



# Madison Square Church

*United in Christ as a Diverse Community*

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August 5, 2009

Home Missions.

This last quarter at Madison at Ford we have made huge strides in getting things moving in the right direction as a new start up church. On July 11 in the middle of the summer, we had a vision retreat with some of our core stakeholders and to my surprise we had more people attend than what we were expecting. This vision retreat launched us into a good momentum going into the fall year with certain ministries being clarified and the right people leading them.

The hard work being done at Madison at Ford is refiguring and configuring out proper process for new members follow up and assessing people spiritual gifts through the network. In the process of doing all of this we are learning how to solve problems and work together as teammates in building the kingdom of God. I believe in going through all of this difficult process, we have now begun to build a good foundation that will sustain church life and organic growth. We finally have a good solid core group of people who now identify with the vision and are ready to put their gifts to use in seeing Madison at Ford be all of what God has for us. Praise God!!!

What have I learned through this process of starting up a new church? Three things I want to share with Home Missions that I believe could be a great benefit to other church planters.

1. God is faithful in sustaining his leaders in the trenches of doing ministry amidst a broken people and a broken world. Another way of saying this, God is the one who is responsible for building his church and not us.
2. Church leaders and planters all grow in being mature and patient in the process of doing and not on the front end of vision casting and dreaming. Learning how the real church body life functions from day to day and from week to week produces spiritual growth that seminary and writing of papers does not spur.
3. God is in control and he does his best work when I come to the end of trying my own way in building his church. This is what I call man's way versus the way and leading of the Holy Spirit.

Madison at Ford main objectives over the last quarter was building up ministry structures and realigning people into their spiritual gifts to serve the body.

Grace,

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## Madison At Ford



**Alton Hardy, Campus Pastor**  
**Brad Knetsch, Campus Coordinator**

As a body of believers we are finding more clarity surrounding what it really means to be a diverse church of people from every nation, every tongue, and every tribe. We celebrate our diversity and at the same time understand the many obstacles we face in maintaining it in a world where people are divided. We have become more intentional in being gospel centered in our messages.

### Celebrations!

Madison at Ford celebrated our one year anniversary on March 22. Our children's ministries are running smoothly with excellent leadership and many other component that makes Sunday worship happen has improved even within the last six months. The Madison At Ford Gospel Choir and Rescue Youth programs were started to engage the students in a deeper way at Gerald Ford Middle School.

### Transformations!

Many lives have been transformed because the message of Christ is preached and not the false message of what we need to do in order for us to get God to like us. One gentleman said to me recently that his whole life was built on works of righteousness that he leaned heavily upon, but now he understands that he is saved by grace alone through Christ.

Two boys stayed after a recent Rescue Youth meeting to pray and accept Jesus as their savior! Praise God. Ask Rebekah VanBeek for the full story. It's a good one.

### Stewardship

We budgeted well this first year of ministry and received more money at the site than we anticipated. Overall we are in a good place and expect the future to be even brighter financially. We saved a tremendous amount of money in our hospitality budget by having people bring dishes to pass around at our regular potlucks.

### Goals:

One of our main goals will be the implementation of new small groups. We are diligently working behind the scenes to make this a reality by the fall of 2009. Another goal at Ford will be to have a better connection with the school so that people can serve the school in Christian ways.

### Madison At Ford - Subset Income

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Offerings            | \$86,665                |
| Making Room Fund     | \$33,000                |
| Classis East Grants  | \$5,000                 |
| Home Missions Grants | \$15,000                |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b><u>\$139,665</u></b> |

### Expenses

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Compensation - Salaries | \$75,950                |
| Compensation - Benefits | \$36,749                |
| Worship & Diversity     | \$3,000                 |
| Admin - EDM             | \$3,000                 |
| Admin - Communications  | \$1,800                 |
| Admin - Facilities      | \$5,200                 |
| Ministry Shares         | \$13,967                |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>   | <b><u>\$139,665</u></b> |