

THE TOOLBOX

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www.morethancarpentry.org

Welcome to the New Email Version of *The Toolbox*.

We are taking efforts to be better stewards of the funds donated to More Than Carpentry, so we will be sending the newsletters to all those with email to save on postage. We hope to deliver this newsletter to your inbox monthly to keep you informed of the progress and updates on the ministry. We are using nonprofit postage for bulk mailings and will mail newsletters to those who either don't have email or prefer a mailed copy.

We are using a new database for all communications with our donors, volunteers, friends and family. This software allows us to efficiently track volunteer hours, produce donation receipts and year-end statements, etc. A big Thank You goes out to Leslie, who has worked countless hours with Tammy entering and organizing the data base. Would you take a moment review the contact information we have on file for you and send us any corrections? Thank you for your patience as we make these necessary changes to keep you informed.

Field : Contact Information for donors

2008 Was an Interesting Year

As we move forward and look back we thank God for his great love, wisdom and mercy upon our lives. As many of you know MTC was impacted by hurricane Ike in September, 2008. We were glad that we were not living in an apartment in the lower level, by Gods grace. Although keeping a seven-foot deep, indoor pool was very tempting, it did not have a lasting place here at MTC. On the flip side the basement has not been this clean for 40 years. Thank you Ike! and thank you to all the volunteers who came and helped with the clean up!!!!

What's Coming Up in 2009?

With God's grace, we plan to begin the training program this year. In fact, we are partnering with another job-training program in Wellston that has been up and running for five years with an 85% success rate for job placement. The are looking for a carpentry program, and since we are just around the corner from them, we are going to work together, instead of doubling-up on programs and resources. We are in the process of getting the curriculum approved, seeking funding for starting, and finalizing the renovations on the first floor. We need to start recruiting mentors and be ready to begin the program by May 1st. This is at the request of the Manufacturing Training Alliance, our new partners in this project! Would you consider making a commitment to one person for a year? Meeting with them weekly? Walking with them through their journey to permanent employment? If so, let Tammy know. We will be starting mentor training by April 1st. We need 10 mentors to begin the program. Please pray about this.

Volunteer Opportunities

3rd Saturday Work Day: February 21: 9am-2pm

Come to help prepare the building. Please wear work boots and work gloves. Bring a sack lunch and a willingness to get dirty as you serve the Lord.

Make MTC a service project for your group:

Do you belong to a Bible Study or community group that wants to participate in a service project? Consider MTC as an option as we work toward completion of the building renovations. All skill levels are welcome. Please contact the office (314-862-0515) for more information or to schedule your group project.

2008 Giving Statements

The 2008 Giving Statements were mailed in January. If you made a donation and did not receive a statement please let us know immediately. We are amazed at God's provision, even during an economic downturn, God has provided for More Than Carpentry. I am including a response for you to return to us if you'd like to participate with us in the ministry of More Than Carpentry. Just fill it out and reply to this email!

Please Consider Becoming a Financial Partner in 2009

Yes, Jim and Tammy, I (we) _____ would like to partner with you and More Than Carpentry as you minister to individuals through apprenticeship-training and education in carpentry integrating Christian discipleship and life skills as follows:

___ I would like to make a pledge at the following **Lumber Club** Level:

2x4 ___ 4x4 ___ 6x6 ___ 1x12 ___ Other _____. (Please check an option below.)

My commitment is for ___one year ___two years.

___ Enclosed is my one-time gift as follows:

\$100 ___ \$200 ___ \$500 ___ \$1,000 ___ Other \$ _____

___ I would like to be added to your e-mail newsletter list.

___ I would like to be added to your email prayer list.

Thank you for your tax deductible donation!

GoodSearch and GoodShop for MTC

If you would like to support the ministry of More Than Carpentry, but can't make a financial commitment, you can still support us by using GoodSearch as you surf the internet or GoodShop as you make purchases online. Just enter More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries as the recipient of the funds and we will receive a donation without costing you one penny. Last year, we received \$61 from this. If we all made this little change in the way we do business, we can make a significant financial contribution to MTC without ever writing a check. For more information go to www.goodsearch.com or call Tammy. Thank you for supporting MTC!!!

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