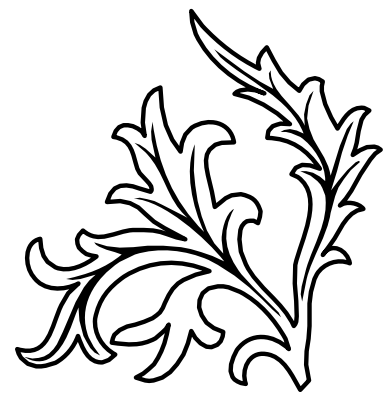


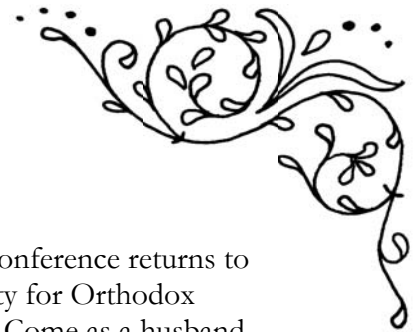
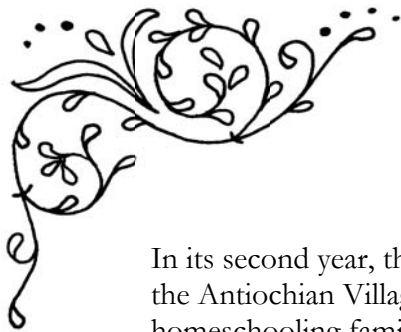


**St. Emmelia
Homeschooling
Conference**

March 11 - 14, 2010

hosted by
**Antiochian Village
Conference and Retreat Center**





Introductory Note

In its second year, the Saint Emmelia Orthodox Homeschooling Conference returns to the Antiochian Village Conference Center, providing an opportunity for Orthodox homeschooling families to learn, worship and fellowship together. Come as a husband and wife team, an individual, or part of a group of friends, for a weekend of fellowship and enrichment.

St. Emmelia, the patron saint of this conference, was the mother of numerous saints. She continues to encourage us and remind us of the great role we have as parents not only to educate our children, but to nurture their love of God and His works. What an example to keep before us as we struggle to maintain a balance between a spiritually healthy education and the pulls and tugs of a more worldly emphasis on scholastic achievement.

The St. Emmelia Conference is a family friendly event. Great care has been taken to present engaging workshops for adults and children featuring a diverse group of Orthodox speakers. The twenty-two adult workshops provide options for both new and seasoned homeschoolers, and the rich selection of children's workshops will interest and inspire children ages 5 and up. But the youngest children have not been forgotten. Feel free to hang out with your little ones in a play room, or explore the grounds and amenities, including our brand new child-friendly museum exhibit featuring Orthodox artist Niko Chocheli. Babies and toddlers will be welcome in the workshops with their parents, as necessary, and crayons and paper will be provided to help keep them quietly occupied.

The St. Emmelia Conference is committed to provide a vendor/exhibitor hall offering Orthodox publishers an opportunity to share the fruits of their labor. Attendees will have the opportunity to examine books and educational materials that support the unique needs and interests of Orthodox homeschoolers.

New this year, Antiochian Village is pleased to offer a pricing cap to attendees of this conference so that families will only pay food and lodging expenses for up to four family members. For instance, a mother and father with four children attending together would pay food and lodging for the parents and the two oldest children only.

We are counting down the days until the St. Emmelia Conference begins, looking forward to re-connecting with friends from last year and making many new ones. We hope you'll join us! With many prayers for the safe travel and edification of conference attendees and speakers, we present the St. Emmelia Conference Registration Package.

Blessings,

Barli Ross
St. Emmelia Conference Coordinator
Orthodox Program Development
Antiochian Village Conference Center

Barbara Shukin
St. Emmelia Conference Volunteer



Speaker Biographies

Mother Alexandra is the Abbess at the newly founded Convent of St Thekla at the Antiochian Village where she prays and offers hospitality at the Camp and Conference Center by leading retreats and providing spiritual guidance via talks with groups or personal encounters with pilgrims. In addition to this ministry, she has been coordinating efforts for the future Convent building and welcoming women who wish to visit and consider monastic life.

Fr. Noah and Kh. Elizabeth Bushelli of St. Philip in Souderton, PA. Fr. Noah is a convert to Orthodoxy, a graduate of St. Vladimir's Seminary and has been a priest for five years. His educational credentials, B. Ed. and teaching and tutoring experience, offer little day-to-day help to his intrepid wife, Kh. Elizabeth, who educates the two elder of their five young children.

Seraphima Sierra Butler is the Catechesis Coordinator for St. Athanasius Orthodox Church in Goleta, CA. The mother of five, she holds a BA in Liberal Arts, and has completed 6 years of training in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS), a Montessori-based religious education program. With this certification, she has served children ages 3-12, and currently works with those ages 9-12. Seraphima is a Formation Leader for the National Association; has assisted in formation courses for adults; and leads informal parish trainings and retreats. She is the editor of an informative quarterly newsletter, *The Sheepfold*; has homeschooled her children since 2002; and has enjoyed living the Orthodox faith since 1997.

Niko Chocheli, an acclaimed Fine Artist, Illustrator, and Iconographer, was born in Tbilisi, Georgia, where he received an MFA from the Tbilisi Academy of Fine Arts, and an Honorable Doctorate from the Georgian Academy of Arts and Sciences. His colorful and expressive paintings draw on the rich artistic traditions of both East and West, as well as his Orthodox Christian heritage. His work has been exhibited throughout the world and is held in many prestigious collections. In 1997, the U.S. government formally acknowledged his artistic achievements, when Mr. Chocheli joined a prestigious list of great artists (including cellist Yo-Yo Ma) to be granted lawful permanent residence in the U.S. because of their “extraordinary ability in the arts.” Niko Chocheli currently resides in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, where he established the Chocheli School of Fine Art and where he creates his masterworks.

Paul Finley - affectionately known as “Uncle Paul”, he is the Executive Director of the Antiochian Village Conference and Retreat Center. His previous work for the church has included serving as pastor of St. Andrew’s Antiochian Church in Riverside, CA and as director of Camp St. Thekla in the southeast.

Meg Jenkins attends Holy Cross Orthodox Church where she also teaches Sunday school, helps coordinate Vacation Church School and plans numerous children’s activities to celebrate Orthodoxy. She has an MS in education, and a BS in Natural Resources, both from Virginia Tech. Before motherhood, she was both a Career Advisor at Virginia Tech and a public school teacher in Christiansburg, Virginia. She considers her true calling to be a homeschooling mother. Meg lives in Williamsport, PA with her husband, Dylan, and their three children, Boone (10), Molly (7), and Samuel (2).

Andrew Kern is an Orthodox husband and father, and president and founder of the CiRCE (Center for Independent Research on Classical Education) Institute. He is the author of *Classical Education, the Movement Sweeping America* with Dr Gene Edward Veith and *The Lost Tools of Writing*, the first thorough application of classical rhetoric to upper school writing.



Speaker Biographies Cont.

Mary Kloplic is an Orthodox mother of 12 children, 5 adopted with special needs, 7 homemade. She has homeschooled all of the children from the beginning with an eclectic approach. The Kloplic homeschooling challenges incorporate down syndrome, autism, mental retardation, expressive/receptive language disability, RAD, PTSD, hearing impairment, ESL issues and a host of learning disabilities into their daily lives and learning. In addition to meeting her own family's schooling needs, she also runs CHESK, a local support group for moms homeschooling kids with special needs and is the listmom for SNOH, a yahoo group for Orthodox faithful homeschooling children with special needs.

Larissa Lee is an Orthodox homeschooling mother of 5 children. Her youngest is in 2nd grade and her oldest is a freshman studying Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. Larissa graduated from Cornell University, and before starting her family she worked as a reporter for a daily newspaper in N.J. and for a financial newswire on Wall Street. She is currently the director of the church school at St. John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Church in Rahway, N.J. She also teaches Latin, literature, and logic at her Christian homeschool co-op.

Dr. Philip Mamalakis, with his wife, Georgia, live in Boston Massachusetts where they homeschool their seven children. Dr. Mamalakis is a professor of pastoral theology at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary from where he graduated in 1996. Dr. Mamalakis graduated from Purdue University with a PhD in Child Development and Family Studies and is a licensed marriage and family therapist. He writes and presents on Orthodox marriage, parenting, pastoral counseling, and family life. He is currently completing an Orthodox marriage preparation program for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. His daughters have formed a Children's Choir, Unfading Rose, and just completed their first CD recording for families of the Apolytikia of the Great Feasts in English and Greek. (unfadingrose.com)

M. Jenny Mosher writes curriculum for and teaches in the church school program at SS. Peter & Paul Church (OCA) in Meriden, CT where her husband Fr. Joshua is the rector. In addition to homeschooling her three sons, she works as a part-time freelance editor and hopes to uncover a parallel dimension in which to knit, garden, read, write and hike. She has a BA from Yale University in church history, an MA from Yale Divinity School with a concentration in Scripture, and an MTh from St. Vladimir's Seminary in systematic theology and ethics. Her MTh thesis, "Christ Child: An Orthodox Theology of Childhood" was an examination of the childhood of Jesus in the writings of the Church Fathers.

Vickie Nimmer has been a life-long musician, both in vocal and instrumental music. She has been a member of several choirs including 22 years with the St. George Antiochian Church adult choir where she also participates regularly as a Vespers Chanter. Vickie is also the Director of the 13 member St. Romanos Junior Choir, composed of children ranging in age from 5 thru 13 years. Vickie was an instructor at the Sacred Music Institute 2009 East Coast presenting "O Sing Unto the Lord a New Song": St. Romanos Jr. Choir Program at St. George Church, Cedar Rapids, IA.

Barbara Shukin is an Orthodox Christian mother of five, and has homeschooled since the beginning using the Charlotte Mason and classical approaches. After receiving her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, she taught for several years at the college level, and continues to teach by offering art classes for homeschoolers. Barbara is the author and publisher of the *History Portfolio Series*, the *Nature Portfolio*, and *Journaling Throughout the Liturgical Year*, offering a notebooking approach to the study of history, science, and the Orthodox faith.



Speaker Biographies Cont.

Kristina Wenger spent her childhood in Guatemala, holds a Masters degree in Elementary Education, and has traveled to 19 countries. She and her husband, Timm, who will be assisting with the presentations, are the founders of Kids and Cultures, a non-profit educational organization that introduces children to world cultures. They, along with their children Katia and Thaniel, live in Lancaster, Pa., and attend St. John Chrysostom Antiochian Orthodox Church in York, Pa.

Angela Weaver is a wife to Robert Weaver and mother to their two boys, ages 9 and 6. They have always homeschooled their children and plan to homeschool through high school for both boys. She also taught several subjects for the local homeschool group in Lynchburg, VA, over the last 5 years. For the last three years, she has taught high school and middle school literature and elementary drama classes as well as coordinated field trips for the same group. Angela uses the Socratic Method for understanding literature as laid out in Adam and Missy Andrews' "Teaching the Classics" curriculum, available through the Institute for Excellence in Writing. Angela attends Holy Trinity Orthodox Mission with her family and was chrismated in 2006.

Robert Weaver has been a librarian at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA, for eight years. His duties include serving as an advisor on copyright questions to the faculty. He is a homeschool dad to his two boys, ages 9 and 6. He also has taught fencing for a homeschool group in Lynchburg, VA, for four years. Robert attends Holy Trinity Orthodox Mission with his family and was chrismated there in 2006.

Fr. Anthony Yazge - Thrust into stardom by his recent camp video debut on You Tube, Fr. Anthony is the director of Antiochian Village Camp. A graduate of St. Vladimir's Seminary, Fr. Anthony served as the pastor of St. George Orthodox Church in Terre Haute, IN for 18 years before coming to his current position in 2006.



Conference Schedule

Thursday March 11

4:00 p.m. - Check in
5:00 p.m. - Vespers
6:00 p.m. - DINNER
6:45-7:45 p.m. - Family Meet & Greet
8:00 p.m. - Evening Program: Niko Chocheli Exhibit Opening in Heritage Museum
9:00 p.m. - Akathist

Friday March 12

7:45 a.m. - Pre-sanctified Liturgy
9:15 a.m. - BREAKFAST
10:15-11:45 a.m. - Session 1: Children
10:30-11:30 a.m. - Session 1: Adults
12 noon LUNCH
12:45-2:15 p.m. - Session 2: Children
1:00-2:00 p.m. - Session 2: Adults
2:45-4:15 p.m. - Session 3: Children
3:00-4:00 p.m. - Session 3: Adults
4-5:30 p.m. - VENDOR HALL OPEN
5:30 p.m. - DINNER
6:30 p.m. - Little Compline w/ Akathist
7:45-9:15 p.m. - Children's Evening Program
8:00-9:00 p.m. - Adult's Evening Program: "The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: The Second 'Best-kept Secret'" presented by Seraphima Butler
9:00-10:00 - VENDOR HALL OPEN

Saturday March 13

8:00 a.m. - Morning Prayers
8:30 a.m. - BREAKFAST
9:15-10:45 a.m. - Session 4: Children
9:30-10:30 a.m. - Session 4: Adults
11:00 a.m. - Supplication to St. Raphael at grave site
12:00 noon - LUNCH
1-2:00 p.m. - VENDOR HALL OPEN
1:45-3:15 p.m. - Session 5: Children
2:00-3:00 p.m. - Session 5: Adults
3-4:30 p.m. - VENDOR HALL OPEN
5:00 p.m. - Great Vespers
6:00 p.m. - DINNER
6:45-8:15 p.m. - Children's Evening Program
7:00-8:00 p.m. - Evening Program: "Homeschooling In the World but Not Against It" presented by Dr. Philip Mamalakis
8:30 p.m. - Extra Q and A on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Sunday March 14

8:00 a.m. - Orthros and Divine Liturgy
10:30 a.m. - Brunch
12 noon - Check out

Workshop Sessions

Thursday Evening Family Program

6:45-7:45 p.m.

Family Meet & Greet: Family Games and Ice Breakers

8:00 p.m.

Evening Program: Niko Chocheli Exhibit Opening in Heritage Museum

Friday Adult Workshops

Session 1: 10:30-11:30 noon

1A - Homeschooling 101: What to Expect, and How to Begin – Fr. Noah & Kh. Elizabeth Bushelli

1B - “How Many Years Did I Say I Would Do This?: A Discussion on Dealing With Burnout While Homeschooling For the Long Term” – Larissa Lee

1C - Homeschooling With Special Needs – Mary Kloplic

1D - Proselytize-Proofing Your Kids: Helping Your Child Answer Tough Questions From Non-Orthodox Christians – Uncle Paul

Session 2: 1:00-2:00 p.m.

2A - Making Movies Match the Message (of the Gospel) –Fr. Anthony

2B - Teaching Children the Scriptures – Mat. Jenny Mosher

2C - Nature: The Plug in the Bathtub – Andrew Kern

2D - Robert Weaver - Copyright in the Homeschool Classroom

Session 3: 3:00-4:00 p.m.

3A - Stretch Yourself: Enjoy Gentle Stretch-and-Strengthen Movements – Seraphima Butler

3B - Teaching the Classics: Why, How and When – Angela Weaver

3C - The Lost Tools of Writing – Andrew Kern

3D - Notebooking with Living Books: Demystifying the Process of Writing Your Own Curriculum – Barbara Shukin

Vendor Hall Open: 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Friday Evening Adult Program

8:00-9:00 p.m.

“The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: The Second ‘Best-kept Secret’” presented by Seraphima Butler

Vendor Hall Open: 9:00-10:00 p.m.

Saturday Adult Workshops

Session 4: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

4A - The Spiritual Life of Marriage – Dr. Philip Mamalakis

4B - An Hour in the Life of the Atrium (part 1 of 2) – Seraphima Butler

4C - The Five Paths to Great Writing – Andrew Kern

Vendor Hall Open: 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Session 5: 2:00-3:00 p.m.

5A - Christ the Logos – Andrew Kern

5B - An Hour in the Life of the Atrium (part 2 of 2) – Seraphima Butler

5C - Dads & Homeschooling: Principal or Periphery – Dr. Philip Mamalakis

5D - Hands On: Great Lent and Holy Week Activities for Kids Ages 5-10 - Barbara Shukin

Vendor Hall Open: 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Saturday Evening Adult Program

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Homeschooling In the World but Not Against It – Dr. Philip Mamalakis

8:30 p.m.

Extra Q and A on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Friday Children's Workshops

Session 1: 10:15-11:45 a.m.

Ages 5-8: What's it Like in Your World? Learning About Kids in Turkey – Timm and Kristina Wenger

and, Orthodoxy Around the World: Sacred Music and Culture of Ethiopia – Vickie Nimmer

Ages 9-12: Museum & More – Niko Chocheli and Julia Ritter

Ages 13+: Games & Low Rope Elements – Fr. Anthony

Session 2: 12:45-2:15 p.m.

Ages 5-8: Treasures From Trees – Meg Jenkins

and, Orthodoxy Around the World: Sacred Music & Culture of Ireland – Vickie Nimmer

Ages 9-12: What's it Like in Your World? Learning About Kids in Turkey – Timm and Kristina Wenger

Ages 13+: Drawing part 1 – Niko Chocheli

Session 3: 2:45-4:15 p.m.

Ages 5-8: Movie and discussion - Fr. Anthony

Ages 9-12: Orthodoxy Around the World: Sacred Music and Culture of Ethiopia-Vickie Nimmer

Ages 13+: Meet with Mother Alexandra

Friday Evening Children's Program

8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Ages 5-8: Fun With Uncle Paul & Aunt Deborah

Ages 9-12: Movie and Discussion with Fr. Anthony

Ages 13+: Night Hike and Campfire

Saturday Children's Workshops

Session 4: 9:15-10:45 a.m.

Ages 5-8: Treasures From Trees – Meg Jenkins

and, Orthodoxy Around the World: Sacred Music and Culture of Russia – Vickie Nimmer

Ages 9-12: What's it Like in Your World? Learning About Kids in Guatemala – Timm and Kristina Wengers

Ages 13+: Drawing part 2 – Niko Chocheli

Session 5: 1:45-3:15 p.m.

Ages 5-8: Wacky Hnds On Science – Larissa Lee

and, What's it Like in Your World? Learning About Kids in Guatemala – Timm and Kristina Wengers

Ages 9-12: Around the World: Sacred Music and Culture of Russia - Vicki Nimmer

Ages 13+: Uncle Paul LIVE!

Saturday Evening Children's Program

7:00 - 8:00 pm

Ages 5-12: Carnival!

Ages 13+: Movie and discussion with Fr. Anthony



St. Emmelia Homeschooling Conference Lodging Options

Thursday March 11 - Sunday March 14, 2010

Conference attendees are welcome to stay at Antiochian Village or to make alternate arrangements in the Laurel Highlands area. Antiochian Village is located near Ligonier PA. at **140 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA 15923-2512, (724) 238-3677 x425**. Please check the Laurel Highlands Visitor's Bureau for information on the surrounding area. If you will be flying in, Pittsburgh airport is 1 hr. and 45 minutes from Antiochian Village. Latrobe is 20 minutes from Antiochian Village.

New This Year

Pricing Cap!

Antiochian Village is pleased to offer a pricing cap to attendees of the conference, so that families will only pay food and lodging expenses for up to four family members. For instance, a mother and father with four children attending together would pay food and lodging for the parents and two oldest children only.

Antiochian Village Lodging:

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday nights.

Single Occupancy or Single Family \$180.00 total

Double (2 adult roommates) \$117.00 per person total

Triple (3 adult roommates) \$87.00 per person total

Lenten Meal Plan:

Thursday evening through Sunday noon.

Adults (13+) - \$85.95

Children 5 - 12 - \$48.00

Children under 5 are free.

Antiochian Village lodging rooms have two full sized beds and one twin, nightstands, dresser, desk and chair. Each room has a private bathroom with a tub shower. Rooms are equipped with telephones for local and long distance calls. All linens are provided. Banquet Hall/Dining Facility has a highly qualified dining staff to provides a healthy, fulfilling dining experience. The conference will follow Lenten fasting guidelines.

LODGING:

Double w/ 1 Roommate @ \$117.00 each = _____

Triple w/ 2 Roommates @ \$87.00 each = _____

A Single, or a Family in a Room @ \$180.00 = _____

MEALS:

Number of Adults 13+ _____ x \$85.95 = _____

Number of Children 5 - 12 _____ x \$48.00 = _____

Number of Children under 5 _____ x FREE = _____

TOTAL: _____

* If choosing the double or triple room occupancy, please include the names of your roommate(s) below.

Please send registration form(s) and payment to:

**Antiochian Village
Attn. Barli Ross
140 Church Camp Trail,
Bolivar, PA 15923-2512**

**If you choose to stay at Antiochian Village, you must register for a combined lodging and meal plan. A deposit of \$200.00 is required for on-site lodging and meal package. *Please note: a cancellation before March 1 will receive a refund of the deposit less \$75.00 cancellation fee. Cancellations after March 1 will result in no refund.*