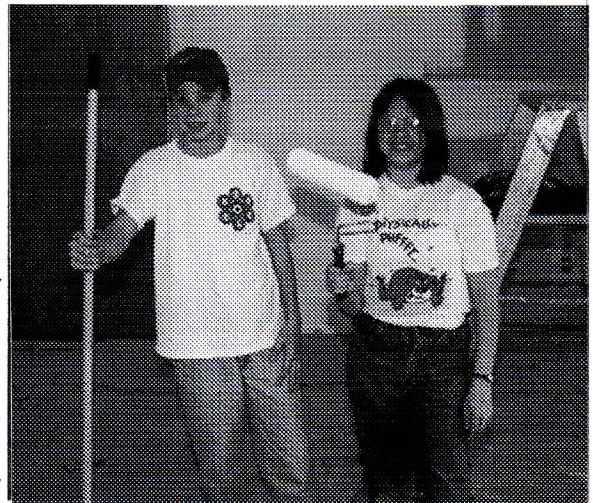


# The Renovation News

The First Presbyterian Church  
Bergen, New York

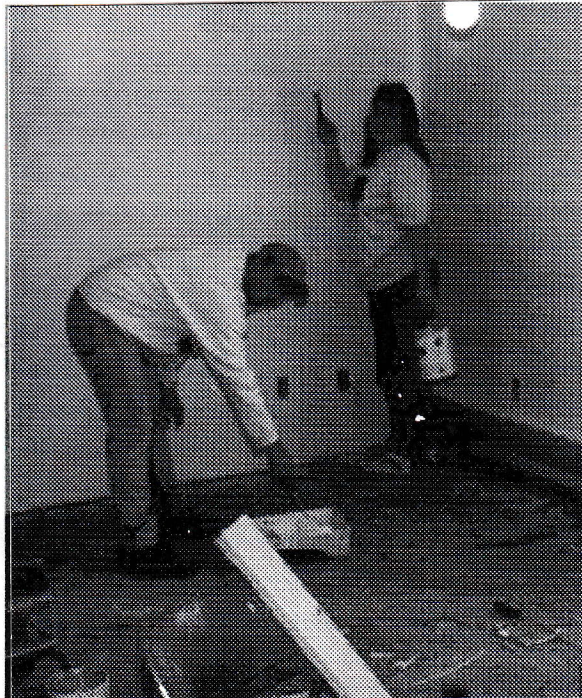
Issue Number 10  
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**RECENT PROGRESS:** The last month has been especially marked by a couple of BIG volunteer work-days that accomplished a lot of good work. On Saturday, February 8th, a crew of 10-15 able-bodied volunteer painters, under the direction of boss Cindy Anderson, spent most of the day applying paint to many of the newly renovated areas in the church. The kitchen, new basement restrooms, basement hallways, and the new office for Mike Kuhlkin all received the attentions of this crew. Nothing like the pervasive odor of latex paint to indicate progress! Some of those who participated are shown in the photos below. Many thanks to all.



*Super Painters Danny & Erin*

The following Saturday, February 15th, another crew of 20-25 stalwarts began the major job of tearing out the old roof materials and building new supporting structures in the Fellowship Hall.



*Mike & Jackie Painting Their  
New Office*

With John Gay making sure we didn't do anything wrong, volunteers were clambering over scaffolding that rose into the far reaches of the Fellowship Hall roof tearing out 150+ year-old wooden shingles and rafters. Nearly everything was covered with 150+ year-old dirt and dust, and choking dust filled the air. All of this debris more than filled the huge dump truck (a surplus army vehicle borrowed from Roberts Wesleyan) parked in the front lawn of the church. As one dirt-streaked, face-masked volunteer commented to another as they carried trash out of the Fellowship Hall; "Didn't we spend the summer doing this?"

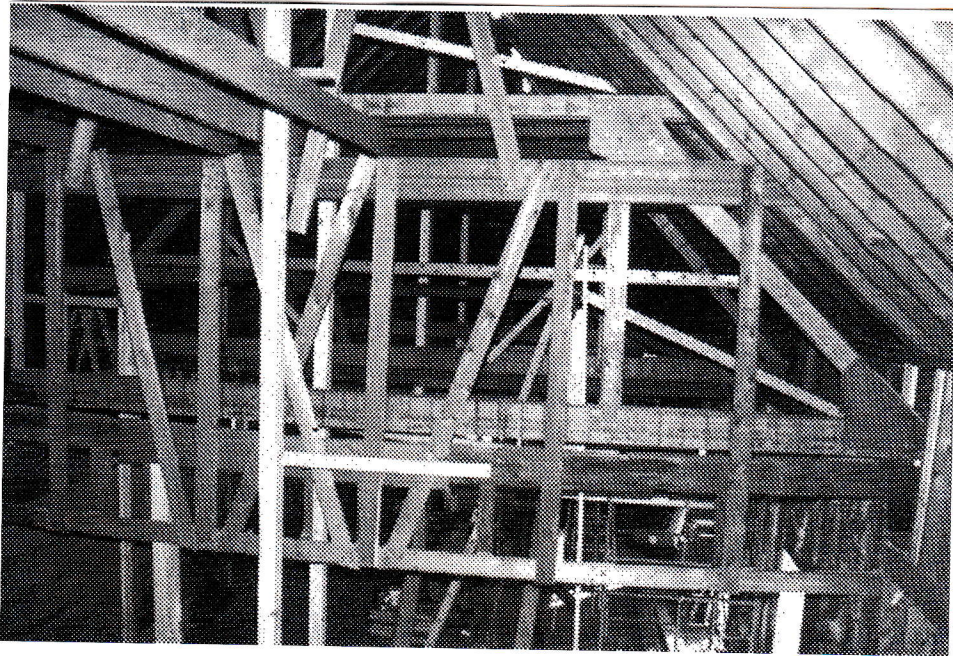
This work-day benefited greatly from the catered snacks and multi-course lunch provided by another group of volunteers, ably organized and led by Marge Lawrence and Mary Anderson. The heady aroma of warm pizza was a big incentive for us all.

The construction of new supporting structures in the Fellowship Hall has begun, with John Gay and Rick Stacy jointly designing, constructing, and installing new trusses and supports. Micro-laminates are being used in most areas for support. A special thanks is given to Fred Ely for providing the specially-made steel brackets and plates that are being used to tie the new supports together. As this edition of *The Renovation News* goes to press, this work is



*Lunch Break for the Workers*

nearly done, and the remaining old beams and posts are coming out. Then we will be able to see just how open and expansive our Fellowship Hall will be.



*A Multitude of Lumber in the Ceiling of Fellowship Hall*

While these major jobs have been underway, our volunteers have continued to work on other parts of the project. The basement under the kitchen has been finished, and the window and door trim for Mike Kulhkin's office has been cut and installed. The new ceiling lights there are also in place.

**WORK PLANS:** Our focus will remain on the Fellowship Hall for the next few weeks, but there will be a number of other jobs for

volunteers to help with. Many of the new rooms need to have the baseboard heat runs cleaned off, and there are a number of areas where general clean-up is needed. If you can help, call Dan Sheldon at 494-2442.

**PROJECT COSTS:** Total cost to date is just over \$250,000; however, this includes the costs of the early engineering studies in 1993-95 that help set the goals of the actual project. Excluding these expenses, total cost is about \$240,000. The outstanding balance



*Marge & Mary Celebrating the End of the Lunch Break*

of our loan from The Bank of Castile is \$190,000. The need to increase this borrowing is decreasing as income from the Renovation Fund Drive is now beginning to provide direct funds to the project. This income to date is over \$18,000.

At the start of this large and challenging project, our best estimates of its size and extent, disregarding volunteer help and donations-in-kind, was \$400,000-500,000. As the work has progressed, the size of the job has been increased as we found areas not addressed by the architects or

where new problems arose. Among these were the need for a new heating plant for the entire building, extra drainage for the Fellowship Hall wing, new basement windows, and added renovations on the second floor. Best estimate today for the total cost of the project is somewhat over the \$500,000 level. Fortunately, and thankfully, volunteer help and work-in-kind have kept up with the increasing extent of the project, and we still hope to complete the work with about \$300,000 in out-of-pocket costs.

#### **RENOVATION FUND DRIVE:**

To date 34 pledges have been received, totaling \$165,000 in amount pledged. With our church membership and

supporters numbering over 150, we have optimism that, as those who have not yet pledged are reached, we can achieve our goal of \$300,000 in pledges. Over the next few weeks we will be communicating the message of the project and its need for financial support again to the congregation, and we are setting Sunday, June 15th as the target date for reaching the \$300,000 goal.



*Dwight Banister Fabricating Steel Brackets for the Fellowship Hall Beams*