



**Member Handbook**

**2010-2011**

## **About Us**

Christ UMC Homeschool Academy is a ministry of Christ United Methodist Church in Mobile, AL. CUMCHA covers K4-12<sup>th</sup> grade. We are founded by homeschooling families who are here to serve other homeschooling families. We aim to help new and veteran families get more out of their homeschooling experience.

Christ UMC Homeschool Academy admits students of all races, nationalities and ethnic origin to all the rights, programs, field trips and activities associated with CUMCHA. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, national and ethnic origin in any educational or admission policies.

## **Faculty Board**

Bill & Evie McLarty  
Administrators

Karla Ann-White Miniard  
Field Trip Coordinator

Jennifer McFarland  
Family Fun Day Coordinator

## **Contacting Us**

CUMCHA  
6101 Grelot Rd  
Mobile AL 36695

251-342-0462 ext 220

251-648-8490

Office Hours: Thursdays 9:00am – 3:00pm

Email: [admin@cumcha.com](mailto:admin@cumcha.com)

Website: [www.cumcha.com](http://www.cumcha.com)

## Policies & Procedures

### What we require

We require the following...

- All necessary forms to be completed and turned in on time
- All fees to be paid in full
- When participating in field trips and service projects to obey field trip rules and service project guidelines.
- Notify us of any email, address or phone number changes.

Not abiding by these requirements could result in withdrawal from CUMCHA.

### Tuition & Registration

We cover the entire state of Alabama with special programs in Mobile, AL. Our registration procedure is easy. We need the following forms signed and returned to us.

1 Admission Form Per Family

1 Church School Enrollment Form Per Student

Tuition

#### *New Family Enrollment*

- Registration \$25
- Before July 31<sup>st</sup> \$150
- After July 31<sup>st</sup> \$175

#### *Re-enrollment*

- Before May 1<sup>st</sup> \$100
- May 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup> \$125
- After July 31<sup>st</sup> \$175
- Add an additional child \$25

Once the forms are turned in and tuition is paid you are all set. We do not require a meeting with you, however we are available for that if you like. Just call us and we can set up a meeting.

Tuition refunds will be given if you withdraw before August 1, 2010. We cannot give refunds for the registration fee.

### **Attendance & Grades**

Attendance and grade sheets are turned in each quarter on meeting nights or mailed in by the deadline. Please fill these sheets out completely. Here are the rules for grades and attendance.

- Each student must have a minimum of 175 days on roll.
- Each student must have a sheet filled out for absent days.
- Each student will have at least 4 quarter grade/attendance form.

### **Grade Due Dates**

Grades can be turned in a number of ways: online form, email, snail mail, fax, in person or in the drop box. Please have the grades in by the dates below.

1<sup>st</sup> quarter – Oct 15, 2010

2<sup>nd</sup> quarter – Jan 7, 2011

3<sup>rd</sup> quarter – March 25, 2011

4<sup>th</sup> quarter – June 3, 2011

### **Family Groups**

Each enrolled family will be placed in a family group based on the age of your children. We have groups just for high schoolers as well as for preschooler/kindergarten ages. Each group will have a leader who has been homeschooling for several years. Each group will consist of no more than 15 families.

Group leaders will plan quarterly events and contact you from time to time. They are to act more as a mentor than a leader. We feel that this set up will build lasting friendships and provided the much needed support for families.

Although recommended we do not require that you attend group events.

### **Curriculum**

We do not require a specific curriculum nor do we provide curriculum. We can however suggest curriculum. We do suggest that you go to [www.ChristianBook.com](http://www.ChristianBook.com) to search for curriculum. They have a wide variety and you can see sample pages there.

Some of our suggested curriculum is..

Abeka – [www.abeka.com](http://www.abeka.com)

Alpha Omega – [www.aophomeschooling.com](http://www.aophomeschooling.com)

BJU – [www.bjupress.com](http://www.bjupress.com)

Teaching Textbooks – [www.teachingtextbooks.com](http://www.teachingtextbooks.com)

Saxon Math - [saxonhomeschool.hmhco.com](http://saxonhomeschool.hmhco.com)

If you see a curriculum and have a question about it please let me know, I will do my best to make sure that you get the info you need.

### **Field Trips**

We will have a minimum of 1 field trip per month planned. These will vary upon age and cost but all will be educational and fun. You can sign up online for any of the field trips.

Please note that field trip deadlines are set by the place that we will be going, therefore we can not take any late sign ups. If we do not have enough people by the deadline we will have to cancel.

### **Service Projects**

We will have a minimum of 1 service project per quarter. We feel that service projects are very important and that it is important to teach our children to give back to the community. These will vary in age and the requirements will vary based on the project. All of this info will be posted with the announcements about the project, which can be found on the website or in the newsletter.

### **Family Fun Days**

Each month we have a family fun day that is for the entire family. Each time will be different and have different cost, sometimes even free. These are just a fun way to take a break and connect with your families and other homeschooling families. The info for each one will be on the website as well as in the newsletter.

### **Co-Op Classes**

Co-op classes will be held at the church unless otherwise specified. Classes will vary in ages, price and time. Most classes run per semester. All class info will be announced in the newsletter and on the website.

### **Clubs**

We have several different clubs available. These are great non-academic activities for the kids to get together and do. This year we have a Lego Club, Scrapbook club and an American Girl Club. More info can be found on the website.

### **Newsletters**

Monthly newsletters are available via email and the website. They provide info about what is happening that month. If you are not receiving these via email please let us know.

### **Library**

We are working very hard to get a space for our library. Once we do we will let you know.

If you would like to volunteer to help please let us know.

### **Student T-shirts**

We require all students to purchase a CUMCHA t-shirt and wear it to all field trips and co-op classes. This allows us to be in uniform, and for safety purposes, allows us to know who is with the group. Parents can also purchase shirts if they would like. Shirts are \$7.50 each and orders are taken until July 31<sup>st</sup>. Shirts will be passed out at the kick off meeting or can be picked up in my office. If you signed up after July 31<sup>st</sup> please note that sizes will be limited to what is left on hand.

### **HSLDA**

We do not require that you register with Home School Legal Defense Association but we do recommend it. HSLDA is a great resource to have backing up your homeschooling family.

### **Testing**

We do not require any type of testing, however we will provide you with the information on testing. The California Achievement Test (CAT) can be ordered through Christian Liberty Press at [www.christianlibertypress.com](http://www.christianlibertypress.com). If you would like to turn those results in to us we will put them in your file.

### **Preschool/Kindergarten Program**

We know that a lot of times kids under 7 get left out of homeschool activities, however these are some the most important years. This is why we created this program.

Our only rule is that families enrolled in the preschool/kindergarten program will have no children that they are homeschooling turn 7 in that school year.

You are allowed to participate in any activity that we have, as long as that age is listed. We will also have co-op classes that are for these ages. We do not require you to turn in grades, but if you would like to we will keep them on file. We also offer support via email, phone and in person at our office. We believe that it is never too young to start homeschooling.

### **Extracurricular Activities**

Our church has a good amount of resources for homeschooling families. Here are some examples..

CSports is a ministry of Christ United Methodist Church that allows children, K4-6<sup>th</sup> grade, to play various team sports. They have baseball, soccer, flag football, basketball and cheerleading. This is a Christ center league that my family has participated in for 5 years. You can find more info at <http://www.cumc-sports.com>

CUMC Recreation Ministry is available for adults and teens. We have a walking track, fitness room, basketball courts and aerobics classes.

C-ARTS MUSIC SCHOOL : Have you ever wanted to learn to play the piano, guitar, or drums? Or maybe you're a singer who'd like to learn how to get the most out of your voice? All of our instructors (Adam King, Allanda Small, Daniel Driskell, Ralph & Dale Gudeman, and Annel Robayna) hold degrees in music and are anxious to share their gifts with YOU! Private lessons are available for ages 6 through adult. Call Pat Bates at 251-342-0462 ext. 236, for more details!

Kindermusic is also offered at CUMC. This is for birth through age 7. For more information go to <http://www.kindermusikatchristunited.com>

We will also let you know of anything that comes up in our community via our newsletter and our website.