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## Don't Forget The Discipleship Place By Janine Wilkens - Homeschool Representative

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In 1636 when the Puritans founded Harvard University, the first college in North America, it was to prepare young men for the ministry. I wholeheartedly agree with their founding purpose and have taken it as my own in the homeschooling of my son. "Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17:3) and therefore lay Christ in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning." (from Abeka's America Land I Love)

The Discipleship Place is a means to that end and most definitely a means of grace! <http://www.thediscipleshipplace.com/>



## MNU Students Raise \$65,000 for a New School in Haiti Friday, May 9, 2014 Olathe, Kansas

MidAmerica Nazarene University presented a \$50,000 check to Heart to Heart International during the university's last chapel service of the school year on April 29 for the building of a school in Cascade Pichon, Haiti.

"This school [MNU] is unbelievable," said Dr. Gary Morsch, founder of Heart to Heart International, as he and Steve Weber, executive director for Haiti Operations, accepted the check.

The area in Haiti has never had a school. MNU students who traveled there on a mission trip last year spent this school year raising money to help Heart to Heart on the \$250,000 project.

"I travel to a lot of universities," Morsch said to the MNU students. "None of them has ever done what you have done."

Weber reported more exciting news to the MNU community when he shared that Google decided to donate state-of-the-art tablets and other technology to use in the school. Weber stated this is due to the "ripple effect" of MNU's efforts.

"Because of this, we've got a school in Haiti," he added. (Continued on page 2.)



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**Confessions of a Home School Dad**  
Submitted by Janine Wilkens - Homeschool  
Representative

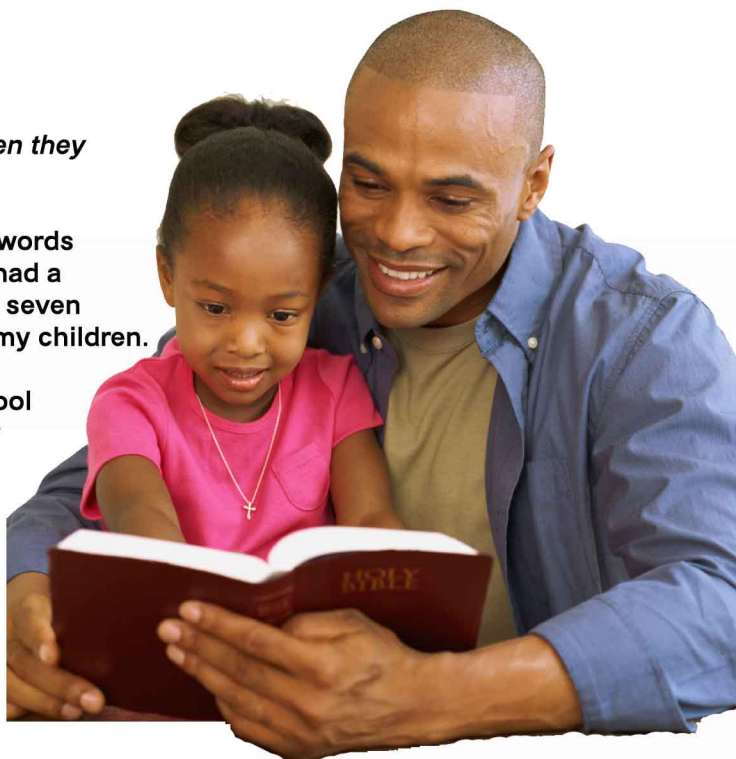
*Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it (Proverbs 22:6, NIV).*

"Train up a child in the way he should go...." To me these words meant to train them up in the way that I was brought up. I had a traditional public school education. So, imagine my shock seven years ago when my wife said she wanted to home school my children.

I had always dreamed of my daughter performing in a school musical and my sons winning state championships for my hometown school. I could only imagine socially backward children with no athletic outlets. How would they even know how to act?

Then I spoke with another home school dad who was talking about vacations being school time. I thought how cool that is. I envisioned my dream trip to Gettysburg, PA as a way to teach Civil War history. We could visit my favorite site, and it would count as classroom time. I was hooked.

We decided to home school my children, and I was supportive of their mother's teaching. My daughter has performed in three plays and several drama skits. When tested last year, she scored at least one grade higher than her current grade. In some cases, she scored post-college level. (Continued on page 3.)



**MNU Students Raise \$65,000  
for a New School in Haiti**

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The student-driven project, Dégagé, utilized a dozen different fundraising methods.

- Students worked as servers at MNU's annual President's Honors Gala and donated their earnings to Dégagé.
- A campus-wide coin drive and option to round up one's bill for purchases in the university store were easy ways to bring in funds.
- Individuals used social media to promote the project and \$2 Tuesdays (offerings taken during Tuesday chapel services).
- Through partnerships with major events on campus, students received significant help to raise money.
- MidAmerica Extreme (MAX) participants, largely high school students from the Midwest who come to MNU for two days of athletic, academic, and fine arts competitions, gave more than \$7,000.
- MNU's Board of Trustees agreed to match the MAX participants' gifts.
- St. Joseph Christian High School contributed \$2,400, and pledges are still arriving.

The total raised in pledges to date is \$66,400.

"The impact of this project will go on long after you've left this place," Morsch told the MNU students.

Randy Beckum, MNU chaplain and vice president for Community Formation, said this is the second time MNU students have raised more than \$60,000 for a project for underserved people in another country. Referring to the university's yearly Passion to Serve project, Beckum cited the 2010 effort to raise funds for a health clinic in Patanatic, Guatemala.

"This is the big idea of MNU," Beckum said. "It is service to others, giving to those who have so little, students helping others."

Beckum said the university's emphasis on mission trips is part of what spurs the interest of students to help those in underdeveloped countries. Ninety-one students went on mission trips during the academic year. That number represents another \$200,000 that students raised to fund those trips. Over the last five years, at least \$1 million has been raised by students for mission trips," he said.

(Continued on page 3.)



## Confessions of a Home School Dad

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(Continued from page 2.)

We have found opportunities for my son to participate in church-based sports. He has qualified for the Nazarene Children's World Quiz. The children have grown spiritually, mentally and socially because of their participation in Home School Co-ops, in addition to their homeschooling by their mother. This is totally different from my misconception of socially-inept children who can't participate in sports and have lower IQs. The children are excelling in everything. I would compare them to almost any public school child a grade higher.

Awhile back, my dad asked..."So what is with this home school thing? How can they participate in sports? Will there be a graduation?" I supported our decision to home school our kids to give them the best possible education. And, yes, Dad, they will have a graduation.

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it." In my opinion, to give children the best possible education, you can school them at home. I wouldn't change a thing. I am so glad that I decided to support my wife in her homeschooling our children. She is the BEST possible teacher for my kids.

"Father, I pray that You will help us to realize that it is only in training our children to follow You and You alone that we can see the benefits from this verse. We have decided that the best possible action for us to take is to teach our kids at home. Heavenly Father, bless us as we train up our children to follow You. In Jesus name, we pray, AMEN."

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(Continued from page 2.)

"Additionally, Passion to Serve projects have raised more than \$170,000 in the last five years," Beckum added. "There's a village in Guatemala that didn't have a clinic — now they do. There's a village in the most remote part of Haiti that never had a school, and now it will."

--MidAmerica Nazarene University

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## Why Pray When You Can Worry?

By Neil MacPherson

"... Do not worry about your life . . . ." (Matthew 6:25).

Thomas Carlyle built a nearly soundproof room in his house in order to work in uninterrupted silence. It worked except for one piercing sound that penetrated the walls. His neighbor had a rooster that exercised its vocal cords three times at night and once at dawn.

Carlyle sat in his room, pen in hand, distracted from thought and creative expression. When Carlyle complained to his neighbor about the crowing rooster, the neighbor retorted, "But he only crows three times at night and once at dawn." Carlyle responded, "But if you only knew all the worry I suffer waiting for the rooster to crow!"

Worry is such a universal and debilitating problem. Unresolved worry leads to physical as well as emotional problems. Worry strangles our capacity to hope and dream. It squeezes the joy out of life. Worry has been described as "thinking turned toxic," the imagination picturing the worst.

Jesus implies that worry is basically a distrust of God and His ability to meet our needs. Lurking behind worry are such questions as: Does God know my situation? Does He care? Can He meet my needs?

When we are yielded to the Lordship of Christ, we allow Him to be Lord of our circumstances. His spirit within us stands guard between us and the things which would destroy us. We can release our worries to Him and rest in His keeping grace.

Worry or trust? It's your choice.

(This devotional appeared in *Life on the Line*, Volume 2, a book of devotions produced by Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene. Neil MacPherson is currently the Senior Associate Pastor at Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene.

