



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

## In This Issue

“The Twelve Days of Homeschooling”	p. 2-4
Coordinator Spotlight: Holly Winters	p. 5-6
Calendar of Events	p. 7
Yearbook News	p. 8
Formal	p. 9
THRILL	p. 10
Field Trip Chart	p. 11
Field Trip Details	p. 12-13
Members’ Services	p. 14-15
Leadership/Coordinator Team Contact Info	p. 16

*Merry*   
*Christmas* 

### About Our Newsletter...

The SHIELD Encourager Newsletter is published monthly and e-mailed to our members at the beginning of every month (except June & July). If you have an item you would like to submit, contact Karen Collins at [kscollins2@icloud.com](mailto:kscollins2@icloud.com).

## "The Twelve Days Of Homeschooling"

Author Unknown

(Sung to the tune of "The Twelve Days of Christmas")

On the first day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"Can you home school legally?"

On the second day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the third day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the fourth day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the fifth day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"YOU ARE SO STRANGE!  
What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the sixth day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"How long will you home school?  
YOU ARE SO STRANGE!  
What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"



On the seventh day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"Look at what they're missing!  
How long will you home school?  
YOU ARE SO STRANGE!  
What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the eighth day of homeschool my neighbor said to me,  
"Why do you do this?  
Look at what they're missing!  
How long will you home school?  
YOU ARE SO STRANGE!  
What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the ninth day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"What about graduation?  
Why do you do this?  
Look at what they're missing!  
How long will you homeschool?  
YOU ARE SO STRANGE!  
What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the tenth day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"I could never do that!  
What about graduation?  
Why do you do this?  
Look at what they're missing!  
How long will you homeschool?  
YOU ARE SO STRANGE!  
What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

On the eleventh day of home school my neighbor said to me,  
"Can they go to college?  
I could never do that!  
What about graduation?  
Why do you do this?  
Look at what they're missing!  
How long will you homeschool?  
**YOU ARE SO STRANGE!**  
What about P.E.?  
Do you give them tests?  
Are they socialized?  
Can you home school legally?"

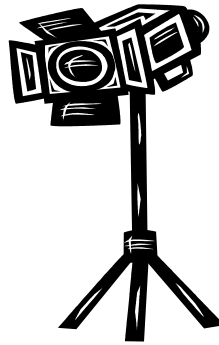
On the twelfth day of home school I thoughtfully replied:  
"They can go to college!  
Yes, you could do this!  
They can have graduation!  
We do it cuz we love it!  
They are missing nothing!  
We'll home school forever!  
**WE ARE NOT STRANGE!**  
We give them P.E.!  
We give them tests!  
They are socialized!  
**AND WE HOME SCHOOL LEGALLY!"**

On the thirteenth day of homeschool my neighbor said to me,  
"How can I get started?  
Why didn't you tell me?  
Where do I buy curriculum?  
When is the next conference?  
**WILL PEOPLE THINK WE'RE STRANGE?**  
I think we can do this...  
if you will help us, can we join P.E.  
and we'll home school legally!"



## “Coordinator Spotlight”

While all of our coordinators and volunteers give all glory to God while they serve SHIELD, and would probably prefer to stay out of the spotlight, we thought you would enjoy getting to know them a little more!



[Holly Winters](#) serves SHIELD as one of our Literacy Night Coordinators. She has been homeschooling since 2011. She and her husband have three wonderful daughters, ages 8, 6, and 2, and a newborn son, who is just 9 weeks old. Holly is a former public school 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and school literacy coach. Her family attends Trenholm Road United Methodist Church.

### Q. What is your favorite SHIELD activity/event?

*A. We love all of the field trips, but my favorite event is a new one this year. I loved helping to coordinate Literacy Night. It was great fun to plan all the fun activities and my family enjoyed it very much!*

### Q. What is your favorite book?

*A. Too many to name! My girls and I are reading the Chronicles of Narnia series now and are almost done with the last book. We have loved every second of the entire series. In terms of children's authors, I enjoy Gary Paulsen, Cynthia Rylant, Patricia Polacco and Sharon Creech. I think we can all read and enjoy children's literature no matter how young or old we are. It's this kind of literature that speaks to your heart so clearly.*

**Q. What do you find the most challenging about homeschooling?**

**A.** *I think I expect a lot of myself. I come from a public school background, so that part of me is hard to shake sometimes. I try to fill every second with some meaningful, fun, engaging lesson or activity in order to make the best use of time just like my teaching days. I have had to learn to let go and trust the process of learning... that learning is happening even when I may not be actively teaching, that God designed our brains to think just as he designed our lungs to breathe and our hearts to beat. I don't have to be "on" every single second. That's been a big 'ah-ha' for me.*

**Q. What is your family's favorite activity?**

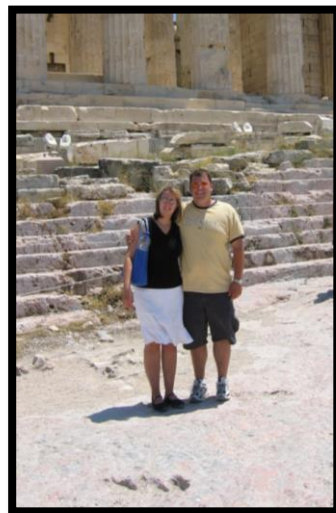
**A.** *We enjoy many of the same things as most families- movie night, field/family trips, and hanging out with friends.*

**Q. What is your dream vacation?**

**A.** *I have already gone on my dream vacation! My husband and I toured 9 countries in Europe in 2005—pre-kids! It was a fabulous trip. Now, we have to save up to take the whole family back so we can relive it with our children!*

**Q. What is your favorite verse or passage of scripture?**

**A.** *My favorite verse is John 15:5. I am the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in him will bear much fruit, but without me, you can do nothing.*



## Calendar of Events

<b>December 12 (Fri)</b>	<b>Yearbook Meeting</b> , Harvest Church, 2:30-4:00 pm
<b>December 19 (Fri)</b>	<b>THRILL Christmas Party</b> , Harvest Church 1:00-2:20 pm
<b>January 13 (Tues)</b>	<b>Park Day</b>
<b>January 30 (Fri)</b>	<b>Winter Formal</b> , Lexington Town Municipal Building
<b>February 10</b>	<b>Box Tops Spring Deadline</b>
<b>April 22-24 (Wed-Fri))</b>	<b>IOWA Standardized Testing</b>

Field Trip dates are listed on the Field Trip Chart.




---

*Whatever you  
do, work at it  
with all your  
heart, as working  
for the Lord, not  
for men.  
Colossians 3:23*



## YEARBOOK NEWS



Send us your pictures from last spring's events, summer, friends and pets, first day of school.... Please submit your photos by emailing them to

[shieldpictures@gmail.com](mailto:shieldpictures@gmail.com)

1 photo per email. Please include a description including names of those SHIELD members in the picture. Please keep in mind the size and quality of the photo. Be sure the photos you submit are full-sized images and not thumbnail previews, or "sized for web" images, as these are unusable in the yearbook. They come out pixel and are often too small to use. Photos taken with digital cameras purchased in the last 7-8 years are almost always fine. Photos taken with cell phones vary widely... if you are unsure, you are welcome to send a test image our way and we will tell you if its large enough. Please note that in your email.



**Purchase your 2015 SHIELD Yearbook** for \$25. Send a check payable to SHIELD to: Leslie Buzzell, 269 Vista Springs Rd, Lexington, SC 29072.

After the Mid-Year meeting, the price goes up to \$30, so order now.



## HELP WANTED!

### We need your help with Winter Formal!

Anyone in SHIELD can help with formal, not just parents of formal-age students.

Normally, Yearbook has a larger advisory team, and much of the planning/executing of formal is shared by 5+ SHIELD parents. Unfortunately, we have seen a drop in parental participation. We can manage the yearbook, but we **REALLY** need help with formal! We need help with **donations, food pick-up, shopping, kitchen help the night of, chaperoning, running coat check, and decorating**. If you are interested in helping, please call or email Josie asap. She would like to set up a planning meeting with all our helpers sometime in November, so please prayerfully consider helping.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Josie Seacrist Yearbook Coordinator  
[pjseacrist@yahoo.com](mailto:pjseacrist@yahoo.com) 803-529-9503 cell

**Winter Formal** will be **January 30, 2015** and is open to all **9th-12th** grade homeschoolers and their guests. It will be held again this year at the Lexington Town Municipal Building. The cost is \$25 before January 16. Any registrations received after January 16 will be charged a \$10 late fee through Jan 27 when registration is closed.



# THRILL

Teen Homeschoolers Radically Impacting Lexington County Lives  
Those who serve, lead; and those who lead, serve.

## THRILL Christmas Party:

Friday, December 19, 1:00-2:20 -at the Rock, Harvest Church.  
Please bring your favorite holiday snack and a \$5 white elephant gift.

Remember, keep logging your volunteer hours.  
(beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014).



For more information or if you have any questions, you can contact:  
Michelle Steyne, [mlsteyne@aol.com](mailto:mlsteyne@aol.com), 796-9090  
Karen Collins, [kscollins2@icloud.com](mailto:kscollins2@icloud.com), 445-6043

## Upcoming SHIELD Field Trips

Field Trip	Date/Time	Team Member	Ages	Cost
<b>Sign-ups with be shared via e-mails and the monthly newsletters.</b>				
Lake Murray Visitors Center & Lorick Plantation House decorated for Christmas *2184 North Lake Drive by Lake Murray	Thurs, Dec 4 // 11:00 AM	Dani Toussaint	ALL	FREE
Battle at Congaree Creek Gaston, SC	Friday, Dec 5 // 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Rachel Cambre	Best for 3rd grade and up - younger students are welcome	\$5.00 per student - includes free admission to Battle re-enactments on Saturday or Sunday
Lexington Museum Annual Christmas Open House	Sunday, Dec 14	Make your own plans	ALL	FREE
SC Military Museum & Confederate Relic Room	Thur, Jan 8 // 10:30-11:45 AM	Dani Toussaint	Middle and High School	FREE with our group
Young People's Orchestra Koger Center <a href="#">*Registration online by November 3.</a>	Wed, Feb 11 // 11:15 AM	Jennifer Aurednik	ALL	\$5.00 each
Bee Trail Farm Lexington	March or April	Shelley Cannon	ALL	FREE

Field trip information is subject to adjustments & changes.

You may register for this trip until December 4.

**Name of field trip: Lake Murray Visitors Center  
& Museum**

**Address of event:** 2184 North Lake Drive, Columbia, SC 29212 (Irmo side of dam)

**Date: Thurs. Dec. 4, 2014**

**Time of event:** 11 am – until they want to leave

**Description of field trip:** A museum celebrating the history of the building of Lake Murray Dam. See actual footage from the construction of the dam in the 1920s & artifacts from the lake's history. Tour the Lorick Plantation House (1840) decorated for Christmas.

**Grade Level:** K5-12th // unlimited number may attend

**Cost:** Free

**Coordinator:** Dani Toussaint,  
[charles0322@windstream.net](mailto:charles0322@windstream.net), cell - 237-1832

**Registration:** You may register for this trip until December 4.

**To register online:**

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=lbkchtoab&oeidk=a07ea1wppmd5b424c0d>

**Name of field trip:** **SC Military Museum & Confederate Relic Room**

**Address of event:** 301 Gervais Street in Columbia (State Museum building)

**Date:** **Thur. Jan. 8, 2014**

**Time of event:** 10:30-11:45

**Description of field trip:** Get a curator lead tour of the oldest museum in Columbia. See incredible artifacts from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War & the War on Terror. Park at the State Museum. Go through the front doors & instead of going into the State Museum, just keep walking straight back in the building & you will see the Museum in front of you. Gift shop with a wide variety of books & items will be open.

**Grade Level:** Middle & High school

**Cost:** Free- as long as enter with the tour

**Payment Info:**

**Website:** [www.crr.sc.gov](http://www.crr.sc.gov)

**Coordinator:** Dani Toussaint,  
[charles0322@windstream.net](mailto:charles0322@windstream.net) cell-237-1832

**Registration:** Close registration on Mon. Jan 5, 2014

**To register online:**

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=lbkchtoab&oeidk=a07ea1ws1p4e6e2b982>

## Members' Services

Do you or someone in your family have a service to offer other homeschoolers? If so, please send the information to Karen Collins at [kscollins2@icloud.com](mailto:kscollins2@icloud.com).

### Babysitters:

**Mackenzie Dufries** 803-996-1379, Red Cross certificate

**Hannah Goude**, Red Cross Certification in babysitting and CPR (803) 951-0943 or 312-4095. [djgoude@icloud.com](mailto:djgoude@icloud.com)

**Lauren Goude**, Red Cross Certification in babysitting and CPR (803) 951-0943 or 312-4095. [djgoude@icloud.com](mailto:djgoude@icloud.com)

### Other:

**\*\*New Listing\*\* Jessica Bowen**, Smooth Creationz, 515 Pine Street, Pelion SC 29123, [803-894-6946](tel:803-894-6946), Graphics, direct to garment printing, embroidery, vinyl, banners, etc.

**Mandy Dufries**, BC Spa Consultant, (803)996-1379 or (803)917-8012, [mdufriesbcspa@gmail.com](mailto:mdufriesbcspa@gmail.com)

**Rebecca Becker**, Director: Classical Conversations of Lexington, [ccoflexingtonsc@gmail.com](mailto:ccoflexingtonsc@gmail.com), 528-6492

**Tommy Barnhill**, Barnhill Automotive-Honda Car Service and Repair, 772-5144

**Allison Martin** – Independent Designer, Origami Owl Custom Jewelry, (803) 600-0575, [jewelrywithcharm@gmail.com](mailto:jewelrywithcharm@gmail.com), [www.jewelrywithcharm@origamiowl.com](http://www.jewelrywithcharm@origamiowl.com);

**Allison Martin**, Consultant, Pink Zebra (Home Fragrances), (803) 600-0575, [ezpzpinkblack@gmail.com](mailto:ezpzpinkblack@gmail.com), [www.pinkzebracome.com/pinkblack](http://www.pinkzebracome.com/pinkblack);

## Members' Services

### Continued:

**Jenn Lott**, Orton-Gillingham Tutor, 843-701-6266, [jlott584@gmail.com](mailto:jlott584@gmail.com)

**Irene and Ed Albritton** ([aiah5951@hotmail.com](mailto:aiah5951@hotmail.com); [edseditions@sc.rr.com](mailto:edseditions@sc.rr.com)) own Ed's Editions LLC Quality Used and Collectible Books, 406 Meeting Street, West Columbia 29169. We offer a 20% discount for homeschool families. Open Tuesday - Saturdays 11am - 5:30pm. [803-791-8002](tel:803-791-8002).

**Valerie Harris** teaches beginning folk harp in her home. Lap harps with a cardboard soundbox are available for \$140, and lessons are \$20/hour for individuals. Moms take the class free with their children. Please contact 553-2630 or [valeriemharris@yahoo.com](mailto:valeriemharris@yahoo.com).

**Starla Stidham**, Pink Diamond Photo Booth, use us for your next birthday party, wedding, or event. We'll offer 10% off to SHIELD members. 803-463-6090 or [info@thepinkdiamond.net](mailto:info@thepinkdiamond.net).

**Jessica Smith**, [803-260-2473](tel:803-260-2473), Independent Distributor of Herbalife. Call for a free Health Evaluation and Body Scan. [jessica.smith.nutrition@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.smith.nutrition@gmail.com). (803) 996-3631

**Shelley Cannon** - Bee Trail Farm, LLC – we sell local bees and honey! [803.360.7978](tel:803.360.7978) [Beetrailfarm@gmail.com](mailto:Beetrailfarm@gmail.com)





## SHIELD Leadership & Coordinator Panel 2014-2015

Strategy Team Leader	Shelley Cannon	<a href="mailto:Sheldanc35@gmail.com">Sheldanc35@gmail.com</a>	360-7978
Financial/Membership Team Leader	Mandy Dufries	<a href="mailto:sixdufries@gmail.com">sixdufries@gmail.com</a>	996-1379
Communications Team Leader	Karen Collins	<a href="mailto:kscollins2@icloud.com">kscollins2@icloud.com</a>	445-6043
Academic Presentation Coordinator	Carolyn Jackson	<a href="mailto:imacarolyn@gmail.com">imacarolyn@gmail.com</a>	665-5159
Achievement Night Panel	AN Coordinators Leadership Team	<a href="mailto:Sheldanc35@gmail.com">Sheldanc35@gmail.com</a>	360-7978
	1-11 <sup>th</sup> Certificates Tracy Taylor	<a href="mailto:tracyltaylor24@gmail.com">tracyltaylor24@gmail.com</a>	834-0316
	K5 Graduation		
	Senior Coordinator Tricia Heen	<a href="mailto:tricia_heen@yahoo.com">tricia_heen@yahoo.com</a>	348-6575
Box Tops Coordinators	April Roebuck	<a href="mailto:roebuckapril@gmail.com">roebuckapril@gmail.com</a>	206-0092
	Janey Goude	<a href="mailto:djgoude@icloud.com">djgoude@icloud.com</a>	951-0943
Field Trip Team Coordinators	Rebecca Becker	<a href="mailto:jandbbecker@aol.com">jandbbecker@aol.com</a>	785-2237
	Colleen Eubanks	<a href="mailto:colleen@palmettoehs.com">colleen@palmettoehs.com</a>	260-3202
Library Coordinator	Jenny Stallings	<a href="mailto:Jen9874@msn.com">Jen9874@msn.com</a>	530-8681
Literacy Family Night Coordinators	Jennifer Cogle	<a href="mailto:coglefour@gmail.com">coglefour@gmail.com</a>	261-9593
	Holly Winters	<a href="mailto:hwinters@sc.rr.com">hwinters@sc.rr.com</a>	237-8455
Mid-Year Meeting Coors.	Darby Reeves	<a href="mailto:preeves1@sc.rr.com">preeves1@sc.rr.com</a>	951-8489
	Leslie Buzzell	<a href="mailto:jlbuzzell@gmail.com">jlbuzzell@gmail.com</a>	359-1934
Park Day Coordinator	Kari Zwisle	<a href="mailto:kzwisle@yahoo.com">kzwisle@yahoo.com</a>	556-9393
Standardized Testing Coordinator	Elizabeth Collins	<a href="mailto:aikosmom@sc.rr.com">aikosmom@sc.rr.com</a>	356-5858
Student Club Coordinator	Melissa Bryan	<a href="mailto:smabryan@aol.com">smabryan@aol.com</a>	292-7122
Talent Showcase Coordinators	Tina Hewitt	<a href="mailto:tinahewitt@gmail.com">tinahewitt@gmail.com</a>	446-4635
	Carolyn Jackson	<a href="mailto:imacarolyn@gmail.com">imacarolyn@gmail.com</a>	665-5159
THRILL Coordinators	Michelle Steyne	<a href="mailto:mlsteyne@aol.com">mlsteyne@aol.com</a>	466-4951
	Karen Collins	<a href="mailto:kscollins2@icloud.com">kscollins2@icloud.com</a>	445-6043
Yearbook Advisory Panel	Josie Seacrist (Coordinator)	<a href="mailto:pjseacrist@yahoo.com">pjseacrist@yahoo.com</a>	957-8707
	Jessica Sims	<a href="mailto:jess.sims@gmail.com">jess.sims@gmail.com</a>	996-0609
	Leslie Buzzell	<a href="mailto:jlbuzzell@gmail.com">jlbuzzell@gmail.com</a>	359-1934
	Jennifer Cogle	<a href="mailto:coglefour@gmail.com">coglefour@gmail.com</a>	261-9593
Website Coordinators	Jason & Jesseca Bennett	<a href="mailto:angelmommy2nd@sc.rr.com">angelmommy2nd@sc.rr.com</a>	429-2645