



Homeschool Institute of Science, Inc.

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Dear Friend of HIS, Inc:

2016 has been another fun and productive year here at HIS, Inc. It has also been a banner year for science. Let's do a quick survey of both.

Top science stories of the year:

- Gravitational wave observation announced in February. Physicists have long awaited these findings which support Einstein's theory of general relativity and the existence of spacetime. They come almost exactly 100 years after they were predicted.
- The Great Barrier Reef experienced the worst coral bleaching event in history due to record temperatures caused by the 2015-16 Super El Nino.
- The incomparable John Glenn died. The first American in orbit, said this, "To look out here and see this kind of creation and not believe in God is for me impossible."

While scientific research and inquiry in space and in the oceans go on, here on earth HIS, Inc. continues to make progress towards our mission of bringing science to life for homeschoolers. Our top stories of the year include:

- Continued support for local homeschoolers and homeschool cooperatives, networking and STEM event promotion, and providing STEM activities for the Grace Agenda conference
- Development of Science Intensive Short Courses (*i.e.* The Work of a Weatherman, Amazing Plants, and more)
- Ecology and Astronomy Class sequence, lessons, and activities produced (available online)
- Second year Field Ecology class concludes with water quality measurements, nocturnal beavers caught on tape, and the first ever David Douglas Explorer Naturalist Awards. More collaboration with the University of Idaho Arboretum & Botanical Garden to come.

I get excited just looking at this list because I see the families we touch in every activity. We are getting better at planning, better at creating quality educational resources, better at delivery, and with your help we can keep getting better. As Louis Pasteur famously quipped, "A little science estranges man from God, but much science leads them back to Him." We want to serve your family by providing unique hands-on science opportunities and God-glorifying STEM educational resources for years to come! Your end-of-year support will give us a strong start in 2017. To learn more about our mission and vision visit <https://homeschoolscience.org/our-vision/>.

Wishing you a peaceful and joy-filled Christmas season,

Will Boyd, Executive Director