

A Publication of



www.morethancarpentry.org

Updated Mission Statement

The board of directors has updated the mission statement of More Than Carpentry (MTC) to better reflect the mission and activities in Wellston. Please pray that God will enable us to carry out this mission:

More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries seeks to serve individuals and the community of Wellston by integrating Christian discipleship into neighborhood outreach, personal relationships, life skills mentoring, carpentry education, and apprenticeship training.

Progress Report

It is sometimes difficult to express the progress of the ministry. There are so many area of progress and the ministry is certainly gaining momentum!

- Recently, an opportunity was presented to MTC to partner with another training program to begin as early as May 4, 2009. We are communicating with other cabinet shops to help provide on-the-job apprenticeship opportunities. In order for that to happen, the 1st floor renovations need to be completed!
- When these partnerships are formalized and the 1st floor of the building meets occupancy standards we will be reaching at least 30 students per year. These students will enter a 16-week program where they will receive life skills mentoring, carpentry training, and job placement services upon successful completion. Please continue to pray about this with us!
- We are working with the Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship to have our curriculum certified through them. This will allow our apprentices to receive a certificate recognized nationwide as a program that meets their standards.
- We are currently writing grants and are being seriously considered by a foundation for funding of the needed curriculum.

We will report more information as these things happen, but we wanted to share the ongoing progress of the ministry. Volunteers are working diligently to help with the renovations! The office staff is working to do the many behind-the-scenes tasks necessary to run the ministry.

Volunteer Needs and Opportunities to Serve

There are so many elements to running the ministry, from keeping financial records, writing the newsletter, web site maintenance, data base management, program management, record keeping and grant writing. We currently have a staff of four volunteers who work regularly with Tammy in the office. In addition, our Board of Directors needs volunteers to serve on the following committees.

- Building Renovations & Maintenance
- Human Resources—Recruiting volunteers
- Community Outreach—Seeking opportunities to serve in the community of Wellston
- Finance—Create budget, provide financial oversight

- Communications and Public Relations—Web site, Facebook, Newsletter, Press Releases
- Fundraising—Special Events planning, grant writing
- Program Development—Curriculum, documentation

If you can make a commitment to serve please contact Tammy at tammy@morethancarpentry.org.

New Calendar Posting Work Days and Opportunities to Serve

In addition, we are adding work days to accommodate work schedules and to get the building ready for the program. To make it easier to communicate these dates, we have added a calendar on the front page of our web site. Please check www.morethancarpentry.org often for new opportunities to give us a hand when you can.

Mentors Needed

We are working diligently to get the job training program up and running. We need to recruit and train mentors to be ready when the program begins. We are looking for men and women who are willing to commit one year to mentoring a student/apprentice. The Jobs for Life curriculum will be used and mentors need to attend the Jobs for Life classroom training at MTC. Qualifications for this job include:

1. Ability to make a one-year commitment to the student/apprentice
2. Availability to attend the Jobs for Life classes
3. Willingness to pray for and with your student/apprentice

You can find out more at <http://jobsforlife.com>. If you think God is calling you to this role, please contact tammy@morethancarpentry.org to apply.

Prayer Partners Needed

The success of More Than Carpentry depends on the support of so many people. Financial support is necessary to keep things running, volunteers are needed to do the work, but prayer is critical for the life of the ministry. Without the prayers of so many, More Than Carpentry would not be where it is today and will not move forward. We are working on organizing a prayer newsletter to those who request it. But until then, you can always pray for the following things for MTC:

1. Safety for all the volunteers.
2. Financial provision for building materials, overhead costs, program development expenses. Pray for the grant writing process and approval of grants!
3. Relationships with city officials, residents and businesses in Wellston: Pray that God creates an atmosphere of partnership among those in Wellston.
4. Wellston: Pray for safety from crime. Pray for the schools and the children there. Pray for the city leaders that they would lead the city in the right direction.
5. Future students: that God would steer those He intends toward MTC and prepare their hearts to receive the message of God's grace as they learn a new skill.
6. Mentors, instructors and various volunteers and staff are needed. Pray that God provides the people with specific skills needed to see the mission of MTC carried out.
7. Pray for strength for Jim, Tammy and their children: Pray that God will bless this family and protect them from illness and injuries. Pray that they are able to find time to rest and play together.

InterVarsity City Lights

We are blessed to have teams of volunteers serving again this year through Intersity City Lights. These college students are spending their spring breaks in service to the Lord. These teams have worked hard at cleaning out the creek

that runs behind the property at More Than Carpentry. By cleaning out the debris we hope to prevent a repeat of the September 2008 flood. Thanks to all you have worked so hard!!!!

This a pile of debris taken from the creek in one day!



Financial Needs and Opportunities

Financial support is unique in that everyone can participate. You don't have to have a particular skill or even live in St. Louis. We are aware that times are tough financially for everyone. But we want to challenge you to participate with us, even if what you are able to give seems like a small amount to you. This email is sent to over 800 people! If each one donated even \$25, that would add up to over \$20,000!!! So don't ever think that your donation is too small!!!! You can make a donation directly to us by mailing a check or through our [web site](#) using Pay Pal. Here is a list of specific materials needed:

- 14- 2x4 x 10' Treated lumber
- 16- 2x4 x 10' Pine or Spruce lumber
- 60- 20-gauge 3 5/8" x 10' Metal Studs
- 30- 18-gauge Top and Bottom track (for metal studs above)
- 6 - 1 1/2" Cold Roll Channel
- 30- 4x10x5/8 Fire Rock Drywall
- 12- 10' Corner Bead
- 46- 2x6x18' 16-gauge Metal Floor Joists
- 8 -16-gauge Top and Bottom Track (for metal floor joists above)

Can you help provide some or all of these materials? If so, let us know at the office so we can prevent doubling up of donations.

If you are able to make a financial commitment to MTC, maybe you will consider becoming a member of the Lumber Club. By doing so, you commit to financial support at the giving level of your choice. For example, you can join the 2x4 club by making a \$24 monthly donation, or maybe you can contribute \$44 per month and join the 4x4 club. If there isn't an option listed that meets your needs, please feel free to fill in the blank with an amount that works for you. You can either print the form below and send it in the mail or just reply to this email with your commitment.

Your financial support provides for the needs of the McGarry family, building materials for the renovations and the overhead costs of the ministry. Thank you for your support!

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!



If you would like to support the ministry of More Than Carpentry, but can't make a financial commitment, you can do so by using [GoodSearch](#) as you surf the internet or [GoodShop](#) as you make purchases online. The good news is that more than 900 of the top Internet retailers and travel sites including Amazon, eBay, Target, Apple, Expedia and more have joined forces with GoodShop.com to donate part of every purchase to your favorite charity at no additional cost to you (more than 72,000 nonprofits are now on-board)!

It takes just a few seconds to go to www.goodshop.com, select More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries, and then click through to your favorite store and shop as usual.

Also, Yahoo has teamed up with GoodShop's sister site, GoodSearch.com, to donate a penny to your cause every time you search the web. This is totally free as the money comes from advertisers. To give you a sense of how the money can add up, the ASPCA has already earned more than \$23,000!

Please tell 10 friends about GoodShop and GoodSearch today. They've been featured in the NY Times, the Wall Street Journal, CNN, Oprah Magazine and more.

Board of Directors

Nick Gleason	Patrice Stanley
Jim McGarry	George Stulac
Tammy McGarry	Joe Thompson
Dwayne Stanley	Jere Wilmering

More than Carpentry Christian Ministries

1259 Stephen Jones Ave., St. Louis, MO 63133

Phone: (314) 862-0515 Fax: (314) 862-0587

E-Mail: tammy@morethancarpentry.org