



Chalkboard and Church Bells: The Schoolhouse Network's Harmonious Approach to Homeschooling

In a pivotal period in the history of homeschooling, SchoolhouseTeachers.com (ST) and The Old Schoolhouse® Magazine (TOS) have emerged not merely as resources but as vital catalysts for change. Addressing the evolving needs of the homeschooling movement, a comprehensive suite of tools and insights are offered that resonate deeply with modern educational demands—sculpting a new chapter in the trajectory of homeschooling that seamlessly integrates faith, academic excellence, and community support.

The Schoolhouse Network: A Cooperative Learning Community with the Local Churches

At the heart of the Schoolhouse Network is a unique cooperative model. This Network is a collective of local 'Schoolhouses'—homeschooling groups associated with churches. Each Schoolhouse is interconnected, not just within close geographic proximity but across the country, fostering a nationwide community of learning and sharing.

A Centralized, Faith-based Curriculum Drives It.

SchoolhouseTeachers.com stands as the centralized, in-house curriculum platform for this global Network. ST offers various online educational course materials, PK-12, catering to all standard academic and career backgrounds. This platform ensures that all member families of the Schoolhouse Network, regardless of their individual local Schoolhouse's specific class offerings, have **additional access** to the same centralized curriculum and can take classes at any Schoolhouse they can drive to comfortably. And there are no extra fees or enrollment costs if they join multiple Schoolhouses.

The Flexibility of the Schoolhouse Model

One of the most striking features of the Schoolhouse Network is its flexibility. Families have the liberty to 'bounce around' between different local church Schoolhouses. This aspect is particularly beneficial in areas with multiple Schoolhouses, as it allows families to tailor their educational experience by accessing unique classes and resources offered by each church Schoolhouse.



Come Home. School Together.

Starting a Schoolhouse: Expanding the Network

For families in areas without a local church Schoolhouse, there is a remarkable opportunity to expand this network. Initiating a Schoolhouse can be as simple as partnering with a local church and their eldership board. The process is supported by resources available on websites like ChurchSchoolhouse.com and a password-protected Google Drive for pastors, which guide prospective leaders through the steps of establishing a new Schoolhouse in their church.

The Role of The Old Schoolhouse® Magazine

The Old Schoolhouse® Magazine plays a crucial role in the Network by providing insightful articles, resources, and a platform for the exchange of ideas among homeschooling families and church leadership. It is also a platform for pastors who may wish to write for the magazine.

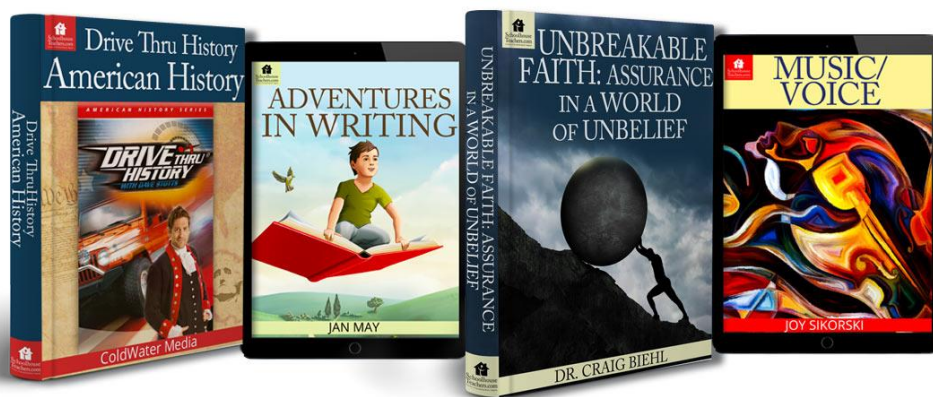
In undertaking a Schoolhouse Network initiative, The Old Schoolhouse® transcends its role as a mere publication and becomes a key facilitator in the movement towards a new education model. The magazine serves as an essential resource in educating, connecting, and supporting families within the Schoolhouse Network. It also effectively outlines the framework for exiting the public school system and transitioning to homeschooling, supported by local church communities, thereby addressing the growing need for alternative educational structures. *In other words, families leaving the State schools need a place to land.* The church is the solution.

The Role of Pastors and Church Leaders within the Schoolhouse Network

Pastors and church leaders play a pivotal role in the Network. By opening their doors twice weekly to homeschooling families, they create a local hub – a Schoolhouse – that becomes a part of the larger Network. Their role is to facilitate the space and support the community, while the educational content is provided through SchoolhouseTeachers.com.

More than that, in the Schoolhouse Network, pastors and church leaders assume a multifaceted role if desired. When they open their church doors to homeschooling families, they are actively establishing a Schoolhouse – a vital ministry within their church, akin to Vacation Bible School or a ladies' bible study. This Schoolhouse is envisioned as a ministry under the direct oversight of the pastor and church leadership, embedding it deeply within the church's mission and community outreach.

The role of these leaders extends beyond a simple facilitation of space. They are encouraged to engage directly with the educational and spiritual discipleship of both children and parents. For instance, a pastor's wife might conduct weekly bible studies with mothers, creating a supportive environment for Bible-based growth. Similarly, a pastor could contribute by teaching a class in apologetics to teenagers, aligning with the church's doctrinal teachings and providing crucial guidance during their formative years.



Moreover, the involvement of the church community is vital. Retired church members, with their rich experience and diverse skill sets, are encouraged to participate actively. They could contribute by running the nursery, teaching subjects like biology or math, or assisting in setting up classrooms or preparing snacks. Each member's contribution is seen as an extension of the church's ministry, bringing unique perspectives and skills to the educational environment.

This comprehensive involvement underscores the fact that the Schoolhouse is fundamentally a ministry of the church. It's a place where education is seamlessly blended with spiritual guidance under the stewardship of the pastor and church leaders. In this model, the Schoolhouse becomes a reflection of the church's commitment to serving its community, offering a holistic approach to education that nurtures both the mind and character. It's all about discipleship.

The partnership with SchoolhouseTeachers.com complements this model by providing a rich array of educational content (over 400 courses). However, the essence of the Schoolhouse Network lies in its embodiment as a church ministry, where pastoral leadership and community involvement play pivotal roles in shaping both a nurturing and enriching educational environment and mentorship.

A Unified Community of Learning

The Schoolhouse Network exemplifies a successful model of cooperative education, more advanced than a typical "homeschool co-op." By joining a Schoolhouse or even starting one, families can access a wealth of educational resources, share their unique skills and knowledge, and become part of a vibrant, supportive community. This model not only enriches the educational journey of each child but also strengthens the fabric of homeschooling communities across the nation.