



October Prayer Requests:

- Non Profit Application Approval.
- Quick sale of McGarry rental property.
- God's financial provision for MTC.

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1st Annual Open House a Success

More Than Carpentry hosted its 1st Annual Open House on September 8 and celebrated by roasting a pig. Even with the intermittent rain, nearly 200 people attended and enjoyed the food, fellowship and tours of the building. MTC neighbors, Wellston officials, and members of the city council and police department joined the festivities. Volunteers and donors from all over St.

Louis also came to see the amazing progress of the past year. In addition to the activities, \$470 was raised toward the Windows to Wellston Campaign, and \$76 to help with the cost of the event.

Thank you Via Dove and Caleb Travers for providing the entertainment. The music was great! Thank you everyone who made this event successful. Several

volunteers came to help with set up and clean up. Countless hours were invested in planning by committee members. Also, thank you Phil Smith, owner of Smithco Contracting, for grading the yard to make it level for the event. This event would not have happened without so many willing volunteers. Thank you.

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Open House, October 11, 2008!

Newsletter Gets a Makeover

Have you noticed the new look? More Than Carpentry has so much information to share. The ministry is developing and growing quickly. The newsletter was named "The Toolbox" because it is the best tool we have to communicate with you.

Please consider sharing with others your experience with MTC by writing and submitting an article. It is such an encouragement to hear how God uses MTC in the lives of those who volunteer.

The Toolbox will be informative and we plan to introduce its readers to Wellston, its people and its history.

This newsletter is for *you*. It is a direct response to feedback from so many who share a passion for the mission of MTC.

Please give us your feedback. Is it interesting to you? Do you read it? Let us know how we can better serve you. Please send your suggestions and submissions to tammy@morethancarpentry.org.

This newsletter is being sent via email and the US Postal Service and is posted on the web site in PDF format at www.morethancarpentry.org.

If you have a preferred method of receipt just let us know. We want it to be convenient for everyone.

Volunteer Opportunities

Saturday Work Days: October 13 and 27:

We are hanging plywood to seal up the open windows for the winter and finishing the yard clean-up.

Skilled labor is needed for patching concrete, pouring window well caps, bricklaying and chain-link fence repairs. Please call if you can help with any of these needs.

Volunteer During the Week:

Some have asked if volunteer opportunities exist during the week. Often there are projects available between Saturday work days. If you would like to volunteer during the week or schedule a group to volunteer then give us a call at the office to make arrangements that suite everyone involved.

Administrative Assistant:

This position requires general office skills. Duties will include helping with mailings, filing, typing, errands and various other administrative tasks. One or more people are needed to serve regular, part-time hours. Call 314.315.7817 and talk to Tammy if you may be interested.



“More Than Carpentry will have a booth at the PCA Global Missions Conference in Atlanta, GA.”

Global Missions Conference

From the PCA Website
The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) Global Missions Conference, held every three years, brings like-minded believers together from across the denomination for a weekend of intense focus on the growth of God’s kingdom around the world. This year’s keynote speakers are Mission to the World Coordinator, Dr. Paul Kooistra, and president of Third

Millennium Ministries, Dr. Richard Pratt. Memorial Presbyterian Church is sending Jim and Tammy to attend the conference and host a booth. It is an opportunity for exposure of MTC as well as a time of learning and encouragement for the McGarry’s. Please pray for a safe trip for them and that God will use this time to build them up and increase awareness for the work in Wellston.

MTC Holds Quarterly Board Meeting

The board of directors of More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries met September 25th for their quarterly board meeting. They discussed the progress of the ministry and planned for the future of MTC. The next board meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2007.



Ministry Awareness Grows

In September MTC founders Jim and Tammy McGarry visited Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church to introduce more of the church’s members to the ministry. Several members of the Kirk are already involved. In

November, the McGarry’s will also attend Kirk’s ministry fair, “Your Kingdom Come: To Your Neighbor.” They will answer questions and provide information for church members to hear about the mission of MTC.

If your church is having a mission focus opportunity or ministry fair, MTC would like the opportunity to attend and inform even more people about its mission. The united body of Christ will accomplish the purpose of MTC.

What is Next for More Than Carpentry?

The summer has wound down to fall. School is back in session and the old routine is well underway. We have worked hard together and have had fun at the Open House. You may wonder, what's next?

The second Saturday work days will continue throughout the winter; however this month is the last month for the fourth Saturday work days. During October the focus of the work days will be wrapping up some of the projects begun in the summer. The windows

need to be covered with plywood to offer some protection against the winter chill. The MTC building has no heat. The front yard needs to be leveled and some final clean-up needs to be finished in the yard.

The focus shifts to recruiting skilled labor necessary to install windows, pour concrete, lay brick to close some window openings, frame walls and install plumbing and electricity. These projects will permit the McGarry's to press on toward the goal of moving

into the MTC building.

This enables them to consolidate their time and energy and focus entirely on the apprenticeship program. After all, that is the purpose of More Than Carpentry: to build cabinets and shape lives.

It is sometimes difficult to be patient when the goal seems far off. But God teaches us daily that His plan is sovereign and His timing is perfect.



Food, fun and fellowship at the 1st Annual Open House

Email Communications Can be Miscommunications

Many readers receive communications from More Than Carpentry through email. While email can be a useful tool for communication with a large number of people in a short amount of time, it often loses the intended purpose and can lead to miscommunication.

MTC sends emails to nearly 500 people who have expressed an interest in the ministry. A mail merge is used so only the recipient's name appears in the email. This

protects the privacy of our readers. At this time there is only one email list for all communications. It would take Tammy too much time to personally and selectively email everyone.

It is not the intention of MTC to make anyone feel guilty or overwhelmed by email communications. We realize everyone is busy with work, family and other obligations. However; several people have requested reminders and notifications.

If you receive a communication from MTC and you cannot participate, just delete it. Replying is not necessary.

If you wish to be removed from the email list please send a reply with "remove" in the subject line and your name will be removed from the email list with no questions asked.

Please forgive any misunderstanding about the email communications.

"It is not the intention of MTC to make anyone feel guilty or overwhelmed by emails."

*“Show Me Jesus—
Beyond the Walls”*

CCDA Conference

From the CCDA website

October 10th – 14th is the 19th Annual Christian Community Development Association’s National Conference. The theme this year is, “Show Me Jesus—Beyond the Walls”, is the challenge we face in a society and world that is more and

more divided. As followers of Christ, [we] must show everyone that Jesus is indeed alive and working to heal our world, with the church as His primary agent of hope. And, to be faithful to this mandate we must go beyond the walls of our comfort zones, into places of extreme brokenness

and marginalization.

We are fortunate to have the annual CCDA conference available to us right here in St. Louis. Consider going and be ready to be challenged! Check out their web site for more information: www.cdda.org

MTC Suffers from Vandalism

Many friends have expressed concern for the safety of the McGarry family and the MTC building. Recently, More than Carpentry was vandalized and robbed twice in one week. So far, the vandals have only taken or destroyed property outside.

Every reasonable effort is being made to keep the family and the MTC site safe. A new defense includes a very large dog that will reside at the MTC building and warn would-be intruders of his presence. The building is monitored 24 hours a day by an alarm system which

is being upgraded as the renovations are complete. It is not always easy to know the balance of what we should do to be safe and trusting God for our safety. Please pray that God will protect the McGarry family and the MTC building.

Sale of Property is Critical

As many of you know, the McGarry’s own a piece of investment property which is listed for sale. There has been some interest, yet at the time of printing this newsletter no offers have been made. The McGarry’s are in a position of having to make the decision to take it off the market and rent out both units in order to cover the expenses of the building. The equity in this investment property will help to meet

some crucial financial needs of MTC and the McGarry family. The property is an excellent candidate for conversion to a single family home. If you are considering investing in rental property or moving to South City, then consider buying this piece of real estate and making a difference with your purchase.

Please pray that God will provide for the quick sale of this property.

501(c)(3) Update

The Internal Revenue Service received the More Than Carpentry non-profit application in mid-July. According to the IRS website, applications received in June are currently being reviewed. This means the MTC application will probably be reviewed in November.

Please pray the application is favorably reviewed and approved.

*“Recently, More than
Carpentry was
vandalized and robbed
twice in one week.”*

Windows to Wellston Update

More Than Carpentry has currently raised **\$7,632.50** toward the goal of purchasing new windows for the building!

The windows must be replaced, not only for aesthetic reasons, but because they provide protection from the weather, natural lighting and ventilation, and emergency exits.

Jim is accepting bids from several window vendors in an effort to get the best possible price for this project. The first window order will be for the street-facing windows on the first floor of the building.

If you are giving to the Windows to Wellston Campaign, please mark your donation "MTC Windows". These designated funds are kept separately. Undesignated funds will be used for other necessary expenses of More Than Carpentry.

The new front door and sidewalk have a significant impact on the building and the neighborhood. Imagine how new windows will do that even more. We look forward to the day when the renovations are complete and lives are

being impacted through apprenticeship-training.

Thank you for contributing to this campaign. It will be an exciting day to place that first order; and an even more exciting day to see that last window installed.



New front entry at
1259 Stephen Jones Ave.

Coming soon...

More Than Carpentry wishes to acknowledge the generous financial support of those who stand with the ministry as its mission is achieved. Future issues of "The Toolbox" will list the many partners who give financially to MTC. It is important for our readers to see how many people, churches, companies and groups are standing with More Than Carpentry. The Windows to Wellston Campaign updates will continue to appear on this page also.

Just as it takes many pieces of lumber to build cabinets, it takes many people working together to build More Than Carpentry into a successful ministry with the purpose of serving its neighbors. A new feature called *The Lumber Club* is being added to facilitate this growth. Be watching for more information about that soon.

No amount of effort to carry out the mission of More Than Carpentry is effective without the financial support of those

who share an interest in MTC's mission. It takes funds to keep electricity on in the building, buy materials to complete the renovations and develop the curriculum and mentoring program for apprentices to learn a new career.

MTC is blessed with many friends who stand with the board of directors as they develop this new outreach. Please prayerfully consider how you might become involved financially to support the efforts of MTC.

"Future issues of "The Toolbox" will list the many partners who give financially to MTC."

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We're on the Web!

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Our Purpose...

To minister to the physical
and spiritual needs of
individuals through
apprenticeship-training
and education in carpentry
integrating Christian
discipleship and life skills.



CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
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