

The Carpenter's Apprentice



“and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft.” – Exodus 31:3-5

January Thaw Results

Thank you to all who made January Thaw a raging success! To quote Sam Hensell, one of the founders and board members of The Carpenter's Apprentice (TCA), "January Thaw was fantastic... above and beyond what I ever imagined. It is unbelievable what can be accomplished when you have so many people, groups, and teams working together on a common goal."

The evidence of the effectiveness of TCA in bringing the heart of Jesus to the heart of Irwin is astounding. One big surprise was that several recipients of TCA's ministry were with us for the event! It was an absolute joy to celebrate all the Lord is doing to expand our ministry through them.

Here are the amazing results:

- Over 425 spaghetti dinners were served, including 63 take-out meals.
- Over 350 people were on-site during the three-and-a-half hour event.
- \$510 was contributed in ticket sales and gifts by partner church - The Community Church of Harrison City.
- \$240 was contributed by partner church - Norwin Nazarene Church
- 22 gift baskets were awarded
- A \$600 50/50 was conducted with \$450 going to TCA
- 4 "Salad-for-a-Month" Cards were awarded (an \$800 value)
- A GRAND TOTAL OF \$7,402 was given to TCA!!!!





Beginnings

The Carpenter's Apprentice (TCA) all started with Hurricane Katrina. Over a couple of years we made 5 trips to Alabama to help with the recovery effort. There are many people at First Presbyterian who went on those trips.

Thank You from TCA!



One night, after dinner, a group of us were sitting around a table talking. Someone said, "Why are we traveling all the way to Alabama to do this work when there are people back home, in our own backyard, that need help?"

That got everything started. We spent a great deal of time in discussion deciding on our name, mission, and logo. We then decided that it was time to incorporate as a separate tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization..

Over the years we have built wheelchair ramps, installed handicap accessible showers, relocated laundry rooms for people who could no longer use stairs, installed safety railings, repaired roofs, patched holes in wood siding, rebuilt chimneys, to name a few projects. All of our work has been targeted toward people without the financial means to hire a contractor. All our work is completed at no cost to the tenant or homeowner.

Craftsmanship for the Glory of God

Last Fall, during TCA Fall Fix-Up Weekend, the Lord blessed us in amazing ways. Here are two stories to prove it. First, when we were planning the weekend there seemed to be no way we'd have the finances to complete more than a few projects. As we were culling our long list of projects, a sizable donation came through the door, as well as a significant discount from Lowe's. These divine provisions enabled us to do all of our projects that weekend, with many tearful recipients.



Second, on Sunday of the Fall Fix-Up Weekend we were working on our last project. The weather was threatening. It looked like we might get rained out. But again, amazingly, we were putting the final touches on a porch project. We were installing a gate on the



porch, but we didn't have the four perfectly-sized screws we needed. Without them we couldn't finish. We all started scrambling to find the exact screws, but came up dry. Finally, at the last minute, one of our guys took all his tools out of his toolbox and there at the bottom on the box, miraculously, were four of the exact screws we needed. No one doubted that the Lord was all over that project!!

Last year at this time we couldn't have imagined how far the Lord would carry us. Thanks to YOU and your prayers, love, and your amazing generosity in showing the heart of Jesus, we are excited to see all that Jesus intends to do with us and through us this new building season. Working closely with the M Team, and the other engaged churches, we intend to not only enlarge our project load, but build into our jobs visits with the recipients, offering prayer, baked goods, and listening ears. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

www.thecarpentersapprentice.org