



# Plumb Line



Volume 1 Issue 16

November 10, 1996

## PROGRESS SO FAR

### No New Taxes!

As you know by now, the constitutional amendment that would have required the church to pay property taxes failed by a wide margin in Tuesday's election. This is a great relief to all of us, of course, especially since we're right in the middle of a major construction project. It would have been hard enough to come up with the tax money on our existing facility, much less bear the burden on a brand-new building.

This issue came as a shock to churches all over the state, and the whole process of campaigning against this amendment was pretty scary for everyone involved. This effort told us a lot about the place of the church in today's society, and I'm not sure I like what we learned. This country was founded on the principle of religious freedom, but it seems that there are a number of people around that treat the church as just another form of entertainment like a health club or a bowling alley. (We are a 'health club' in one sense, I guess, in that we are concerned about the spiritual health of mankind.) A church should be more than a source of property tax revenue! If people in the community look at our church and see nothing more than a building and a patch of land, there's something seriously wrong with our witness.

I hated this amendment as much as you did, I'm sure, but some good may come from the experience. All of us need to refocus our efforts on the people around us -- if the churches in our communities were known and respected as places of worship and prayer, we would never need to worry about things like Amendment 11 again. It's time to be proactive; let's solve the underlying problems in our communities so that we don't have to rely on defensive campaigns in the future!

Enough of the soapbox speech. I'm as guilty as the next person when it comes to keeping my attention on fellow church members at the expense of reaching out to others. Maybe these 'wake-up calls' like Amendment 11 are God's way of reminding us that we're not supposed to build church buildings and then seal ourselves up inside them.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

### Sick Of Trusses Yet?

If I didn't know better, I'd swear that those roof trusses are breeding! At last count, there were roughly 37,882,418 of them stacked up on the site. Some of them have strong family resemblances to one another, too -- don't look now, but we may have third-generation roof trusses running around out there.

By the time you read this, however, they should all be in their proper places in the roof. After all the time spent putting them up, they really do look nice, don't they? It's amazing how a confused tangle of lumber has been transformed into a smooth, orderly roof line.

With the trusses in place, the next job will be to put up the roof decking and get tar paper in place. That should be a lot easier than setting up the trusses, and it will move us along toward getting the roof finished.

### The Ducts Are Ready!

After quite a bit of detail work and careful assembly, the air ducts in the floor of the building are finished. Now, we can fill the trenches with cement, encasing the ductwork in a protective sleeve that will keep the metal ducts from getting damaged underground. When the trenches are filled, it will sure be a lot easier to move around in the sanctuary and foyer areas -- right now, you have to move around on a network of bridges and be careful not to fall in alongside the ducts.

Hopefully, this marks the end of the 'Trench Warfare' stage of the project. Many, many hours of work and pints of sweat have been invested in that system of trenches, and I'm sure everyone who has swung a pickax is glad to be done with THAT job. Several of us have wondered at various times whether it would be easier to use dynamite on that dirt -- it's obvious that the earthmovers did a good job of packing it in place, at any rate.

## ✧ ✧ Gold Stars ✧ ✧

Yes, it's time once again to present the spectacular Plumb Line "Gold Star Award" for service above and beyond the Call of Duty:

Special thanks are in order to all the **Colorado Voters** who turned out on Tuesday to defeat Amendment 11!

### Question and Answer

**Q. What part of a board is the 'crown?'**

**A. Most boards are not exactly straight; if you stand a board on edge and look down it, you can see that it bends one way or the other. When you're putting up boards to build a ceiling, you always put the bowed part (the 'crown') upwards so that the load will straighten the board.**

## Working Hours

The work schedule varies with the weather, occasional hold-ups experienced while waiting for material, and other reasons, but here are some general guidelines:

\* Work is normally done from about 8 A.M. to about 2 P.M. on weekdays, and most Saturdays.

\* Work continues on most weekday evenings, starting in the mid to late afternoon after things cool off.

For specific dates and times, ask around -- DeeDee Minne is helping Pastor Archer coordinate the volunteer effort, and you can also grab someone on the construction team to find out about day-to-day operations on the site.

## Back Talk!

Got a question? Want to make an announcement? Want to recognize someone for a job well done? Get it in the paper! Contact **Philippe Nave** at **469-8327** (home) or **538-3150** (**work**) (send e-mail to [pnave@lucent.com](mailto:pnave@lucent.com))

## Contact Information

Here are some names and numbers you may need for project information and coordination:

**DeeDee Minne**                      **637-9841**

Volunteer coordination (construction, child care, etc.)

**Dorothy Sorenson**              **469-4905**

Coordination of meals and work breaks