



Living In Grace Homeschoolers Today Policies

Phil. 1:27 – Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ.

Purpose

LIGHT of Ohio, Inc. was established as a support group for Christian home-schooled families. Its purpose is to “Promote Christian Home-Schooling and provide resources, activities, and fellowship for home-schooled children and their parents” while honoring our Lord Jesus Christ.

LIGHT of Ohio membership is restricted to families who are excused from compulsory education according to the Ohio Administrative Code. Membership is only available to independent private home schooling families. If you are enrolled in a public school, a publicly funded e-school including OVAK12, E-Cot, Ohdela, Ohio Virtual Academy, Treeca, or any other publicly funded community school, you are participating in compulsory public education, therefore, membership in LIGHT of Ohio is not available.

Goals

1) Provide Information

- Group field trips, news, etc.
- State convention
- Legislation, regulation and other legal actions
- Standardized testing service providers
- Portfolio assessment providers
- Used curriculum and book sale information

2) Provide Support

- Monthly support group meetings
- Timely website updates

3) Provide Fellowship

- Annual picnic
- Field trips for all ages
- Cultural events (symphony, ballet, theater)
- Resource days (special events & speakers)
- Service projects (missionary & community)
- Sports programs
- Educational Opportunities



Living In Grace Homeschoolers Today Policies

Statement of Faith

The “Statement of Faith” must be signed by both parents or the legal guardian in order to participate in LIGHT or any sub-group. Every family pledges their fullest cooperation to keep doctrinal controversy and denominationalism out of the group at all times. All members of LIGHT or any sub-group will remain focused on the common ground of the “Statement of Faith” during all group-sponsored activities. (See Statement of Faith)

Leadership Board & Team

The LIGHT Board consists of two Directors and a Treasurer. The Leadership Team consists of the Field Trip coordinator, Web Master, Keepers Director, and Contenders Director.

The members of the LIGHT Board and the Leadership Team make an annual commitment to volunteer their time, talent and resources as the Lord leads them, for the edification of the whole support group. Without their efforts, it would be very difficult to reach the support group goals. The members of the Board and the Leadership Team are all born-again Christians, belong to an “organized” fellowship of believers, and are educating their children “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” according to Ephesians 6.

While the people serving on the Board and the Leadership Team enjoy their commitment to strengthening the local home education movement, they would appreciate your prayers and consideration. You can help by assisting with various projects, being familiar with the support group policies, website information and by respecting their family time.

Leadership Positions

Members of the LIGHT Board will not hold a position of Director, Co-Director, or Treasurer in any of the LIGHT sub-groups. The LIGHT Board will appoint the Directors of any sub-group, and the members of the Leadership Team. The Directors of the sub-group will appoint, fill and change any positions within their sub-group as necessary.



Living In Grace Homeschoolers Today Policies

Membership Agreement

Support group membership requires a good faith pledge on the part of the parents that

- They share and agree to the Statement of Faith
- They agree to abide by the Policies published by LIGHT of Ohio, Inc.
- They are involved in a private home education program that complies with State Regulations
- They are not educating their children through a publicly funded program
- They have completed all requirements in the membership package
- They agree that if they have concerns about the homeschool support group or sub-groups and they want the board to consider action, they will in no case discuss it with any other member of the group. After praying, and in the love of Christ, submit your concerns to the LIGHT Board by written letter, e-mail, or in person at a board meeting to ensure that your concerns are properly communicated to all members of the LIGHT Board.

Matt.18:15,16

By tendering the annual membership fee, each family acknowledges their agreement and consent to these conditions. If at any time during the year, a member is found to be in violation of the Statement of Faith, policies and procedures, or the requirements of membership, the Board may require the family's resignation from the group.

Membership Acceptance

The LIGHT Board will review all membership packages. Applicants will be notified as to the status of the application within two weeks of the receipt date by e-mail or standard mail.

Member Participation

Participation is welcomed and expected in the group by both parents and children. As the number of people who join in and participates increases, so will the strength of the group. Not everyone will choose to participate in all activities all of the time for any number of personal reasons. So please choose the activities that you can participate in and volunteer your time and assistance.



Living In Grace Homeschoolers Today Policies

Member Character

We as individuals and as a group will conduct ourselves according to the guidelines given in the Scriptures. Honesty, integrity, and discipline are character traits that we should exhibit not only within the group, but at all times during our life. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 20:7 “The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.”. We need to be a good example for all of those who are watching our group as “Representatives of Christ” during our meetings, and on all of our field trips. (See Field Trip Rules)

Member Directory

A confidential directory of member families is prepared for your convenience as a personal resource. The member’s directory should not be sold, rented, leased, used for business solicitations or otherwise used for any other purpose than for which it is intended. A violation of this policy is cause for expulsion from the support group. Because of its personal content, the directory is not mailed; it must be picked up in person at a support group meeting.

Meeting Format

LIGHT group meetings consist of a short business meeting, announcements, questions & answer time followed by either a couples fellowship/activity, or family fellowship/activity. Families gather every other month starting in August (kick-off picnic). Parents’ only meetings are every other month starting in September. (Unless otherwise specified)

Membership – Keepers At Home / Contenders for the Faith

Membership in Keepers (Mother/Daughter group) and Contenders (Father/Son group) is limited to members of LIGHT who have home-schooled children 6 years old and above. A child turning six during the year may join at full membership fee after their sixth birthday. Each group meets once a month.



Living In Grace Homeschoolers Today Policies

Emergency Form

An emergency form must be filled out for each family member in order to participate in any LIGHT of Ohio, Inc. functions. These forms are confidential and will only be used in the case of a medical emergency.

Website & E-mails

Two options are available to obtain support group information.

- LIGHT of Ohio website [www. LightOfOhio.org](http://www.LightOfOhio.org)
- Informational e-mails

Website Information

All information to be put on the LIGHT of Ohio website must be submitted in writing or E-mail and approved by the Board.

Field Trip/Activity Agreement and Release Form

A field trip/activity agreement and release form must be filled out for every field trip or activity you and your children attend. The only exception is a regular LIGHT meeting, Keeper's meeting, or Contenders meeting.

Field Trips:

The form should be filled out and returned to the field trip coordinator when fees are paid for a field trip. If the field trip is free, bring the form with you to the field trip.

All Other Activities:

Bring a completed form and give it to the appropriate person in charge of the activity. Forms will be available from the website and at group meetings.

LIGHT Name and Logo

LIGHT of Ohio, Inc. board reserves the right to control the use of the LIGHT name and LIGHT logo. Under no circumstances will the name or logo be used without the explicit permission of the board.



Living In Grace Homeschoolers Today Policies

Fundraisers

All requests for fundraisers must be submitted in writing (e-mail or written letter) to the LIGHT board at least three weeks prior to the event. The following information must be included in the request: person in charge of fundraiser, product to be sold, distribution of monies, and duration of the fundraising event.

Policy/Procedure Changes

The LIGHT Board reserves the right to add, change, or delete any policies or procedures listed in this document or any other document of LIGHT of Ohio, Inc. as necessary to continue the efficient operation of the group.