

Melinda Ahrens

Melinda Ahrens is originally from Texas but a die-hard Missouri fan. After receiving her Bachelor's in Business Administration with an Accounting Specialty from McMurry University in 2004, she married Justin in 2005 (a member of the USAF). Over the last 16 years, she has lived in six different states with her husband, two wonderful kids – Jonah (12) and Emery (10), and their beloved dogs – Charlie and Dudley. When she isn't teaching their kids, she works as a Senior Tax Accountant for a firm in Austin, TX. She loves spending time with her family, any outdoor activity, sports, working out, camping, traveling, and volunteering.

Anne Marie Chester

Anne Marie LOVES teaching chemistry. "*Chem is try*" is one of her favorite expressions. Her students and their parents appreciate her capability to make chemistry fun and easy without watering down the content. Her classes definitely prepare students for college and beyond by teaching the discipline of the science, as well as the content. She has taught in high schools and colleges for over 27 years, including all levels of chemistry to include Advanced Placement. After teaching, she continued her career as a government contractor introducing successful training techniques into the corporate training world and creating on-line training programs.

Over her professional journey she taught students of all ages. Anne Marie graduated from Immaculata University with a B.A. in chemistry and a minor in secondary education; Saint Joseph's University with a M.S. in chemistry; and later received a certificate in high school leadership from the Curry School of Education, University of VA. Mrs. C. (her students' favorite nickname) lives in West Springfield with her husband of 46 years, her daughter, and two grandchildren. They attend Our Lady Queen of Peace in Arlington.

Jeani Coleman

Jeani Coleman has directed all types of theater including Children's, Children's Musicals & Dramas, and traditional theatrical productions. She has been in theater as an actress and director for over 40 years and has been teaching theater classes, speech classes, and directing plays for over 25 years. Many of the classes she has taught include Improvisation, which she believes is the essence of all successful acting and communication. In addition to her love for drama and theater, she has enjoyed cooking from the time she was in college and has developed her own style of cooking and baking from "scratch." She is an avid promoter of food preparation from whole and natural foods. Her culinary experience includes baking for a restaurant, weddings, and special occasions. Jeani learned to bake bread from a bread baker when she while a freshman in college and continues to bake nearly all her family's bread and for friends and for special occasions and events. She is also known as a "pastry chef" to include specialties like pies, cakes, bars, and cookies, all made from scratch. She has recently been experimenting with gluten free recipes. Jeani has brought her skills to HTS by teaching cooking classes to students of all ages. Jeani and her husband Steve homeschooled their son Jesse, who is a systems engineer, the Harvester church pianist, and is married to lovely Raquel, with 4 beautiful children.

Caroline Graves

Caroline Graves is a disciple of Christ, mother to three wonderful children, and a proud proponent of homeschooling. While she obtained her degree in business, and minored in science, she ultimately pursued her love of design outside of college. She now has the pleasure of co-owning and operating a local Design-Build firm where she never stops learning and is always exploring new technology and trends! In her personal life, she is a foodie (but make it healthy), coaches soccer, dabbles in the arts, loves anything that involves water, and soaks up every fleeting, precious moment she can with her family.

Gina Hamilton

Originally from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Gina Hamilton graduated from Bloomsburg University with a teaching degree. When it was time to experience something new, she relocated to Northern Virginia and has lived in the area for the last twenty years. She worked with Alexandria City Public Schools for several years and earned her Masters of Education from George Mason. Gina has had the opportunity to serve and teach in various capacities while raising her family. Together with her husband, Chris, the Hamilton family consists of two teen-age boys who attend South County Middle and High School and two seven year old girls who attend HTS, a beloved golden-doodle, and countless fish. Sunny days, people, children's artwork, walking the beach, bicycling, and spending time with family and friends are a few of Gina's favorite things!

Heidi Marshall

A native of California, Heidi never believed she would one day call the east coast "home", but the beauty of Virginia's land and people have burrowed into her heart and life throughout the past twenty years. After graduating from Whitworth College, Heidi moved to the Washington, DC area to participate in an academic fellowship. There she further delved into great thinkers, engaged in lively discussions, and discovered a love for and vision of education done classically. Heidi has enjoyed working out that vision in different classroom settings and among her own four daughters over the last ten years, embracing the joy and messiness that comes from the pursuit of learning together.

Anne Pinkstaff

Mrs. Pinkstaff has been teaching science to homeschooled middle and high school students for over 10 years. She holds a Bachelors Degree in Biology from East Carolina University, and a Masters Degree in Biotechnology from Johns Hopkins University. Anne worked as a lab manager for Genetic Therapy, Inc. and Human Genome Sciences prior to leaving the workforce to raise her family. She graduated her oldest from homeschool and continues to homeschool her two younger daughters.

Elaine Porter

Elaine graduated from George Washington University in D.C. with a degree in Electrical Engineering, and from St. Thomas Aquinas College in N.Y. with a degree in Mathematics. She worked as an engineer at the Naval Research Laboratory for 15 years. After marrying her husband, Bill, she resigned to raise her three children (Ariana, Nikolas, and Leon). The Porter children attended Trinity Christian School (TCS) in Fairfax until three years ago. Elaine and her husband are homeschooling their sons, while daughter Ariana currently attends WSHS. Elaine taught AP Calculus, Statistics, Pre-Calculus, and Algebra at TCS and Northern Virginia Christian Academy (NVCA) in Fairfax for 13 years and has operated her own tutoring business for 15 years. She has discovered a deep love for teaching math, and believes that this is God's plan for her. Elaine grew up in Nyack, NY, and in Greece. As a result, Elaine speaks, reads, and writes fluently in the Greek language. She holds a first degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and works part time at Elite Martial Arts in Springfield. She teaches Sunday School and co-chairs the Missions and the VBC committees at her church, Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox.

Beth Rempe

Mike Said

Mike received his BS in Engineering from California State University Fullerton and a Master's Degree in Management from Florida Tech. He has worked as a Systems Engineer and Test and Evaluation of Systems professional for the Department of the Navy. Mike desires to instill a knowledge and interest for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) for junior high and high school students. Mike's goal at HTS is to use an Introduction to Engineering class to interest youth in the applied sciences and show them the art and science of building things to make people's lives better. Mike has been married to Paula for over 30 years and they have three children and one grandson, all of whom were homeschooled at some stage in their education. Mike is also a deacon at Harvester PCA and has been involved with other HTS ministries, including serving as HTS' Boy Scout Troop 1318's first ScoutMaster.

Paula Said

Cathy Stone

Cathy Stone is the wife of Bob, a retired Army officer, and the mother of five children and grandmother of three boys and two girls. Cathy met her husband at the University of Florida (GO GATORS) where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Broadcast Journalism. She and Bob have been married for over thirty years and during that time have been stationed abroad and up and down the east coast. She's been a member of Harvester PCA for 15+ years and involved in HTS for many years. She loves teaching children, and homeschooled all five of her own. Her passions in life are her family, drama, college football, hockey (GO CAPS), and coffee.