

Next Meeting

Mom's only - April 22, 6 - 8 PM

Manasco's home 3605 Black Quarter Rd New Athens, IL 62264

Mark your calendars for an evening of refreshments, friendships, and encouragement. It has been too long since we have gathered with one another. We will provide coffee, tea, and several Charcuterie boards filled with savory and sweets treats!

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Upcoming Meetings

Curriculum Sale Survey

We're thinking about having a Curriculum Sale on Friday, May 14 during the P.E. Class (12:30 - 2:30)

But we would all sell things in the parking lot out of our vehicles. Bring your own table or blanket to lay out your goods.

But wait - there's more! Don't limit it to curriculum - bring whatever you want to sell - just make sure you take home anything that doesn't sell.

How many of you would be interested in doing this? Please let me know. Josh (**Email**)

Bonfires!

We're looking to have some other get-togethers in the near future - a bonfire or two and other events. Be sure and read your future newsletters for updates.

MYOM

It's hard to get a large group such as ours together for events, particularly when every venue has so many limitations and requirements at the moment.

So we would encourage you to Make Your Own Meetings.

Come up with a fun and/or educational event, and invite others in the group.

a. Have a 1 day class on bread making but only have room for 10. Put it on the Google Group and have a sign up sheet for the first ten.

- b. Go to a local park or nature preserve and post to the Google Group the address, date, and time, what to bring, etc.
- c. Do a book study over the course of a few weeks, and rotate in different homes of those who sign up.

Whatever ideas you may have, we ask that you put forth a bit of effort to include others.

Field Trips

Willoughby Farm

Come explore and fellowship with SCCCHE

Where: Willoughby Heritage Farm & Conservation Reserve 631 Willoughby Lane, Collinsville, IL 62234

When: Tuesday April 20 @ 9:30am (explore) 11:30am (picnic lunch)

There is no cost for this field trip. We do ask that everyone bring their own water and lunch for a time of fellowship after hiking.

Willoughby Heritage Farm and Conservation Reserve is a public park where they have recreated an atmosphere inspired by 1940's farm life, complete with tractors, barns, a 1930's Craftsman style Farm House, and even live animals like donkeys, steer, chickens, and goats! They have over 30-acres of wildlife preserve complete with hiking trails, bridges, and vistas overlooking the prairie and other areas. Your family may explore all the farm has to offer including three hiking trails.

Willoughby Farm has onsite parking for 50 vehicles. Carpooling is encouraged if possible.

Contact Kim Rathke @ 618-791-0850 / krathke@gcmetro.com / Kimberly Johnson Rathke on Face Book or Wanda Collazon @ 618-509-3397 / wjcollazo0225@gamil.com if you have further questions or to RSVP

Special Event

True Colors Workshop

For more than 40 years, the True Colors user-friendly temperament and personality typing program has been helping people of all ages understand and recognize differences that can lead to miscommunication and conflict. Whatever challenges you may be facing at home, in school or in the workplace, we have solutions that work to help you to communicate.

If you have struggled with a child's learning style, understanding how they communicate, process information and connect with their communities can help you guide them through their school and personal life. Knowing ourselves better, understanding the strengths and differences in others helps us build stronger communities and aids in group work.

SCCCHE member Wendy Bleymaier is offering two Zoom classes (4 hours long)

Saturday April 10th 11 a.m. CST- 3 p.m. CST Saturday May 8th 10 a.m.-2 p.m. CST

Zoom Class sizes are minimum of 15 people and maximum of 45 Cost per person is \$35 for one family member, \$25 per person for multiple people in the same family.

I am also available to come and do these workshops in person please contact me at sbleymaier@cox.net or Wendy 540-809-0360 to arrange a group in person workshop.

Alternatively you can complete the assessment on line <u>here</u> and contact me for a personal consultation.

Wendy Bleymaier 540-809-0360

Special Event

Survival Course

If you were lost in the woods with almost nothing, what would you eat? How would you keep warm? How would you protect yourself from the elements?

Robert Randall has been teaching survival courses for many years, and is offering a class (or maybe multiple classes) to the SCCCHE group.

At this time the only available information is the date and location, which will be May 8, at Restoration Ranch - 1644 Hartmann Ln in Shiloh.

But keep your eyes on the Google Group for more information.

Ultimate Frisbee

The beautiful weather is here, and the pickup games for Ultimate Frisbee will be more regular. Thor Peterson sends out email announcements to the list of interested players. To add your name to the list, please Email Thor at tpthor4@gmail.com

Mental Health Seminar

We are currently experiencing an epidemic. No, I'm not talking about COVID—I'm talking about mental health. One in five American adults struggles with a mental illness every year, and one in six American teens.

Christian adults and teens are not exempt from this. However, many Christians (especially teens) are afraid to seek help for fear of being judged or condemned by other Christians. Others simply don't realize they have a mental illness and live with severe symptoms for years, letting their condition get much worse than it could have if treated earlier.

For the past few decades, Christians have shunned the arena of mental health, thinking that suffering from things like anxiety and depression meant that you weren't dedicated enough to your spiritual disciplines, and that no "good Christian" could suffer from them.

As a result, Buddhists, atheists, and New Ageists have taken over the realm of mental health, pushing Christians even farther from something that shouts such uncomfortable messages as "you're perfect just the way you are."

It's time to take back mental health! The Bible is full of wisdom about mental health habits, and Christians should be leading the charge against mental illness, not hiding from it and pretending it doesn't exist.

Sylvia Phillips and Gloria Peterson are offering two workshops: one for parents and/or teens, and one for parents and younger children (though teens are welcome at this one too). We will talk about our own experiences with mental illness, our lack of knowledge about them that let them go undiagnosed for years as they got steadily worse, and our journey towards health. We will discuss warning signs for kids and parents, how to promote a healthy mental state with the equivalents of diet and exercise for your brain, what the most common mental illnesses look like, and how to get help.

We will be presenting this information from a solidly Scriptural perspective, discussing some of

the common secular myths of mental health as well as what the science of psychology has right. We will talk about how much of psychology follows Scripture. There will not be any exercises in looking in a mirror and telling yourself "I love you," but we will talk about what healthy self-image looks like according to Scripture (no twisted or out of context verses here) and how crucial it is for any Christian.

Every parent needs to know these things. We can't even count the number of Christian, homeschooled kids and teens we know who have struggled with mental illness, often without their parents having a clue.

This seminar is open to SCCCHE and non-SCCCHE members.

Ages 14 & up (teens, adults, parents)

Date: Fri, May 14 Time: 6-8pm Location: TBD Signup Link: HERE

Cost: \$5/person or \$10/family (optional)

Ages 8-14ish and parents (mostly aimed at the parents)

Date: Sat, May 15 Time: 10am-noon Location: TBD Signup Link: **HERE**

Cost: \$5/person or \$10/family (optional)

Internet Safety

The Illinois Attorney General's Office, High Tech Crimes Bureau, will deliver a virtual training to children/teens/parents/guardians on how to stay safe and avoid online risks.

Date: Monday, April 12th

2:00-3:00 pm Elementary session grades 2-5th 3:00-4:00 pm Middle school session grades 6-8th 4:00-5:00 pm High school session grades 9-12th

Location: The Journey Metro East Church 200 Depron Dr Belleville IL 62226 (Gym Entrance)

To reserve your seat, please email Wanda Collazo at wjcollazo0225@gmail.com with your session(s) of preference.

Please wear masks. Nursery will be available, plus an extra room for those not in session. 2 non-related adults required in each room at all times.

Yearbook

Please begin sending me your photos. You may upload them **HERE**

User Id: SCCCHE photos Password: SCCCHE

HERE is the information for collecting ads for our yearbook. If you know of anyone who would like to place an ad in the yearbook please let me know. When we sell ad space in the yearbook, it lowers the cost of the yearbook.

We have a page layout in our yearbook called "Arrows in Flight". This page is to share what our

previous graduates are doing now. If you have a previous graduate, please send me their photo and what they are up to now. It is so fun and encouraging to hear what God has done! Thank you,

Lori Hubble

College Prep

Do you have a Freshman or Sophomore in High School? It's time to being the preparation for college. Here is an excellent resource. https://collegeprepgenius.com/

NEXT WEEK is their virtual conference. You don't want to miss it.

Let's Dance!!

English Country Dances

Beginning Friday, April 9, we hope to offer a monthly dance in the spring and summer months. Conner Quinn will be the dance caller in April. Pre-registration is required.

English Country Dance incorporates the historic tradition of partnered line dancing—as seen in Jane Austin movies, where gentlemen stand in one line and ladies in another. Each dance is taught step by step, so everyone can participate, regardless of previous experience.

Who can come: up to 100 attendees. Dances are for both the experienced and newbies—just come with a willingness to learn and participate. Generally age 8 and older enjoy this activity, but I have seen younger children having fun too! (Non-dancing parents and young children are welcome—and they will count toward the attendance max. Teens and young adults are expected to dance.) This event is open to folks outside of SCCCHE who are like-minded and interested, so feel free to invite friends.

Held at: Copper Creek Christian Church, 2184 Vadalabene Dr, Maryville, IL (close to Anderson Hospital)

When: Friday, April 9. Arrive 6:45-7:00 pm, Dance 7:00-9:30, Facility re-set 9:30-10:00

Cost: \$5 per person/\$15 max per family.

Please pre-register to reserve your space! Email Rebecca Phillips jrphil5@charter.net by Thursday night, April 8 at 11:59 pm. Let me know:

Family contact—first/last name

Number of family attendees (total of dancers + non-dancers)

Number of dancers

Number of non-dancers

Cell phone number for family contact

(optional: if your family can help with either set-up 6:00-6:45 or re-set 9:30-10:00)

Safety protocols: stay home if you are sick or should be quarantining. Attendees are asked to bring a mask. Hand sanitizer will be available. Recognize that life can be hazardous and some activities present more peril than others. Dancers will be social and not distant. Attend at your own risk.

What to wear: casual and modest clothing, comfortable shoes. Ladies, swishy skirts can be fun! (Plans are in development for an upcoming "formal" ball which will encourage fancier dress.)

Water will be provided at this event. No snacks or other drinks in the building, please.

Questions: contact Rebecca Phillips 618-206-8652/home; 618-334-7249/cell; jrphil5@charter.net

lowa Testing

If you are interested in having your high school student take the lowa Test this year (distributed and graded by BJU press), contact Wanda Collazo at wjcollazo025@gmail.com to receive the necessary information.

Exam dates; May 10-11th from 9:00 am -12:00 pm at The Journey Metro East in Belleville (note- I will also be testing my child at the 5th-grade level. If you'd like to have your child tested for 5th grade, he/she can join in. Please note that 5th graders typically require a 3rd day of testing, May 10-12th).

Leadership Positions Open

Are you interested in being on SCCCHE Leadership? We have openings! I haven't confirmed yet with current leaders whether they are choosing to remain in their current positions, but I know from previous years that most of them would be willing to step down if someone else wanted the position. Here are the positions:

Coordinators - Josh & Nancy Peterson (will serve again next year)

Co-coordinators - Kirk & Lori Clayton

Secretary - Melissa Manasco

Treasurer - Melisa Manasco

Field Trips - Wanda Collazo (stepping down) Kim Rathke (serving next year)

Educational Events - Andinet Wadhams

Facilities - Robert & Miriam Randall

Newsletter Coordinator - Josh Peterson

P.E. Coordinator -

Music Coordinator -

Emeritus Advisor - Rebecca Phillips

Please read the <u>by-laws</u> to see if you qualify for serving on leadership. If interested, please contact Josh Peterson to add your name to the ballot. Elections for positions will be held within the next two months.

TLC News

As you know TLC is going on with limited class offerings. High School Drama, World View, TeenPact, Career Exploration and Chemistry are offered for the high school kids. Though our offerings are much limited for the younger kids, there are classes offered in literature, art, writing, and phonics.

I am grateful that we are able to meet. I am also hopeful that the restrictive measures upheld due to Covid-19 will be lessened or completely lifted.

It seems to me that the mask requirement was/remains the biggest impediment for TLC going back to normal. One part of me wants to wait and see where we stand with mask requirements. If CDC relents, everyone down stream most likely relax their grip.

For next year, I will ask if Faith Family Church will host us again. Faith Family allowed us to use their facility when most churches were closing their doors to external activities and even limiting the use of their facilities to their own congregations. So, I personally, am very grateful that TLC could meet at Faith Family Church even with the strict mask requirements. However, I will definitely ask for less restrictive mask use. For example, can we take off masks once we are seated

I am also willing to search for another meeting location even in Saint Louis if this will allow us to resume some of our most popular classes like choir, orchestra and drama.

Assuming we find a facility for next year, what classes will you teach? With mask / without

mask?
What is a tolerable mask requirement for your family?
What classes would you like to see offered?
What suggestion do you have moving forward?
How would you do TLC differently?

Who wants to join me in prayer and planning for TLC for next year? Do you have some wacky idea for TLC?

I look forward to your input and suggestions. Sincerely, Andinet Wadhams

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