

The Renovation News

The First Presbyterian Church
Bergen, New York

Issue Number 8
January, 1997

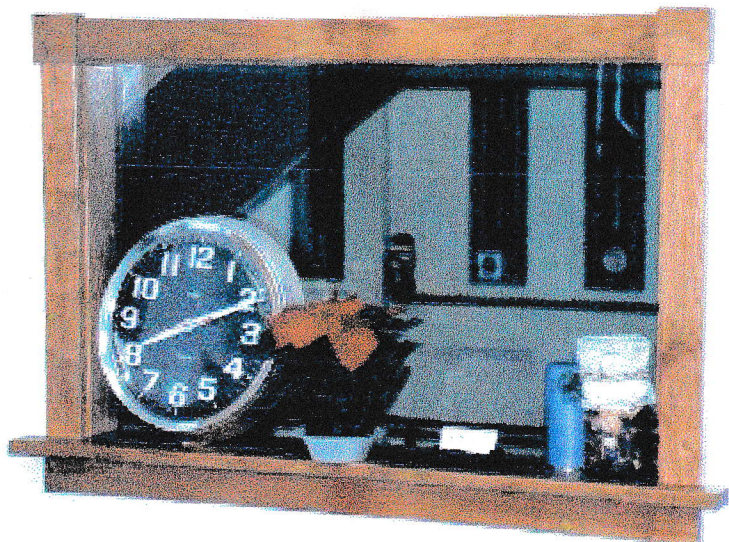
RECENT PROGRESS: Work on finishing the new offices on the first floor has proceeded well, and Jean, our church secretary, has moved into her fine new quarters. The workroom is nearly finished also, and the church's copier is now where it belongs, not in the front of the sanctuary where it has been located for several weeks. Pastor Dave will also be moving into his new office very soon. All three rooms are very bright and cheery, and, it might be added, much easier to heat than the old rooms. Both offices have wall-installed air conditioners also, which will make them much more



The New Church Workroom

comfortable come the hot afternoon suns of June, July and August.

If you have walked through this new area, you might have noticed the beautiful cherry wood trim around the four exterior windows and the two internal windows in Jean's office. There is a good story behind how this trim came to be. The cherry was originally growing on land near the intersection of routes 33 and 490 owned by our departed member Fred Cook. To save the wood for a good future use, Fred harvested it in the late 1980's and it was sawed into



Cherry-trimmed Window

rough lumber by Mark Anderson's dad, Ted, and stored by Fred Ely. When our renovation project came along, Dan Sheldon suggested it might be used in the new

offices. Jeff Ely and Dwight Banister, who works at Kaiser-Wilcox, did the rough carpentry, and Dwight installed the trim. Eunice Ely finished and varnished the wood. More of this cherry lumber remains, and we can expect to see it put to more good uses as the renovation continues.

Progress has also been made in the basement where the restrooms are starting to take shape. Plywood and drywall have gone up, and more of the plumbing installed. The handicapped lift should be delivered about year-end; in fact it may be on site now. We also expect some of the fixtures in the first floor men's room to be installed quite soon.

VOLUNTEER HELP is still needed and vital for the success of the project, and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings will continue to be "work days" into the new year. Two of our regular and most dependable volunteers deserve special recognition for the many hours throughout each week they devote to many of the tasks important to the project; BILL WALDRUFF and DICK VONBERGEN. Thanks!

PROJECT COSTS: At year-end 1996 the TOTAL COST of the renovation to date is \$224,000. Of this, about \$100,000 is materials cost, \$76,000 contracted labor, and \$42,000 for the engineering and architectural services rendered in the early days of the project. We have borrowed \$180,000 to date from our revolving loan account with the Bank of Castile. The interest rate on that loan continues at 8.25%, and interest costs have totaled \$3636.

RENOVATION FUND DRIVE: Solicitation of pledges for our fund drive began in November, with the official kick-off to the campaign in mid-December. The response has been very heartening: To date we have received seventeen pledges totalling \$133,500 and about \$90,000 in actual pledge contributions. This is a wonderful start towards our goal of \$300,000!!

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