



C H R I S T I A N M I N I S T R I E S
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Friends of More Than Carpentry,

“Transformational development is the process that helps people to discover their true identity as children of God and to recover their true vocation as faithful and productive stewards of gifts from God for the well-being of all. Transformational development is seeking positive change in the whole of human life materially, socially, and spiritually.”

This quote from Bryant Myers in his book *Walking with the Poor* is a great definition of the process we are beginning in Wellston and clearly expresses our philosophy of ministry. We are committed to this model and are excited to help people “discover their true identity as children of God.”

Since March of 2005, we have hosted many volunteers through summer mission trips and Saturday work days. The focus thus far has been on renovating the building which will house the ministry in Wellston. Many improvements have been made; the building was emptied of thousands of pounds of scrap metal, a new front entry and sidewalk were installed, the scrap metal is just about cleared from the nearly 2 ½ acres of property. What used to be referred to as “the junk yard” by the neighbors is now known as “the cabinet shop.” However, there is much work to do on the building; the first floor needs to meet OSHA safety codes, new windows and HVAC need to be installed. But, the building is not the ministry. What goes on inside the building is what matters. The goal of MTC is to minister to *people*.

As soon as the renovations are complete we will hire apprentices into the carpentry program carrying out the mission of MTC. The plan is to begin hiring in the fall of 2008. However, ministry has already begun in Wellston:

(Tammy): I have begun a friendship with a woman who lives on the block across the street from the shop. We have spoken on the street several times and now she has invited me into her home. It is exciting to begin building friendships with our soon-to-be neighbors.

(Jim): One day a man came in off the street and asked if he could work for the day. I offered to let him help with some of the projects I had going on. This led to a conversation where I was able to share the gospel with him and send a book explaining the gospel home with him.

Several neighbors joined us for the 1st Annual Open House. One woman remarked how peaceful it was here and a local pastor was impressed at the sight of children from different races playing together and enjoying each other with no racial or economic barriers. We hope these are the beginnings of new relationships in the neighborhood and look forward to developing them further.

The next step is for us to move into Wellston and make our home there. God is sending us as missionaries to live out his call on our lives there. We are excited about getting to know our neighbors and loving them. These relationships which have begun will hopefully become friendships that will endure a lifetime. The foundations of the ministry are being laid.

Building a ministry that endures takes time, but it takes more than that. It takes prayer and financial resources as well. Once the IRS approves the not-for-profit application we will begin raising funds through grant writing. And when apprentices in the program begin producing products for sale income will be made to sustain the ministry. However our family's financial needs won't wait until those things happen. We both volunteer full-time in the ministry and work part-time for Classic Carpentry Unlimited, our for-profit construction company. Working part-time cannot provide the financial needs of our family, the costs of developing the ministry and the expenses of operating the building; i.e. utilities, insurance, and mortgage.

More than Carpentry is not a ministry of Jim and Tammy; it is a ministry of God. We are investing everything we have to be missionaries in Wellston and turn the vision of MTC into a reality; but we cannot do it alone. Would you prayerfully consider investing with us financially as we raise \$60,000 annually for two years to provide for our family's needs until other funding kicks in? Then we will draw a salary and hire people to share the work load. We expect to be able to do that within two years. We hope you will become a team member by joining the More Than Carpentry Lumber Club and pledging to stand with us as follows:

More Than Carpentry Lumber Club Giving Levels

	Monthly	Annually
2x4 Club	\$ 24	\$ 288
4x4 Club	\$ 44	\$ 528
6x6 Club	\$ 66	\$ 792
1x12 Club	\$112	\$1344

It would take only 200 people pledging at the lowest level for our family to be fully funded. This would free us to invest our time in the *people* of Wellston. That is only \$6 a week, a small sacrifice individually; but the collective giving of the body of Christ adds up quickly. If you are not in a position to give individually, maybe you could organize a group to join. As part of a church, company, Bible study or small group, consider making a pledge as a team. When you or your group becomes a member of the Lumber Club you become a tool in the "trade" of changing lives with the gospel message. One and two year commitments will help us plan for our family's needs.

Membership in the More Than Carpentry Lumber Club will provide you the satisfaction of participating in the growth of God's Kingdom as the practical and spiritual needs of *people* are met with the love of Christ. In addition, your name or team will be listed in "The Toolbox," the monthly newsletter of MTC which is also posted on the website.

Please prayerfully consider investing in God's Kingdom through More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries by supporting us financially. This will allow us to practice transformational development in Wellston and participate in God's plan to renew the city.

In Christ,
Jim and Tammy McGarry

P.S. Please partner with us by returning the enclosed pledge card along with your check made payable to More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries.

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

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

2x4___4x4___6x6___1x12___

___ My commitment is for ___ one year ___ two years.

___ Enclosed is my one-time gift of:

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

___ Please do not print my name in "The Toolbox"

Make checks payable to: More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries
1259 Stephen Jones Ave.
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W100707