012 until 2020 and Wyoming's coordinator for ParentalRights.org since 2011. She and her husband, Greg, have two adult children and while homeschooling them, served as secretary of HOW for six years. She functioned as campaign chairman for three successful runs for a current Wyoming State Rep.



### **MICHELLE CHRISTENSEN**

*grannysguidance.wixsite.com/website*

Michelle Christensen is the wife of a farmer, mother to five children, Granny to 8 grandchildren, follower of Christ, and... accidental author!

Michelle will tell you that she doesn't have credentials to be an author or mentor, no PhD or Doctorate, no special training or abilities. BUT she serves a BIG God whose grace, and mercy has been with her on her motherhood journey. God has led her from an unprepared teenage mom through the toddler years, the homeschooling years, the hard years and the good years to become the mother of five amazing adults.



### **DOUGLAS PIETERSMA**

*AltametaLLC.com*

Dr. Pietersma is a retired military intelligence officer and an education researcher holding a Doctor of Education degree from Regent University with a research emphasis on homeschooling and Christian education. His dissertation research focused on the intersectionality of discipleship and the Christian homeschooling experience. He is also the editor of the Home School Researcher.

Dr. Pietersma homeschools his two children and directs AltaMeta Homeschool Auxiliary, which provides co-curricular homeschool courses to Christian homeschool families in the local area of Cheyenne and beyond through web-based courses.

Friday	Sanctuary	Breakout Sessions	Fellowship Hall	Kids Program/Nursery
9:00 AM	Kids Drop Off & Shopping Time	Mentor Mom's Room	Vendor Hall Opens	9:30 - Drop off
10:00 AM	Todd Wilson: This We Believe	Mentor Mom's Room	Shopping Open	
11:15 AM	Panel: Successfully Homeschooling through High School	Douglas: Overcoming Challenges in Your Homeschool		
12:30 PM	~ Lunch Break ~	Leaders Lunch: Todd Wilson and Town Hall Discussion		Closed for lunch break
2:30 PM	Jan Lofus: The Battle for Freedom	Mentor Mom's Room		2:15 - Drop off
3:45 PM	Todd Wilson: Taming the Techno Beast - Parenting in the Internet Age	Mentor Mom's Room	Vendor Hall Closes	
5:00 PM	~ Dinner Break ~			Closed for Dinner break
6:30 PM		Smith's: Prescription for a Healthy Marriage		6:15 PM - Drop off
				8 PM - Pick up

Saturday	Sanctuary	Breakout Sessions	Fellowship Hall	Kids Program/Nursery
9:00 AM	Kids Drop Off & Shopping Time	Mentor Mom's Room	Vendor Hall Opens	9:15 AM - Drop off
9:30 AM	Smiths: Discipline that Draws Children Closer	Mentor Mom's Room	Shopping Open	
10:45 AM	Panel: Homeschool 101	Michelle Christensen: Your Race, Your Pace		
12:00 PM	~ Lunch Break ~	Skills Academy: Career or College - We have you covered!		Closed for lunch break
1:30 PM	Jan Smith: Managing Fear in the Midst of Chaos	Roger Smith: Dad's Essential Role		
2:45 PM	Todd Wilson: Choose the Hard Things		Vendor Hall Close	3:45 PM - Program Ends

## FRIDAY

Vendor Hall Open 9am-4pm

9:00 am



### MENTOR MOM ROOM

Stop by the Mentor Mom's Room to receive prayer, encouragement, or advice, browse resources, or brainstorm ideas.

Amy McMartain is a retired homeschool mom of three beautiful adults. She was blessed to homeschool all three of her children through graduation. Her heart was always to teach her children to grow in the Lord. Amy & Jeff strived to instill in their children that integrity, character, and hard work will always be more important than a grade. Since finishing homeschooling, she and her husband and have enjoyed time as an empty nesters. She is now also able to walk alongside other homeschool moms on their journeys with encouragement, prayer, and guidance. I look forward to seeing where God will lead me moving forward within the growing homeschool community.

10:00 am

Sanctuary

### THIS WE BELIEVE

Todd Wilson - [familymanweb.com](http://familymanweb.com)

Dads and moms, in all the busyness of life and swell of expert advice, we've forgotten the fundamental truths of homeschooling and family. In short, we've forgotten why we do what we do. We have plenty of "how tos" but have forgotten the "why tos" and it evidences itself in our lack of joy of homeschooling, family, and parenting.

Join funny guy and family man, Todd Wilson, as he sets the stage for a great homeschool convention and the best year ever as he brings us back to the basics of what we believe about family and homeschooling. You're not going to want to miss this for the world.

11:15 am  
Sanctuary

**SUCCESSFULLY HOMESCHOOLING THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL**

*Panel Discussion*

Are you entering the teen years or just wanting to plan ahead? Come listen as moms who have been in the trenches share what they've learned. They will help you know what to expect and provide real-life examples of how you can homeschool successfully through the high school years!

11:15 am  
Breakout Room A

**OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN YOUR HOMESCHOOL**

*Douglas Pietersma - AltametaLLC.com*

This seminar will detail the research on what homeschoolers are likely trying to overcome when they chose homeschooling or make a change from public school to homeschooling. Additionally, Douglas will cover the six most common "what if" questions that homeschool parents are likely to ask themselves and provide researched-based recommendations for overcoming those obstacles.

12:30 pm  
Breakout Room B

**LEADERS LUNCHEON**

*Todd Wilson - familymanweb.com*

Like it or not, when you're a homeschool leader, people watch you. Younger moms look to you for guidance and a pattern to follow. They want to be reminded that the sacrifices they make now are worth it, that the young children who are dependent on them will grow up and be okay, and that the dark days of monotonous toiling will be replaced by sunny days of success.

2:30 pm  
Sanctuary

**THE BATTLE FOR FREEDOM**

*Jan Loftus*

This session opens with Wyoming's super-easy-to-comply-with, homeschool law. We will celebrate successes in maintaining homeschool and parental rights liberty in our state. Of great importance, we will discuss what challenges we face and what we must do to maintain our God-given right to train up our children in the way they should go.

3:45 pm  
Sanctuary

**TAMING THE TECHNO-BEAST - PARENTING IN THE INTERNET AGE**

*Todd Wilson - familymanweb.com*

Technology has changed the way we live, have fun, and interact. Children quietly glued to game monitors for hours have replaced laughter and creativity. They beg to play, whine when they can't, and even lie about the time they've spent on "the gadget". Teens and pre-teens spend most of their waking hours texting, chatting on Facebook, or 'tweeting' on Twitter. Today's latest-breaking technology becomes tomorrow's obsession, demanding more time, attention, and sacrifices.

Technology has become a powerful tool and 'everyone is doing it'...but maybe you feel like you've lost control in your own home. Do you feel like a beast has invaded your home, but you don't know how to handle it? If so, then join me as we talk together about the timely topic of taming the TECHNO-BEAST!





## FRIDAY CONTINUED

6:30 pm  
Breakout Room B

### **DATE NIGHT - PRESCRIPTION FOR A HEALTHY MARRIAGE**

*Roger & Jan Smith - facebook.com/Parentingmattersnow*

If the children are the glue holding your marriage together, you are on the path to divorce. A healthy marriage has characteristics that lead to a thriving home. Bringing 40 years of experience in marriage to bear on the subject, the Smiths recognize that some stages are harder than others, while it is never too late to improve the health of the relationship. The Smiths will share several tools that can help to restore or invigorate a marriage in a busy home where no one seems to have any extra time. Leave this session with one or more ideas to make an immediate difference.

## SATURDAY

*Vendor Hall Open 9 am - 3 pm*

9:30 am  
Sanctuary

### **DISCIPLINE THAT DRAWS CHILDREN CLOSER**

*Roger & Jan Smith - facebook.com/Parentingmattersnow*

Conflict with our children can cause a great gulf between us. Discipline in the home is a must, but it need not create tension between us and our children. The Smiths will share how Biblical discipline is often misapplied, but more importantly, how we can pattern our family discipline after that of our Heavenly Father. Stories of parents doing it well will empower you to make needed adjustments in your approach to discipline.

10:45 am  
Sanctuary

### **HOMESCHOOL 101**

*Panel Discussion*

New to homeschooling? Wondering where to start or need a refresher and some new ideas? Join us for a discussion with some seasoned homeschooling mommas!

10:45 am  
Breakout Room A

### **YOUR RACE, YOUR PACE**

*Michelle Christensen - Granny's Guidance*

For some of us homeschooling is an easy 50-yard dash. Others seem to be running a marathon. Michelle shares how she felt like her homeschooling years included an obstacle course, a mud pit and a 12-foot wall, but with God's help and guidance she made it to the finish line. She helps parents to embrace their own individual homeschool race no matter what it looks like and run it at their own pace, whether that means walking the track or sprinting over the finish line. If you need a bit of encouragement and a little bit of cheerleading Michelle will definitely lift your spirits and help you see that no matter who you are or what your family dynamics and learning styles are, you can homeschool successfully.

12:00 pm

### **SHOPPING & LUNCH**

Please take time to visit our amazing vendors. You can enjoy sack lunches at the provided tables near the vendor hall or outside. Please ensure that all trash gets placed in the receptacles. Thank you!

12:00 pm  
Breakout Room A



**CAREER OR COLLEGE - WE HAVE YOU COVERED!**

*Skills Academy*

Whether the goal after high school is success in the workplace or in college, there are essential skills that move students from average to outstanding—the same skills that are most highly sought after by employers. Statistics show these skills are missing from most educational programs, but they make all the difference between success and failure. Join us for this impactful session and find out how you can ensure the success of your recent graduate or nearing graduation student. Don't leave their future to chance!

1:30 pm  
Sanctuary

**MANAGING FEAR IN THE MIDST OF CHAOS**

*Jan Smith - facebook.com/Parentingmattersnow*  
{For Moms}

Fear can paralyze us in the pursuit of something good. Even avoiding fear does not eliminate it, so we must attack it a different way. In this session, Jan will share practical ways that we can manage the fear that arises and the chaos that accompanies it. A bit of humor will shed light on the fact that some of our fears are imagined, while other real issues escape our notice. Some time-tested tips offered here may help with the fear, even if the chaos remains.

1:30 pm  
Breakout Room A

**DAD'S ESSENTIAL ROLE**

*Roger Smith - facebook.com/Parentingmattersnow*

What's a dad to do? In a busy home, dads often find themselves being dragged along in all the activity involving the children. But can it be another way? The influence of the father can be the thing that helps all the activity stay on course. Dr. Smith will share ways he and others have made significant contributions to the home in the midst of a busy career. This session will not be an attempt to produce guilt about failures, but will offer solutions and hope for increasing the influence of dad in the home, resulting in everyone being more happy.

2:45 pm

**VENDOR HALL CLOSES**

Please make your final purchases and return to the sanctuary for our closing session, announcements, and festivities!

2:45 pm  
Sanctuary

**CHOOSE THE HARD THINGS**

*Todd Wilson - The Familyman*

Homeschooling is hard, parenting is hard, and marriage...well, that's way hard. And that's OK and even normal. Trouble is we don't like hard. We want easy, fast, and cheap, and at the same time we want successful results.

But the truth is that good things are hard and hard things are good, and they go hand in hand. Sadly, most people don't ever experience the good because they can't handle the hard. They put the hard thing off, hoping it will get easier, or they avoid it all together, and all they end up with is a pile of regrets.

Here's the good news: you can handle the hard. In fact, if you're faced with two choices, pick 'HARD.'

During this hour, you'll laugh with Todd as he shares how to embrace the hardness while keeping your eye on the joy and experience God's best for you.

*Notes*

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HOMESCHOOL WYO  
Est. 1996

*presents:*

*Run the Race*  
WITH ENDURANCE  
HEBREWS 12:1-2

*Notes*

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*presents:*

*Run the Race*  
WITH ENDURANCE  
HEBREWS 12:1-2

*Notes*

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Series of horizontal lines for writing, starting with a line that has a dot on the left side, followed by several more lines.



HOMESCHOOL WYO Est. 1996

*presents:*

*Run the Race*  
WITH ENDURANCE HEBREWS 12:1-2



