



Plumb Line



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PROGRESS SO FAR

WHAT'S NEXT?

Balancing Act?

Three cheers and a tiger for Michelle Ford! She operated the scissor lift and painted the big angle brackets that hold the laminated beams together, despite the fact that those brackets are a thousand feet up in the air! (Well, maybe not a thousand feet, but it certainly seems that high when you're up on top of a swaying scissor lift staring down at a concrete floor.) There are 64 of those brackets, too -- this was no small task!

Light In The Upper Room

The "Upper Room," that big room above the foyer, now has windows and a door! They look really sharp, especially when you consider that they had to be put in from the outside of the building. The door looks a bit odd at the moment since the outside fire stairs haven't been built yet, but John Lewis said we could issue a parachute to anyone who wanted to use the door right away.

Watch that first step -- it's a long one!

Snug As A Bug!

Crews are hard at work installing thick fiberglass insulation in the walls and ceiling, and they've made impressive progress. They're also putting up a plastic sheet called a 'vapor barrier' on top of the insulation to keep moisture under control. The sheer volume of fiberglass required to fill the spaces in the walls and ceiling is staggering; you don't really understand how big that roof is until you try to cover every inch of it with insulation! All that work will pay off in spades this winter, though, when we sit inside in the warmth and watch the snow fly.

Calling For Help!

We need people who are ready to hang sheetrock and install fiberglass insulation! There's a lot of ground left to cover, and if you can help with this work you're more than welcome!

Nancy's Lights

During this interim phase of finish work, we've got the interior lights fixed up with temporary light fixtures. These little jewels are about as basic as they come, with bare bulbs and plain old ceramic bases. They work just fine, but they're not very attractive.

Anyway, one day Nancy Williams stopped by to have a look at her new office. Very politely, she asked whether the light fixtures in her ceiling were finished. Jim couldn't pass up the opportunity to pull her leg, so he kept a straight face and assured her that those fixtures were the ones she'd be using. He pointed out, however, that at least he had wired the lights to a switch on the wall; Nancy wouldn't have to use pull chains to turn her lights on and off!

After giggling at Nancy for a few minutes, they assured her that those plain-looking bare-bulb fixtures were only temporary and that she really would have decent-looking light fixtures in her office...

Mississippi Crew

Many, many thanks to the crew of carpenters from Mississippi! In addition to hanging roughly six million pieces of sheetrock, they sealed all the laminated beams, climbing around and using the scissor lift to reach all the way up into the roof.

Apparently, our crews struggled with a sort of language barrier when they tried to communicate with the Mississippi group. Even after listening to years of Pastor Archer's sermons, our guys just don't know how to speak 'Southern' well enough to get by.

Hmmm... we'll have to feed them a mess of ribs and grits and see if anything rubs off, I guess. They can wash it all back with a cold Co-Cola and some Ice Tea, and then we'll see if they've learned anything...

Electrifying Progress

Jerry Dempski and Jim Brunemeyer have been blazing away on the electrical work, running conduit and installing boxes all over the place. Everyone at the site is impressed by their skill, speed, and quality work!

The Roof Is Covered!

There is still some finish work to be done on the metal roofing, but all the big panels are in place! The cupola looks really cute with its little green roof in place, too. Just in time for monsoon season, our new building is protected by a broad expanse of sheet steel that keeps everything dry inside.

Railroad Tracks?

You really have to take a look at the south wall of the building to appreciate what John Lewis has put together. In order to caulk and paint that wall, he brought his custom-built wheeled scaffold around to the south side of the building. So far, so good.

When John started lining up the scaffold, he ran into a slight problem. The scaffold is wider than the sidewalk! Thinking fast, John built an odd-looking rail out of a floor joist and a stack of cast-off board ends. Now, his scaffold can roll up and down with one set of wheels on the sidewalk and the other on his 'rail.' It works really well, but I wonder -- do we have to put up crossing gates and have John blow a horn when he moves his scaffold along the rails?

Prayer And Singing

We all trooped out to the new building after worship on July 27 to pray and sing a fellowship song, and it was really an awesome experience. When we held hands and sang, we could see the REAL church inside the new building! I don't think Pastor Archer ever stopped grinning the whole time!

Stone Entryway

Herb Dayhoff is at it again!

In addition to his stone columns at the corners of the building, Herb is building a really beautiful stone entryway around the front doors! People, this is going to be a truly nice-looking building when it's done! I guess I just haven't been paying attention, but I had no idea he was going to dress up the front of the building with stonework like that. I'm awed and impressed with the whole thing.

Friendly Ramps

Let's face it -- our current building is really not designed to accommodate folks who have trouble with stairs. We're making great strides to correct that in the new building, however, and have just recently completed a pair of ramps in the halls alongside the auditorium. Now, you can get up on the platform by taking a gently sloping ramp up the side hallway! This will help out our friends who aren't quite as mobile as they'd like to be.

Now, our challenge will be to keep the kids from roller-skating down the ramps!

Curb and Gutter

No, no! 'Curb and Gutter' is not the name of a law firm!

Fred is working to set up concrete forms for the curbs and gutters in our new parking area, and we expect to get started on that project soon. Right now, everyone is waiting for the mud to dry!

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 **Philippe Nave** at **469-8327** (home) or **538-3150** (work) (send e-mail to 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