



Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants. I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He.

Deuteronomy 32:2-4

## Dear SHIELD Family,

### Renewing Our Minds One “Thanks” at a Time

As homeschooling parents, our days are full. We have the roles of teacher, administrator, homemaker, mom and wife to coordinate. Our minds are continually bombarded by what has to be done. In the midst of this, we sometimes forget to be thankful. With our minds full of important duties, we often do not take the time to appreciate the good things. After all, that’s not getting anything done when there is so much to do! But we need to take the time – it is part of renewing our minds.

*“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:2)*

The renewal of our minds often comes through a purposeful habit. At the beginning of this year, I began keeping a “Thankful Journal.” Each evening I write at least one thing for which I’m thankful. Sometimes it’s deep; sometimes it’s simple. I’m thankful for the love of God and the sacrifice of Jesus. I’m also thankful for coffee and flowers. Sometimes I write a sentence and sometimes a paragraph. I try not to repeat myself. Taking the time daily to be thankful requires that I look for good things instead of only looking at what needs to be improved.

*“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” (Philippians 4:8)*

On those days when it seems difficult to find anything to be thankful for, we come to a choice of whether or not to believe and trust that the Sovereign God of the universe truly loves us and wants the very best for us. When we don't yet understand and we can't yet find thankfulness for the trials themselves, by faith we can still engage in the act of faithful and honest thanksgiving, trusting that God is good even when it doesn't feel like it. Requiring yourself to honestly find something, even something small, for which to be thankful cultivates a thankful spirit overall.

*In everything, give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)*

We train our two-year-olds to say “thank-you” and it would benefit us to learn the discipline of thankfulness and experience the renewal that it can bring. Perhaps it will bring needed renewal to our home and school as well.

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)*

Devotion by Linda Barnhill  
9/23/08

## Calendar of SHIELD Events

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|--------------------|--|
| <b>October 1</b>   | <b>Field Trip</b> to Saluda Shoals, 9:00 am  |
| <b>October 3</b>   | <b>Dance Lessons begin</b> , 5:00-6:00, Willow Ridge Church gym, Lexington, (these continue each Friday night) |
| <b>October 7</b>   | <b>THRILL monthly meeting</b> , 2:00, Willow Ridge Church, Lexington   |
| <b>October 9</b>   | <b>Makeup Picture Day for Yearbook</b>   |
| <b>October 11</b>  | <b>THRILL Activity</b> , Mt. Hebron Methodist Church (see below, registration closed at this time)             |
| <b>October 17</b>  | <b>Fall Academic Presentation Day</b> , 9:00am, Lexington Baptist Church, Lexington                            |
| <b>October 21</b>  | <b>Mom's Night Out</b> , 6:30 pm, Atlanta Bread Co.  |
| <b>October 28</b>  | <b>Homeschooling Questions Night Out</b> 7:00, The Watershed Coffee Shop                                       |
| <b>November 10</b> | <b>Field Trip</b> to Columbia City Metropolitan Airport, 10:00am, West Columbia                                |
| <b>November 19</b> | <b>Field Trip</b> to Ruth Patrick Science Center, 11:45am-1:00pm, Aikin, SC                                    |
| <b>December 10</b> | <b>Field Trip</b> to "Hansel and Gretel" Columbia City Ballet, 11:15, Koger Center, Columbia                   |

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*Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.  
Proverbs 16:3*

See below for details on many of these events

## Important SHIELD News & Updates

The **Boys & Girls Clubs** are now formed and have started meeting together. If you have not been contacted by a group leader and would like to get your child in a group, please contact Michelle Steyne at [mlsteyne@aol.com](mailto:mlsteyne@aol.com).

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If you have not yet scheduled your **yearbook picture** appointment, contact Rose Mancuso at 358-9756 or Terri Mancuso at [terri.mancuso@gmail.com](mailto:terri.mancuso@gmail.com) to schedule a time on make-up day, **October 9th**.

**Senior pictures** need to be scheduled by mid-October by calling Studio G at 796-0697.

If you cannot make the October 9<sup>th</sup> make-up day, please know that you can **contact Studio G** yourself at 796-0697 to make an appointment. Just let them know that you are a part of SHIELD. These photos will need to be made before mid-October.

## SHIELD News

### THRILL NEWS

On September 20, twenty-two members of THRILL participated in River Sweep '08, a statewide effort to clean-up South Carolina's rivers. We had the opportunity to work with Ms. Sandy Rankin of Adventure Carolina, who treated us to snacks, beverages, and prizes, to express her appreciation for our time. We had an awesome day, dragging all sorts of trash out of the woods and waters of the Congaree River at two different landings. Ms. Sandy also thanked us by providing a reduced-rate, guided canoe trip down the river for all members! What a blessing to be able to connect with our community in such a supportive way!

Our next activity will be October 11, helping Mt. Hebron Methodist Church with their support of Homeworks of America, an organization lending strength to homeowners in need. Registration for this event is closed at this time, but to learn more about this organization, log-on to [homeworksofamerica.org](http://homeworksofamerica.org).

If you are in 8th grade or above, and would like to be a part of serving your community while getting to know other kids your age, please join us at our next monthly meeting on October 7, at WillowRidge Church in Lexington at 2:00. For more information, you may contact our president, Abel Creech, at [spiderman141414@hotmail.com](mailto:spiderman141414@hotmail.com)!

## More SHIELD News

### Fall Academic Presentation Day

Date: Friday, October 17, 2008, 9:00am-12:00pm

Theme: **History & Science**

Location: Lexington Baptist Church, Reception Room

Academic Presentation Day is a time for your students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and above to present a 3-5 minute oral presentation on a topic of their choice relating to the given theme. This can be done in a variety of ways including skits, display boards, drama, reciting poems, displaying art, playing instruments, etc. Students in kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are not required to give an oral presentation but may participate by providing a display.

All SHIELD members are invited to attend even if not presenting.

Plan to bring a picnic lunch and we'll go to Virginia Hilton Park after presentations to celebrate the hard work of our presenters!

Registration is necessary so contact Karen Collins at [jk-kids@sc.rr.com](mailto:jk-kids@sc.rr.com) by **October 10** to register your children!

## UPCOMING SHIELD FIELD TRIPS

### **COLUMBIA CITY METROPOLITAN AIRPORT Monday, November 10th @ 10:00 a.m.**

Located at 3000 Aviation Way, West Columbia; FREE, geared for ages 3 and up, 1 1/2 hr walking tour, inaccessible for strollers. Please email Kristi Antley @ [turnthepage222@msn.com](mailto:turnthepage222@msn.com) no later than Mon., Nov. 3rd to sign up. [columbiaairport.com](http://columbiaairport.com)

### **RUTH PATRICK SCIENCE CENTER Aiken, SC**

**Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**  
11:45 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

“Cruising through the Constellations” at 11:45 p.m.

“Backbones” at 1:00 p.m. (K-3 grade)

“Solar Systems Rescue” at 1:00 p.m. (4<sup>th</sup> grade and up)

Contact Connie Rummel at [connierummel@aol.com](mailto:connierummel@aol.com).

## UPCOMING SHIELD FIELD TRIPS

**"HANSEL AND GRETEL" EDUCATIONAL  
OUTREACH PROGRAM  
COLUMBIA CITY BALLET  
Wednesday, December 10th @ 11:15 a.m.**

Located at the Koger Center for the Arts, Cola., 45 min. with question/answer time, \$4 per person, all ages. To sign up, please email Kristi Antley @ [turnthepage222@msn.com](mailto:turnthepage222@msn.com) no later than **Friday, Nov. 21st.**

**You've heard the rave reviews...  
Mom's Night Out**

Tuesday, October 21st, 6:30 pm  
Atlanta Bread Co. near Lexington Medical Center

Join us to relax, chat and enjoy dinner prepared and cleaned up by someone else!!

Coordinator: Rebecca Smith



## More SHIELD News

### DANCE LESSONS

to prepare for the SHIELD formal!!

The SHIELD formal is just around the corner in January, so to prepare for a great night of fun.....dance lessons are starting back!!! This year our teacher will be Suzanne Baker, a professional dance instructor! She knows all of the dances, so we will be learning a variety of dances. Some will be a refresher from what we learned last year. This year we need to charge \$3 per person per week, which is an awesome deal considering we have a professional instructor.

If you didn't participate last year and are wondering whether to come or not, let me tell you that last year was a blast and some nights we had as many as 54 people. Yes, you can bring non-homeschooling friends. Yes, you can bring as many friends as you like. And yes, you parents who want to learn as well... although the classes are aimed at the 9-12 grade, last year a group of us parents stood in the back and learned along with them. But sorry no, please don't bring younger brothers and sisters.

The classes start **Oct 3rd and will be every Friday from 5 to 6 pm at Willow Ridge Church gym.** (You can still make it to football games or other evening plans afterwards)

## More SHIELD News

### **Home School Questions Night Out**

***When: Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>,***

***Where: The Water Shed Coffee shop  
(located in the Old Mill)***

***Time: 7-9pm***

We understand that as homeschoolers it is good to get together to discuss different curriculum or “how to” questions, but it is often difficult to find time or another person to discuss with. Come on **October 28** to talk about homeschooling issues with some experienced homeschoolers. It is often just encouraging to hear others’ experiences or to get some advice before making a purchase. We pray this will be a blessing to all who come.

Contact: Jennifer Aurednik ([mitchandjen@windstream.net](mailto:mitchandjen@windstream.net))

## HOMESCHOOL TENNIS CLASSES

The Lexington Area Tennis Association (LATA), whose mission is to promote tennis in the community, offers home school children the opportunity to learn the game of a lifetime, tennis. In 6 weeks, one hour classes per week, children ages 6 - 18 learn the backhand, forehand, volley, serve, parts of the court and scoring. At the end of the 6 week program students know how to play the game!

Classes are always forming. Classes are limited to 8 players with a minimum of 6 per class. Children are group by age. Exceptions are made if siblings need to be together in one class. Parents also have the opportunity to learn the game alongside their children. Adult beginner classes are offered in 4, one hour sessions at the same time the children are learning. Minimum of 4 adults to form a class. Maximum of 8.

Price is \$40 for the 6 week children's program and \$40 for the 4 week adult program. Classes are at the Lexington County Tennis Complex on Oak Drive in Lexington, behind the Barnyard Flea Market on #1.

Call the Lexington Area Tennis Association to reserve your spot in class!

Thank you,  
Karen Holzschuh  
Executive Asst.  
Junior Team Tennis Coordinator

(803) 951-0980 phone  
(803) 951-3556 fax  
[www.LexingtonTennis.com](http://www.LexingtonTennis.com)

## **The Christian Curriculum Connection** where you can buy **"Home School Books for Less"**

Stephanie Poole has a used curriculum store in her home. You can make an appt. to browse through the books or go to her website. She is in Aiken, but she can also mail the materials to you. She co-signs curriculum if you don't want the hassle of selling it yourself.

You are invited to visit [www.homeschoolbooksforless.com](http://www.homeschoolbooksforless.com) and browse the inventory of over 2000 titles! Even though a ton of books are listed, the entire inventory is still not on-line yet. Games, flashcards, posters, manipulatives, and other items that cannot be shipped via media mail are not listed. If the item you are searching for is not listed, you can place your item on a Want-To-Buy List.

Merchandise is now arriving DAILY!

Purchases can be shipped via media rate, or for an additional fee they can be sent by priority mail. All purchases, regardless of the amount, will include delivery confirmation. If you live within driving distance, you can also choose to pick books up from our actual store; thus saving money on shipping costs.

With almost 200 consignors from 4 states, TCCC has plenty to offer homeschoolers! If you have not visited the store within the last month, then you do not know just how many books are here!

Happy HomeSchooling! Stephanie Poole *The Christian Curriculum Connection* 4081 Wagener Road Aiken, SC 29805 803-643-5621 **Visit our online store at [www.homeschoolbooksforless.com](http://www.homeschoolbooksforless.com) Visit the site often - our inventory changes daily!**

## Members' Services

Let's get this section going! It could be really great to know fellow homeschool services that are available to us. Send the information to Karen Collins at [jk-kids@sc.rr.com](mailto:jk-kids@sc.rr.com).

### Babysitters:

Elizabeth Barney, 312-4100 (cell)

Ashlynn Janzen, 957-0432

Kayla Collins, 358-0378

### Odd Jobs/Yardwork:

### Other:

Mike Kollmansberger, Computer Repair, 246-5616

Richard Barney, Roofing, 351-6078

Tommy & Linda Barnhill, Honda Specialist, 772-5144

I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

Psalm 34:1-3

## SHIELD 2008-2009 Leadership Team

Team Leader	Debbie Barney	<a href="mailto:deborahbarney880@aol.com">deborahbarney880@aol.com</a>	794-4757 312-3433 (cel)
Financial/Membership Leader	Beth Martin	<a href="mailto:bethsmartin@hotmail.com">bethsmartin@hotmail.com</a>	957-6005
Communications Leader	Karen Collins	<a href="mailto:shieldhomeschool@yahoogroups.com">shieldhomeschool@yahoogroups.com</a> <a href="mailto:jk-kids@sc.rr.com">jk-kids@sc.rr.com</a>	358-0378
Website Coordinator	Shelly Richardson	<a href="mailto:srichardson1367@yahoo.com">srichardson1367@yahoo.com</a>	520-2394
New Member Coordinator	Jennifer Aurednik	<a href="mailto:mitchandjen@windstream.net">mitchandjen@windstream.net</a>	unlisted
Club Coordinator	Michelle Steyne	<a href="mailto:mlsteyne@aol.com">mlsteyne@aol.com</a>	796-9090
THRILL Coordinators	Kim Creech	<a href="mailto:kacreech@hotmail.com">kacreech@hotmail.com</a>	233-6374
	Marilyn Rabon	<a href="mailto:nvrgrowup@sc.rr.com">nvrgrowup@sc.rr.com</a>	957-3403
	Mary Kaye Dickenson	<a href="mailto:mkdixie@windstream.net">mkdixie@windstream.net</a>	808-7721
Yearbook Coordinators	Terri Mancuso	<a href="mailto:terri.mancuso@gmail.com">terri.mancuso@gmail.com</a>	358-9756
	Robin Williamson	<a href="mailto:roknrobn31464@hotmail.com">roknrobn31464@hotmail.com</a>	568-4747
Field Trip Coordinator	Kristy Antley	<a href="mailto:turnthepage222@msn.com">turnthepage222@msn.com</a>	unlisted
Assistant Field Trip Coordinator	Connie Rummel	<a href="mailto:connierummel@aol.com">connierummel@aol.com</a>	359-9192
Mom's Night Out Coordinator	Rebecca Smith	not yet available	unlisted
High School Coordinator			
Field Days Coordinator	Ellen Nagelvoort	<a href="mailto:adamandellen@alltel.net">adamandellen@alltel.net</a>	356-1360
Standardized Testing Coordinator	Beth Martin	<a href="mailto:bethsmartin@hotmail.com">bethsmartin@hotmail.com</a>	957-6005
Academic Presentation Day Coordinator	Karen Collins	<a href="mailto:jk-kids@sc.rr.com">jk-kids@sc.rr.com</a>	358-0378
Achievement Night Coordinator	Linda Barnhill	<a href="mailto:elbeemee@bellsouth.net">elbeemee@bellsouth.net</a>	772-3184
	Darby Reeves	<a href="mailto:preeves1@sc.rr.com">preeves1@sc.rr.com</a>	951-8489

### About Our Newsletter...

***Newsletter submissions must be received by October 25 for inclusion in the November newsletter.***

The SHIELD Encourager Newsletter is published monthly and e-mailed to our members at the beginning of every month. If you have an item you would like to submit, contact Karen Collins at [jk-kids@sc.rr.com](mailto:jk-kids@sc.rr.com).

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.shieldonline.org](http://www.shieldonline.org)