



November Prayer Requests:

- Volunteer Administrative Assistant needed
- Successful Grant Writing and fundraising
- Housing for the McGarry family in Wellston
- Safe travel to Atlanta, GA and Fort Jackson, SC

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God Answers Prayer

Rental Property SOLD!

God has heard our prayers and answered beyond what we could ask or imagine. The rental property is SOLD! The closing was held on Friday October 26. The sale of the property allows us to pay the electrician for his work on the building in Wellston. We are grateful for God's provision.

Non-Profit Status

As if that weren't enough good news for one week, the very next day we received notification that our 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization status has been approved by the IRS. This entitles us to receive tax deductible donations directly and exempts us from having to pay federal income tax.

These two major events move this ministry into its next phase, which includes 1) the McGarry family moving to Wellston and 2) writing grants to raise funds for the completion of the building renovations.

These two steps must be completed before the apprenticeship program begins. We are moving forward trusting that God has planned each step and is going before us.

October Work Days

Last month there were several days when volunteers worked on the building, preparing it for the winter season. Teams painted the woodwork around the windows which face the street and hung painted plywood in the openings. This greatly reduces the flow of cold air and helps to seal the building for the cold winter months.

Teams also pulled weeds and picked up trash along the street.

Although the main goal of this work was winterizing, the plywood added a neater, uniform look to the front of the building, making an improvement to the outside appearance. This has a positive impact on the community. Several neighbors have commented how "nice" the building looks now.

Next Step

Renovations on the inside of the building begin this month. The first priority is finishing the main floor, where on-the-job-training will take place. This will begin immediately with rearranging the office to utilize the space more efficiently and create more space for a showroom.

Plans for the major renovations need to be drawn by an architect before construction begins. Please pray for wisdom as decisions about the use of space are being made.

Volunteer Opportunities

Saturday Work Days:

November 10:

Demolition of office walls and other miscellaneous indoor tasks

DO YOU HAVE SKILLS IN CONSTRUCTION?

We need people to help lead teams in the construction phase of the project. There is still a need for general labor!

Volunteering at MTC:

There are many tasks that need to be completed which don't require specific skills, just a willingness to follow instructions and get a little dirty. If you or your group is available during the week or on a weekend and would like to help out give us a call and we will put you on the schedule.

Administrative Assistant Needed:

This position requires general office skills. Training is provided. Duties include mailings, filing, data entry, errands, event planning and various other administrative tasks. We need one or more people committed to volunteer regular, part-time hours to cover a full-time schedule.



Students from Truman State's Baptist Student Union volunteer on a Friday in October.

What Is On MTC's Agenda for November?

More than Carpentry and the McGarry family have a full schedule for the month of November. The McGarry family is visiting Kirk of the Hills church to participate in its ministry fair on Sunday the 11th. The following weekend MTC (Jim and Tammy) will have a booth at the Mission to the World Global Mission Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Following the conference, the entire

McGarry family is driving to South Carolina to visit with James, their son, and to watch him graduate from Army Boot Camp. They will stay and spend Thanksgiving with him, then drive home in time for Memorial church's Mission Focus Sunday on the 25th.

As you can see, the month of November is filled with activity, both personal and professional.

Please be in prayer for safe travel and pray that our time at the conference, the church visits and the time with James will be blessed. Jim and Tammy try to take advantage of every opportunity to share the vision of MTC and increase awareness.



Baptist Student Union from Truman State Pitches In

On Friday, October 19 we were blessed with four students from Truman State's Baptist Student Union who worked all day removing old windows and painting the brick mold. They scraped the old paint and primed and painted

the wood around the window openings facing the street. The work they completed prepares for the installation of new windows when the time comes.

During lunch we had an opportunity to share the

vision of the MTC and discuss our philosophy of ministry.

They were such an encouragement to us.

Thank you!

My CCDA Conference Experience

by Tammy McGarry

The CCDA conference, held in downtown St. Louis October 10th - 14th, was an encouraging time for me. I made some new friends and ran into some old ones. The speakers reminded me of a few important elements for successful ministry.

The main thing I took from this year's conference was a changed perspective in how I view Wellston. In preparation for ministry I researched statistics from the 2000 census and learned about the unemployment rate, the

educational needs of the people and the high crime rate. I am able to quickly recite all the problems we have identified in Wellston.

However, if we are to make a difference in this community we must be willing to see the positive things that are here and begin building on those.

I was reminded that the residents of Wellston have gifts given to them by their Creator. These gifts range in anything from car repair to child care. God has gifted each one of us for the betterment of the whole community. It is

important to come along side our neighbors in Wellston and support them as they use their gifts to improve their community.

I encourage you to visit the CCDA website (www.cdda.org) and download talks on the subject of urban ministry. We are sharing more of this philosophy, our philosophy of ministry, periodically in "The Toolbox."



8 Key Points of Christian Community Development

The poem on the right beautifully expresses the concepts of ministering in a community. The eight key elements of Christian Community Development, which evolved over the past 40 years by many Christians working to rebuild poor neighborhoods, are being used by over 600 models around the country, with a proven track record. Let's explore how MTC incorporates each element in its philosophy of ministry.

Relocation:

Jesus relocated. He moved into our "neighborhood" and loved us. Loving our neighbor by desiring for them those things which we desire for ourselves is living out the gospel. We incorporate this key point by moving our family to Wellston and making our home there.

Reconciliation:

Reconciling people to God and people to people is evangelism. By loving our neighbors we demonstrate

the love of God, who is concerned with our physical needs as well as our spiritual walk. This love crosses racial and socio-economic barriers, creating a community which more closely represents Heaven. By coordinating community meetings and hosting Bible Studies we incorporate this key into our ministry plan.

Redistribution:

This key is the result of organizing the talents, energy and financial

"Go to the people, Live among them, Learn from them, Love them, Start with what they know, Build on what they have: But of the best leaders, When their task is done, The people will remark, "We have done it to ourselves."

--Chinese Proverb

8 Key Points Continued

8 Key Points of Effective Community Development

- 1) Relocation
- 2) Reconciliation
- 3) Redistribution
- 4) Leadership - Development
- 5) Listening
- 6) Church-Based
- 7) Holistic Approach
- 8) Empowerment

resources of those in the community and those who care for the community to create job opportunities, schools, home ownership and other long-term community improvements. We are creating job opportunities and coordinating other community improvements.

Leadership Development:

Leaders within the community are identified, developed, and encouraged to remain in the community to lead its revitalization from within the community. These leaders then develop others to lead. We have already begun identifying residents who are excited to participate and lead by mentoring the youth in their neighborhood. We are including leadership training in the curriculum.

Listening to the Community

Community meetings are held where residents are encouraged to voice their concerns and discover their gifts. As coordinators we listen and help to create an environment where the residents creatively address the issues of their choice using their gifts. In response to these meetings, community service projects are included in the apprenticeship program.

Church-Based:

Without the church of God as the center of community development it becomes just another social service project being performed to an area instead of people being redeemed from sin and injustices of this world. God is the center of

our program, not just an element tacked onto the end of a program. Christians being involved sets this program apart from secular programs.

Holistic Approach:

When God saves, he saves completely. Unless the whole being is addressed, permanent change cannot take place. We desire to reach each individual spiritually and physically, including every area of life. Partnerships with existing resources provide the ability to address every need.

Empowerment:

Each person is empowered to use his talents to help himself and his community. This restores his dignity as he is supported and provided with resources to succeed.

Progress is Made

October has been a month of making connections and developing relationships which will hopefully become partnerships in ministry. Through CCDA we discovered *Jobs for Life*, a biblically-based curriculum teaching work ethics and job skills, which has had much success nation-wide in communities similar to Wellston.

Several meetings have taken place with local agencies which have supportive services that can be utilized in the MTC program. We will coordinate existing resources to meet the varying needs of each apprentice. For example, we met with a Christian counselor who is interested in providing counseling services at our location.

There is much groundwork being laid for More Than Carpentry which will provide a solid foundation for long-term ministry. These things take time and sometimes the results are not immediate, but we are confident that God is forming a team of people and organizations who are committed to achieving the goal of holistic revitalization of Wellston.

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Lumber Club Builds Support

In October More Than Carpentry launched the Lumber Club, which raises financial support for the McGarry family as they work full-time developing the ministry in Wellston. It will provide for their family's needs until they can draw a salary from the ministry. By joining the club you are pledging your support as they follow God's call.

The current focus for the McGarry's is moving to Wellston and completing the renovations of the building where ministry will take place.

The lumber club has several levels of giving to accommodate varying budgets. When 200 people commit at the 2x4 Club level the McGarry's will be fully funded.

Already, God is moving people to respond to this call and stand with them as they minister to the people of Wellston. Several one and two year commitments have been received.

Please prayerfully consider joining a Lumber Club as an individual or a group and participate with MTC as the McGarry's as they minister in Wellston.

Windows to Wellston Campaign Update:

Funds are still being raised to replace all the windows in the building. The Windows to Wellston Campaign has raised **\$7,852.50** to date. We plan to raise additional funding through grant writing. Please continue to pray for God's provision of this need.



New plywood in the window openings protect from the cold

The Lumber Club Allows *You* to Participate with MTC

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"

Please return this card by November 22, Thanksgiving Day to allow us to plan for next year.

Make checks payable to:

More Than Carpentry Christian Ministries
1259 Stephen Jones Ave
St. Louis, MO 63133

TB1107

"It's easy to support the mission of More Than Carpentry, just cut out and mail the response card."

More than Carpentry Christian Ministries

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.morethancarpentry.org

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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.