



### Artist Meditation on Reach Out!

By Michael Harris

O God, Lord In Heaven, My Father

I look to you for strength, for direction and for life. You are the wellspring from which I flow. You Reach Out to me; your heart enfolds me, and I am not forsaken...

When I was lost, broken and crippled lying in a hospital room, crying in the night like a lost and lonely child, I realized in that cold dark moment, that I had done this to myself. I prayed to you, Lord, and you heard my cry and answered my prayer, and pulled me out of the pit of despair. That I am still here is evidence of your love.

I look around and see all your people: the least, the lost, and the lonely from all tribes and nations...but your cross of love towers over all for you are in all and through all and above all. All who know you, know that you are the Father of all creation and your son, Jesus Christ, is our Shepherd. I am only one of many, but as far as I am concerned, I am the bound slave of Jesus Christ. I serve him not out of fear but because of love.

### Urgent Need in Children's Ministry

Because some people will continue discontinuing their positions, we need more people to serve in the following ministries:

- Nursery Assistants
- Pre-K, K ministry
- Children's Church – small group leaders, assistants.
- Children's Music Team
- Special Needs ministry
- Dickinson Bible Club
- Nursery Hospitality/Registration

Contact Ken Schripsema, Director of Children's Ministry at 245-7791 ext. 214 or at [ken.schripsema@madisonsquarechurch.org](mailto:ken.schripsema@madisonsquarechurch.org)

# Madison Square Church

*United in Christ as a Diverse Community*



**January 24, 2010**

- ◆ standUP! Profess Your Faith
- ◆ Artist Meditation on Reach Out!
- ◆ Urgent Need in Children's Ministry

Our Vision: To build a community of diverse people who are being transformed by Christ.



**Madison Square Church**  
*United in Christ as a Diverse Community*

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# Welcome

## ◆ Welcome Guests

We're glad you're worshipping with us today. Questions about Madison? Please call the church office Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 245-7791. For more information go to [www.madisonsquarechurch.org](http://www.madisonsquarechurch.org).

## ◆ Worship

### Morning

"Reach Out"

Ford teaching by Pastor Alton: James 1:26-2:13

Square teaching by Pastor Jim Martin: Psalm 10:1-2, 7-18

Pastor Jim Martin is the Director of International Justice Ministry (IJM), a human rights agency that secures justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation, and other forms of violent oppression. IJM works with local governments to ensure victim rescue and promote functioning public justice systems. Our Soul Pantry bookstore has two IJM books for purchase: "The Good News about Injustice" and "Just Courage."

### Evening

Psalm 19:7-11

"Sweeter Than Honey"

Teaching by Pastor Dave

Worship at 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m. at the Square; 10 a.m. at Ford

## S.O.A.P. Bible Study

### "Reach Out"

**S=Scripture:** James 1:26-2:13

**O=Observation:** After reading the text carefully, answer the following questions: "Religion" here is used in a positive sense, as a word which means "the Christian faith." As such, what is the two-sided "fruit" that James sees in a life transformed by Jesus? What does James 2:5 tell you about the doctrine of election and whether God is "fair" in whom he chooses to save? James shows that we all are law-breakers in James 2:8-11. How is the law a tutor which brings us to Christ? If a fair summary of the gospel is "you are so much worse off than you could imagine; you are so much more loved than you could hope for," how do you find the gospel in this passage? What does it mean that "mercy triumphs over judgment"?

**A=Application:** In what area of religion do you need to grow: "keeping yourself unstained from the world" or "taking care of widows and orphans" in their distress? What part of your energy and money is spent in reaching out?

**P=Prayer:** Write out a prayer based on your meditation on this passage:

#### Daily Devotionals

Mon.: Isaiah 58:1-14

Tues.: Micah 6:1-8

Wed.: Matthew 25:31-46

Thurs.: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Fri.: Hebrews 13:1-6

Sat.: James 2:1-26

Sun.: Psalm 150

# J

## ames

### 1:26-2:13(TNIV)

<sup>26</sup> Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

<sup>2</sup> Suppose someone comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor person in filthy old clothes also comes in.

<sup>3</sup> If you show special attention to the one wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the one who is poor, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," <sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? <sup>7</sup> Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong? <sup>8</sup> If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. <sup>9</sup> But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. <sup>11</sup> For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. <sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, <sup>13</sup> because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

## ◆ Today

### Nursery

For newborn through 3 years old at 8:30, 10, and 11:30 a.m. downstairs.

### Kindergarten and Preschool Ministry

Downstairs in Room 104-105 at 8:30 and 10 a.m. There is no 11:30 a.m. session.

### Children's Church (8:30 and 11:30 a.m.) Sunday School (10 a.m.)

1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders meet in the MultiPurpose Room.

### Special Needs Ministry

Trained staff provides your child with one-on-one attention in Room 314. Call Ken at 245-7791 ext. 214 for reservations.

### High School Sunday School

10 a.m. in Room 203. Jamie Hinojosa leads discussion on "Every Picture Tells a Story".

### Men's Addiction Recovery

Meets at 8:30 a.m. in Room 307.

### High School Youth Group: 5-7 p.m.

## ◆ This Week at Madison

Children's Praise Dance: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Mon.

Adult Praise Dance: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mon.

Madison Girls: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mon. for 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade girls

Cadets: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tues. for 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade boys

Men's Addiction Recovery: 8-9 p.m. Tues.

Men's Bible Study: 8-9 p.m. Tues.

Fresh Fire Prayer Service: 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wed.; noon Thurs.

Madison Moms: 9-11 a.m. Wed.

Midweek Bible Teaching: 7-8:30 p.m. Wed.

Women's Addiction Recovery: 7-9 p.m. Wed.

Middle School Youth Group: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thurs. Our very own Mario Adkins will be giving a powerful teaching on choices and decisions. You will not want to miss this night. Mario has a great session for us!

## ◆ Our Attendance Last Sunday

<i>Sunday Morning</i>	<i>Worship and Children's Church</i>	<i>Sunday School and Nursery</i>
8:30 a.m.	199	16
10 a.m.	367	111
10 a.m. Ford	122	7
11:30 a.m.	298	13
total	986	147

Invite a friend or neighbor to our 8:30, 10, or 11:30 a.m. services At the Square or 10 a.m. At Ford. We have plenty of room for new faces.

## ◆ Our Giving

Year to date giving for General Fund:

Last week: \$10,725 under budget

Year to date: \$32,027 under budget

Today's morning offerings:

1. General Fund    2. Deacons' Fund

This evening's offering:

Grand Rapids Christian Schools

Next week's morning offerings:

1. General Fund    2. Christian Education

Next week's evening offering:

World Communion of Reformed Churches

### **standUP! – Profess Your Faith**

If you have never gone public with your faith in Jesus and would like to, or if you are curious about what it means to be a Jesus-follower, you are invited to attend a "standUP! – Profess Your Faith" class or to meet one on one with a standUP mentor. You may contact the appropriate staff person or sign up at the information desk in the lobby:

**For Children (2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade):**  
Contact Ken Schripsema  
at 245-7791 ext. 214.

**For Middle School Teens:**  
Contact Brad Knetsch at 481-1291

**For High School Teens:**  
Contact Christy Knetsch at 340-3742

**For Adults:**  
Contact Audrey Laninga at  
245-0855.

Classes for standUP! begin 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. today

## ◆ Our Ministries

### Missionaries

During the evening service on Jan. 31, Madison Missionaries in China, Wayne and Lynn Ten Harmsel will describe the work they are doing. Please join them in the Multi-purpose room after the evening service to get to know them better.

### Soul Revival

You are invited to “The Healing Word” on Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. with speakers Pastor Dave and Paula Seales. This is a new feature of our Soul Revival services. Bring a friend.

### Deacon Ministry

Are you experiencing a financial crisis or an emergency need and wondering whether the Church can help? If so, please call the church office at 245-7791 ext. 204 to request an application for assistance and to be contacted by a Madison Deacon.

### Understanding Racism

Madison’s Antiracism Team is hosting an 8 week class on Understanding Racism, starting Feb. 6 to Mar. 28 at 11:30 a.m.

We will look at race from the angles of biblical theology, Christian teaching, history, economics, psychology and culture.

### Soul Pantry

We are looking for people who like books and helping others to serve at our Soul Pantry bookstore. For more information, call Theresa Postma at 647-5639 or stop in the Soul Pantry to sign up.

### Blood Drive

Madison’s next Blood Drive is scheduled from 3 to 7 p.m. Feb. 2. If you are a healthy person age 17 or older, you can donate. Please call Jay Laninga today at 617-8432 to schedule your appointment!

### Budgeting Coaches Needed

Coaches are needed for the spring session of Financial Freedom at Restorers. The session is 6 to 8 p.m., starts Feb. 15, and lasts 12 weeks. Training will be provided. Call Debbie at 243-1984.

### Financial Freedom

Take control of your money and experience peace in your finances by attending the next session of Financial Freedom. Classes are held at Restorers (1413 Madison) from 6 to 8 p.m. every Monday for 12 weeks beginning Feb. 15. The cost is \$5. To register, call Debbie at 243-1984.

### Men of God

How are you serving God? Others are watching you to determine how they should get involved. “Do it. And let them see you do it.” ~ Mel Gibson as William Wallace in the movie Braveheart.

### Winter Youth Group Retreat

High school students, mark your calendars for the retreat at the Christian Reformed Church Conference Grounds Feb. 5 to 6. The cost is \$21. For more information, email [christy.knetsch@madisonsquarechurch.org](mailto:christy.knetsch@madisonsquarechurch.org).

## ◆ Joys and Concerns

Please pray for the upcoming college and justice tour. Pray that our teens will grow in their faith and their understanding of God’s call on their lives. Also pray that the \$11,000 needed to send our teens will come through.

Pray for healing for many who are ill. Pray for those who will be having surgery over the next few weeks and others suffering from terminal illness. Pray that God will give strength and comfort to their families.

Pray for mercy for the people in Haiti who have faced another earthquake. Pray that they will continue to receive much support from nations around the world to rebuild their country and that they can sense God in their midst and have hope in Christ, the Savior.

Prayer servants are available after the service at the altar. You may also pray privately in the Prayer Room off the Lobby.

If you have prayer requests for the prayer chain, contact Marty Meyne at [meynman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meynman@sbcglobal.net) or 241-5027.

## Prayer Request Form

Please check. I would like to:

- Give my life to Christ  
 Recommit my life to Christ

Please Pray for: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have your request in:

- The Bulletin  
 The confidential Prayer Chain

If you would like us to, how can we best reach you? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please tear off and place in the offering basket. You may also call Paula Seales at 245-7791 ext. 212.