

# **Keynote and Workshop Descriptions**

**Cori Dean**, Maple Tree Publications

## **Charlotte Mason Overview Course**

This two-part series looks at a Charlotte Mason education first from a philosophical point of view and secondly from a practical stand point as we seek to apply her ideals. These seminars are for newbies looking to investigate this philosophy of education, or for the veteran looking to refresh and deepen their studies and renew their enthusiasm for Charlotte Mason's methods. While prepared as a series, you may attend either session without having to have material from the other.

### **1.Charlotte Mason and her Philosophy of Education**

Charlotte Mason was an educator of the early 20th century who coined the phrase, "Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, and a life." In this seminar we will take some time to look into her philosophy to glean from her incredible vision for the value and ability of all children. In particular, we will look at the importance of habits and of creating a learning atmosphere. We will also discover the food that sustains the mind: ideas experienced in various subject areas. A Charlotte Mason education is about nurturing a love for learning in your students!

### **2.Charlotte Mason's Methods in Real Life**

Integrating the great educational ideals of Charlotte Mason's philosophy into a real home needn't be overwhelming or scary. In this seminar we will talk about the methods that are used to implement this life giving education and which you can use in your home even if you aren't a dedicated Charlotte Masonite. Miss Mason's ideals fit into the messy everyday of real life with kids. As such we will look at how these methods can be used in various subject areas and what a "typical" day might be like while pursuing this style of educating.

## **Enjoying Math**

Time and again I hear the lament, "Well, I could teach my children almost anything but not MATH!" For many homeschooling parents math is a scary subject but it doesn't need to be. This workshop will explore the meaning and value of teaching mathematics in the framework of a philosophy that brings math to life. We will look at methods for math enjoyable, fun and meaningful both by using our chosen curriculums and through extensions from the textbooks. We will look at math in a wide scope of subjects, in real life, in literature, in games and activities and more!

## **Truth: The Central Pillar of a Christian Education**

How do we define a Christian Education? First, it is founded on God's Word and therefore on the Person of Jesus. The framework of our teaching must extend from that foundation and be built with the truth of the Word. In this seminar, we will examine this framework by looking at what truth is, how it affects our educational choices and how it plays out practically in our homeschools. We will look at the why, what, and how of teaching God's truths while investigating practical aspects such as how we relate to our students, how we plan our children's education, the way we set up our days, the materials that we choose, how our lifestyles reflect and enhance these educational choices.

### **In Search of the Secret: The Practical Road to Contentment**

Do you ever wonder what is it that you are searching for, what would make you truly happy? Living in a homeschooling family is a countercultural lifestyle just as being content is a countercultural value nowadays. In this seminar, we will search out the secret of the true meaning of contentment and how it is that we can practically work towards this ever elusive paradise in a home that is lived in 24/7 and on a limited income. Looking at our goals and expectations, our priorities, our stuff, our money, our relationships, we will set out on a journey that will prepare us to not only endure the trials of everyday life as a home educating family but to thrive and to be truly content.

### **Working Together**

Working together as a family is an essential learning goal of every homeschool both for growing students and for the sanity of the mom who wants to conquer the laundry mountain. In this workshop we first look at the biblical **basis** for teaching our children to work together then discuss the **basics** of working together in order to develop self care skills, hospitality skills and a servant's heart. Because Working Together is framed around acquiring practical life skills this seminar also includes how to set up a routine that will get the whole family involved in the essentials of running a Christian household.

\*\*\* Note: This seminar dovetails with my book, *Working Together: Teamwork Starts at Home Base* though the book is not required for anyone attending the seminar.

### **Lorne Robinson**, Home School Legal Defence Association

Lorne Robinson, member of the Board of Directors for HSLDA, is a Certified Financial Planner and Chartered Life Underwriter who has been working in the financial services industry since 1991. In addition to his financial knowledge and training, Lorne also earned a bachelor's degree in Theology and has been in pastoral ministry for almost 30 years. He and his wife, Cathy, educated their three children, graduating them from high school at home. They believe that this was one of the most blessed and significant decisions they made as a family. Lorne is one of the founders of Christian Home Educators of Newfoundland Labrador (CHENL), serving as chairman for eight years. He and Cathy currently live in Western Newfoundland where he is a speaker in local churches, especially on the topic of stewardship and finances based on Biblical principles.

### **Allergic To School??**

From hearing their son labelled a slow learner and assessed by the educational psychologist to having him become a Ph. D candidate, Lorne and Cathy Robinson will share their son's story. Additionally, they will share how their frustrations of dealing with the public school system led them to homeschool all of their children. They will reflect on how this decision changed the course of their children's lives. Hear how all three of the Robinson children are now successful in their postsecondary journeys.

### **What Will Our Children Become?**

As parents, we often wonder if we are doing enough to "train our children in the way they should go." This session will focus on the role of family in raising children, and on how life at home truly helps to shape them for the future. Receive a fresh insight into how you can impact what your children will become.

### **Training up a Child in the Way He Should Spend**

In this session, scripture will reveal the 5 things you can do with your money. You will then be given a unique strategy that will help children form a solid financial foundation to determine spending priorities that are based on scripture more than culture.

### **Thomas Bailey**, Creation Ministries International

#### **Was There An Age of the Dinosaurs?**

Have you ever wondered how dinosaurs fit with the Bible? Does the existence of these fascinating creatures mean the Bible isn't true? Was there really an 'Age of the Dinosaurs' millions of years ago, or could they have lived much more recently? Is there evidence that people have actually seen dinosaurs? Find out answers to these and other dinosaur questions, and see how recent scientific discoveries and historical evidence challenge what we've been taught about dinosaurs.

### **Jason Lindsay**, Young Entrepreneurs of North America

A graduate of Dalhousie University, he currently lives in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia with his wonderful wife, Christina, and their dog and two cats. He has been working for himself for the last 15 years in fields such as financial services, university tutoring, and bookkeeping. His passion is teaching people and he is thankful for the opportunity to share the benefits of business with others. Join Jason Lindsay, owner of Young Entrepreneurs of North America, as he explores the opportunities for young people to get involved in their own small business. Learn about the benefits of entrepreneurship, how to come up with ideas, and how to get started in a business that follows biblical principles. Adults are also invited and encouraged to attend.

### **Shelley Riimand**, Geocaching Unlimited

Shelley Riimand is the founder of Geocaching Unlimited, a small business that strives to introduce GEOCACHING to young and old alike. After graduating from Bible College with degrees in Bible and Secondary Education, she taught 20+ years in Christian Schools, and homeschooled her own children for 7 years. Shelley strives to reinforce educational ideas, and values in the activities she organizes, showing that geocaching can be used to supplement learning - thus the motto for the business, "PLAY ~ LEARN ~ CACHE!"

#### **Geocaching and the Homeschool Curriculum**

Geocaching is the 'fastest growing outdoor recreational activity in the world.' Come and find out how you can use it to supplement many areas of your homeschool curriculum. Geocaching helps to develop teamwork, social skills, and problem solving. It can be used alongside many academic subjects, while also encouraging your children to get outdoors and learn about the world around them!

### **Guy Meyers**

#### **Pitfalls of Fatherhood - based on the life of King David**

Guy Myers is originally from Wallaceburg, Ontario, but made New Brunswick his home after moving east to study for ministry and marrying Holly 25 years ago. He has been privileged to pastor Browns Flat Baptist Church for the past 20 years. He wears his "pastor" hat while he enjoys football ("Go Cowboys!"), water skiing, volunteer fire fighting and hobby farming. Having

their eldest son, Jesse married in May, another, Gabriel, in Bible college and two, Luke and Michal (a girl) still homeschooling...all of them trusting Jesus at this point...Guy has learned a wealth of wisdom from his mistakes and God's gracious direction. When God redeems, transforms and glorifies Himself in your family, you just want to share Him with others. That is Guy's heart's desire.

## **Angela Long**

Angela Long is a reformed perfectionist, a small town girl transplanted to the suburbs, a crazy about her husband kind of wife, a mom, a lover of Jesus, a diy junky, a homebody, a wannabe farmer and a bookworm. She has been in the homeschooling world for eight years. She has an eclectic approach to teaching. She is passionate about art, literature, history, cooking, family, and finding beauty in the everyday. Inspired by her community of wonderful moms and teachers, she strives to be a light to other moms on the sometimes dark days of homeschooling. Angela has a 9 and 11 year old student at home and a 13 year old in public middle school.

### **Confessions of a Reformed Perfectionist**

But all things should be done decently and in order (1 Corinthians 14:40)

Letting go of perfection and embracing the orderly chaos that comes with balancing homeschool, family and still being YOU. It has to be less about perfection and more about order, function, and sanity. Most of us have a picture in our minds of how we think our homes and schools should be. In my experience the reality is vastly different from the dream. I will be sharing some ways that I am able to maintain sanity and keep my school and home relatively organised with tips on organizing your space, your day, and your home. Putting God and relationships before books can be difficult if you are a Type A, list oriented, 'tornado like person', but balancing your life means you must have things in the proper perspective. Trust me on this one! Just trust me!

## **Sarah Zuidhof**

Sarah Zuidhof is always dreaming about her next travel adventure and will draw on her homeschooling experiences with her family of seven on trips across Canada, the States, New Zealand, Bolivia, Peru, Chile and Colombia.

### **Have Kids, Will Travel**

Have you dreamed about van schooling or traveling internationally with your kids? Come with your questions and hear about some incredible ways other homeschooling families have traveled, volunteered, biked or learned through exploration. Don't have the funds to travel? Come and see how you can still learn Geography, History and Social Studies experientially in New Brunswick and surrounding areas. *Health Warning Advisory in Effect: Travel Bug virus may be caught.*

## **Renee Stam**

Renee is a homeschooler with a passion for reading and teaching using Charlotte Mason methods. She currently resides in Moncton, New Brunswick, with 3 kids, one bird, one dog and two rabbits.

## **Teaching from Living Books**

Have you ever come across a child that does not love a good story, me either. Living books are a great tool to add to our teaching tool box. Wondering how using living book instead of workbook works, where to look for good books or if you are just curious about reading alongside of your children, this is the workshop for you.

## **Emilie Matheson**

Emilie Matheson is graduate of Briercrest Bible College and New Brunswick Community College and a former homeschool Mom of 8 children (2 with dyslexia). She is a certified tutor with the Canadian Dyslexia Centre. Currently she works as a Personal Support Worker at the Dr. V.A. Snow Centre in Hampton. Emilie is a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal Recipient for her involvement in community volunteerism, which includes 15 years coordinating the Regional Heritage Fairs for independent schools in the province. Emilie grew up on the family farm, which included, cows, pigs, chickens and market garden. Having 8 children to cook for, this mother has found many ways to conserve money on the grocery budget by growing much of her own produce and meat and stocking up for the winter.

## **Growing Your Own Food and Getting Your Kids Involved**

Her workshop will let you know how to get started on your own garden and how to raise backyard chickens.

## **Moms from GFHE**

We are a group of moms who get together on Fridays to teach as a team to our kids. Our age group ranges from toddlers to Grade Three and we have 21 children in our Co-op including the toddlers. Each year we meet at the end of the summer to discuss what we want to teach together in the upcoming school year. And it is always amazing to see how it all comes together.

## **Elementary Co-ops**

We have been doing this for two years now and there seems to be a lot of interest in how we do it, what curriculum we use, and where we get our ideas from. We would love to share our experience with other homeschooling parents who are wanting to start up their own elementary co-op but aren't sure how. The workshop will be a panel discussion format.

## **Derek and Toni Langille**

Derek and Toni Langille hail from the beautiful Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia, but have called Millville, New Brunswick home for the past eight years where Derek is the pastor of the Millville Baptist Church and Toni home schools their two beautiful daughters ages eight and thirteen. Derek has been a pastor for nineteen years and has been ordained for fifteen years. He enjoys reading, walking, biking, being in nature and spending time with his family. Toni graduated with a Bachelor of Education and has been homeschooling for eight years. She enjoys researching curriculum, reading, walking, spending time in nature and being with her family.

## **Language Arts**

What is Language Arts? What does it involve? How do I fit it all together so that it does not consume my whole day? These are some of the questions that we will discuss in this workshop.

## **Emotionally Healthy Spirituality**

If we want to be mature and raise mature children then we need the skills that come with being both spiritually and emotionally mature. During this workshop Derek will introduce Pete and Geri

Scazzero's eight key areas of Emotionally Healthy Spirituality and talk about his personal journey and how it has impacted his spiritual growth as well as his family life. The heart of the EHS experience is being with Jesus by developing healthy rhythms through practicing silence, solitude, listening, Scripture and devotional reading, reflection, and journaling.

## **Johnny Emmerson**

Native of Saint John, grew up in a business environment, and went on after university to get his MBA from Regent University in Virginia Beach. He, and his 3 siblings are third generation owners of their family business in Amherst, N.S., Polycello, and his own business, Emergent Bridge Funding, out of Chicago, IL. He lives with his wife and 5 kids on their homestead just outside of Moncton, and works out of his home. They have home educated their children from the start and love the freedom it gives them.

### **Fostering a Kingdom Paradigm in our Children**

What do we fathers most want for our children? Do we want them to be solid, productive members of society who are Christian? Do we want them to be Kingdom participants who bring what is true in heaven to earth where they live by bringing life to hurting people? Is there a difference between these two goals? What would a powerful, non-rebellious adolescent look like? This speaker of five children will discuss a few life-giving ideas, intentionally gleaned from fathers all over the world, to foster a Kingdom paradigm in our children.