



Plumb Line



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PROGRESS SO FAR

Our Ducts Are Sealed

It took three truckloads of cement and a ridiculous amount of effort, but the big air ducts in the floor of the new building are covered in concrete. Now, we no longer have to navigate through a maze of ditches and wooden bridges to walk from one side of the building to the other!

Building codes required us to completely encase all the underground metal ductwork in concrete. I suppose the idea is to prevent corrosion or keep the duct from collapsing underground -- at any rate, those ducts are now firmly fixed in place. Work crews poured **23 cubic yards** of wet cement into the ditch network to get the job done!

Southern Engineering

If you've taken even a quick glance at the plans or the model of the new building, you know that we're only building one end and the center section right now. Another octagonal section the same size as the sanctuary will be added to the south end of the present structure later on. This past week, the framing crew figured out a way to finish the southern edge of the roof that saves us time and money now and in the future! Right now, the crews don't have to build a complicated overhang and can get on with the business of finishing the roof. Later, when we add the other section, crews won't have to tear that overhang apart to join the two buildings. Thanks to some head-scratching and creative thinking, we come out ahead both ways.

Drive-Through Forms?

Concrete forms are in place under the drive-through overhang on the west side of the building! It won't be too long before we have a nice new concrete slab in place. Even before that overhang is used by church members dodging bad weather, it will be appreciated by volunteers who need a big flat spot for various tasks on the work site.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Stamp Of Approval

Last week, I told you that the first chunk of the electrical wiring inside the building (nursery and restrooms) was ready and waiting for inspection.

This week, I'm pleased to report that the inspection went well -- we're ready to 'plug in' the new building! Pastor Archer has contacted Public Service, and we're all excited about the prospect of bringing the building up under its own power.

Up until now, power at the building has been drawn through a long underground cable that leads back to the church. Work crews dug up the underground line that used to run to the church sign and strung it out across the property to the construction site, and we've been using that line to power tools and lights. As soon as Public Service can work with us, we can 'cut the cord' to the church building!

Cupola WHAT?

Quick! We need a cupola! Anybody know how to build one?

I see some blank looks out there... I guess I'd better explain what a cupola is before asking anybody to build one. The cupola is the little octagonal 'hat' that sits on top of the sanctuary, covering up the hole in the center and serving as the fresh air intake for the building.

AHA! The light dawns! All right, then -- who can build one? It has eight sides, it's covered around the middle with louvers from Cooper Heating in Broomfield, and it's got a cute little eight-sided roof. Try to imagine all the odd angles and weird measurements that are required to build such a structure, and you'll understand why we need all the help we can get!

I get cross-eyed just trying to imagine how to assemble something like that from a kit, much less how to build one from scratch.

Free Firewood!

If you'll show up to collect it, you can haul away piles of scrap lumber for your fireplace, wood stove, or free-form yard sculptures. We need the scraps picked up at the construction site, so here's your chance to get some free kindling.

Please check with Fred before hauling anything away, though -- sometimes, it's hard to tell a pile of scrap lumber from a pile of specially cut framing pieces.

Broom Brigade

While we're on the subject of cleaning up the construction site, Pastor Archer wants to make an appeal for help. We really need some folks to spend a little time sweeping up the area, doing some work with a rake, and just generally straightening up the construction site. We've been running wide open to accomplish one thing after another on the building, but the odds and ends are starting to pile up and get in the way in several spots. It's impossible to build a building without making a mess, but with some help from a few volunteers we can get the clutter under control and spend more time on the work at hand.

Creeping Fascia Finished!

O Happy Day! Huzzah! Praise the Lord!

Yes, it's true. After countless hours of effort on the part of John Lewis, the fascia is in place all around the edge of the sanctuary roof. The completion of this task is a major milestone on our way to getting the metal roof put on the building, and everyone on the whole construction team thanks John for his tireless work.

Normally, putting fascia on the edge of a roof is no big deal. It's a little tricky to figure out the angles and cuts you need for the first piece, but after that you can generally whiz along and get the job done in short order. Well, let me tell you -- the sanctuary roof is not a 'normal' roof. The steel, the main roof support beams, and the rafters form a nasty mess of angles that turn the job of installing fascia boards into a wicked geometrical puzzle. John adopted this task early on, and for weeks now he's been patiently cutting odd-shaped boards and nailing them in place. On more than one occasion, John has been there working when I showed up and was still going when I left, climbing up and down his movable scaffold and fitting boards.

Gnome Outhouse?

If you had a chance to see the Christmas musical this year, you may recall a little house that sat out on stage while the children sang 'The Twelve Days of Christmas.' It's made of cardboard, probably the box from a refrigerator or some such.

Before the little house made its trip to Centaurus High School for the musical, it was discovered on the construction site by the work crews. You know how crude construction workers can get sometimes -- it wasn't long before the little house sported a note saying, 'Thanks for the Port-A-Potty!' There's just one problem with that, however -- there's no way any of those workers could fit inside! I guess they thought it was a facility for the vertically challenged.

*** 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:

John Lewis gets the Gold Star, the Victoria Cross, the Order of the Lizard, and any other commendations we can think of for his job on the fascia. Thanks!

Working Hours

The work schedule varies with the weather, occasional hold-ups experienced while waiting for material, and other reasons. In general, there's something going on all the time weekdays and Saturdays unless the weather turns really bad.

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 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